

OWNER'S MANUAL

3300

LASER/RADAR DETECTOR

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P/N 3300MAN, © WHISTLER 2000



If you have questions concerning the operation of this Whistler product please call consumer relations:

1-800-531-0004

Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:00 am - 5:00 pm CST

Please keep the receipt in a safe place. If the unit is returned without a dated proof of purchase an out of warranty service charge applies. **Note:** Your warranty period begins at the time of purchase. The warranty is validated **only** by return of the Warranty Validation card.

Now is the time to record the serial number of the unit in the space provided in the warranty section of the manual.

INTRODUCTION

Dear Whistler Owner,

For many of us, a vehicle is more than just transportation. It can be a mobile office, communications or entertainment center, or simply an expression of our personality. Whistler products are designed to make the time you spend in your vehicle more productive, more fulfilling, safer, or just simply more fun. Our mission is to provide products that improve your driving experience.

Your new Whistler 3300 laser/radar detector detects all radar, laser and safety radar systems, plus offers Whistler's exclusive Safe Driving System™ and optional Real Voice™ technology. The comprehensive safety system detects all safety radar including the Safety Warning System™ keeping you informed of road hazards and adverse weather. Plus, Whistler's unique Stay Alert™ feature tests driver's alertness on long solo trips. Whistler's 3300 also offers a digital display with safety messages to keep you informed while you drive.

To fully acquaint yourself with the operation of the Whistler 3300 and to better understand the differences between detecting radar, laser and safety radar signals, we recommend reading this entire manual.

Enjoy the Whistler 3300 and please drive safely.

Sincerely,

THE WHISTLER GROUP

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WHISTLER FEATURES

Whistler 3300



Whistler's ergonomic and user-friendly design provides a new level of operating convenience. Special features include:

- 1. Power/Volume Button (P/V)** - Turns unit on/off and adjusts volume up or down (press and hold for 2 seconds).
- 2. Dark Button** - Engages Dim/Dark/Temperature/Voltage.
- 3. CITY/CITY 1/CITY 2 Button** - Reduces the annoyance of false alerts typically encountered in urban driving areas.
- 4. Quiet/Menu Button** - Pressing QUIET before a signal is detected engages Auto Quiet Mode which automatically reduces the audio level after the initial warning to a low audio level setting. Pressing QUIET during a radar/laser encounter silences audio alerts, while allowing visual alerts to keep you informed. Pressing and holding for 2 seconds allows you to enter Option Select Mode and change menus.

WHISTLER FEATURES

5. **Speaker** - Provides distinct audio warnings for X, K, Ka band radar, safety radar, laser, VG-2 and Stay Alert.

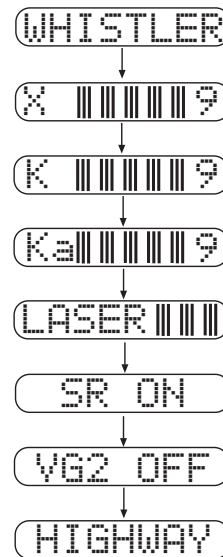
6. **High Visibility LED Display** - Provides distinct visual confirmation of signals detected, signal strength, and indicates engaged modes of operation.

OPERATION

Power On And Self-Test

Each time your Whistler detector is turned on, an automatic self-test sequence confirms that the speaker and visual displays are functional.

- Press **P/V** or apply Power. Display reads:



OPERATION

Memory/Beep Confirmation

All features selected (except Stay Alert and Quiet) are retained in memory. Each time a button is pressed one beep confirms feature "on", two beeps confirm feature "off".

Audio Level Adjustment

The audio levels can be adjusted high to low, or low to high, in four steps: (1) is no audio level, (4) the highest.

- Press and hold **P/V** to increase audio level.
- Press and hold **P/V** to decrease audio level.

As audio level is adjusted, beeps are provided and the display indicates volume level. Example:



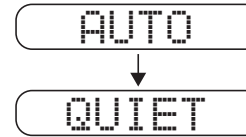
6

OPERATION

Auto Quiet Mode

Auto Quiet reduces the selected audio level to level (1) approximately 5 seconds after a radar or safety radar signal is detected. The alert for any new signal within 20 seconds will resume at level (1). Auto Quiet does not affect VG-2 or laser alerts.

- Press Quiet (before a signal is detected) to engage Auto Quiet. Display reads:



- Once the Auto Quiet mode is engaged, you may cancel the audio alarm by pressing **Quiet**.
- Press **Quiet** (when the unit is not alarming) to cancel Auto Quiet mode.

Note: When Auto Quiet engages, it cancels the audio to the optional Voice Module.

Quiet Mode

Quiet cancels audio during an alert and any new alert within 20 seconds. After 20 seconds, approximately 2 beeps are provided on any new alert and unit then remains quiet.

- Press **Quiet** to cancel the audio.
- Press **Quiet** a second time during an alert to restore the standard audio alert pattern; or turn the unit off, then on.

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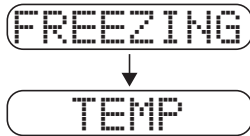
OPERATION

Temperature/Voltage Mode

The unit can be programmed to display either the outside temperature or battery voltage along with Highway/City modes. See Option Select Mode. Display reads:



- **Ice Warning Mode:** When temperature drops to 32°F display reads:



Unit then gives a unique warning tone. This will only happen once after the unit is first turned on. When either Hi T or Lo T is displayed the limits of the temperature sensor have been reached.

Note: Temperature may rise while vehicle is stopped and idling, this is normal.

Engaging/Disengaging VG-2

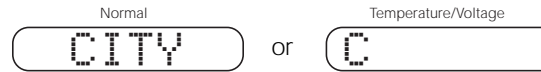
See option select mode to turn this feature on.

OPERATION

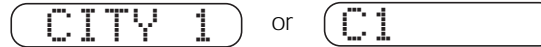
City/City 1/City 2 Mode

Whistler's Three Stage City Mode is designed to reduce the annoyance of automatic door openers, intrusion alarms and other devices which share frequencies with police radar.

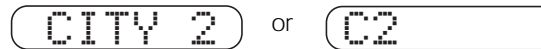
- Press **City** to engage City. Display reads:



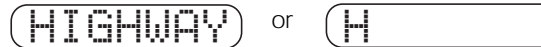
- Pressing **City** a second time engages City 1. Display reads:



- Pressing **City** a third time engages City 2. Display reads:



- Pressing **City** a fourth time cancels City, City 1, and City 2. Display reads:



In City Mode, weak speed/safety radar signals give an initial alarm of two beeps, and then remains quiet unless the signal becomes very strong. When the signal strength increases, two additional beeps are provided. In City 1 Mode, only the X band sensitivity is lowered. In City 2 Mode, X-band is not detected. **CAUTION:** When selecting this mode, some towns/small cities may still be using X band radar.

If Auto Quiet is engaged in City 1 or City 2 modes and the unit receives a strong radar signal, the unit performs the Auto Quiet feature. City Modes do not change the audio alert for laser or VG-2.

OPERATION

Dim/Dark/Temperature/Voltage Modes

Dim/Dark Mode reduces the illumination of the display.

- Press **Dark** to reduce illumination to a Dim setting. Display reads:

DIM

- Pressing **Dark** a second time engages Dark Mode. Display reads:

DARK

Dim or dark can be engaged during an alert. In Dark Mode, the display goes dark for as long as a signal is being detected and for 20 seconds after, then the display returns to the dimmer setting.

- Pressing **Dark** a third time restores full illumination to the display.

The Dark Button will allow the display to momentarily switch to the outside temperature reading.

- Press and hold Dark for 2 seconds until unit beeps once then release. Display switches:

HIGHWAY to H 73°F

If Temperature or Battery Voltage is programmed (see Option Select Mode), pressing and holding Dark for 2 seconds will momentarily switch to the other reading. Example:

H 73°F to H 12.8V

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OPERATION

Stay Alert Feature

The Stay Alert Feature is designed to test a driver's alertness. To engage (when unit is not alarming):

- Press and hold City for 2 seconds. Display reads:

RU ALERT

Within 30-60 seconds two beeps are sounded; to show alertness, the driver must press either the Dark, City or Quiet button within 3-5 seconds. If the button is pressed within 3-5 seconds, the cycle is repeated.

If a button was not pressed within 3-5 seconds alarm sounds and the display reads:

GET REST

- Press P/V to exit.

WARNING!!! Stay Alert is NOT intended as a substitute for adequate rest. You should NOT operate a vehicle if you are drowsy. During extended periods of vehicle operation, you should take frequent breaks. Improper reliance on the Stay Alert feature may result in vehicle damage, personal injury or death. **NEVER OPERATE A VEHICLE IF YOU ARE DROWSY.**

Integrated Real Voice

When selected and Optional Voice Module is connected, Real Voice will be used to articulate the following:

1. Band Identification
2. Safety Warning System™ messages

NOTE: In certain cases the voice message does not replicate the text message.

3. Feature Selection

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OPERATION

Option Select Mode

Entering Option Select Mode allows you to customize options such as Tone Select, Real Voice, Abbreviated Power Up Sequence test and VG-2 Mode. When selecting options, Dark (D)=yes, City (C)=no, Quite (Q)=next selection. Any one of these must be pressed within 20 seconds or options mode will automatically be exited. To enter:

Press Q:	*Display Reads:	To Change, Reads:	Option:
For 2 Seconds	CUSTOM	D or C	Custom Mode Night Mode Truck Mode
2nd time	TEMP °F	D = °F C = °C	Changes Temp Reading
3rd time	TONE 3	D or C	Tone 1, 2, or 3 (3 different X, K, Ka patterns)
4th time	TEST YES	D = YES C = NO	X, K, Ka Audio tones 1 beep during Power Up
5th time	VG2 OFF	D = ON C = OFF	Turns VG-2 On Turns VG-2 Off
6th time	SAFETY ON	D = ON C = OFF	Turns Safety Radar On Turns Safety Radar Off
7th time	VOICE OFF	D = ON C = OFF	Real Voice On Real Voice Off

OPERATION

8th time	TEMP NO	D = YES C = NO	Temp On Temp Off
9th time	BATT NO	D = YES C = NO	Battery Voltage On Battery Voltage Off

*Factory settings.
Press P/V anytime to exit.

When Custom is displayed, pressing the Quiet button again instead of the P/V button allows changing of other features. If either Dark or City button is pressed it selects one of two preprogrammed selections, night or truck. Once night or truck is selected you cannot change other features in option select mode.

- Night =
1. Volume Level 4
 2. Auto Quiet On
 3. Dark Mode
 4. Highway Mode
 5. SR On
 6. VG2 Off
 7. Test Off
 8. Voice Off

- Truck =
1. Volume level 4
 2. VG2 On
 3. Test Off
 4. Highway Mode
 5. SR On
 6. Voice Off

OPERATION

Teach/Tutorial Mode

Provides simulated alerts for each type of signal.

- Press City and Quiet simultaneously and release. Display reads:

TEACH

Quiet mode can also be accessed while Teach/Tutorial mode is engaged.

- Press P/V to exit.

Voice Module Port

Allows you to use a Whister Voice Module, P/N 202971 (See accessory page for ordering, option mode for programming). Any other device may damage the unit and void your warranty. When mute or auto quiet modes are engaged, the audio will be cancelled to the voice port.

Rear Antenna Port

Allows you to use only a Whister SWRA-3300 rear antenna, P/N 202964. Any other device may damage the unit and void your warranty.

- Remove power from console.
- Plug rear antenna into Radar 2 Port.
- Reapply power to console, after self-test display shows:

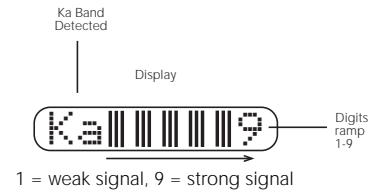
R2 ON?

- Press Dark to accept or City to cancel.

RADAR ALERTS

Speed Radar Audio/Visual Alerts

When X, K or Ka is detected the band ID and signal strength is displayed. The audio alert is continuous and has a geiger counter-like pattern. The faster the beep the closer or stronger the radar source. Example:



An asterisk is displayed when the optional rear antenna receives a signal. Example:

Ka*||| ||| ||| ?

Pulse Protection®

When a pulse type signal (instant on strong signal) is detected an urgent 3 second audio warning is sounded and the display reads:

PULSE

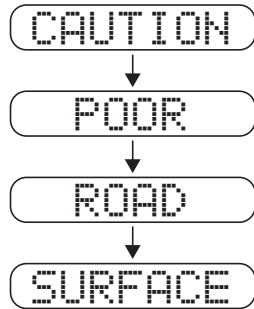
After 3 seconds standard alert pattern continues.

SAFETY RADAR ALERTS

In communities where transmitters are located, the Safety Warning System displays over 60 text messages. When Safety Radar is detected the audio alert is geiger counter-like.

Safety Warning System Text

Example: Poor Road Surface:



Note: Not all areas have Safety Warning System transmitters. Visit Safety Warning Systems web page at www.safetyradar.com for SWS locations.

LASER/VG-2 ALERTS

Laser Audio/Visual Alerts

When a laser signal is detected the word "Laser" and signal strength is displayed, the audio alert is continuous for a minimum of 3 seconds. Example:

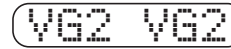


The more "|||" the closer the laser source.

VG-2 Audio/Visual Alerts

Note: You must turn this feature on in option select mode before it will detect VG-2.

When a VG-2 signal is detected, the detector "hides" its own radiated signal and becomes undetectable by the VG-2.



Text message confirms detection of VG-2.

Every 30 seconds, the detector checks for a VG-2 signal. If a VG-2 signal is still present, the unit continues to hide and repeats the VG-2 alert. If no signal is detected, two beeps are provided, indicating an "all clear" condition. During VG-2 Alert X, K, and Ka band signals cannot be received. (Reference page 23 for VG-2 information.)

Alert Priority

When two or more signals are received at the same time, the alert priority is:

1. Laser
2. VG-2
3. Speed Radar
4. Safety Radar

Example:

If X band is alerting, then suddenly VG-2 is detected, the VG-2 warning will override the X band alert.

RESET FEATURES

Reset Features

All user features can be reset to factory settings.

- Remove Power from unit.
- Press and hold P/V and Quiet.
- Apply power to the unit.
- Wait for 2 beeps.
- Release P/V and Quiet. Unit is now reset.
 1. Audio to level (4).
 2. Display reads Highway.
 3. Dim/Dark Mode to full illumination of display.
 4. Auto Quiet Mode OFF.
 5. VG-2 Detection Mode OFF.
 6. Voice OFF.
 7. Night Mode OFF.
 8. Truck Mode OFF.
 9. Safety ON.
 10. Full Power Up sequence.
 11. Default TONE 3.
 12. BATT OFF.
 13. TEMP OFF.
 14. Rear antenna OFF.
 15. Unit ON or OFF.

Communication Breakdown

If a problem arises between the inside control panel and the outside antennas, the unit will give a unique audio tone. The display reads:



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CARE & MAINTENANCE

If a R1 error occurs:

- Press P/V to turn unit off.
- Check connection in back of control panel (straight ended cable)
- Perform "reset features."
- See dealer/installer.

If an R2 error occurs:

- To temporarily cancel error message, momentarily press either Dark/City/Mute button. Next time unit performs self test it will repeat error message.
- To permanently cancel error message, until fixed, press and hold either Dark/City/Mute button.
- If no rear antenna is installed, perform "reset features."
- Press P/V to turn off unit.
- Check connections in back of control panel.
- See dealer/installer.

If a T error occurs:

- Press P/V to turn off unit.
- Check connection in back of control panel.
- See dealer/installer.

NOTE: This T error occurs only at Power Up.

FYI-Laser receiver's cable has a right angled connector.

Care And Maintenance

Do not spray water, cleaners or polishes directly onto the unit. The spray may penetrate through the openings and damage the unit. Also, do not use any abrasive cleaners on the unit's exterior.

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TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

Your Whistler detector is expertly engineered and designed to exacting quality standards to provide you with reliable, trouble-free operation. If your unit has been correctly installed following the guidelines in this manual, but is not operating optimally, please refer to the troubleshooting guide below.

PROBLEM: No display or audio.

- Check fuse in power cable, replace if necessary.
- Check fuse in fuse box, replace if necessary.
- Make sure power cable is properly grounded.

PROBLEM: Unit alarms when vehicle equipment or electrical accessories (brakes, power mirrors/windows, directionals, horn, etc.)

- Check conditions of vehicle's electrical system, including battery and alternator.
- Install a filter capacitor (470 mfd. 25 volt or larger capacitance value) where power connection is made.

PROBLEM: Audio alerts are not loud enough.

- Cancel Auto Quiet Mode or City Mode.
- Check audio level setting.

PROBLEM: Display shows R1 error. Also see pages 18-19.

- Warning communicates "loss of link" between control panel and rear antenna (RADAR 1).
- Check antenna connection at back of control panel.
- Contact factory, if you suspect antenna is defective.

PROBLEM: Display shows R2 error. Also see pages 18-19.

- Warning communicates "loss of link" between control panel and rear antenna (RADAR 2); occurs only if rear antenna has been installed.
- Check antenna connection at back of control panel.
- If only one receiver is used-See reset features section to clear this error.
- Contact factory, if you suspect antenna is defective.

If difficulties occur which cannot be solved by information in this Troubleshooting Guide, please call Whistler Consumer Relations at 1-800-531-0004 before returning your unit for service.

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ARE DETECTORS LEGAL?

In Most States YES!

Laser detectors are completely legal in every state when used in automobiles or light trucks (under 10,000 lbs.). Similarly, when used in automobiles or light trucks, radar detectors are legal in almost every state. Exceptions are Virginia and Washington, D.C., which have local regulations restricting the use of radar receivers in any vehicle.

Concerning trucks over 10,000 lbs., the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a regulation, effective January, 1994 which prohibits radar and laser detector use in these types of vehicles nationally.

Prior to the FHWA regulation, laws existed in the state of New York restricting the use of radar detectors in trucks over 18,000 lbs. and in Illinois in trucks over 26,000 lbs.

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SPEED MONITORING TECHNOLOGIES

Radar Facts

A radar gun operates by transmitting radio waves at certain frequencies which reflect off objects and are then picked up by the radar gun's receiving section. When a radar beam reflects off a moving target, a measurable frequency shift occurs. The radar unit converts this shift into miles per hour to determine your vehicle's speed.

Currently, the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) permits operation of traffic radar guns at X Band (10.500 - 10.550 GHz), K Band (24.050 - 24.250 GHz), and Ka Band (33.400 - 36.000 GHz).

Laser Facts

It's well documented that many radar guns cannot reliably provide the speed of a targeted vehicle that is traveling in a group of vehicles. In contrast, a laser gun can target a specific vehicle out of a line of traffic and determine its speed.

The advantage of laser over radar in terms of target identification is the result of the laser gun's narrow beam. A radar transmission can cover more than a four-lane highway at a distance of 1,000 feet, compared with a laser transmission which covers about 6 feet at the same distance.

For best protection, keep these points in mind:

- Your vehicle's license plate or headlights are the laser gun's primary targets.
- Do not follow closely behind any vehicle you cannot see through. If you can't see past a vehicle ahead of you, chances are your detector won't either.
- The receiving range of your laser detector will not be the same as a radar detector. Laser guns are most often used at short range.

SPEED MONITORING TECHNOLOGIES

Other Speed Detection Systems

Several techniques other than radar or laser are used to measure vehicle speeds. When these methods are being used, no detector can provide a warning. These techniques include:

- Pacing - A patrol car drives behind you and matches your driving speed.
- Vascar/Aircraft - The time it takes a vehicle to travel a known distance is measured.

Radar Detector Detectors (VG-2)

The Interceptor VG-2, or simply VG-2, is a microwave receiver used by police to detect signals radiated by the local oscillator of a radar detector. Because its purpose is to identify persons driving with radar detectors, the VG-2 is known as a "radar detector detector".

The VG-2 is the primary tool used by the police to identify radar detector equipped vehicles. If caught, in a state where detectors are illegal, (see page 21), drivers risk losing their radar detector and receiving a fine. In addition, instant-on radar is almost always used in combination with a VG-2, leaving unsuspecting motorists vulnerable to receiving two tickets — one potentially for speeding, the other for possession of a detector.

Having a radar detector capable of detecting the VG-2 may alert you to the presence of a speed trap.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Consumer Warranty

The 3300 Whistler detector is warranted to the original purchaser for a period of five years from the date of original purchase against all defects in materials and workmanship.

This limited warranty is void if the unit is abused, modified, installed improperly, if the housing has been removed, or if the serial number is missing. There are no express warranties covering this product other than those set forth in this warranty. All express or implied warranties for this product are limited to five years. Whistler is not liable for damages arising from the use, misuse, or operation of this product.

Service Under Warranty

During the warranty period, defective units will be repaired or replaced (with the same or a comparable model), at Whistler's option, without charge to the purchaser when returned pre-paid, with dated proof of purchase to the address below. Units returned without dated proof of purchase will be handled as described in section "Service Out Of Warranty." Due to the specialized equipment necessary for testing a radar/laser receiver, there are no authorized service stations for Whistler brand detectors other than the factory.

When returning a unit for service under warranty, please follow these instructions:

1. Ship the unit in the original carton or in a suitable sturdy equivalent, fully insured, with return receipt requested, and shipping charges prepaid to:

Whistler Repair Dept.
1201 North Dixieland Rd.
Rogers, AR. 72756

WARRANTY INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: Whistler will not assume responsibility for loss or damage incurred in shipping. Therefore, please ship your unit insured with return receipt requested.

2. Include with your unit the following information, clearly printed:

- Your name and street address (for shipping via UPS), and a daytime telephone number. (No P.O. Box please.)
- A detailed description of the problem (e.g., "Unit performs self-test but does not respond to radar").
- A copy of your dated proof of purchase or bill of sale.

3. Be certain your unit is returned with its serial number. For reference, please write your unit's serial number in the following space:

Antenna s/n _____
Control Panel s/n _____
Laser Receiver s/n _____

Units without serial numbers are not covered under warranty.

IMPORTANT: To validate that your unit is within the warranty period, make sure you keep a copy of your dated proof of purchase and return the Warranty Validation card.

Note: This warranty does not include installation or reinstallation charges.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Service Out Of Warranty

Units will be repaired at "out of warranty" service rates when:

- The unit's original warranty has expired.
- Dated proof of purchase is not supplied.
- The unit has been returned without its serial number.
- The unit has been abused, modified, installed improperly, or had its housing removed.

The minimum out of warranty service fee for your Whistler detector is \$55.00 (U.S.). If you require out of warranty service, please return your unit as outlined in the section "Service Under Warranty" along with a certified check or money order for \$55.00. Payment may also be made by MasterCard or VISA; personal checks are not accepted. In the event repairs cannot be covered by the minimum \$55.00 service fee, you will be contacted by a Whistler technical service specialist who will outline options available to you. If you elect not to have your unit repaired/replaced, it will be returned to you along with your certified check or money order.

IMPORTANT: When returning your unit for service, be certain to include a daytime telephone number.

Consumer Relations

If you have questions concerning the operation of your Whistler detector, or require service during or after the warranty period, please call Consumer Relations at 1-800-531-0004. Representatives are available to answer your questions Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (CST).

SPECIFICATIONS

- **Dimensions:** Antenna: 1.4" H x 3.2" W x 4.2" L
Control Panel: .8" H x 2.8" W x 2.4" L
Laser: 1.9" H x .9" W x .6" L

- **Weight:** Antenna: 7.5 oz.
Control Panel: 2 oz.

- **Laser Wavelength:**
905 ± 50 nanometers (nm)

- **Radar Frequencies:**
10.500 - 10.550 GHz (X Band)
24.050 - 24.250 GHz (K Band)
33.400 - 36.000 GHz (Ka Superwideband)

- **Operating Temperature Range:**
-20° C to +80° C (-4° F to +176° F)

- **Power Requirements:**
Operational 12 to 15 volts DC, 200mA nominal

One or more U.S. patents apply: #4,315,261; #5,146,227; #5,379,456; #5,666,120, and #5,990,821.

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

