CLOUDMASTER
IRRIGATION CONTROL SYSTEM

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Electronics

Centralised Irrigation Control—Overview

The Cloudmaster is a 100% Australian developed and manufactured irrigation controller which can be operated as a stand-alone unit via its keypad and display or remotely via radio, cellular GSM or telephone land line. The first unit was installed in the late 1980s. Applications to date include:

1. council parks where irrigation and floodlighting of all parks, reserves, roundabouts etc scattered around the municipality can be controlled and monitored from a central depot
2. nurseries where irrigation and misting can be controlled and monitored from off site
3. large domestic installations which are monitored by a landscape maintenance company.

Not having to make a site visit means that the irrigation program can be maintained to more closely match the changing weather and seasons, resulting in significant manpower and water savings.

It is important to note that the central PC is used as a programming, monitoring and report generating tool. It is not required for the Cloudmaster control unit to function. The central PC can be turned off altogether without affecting the operation of the Cloudmaster unit.

SMS
When GSM is used as the communications method between PC and Cloudmaster, SMS messaging can be used to turn stations on and off and to manually start or stop programs. Alarm conditions such as wiring faults, burst or blocked heads etc can be queried with an SMS message at any time or the Cloudmaster can be set up to send an SMS or ring a land line phone when the fault occurs. For security, a list of mobile phone numbers can be entered so that only authorised phones can originate a control message.

Inputs and Sensors
The Cloudmaster has inputs to which rain sensors, frost thermostats, flow meters etc can be connected. The rain sensor will automatically cease irrigation until the sensor has dried out, and the flow meter can be used to detect burst pipes or blocked sprinkler heads. The frost sensor is used in the nursery application to automatically start a frost protection cycle. When a flow meter is attached, actual water consumed by each station is logged and detailed reports can be generated back at the central PC.

Other Features:
- Battery backup protects clock and program during power outages
- Solid metal construction and a high level of built-in lightning protection
- 500 start times and 5 programming methods allows simple or complex watering regimes
- Station run times from 1 second to 250 hours
- No extra hardware required for direct PC connection
- Detailed historical log of all events can be viewed in LCD or in report format at the PC
- 100% Australian designed, manufactured and supported

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