

Section 5

Frequency

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Frequency - The Up's and Down's of Mr. Hertz

Frequency is defined as a regularly ocurring event over a period of time. It is measured in Hertz (Hz) which is the count of these recurring event cycles in one second. In electronics, frequency is the fluctuation in voltage of a signal.

There are many types of frequency:



All Frequencies have 2 main identifying properties:

1. Amplitude - The voltage difference between extreme levels

The amplitude is 12 Volts

2. Frequency - The number of cycles per second



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Use of Frequency - Application Examples

Example 1: Frequency is quite often used as a speed indicator of a motor or a rotating vane of a flowmeter. Typically, this frequency cannot be use in its raw form and must usually be converted to some sort of analog signal, ie. 4-20mA.



When converting frequency to an analog signal it is important to note that the output signal is zerobased. This means that a frequency of 0 Hz always results in a signal output of 0%. The upper frequency limit is the only adjustment. This upper limit frequency results in a 100% output signal.

Using Pribusin's Isolated Frequency Converter IUC-7X-FRX serves a dual purpose by achieving the desired conversion and isolating the input frequrency from the analog output signal.

Example 2: Sometimes the speed of a motor must be monitored very closely and the above example would result in insufficient signal resolution. Using a Pribusin Frequency Window Converter allows a small portion of the frequency to be extracted and then converted to an analog signal.

Suppose a motor runs at 2000 RPM. It is to be monitored over a range of 1900-2100 RPM.



By setting up the Frequency Window Converter appropriately, a small portion of frequency can be extracted and expanded into a full 4-20mA (or any other) analog output.



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Use of Frequency - Application Examples

Example 3: Some Natural Gas Consumption meters produce a burst of pulses at a high rate. This rate is often too high for counters to measure.



A Pribusin Frequency Isolator with Buffer option can store up to 65535 incoming pulses at a fast rate and slowly pass them on to a slower counter or PLC input.



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