

September 21, 2001

### **NEW RS-232 to RS-485 CONVERTER ANNOUNCED BY ICSDataCom**

PLEASANTON, CA, September 21, 2001. Today, ICSDataCom announced two new RS-232 to RS-485 Converters for interfacing devices with single-ended RS-232 signals to devices with RS-485 or RS-422 differential signals. The Magic485 series converters solve the problem of turning off the transmitter when not sending by automatically tristating the transmitter between messages. Typical applications are interfacing a PC to a device with RS-485 signals or driving a RS-485 network.

The Magic485 Converters are small compact RS-232 to RS-485 Converters that can plug into a PC's COM port. The Magic485 Converters are available with 9 and 25-pin connectors so they can be used with any PC. The RS-485 end has a removable miniature terminal strip with screw terminals for easy connection to the serial cable. The converters provide both transmit and receive pairs so they can be used in 4-wire full-duplex or 2-wire half-duplex systems. Ground and power terminals are also available and can be used with pullup and pulldown resistors to bias the transmit line in the on condition with it is tristated.

In 2-wire, RS-485 systems, all devices must turn off their transmitters when not sending so the other devices can send their messages. Earlier RS-232 to RS-485 Converters used the RS-232 Request-to-Send (RTS) line to control the transmitter. In PC applications, this means the user has to add RTS control to his program. This is not always easy to do in Windows applications without adding a custom

communications library or using a language that fully supported serial communications. The Magic 485 Converters eliminate the need to program the RTS line by automatically detecting the start of a serial message and enabling the transmitter.

The Magic 485 Converters extend the RS-232 communication distance by driving up to 1,200 feet of cable at data rates up to 120 kbaud. Longer distances are possible with reduced data rates. Output voltage is greater than  $\pm 1.5$  volts and the receiver includes an optional termination resistor. The Magic 485 Converters include a 115 Vac Power Adapter for powering the RS-485 drivers.

Delivery is stock to 2 weeks ARO. Pricing starts at \$ 125 each for 1-4 pieces.

ICSDataCom is a distributor of high quality serial devices and interface products and is a subsidiary of ICS Electronics. ICS Electronics has been manufacturing and supplying GPIB, Serial and VXI bus products for over 20 years.

**ICSDataCom** is headquartered at 7034 Commerce Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588. **Phone (925) 416-1000. Contact Jerry Mercola, Marketing Manager for more information.**

- **Note to Editor:** The Magic485 photo is also available as an electronic file. Email [jmercola@icselect](mailto:jmercola@icselect) and specify your desired image size, density and file format.