Cash drawer/printer combinations

Introduction

Unique Micro Design produces a range of Computer Cash Drawers that are used with computers and terminals to form point of sale cash register systems.

There are a number of solutions to interfacing cash drawers to host computers and terminals. Before choosing your solution, consideration must be given to the following questions:

1. What devices do you want to control from your host?
2. What communication ports have you available (eg one serial port and two parallel ports on a PC, one auxiliary port on a terminal etc).

Cash drawer only

If you don't want to control the cash drawer from a docket printer then you must either use a Trigger or Intelligent Cash Drawer, or use an External Trigger Module with a Base Cash Drawer.

The Trigger Drawer and the Serial External Trigger Module (M316) attach directly to an RS-232 serial port and opens the drawer on receipt of any data from the host computer.

The serial Intelligent Trigger Drawer opens the drawer when the data being sent to it matches specific and predetermined criteria only. This data setting is adjustable by the setting of dip switches on the drawer.

The *new* USB External Trigger Module(M317) uses a special USB Driver to create a *Virtual* serial port and emulates all of the more common docket printer commands to open the cash drawer. It will even provide a status back indication when the Epson Esc/POS status request command is used, to indicate whether the drawer is open or closed.

Cash drawer and printer

If your host is only providing one communication port and you wish to open a cash drawer and still be able to print, then there are two options available:

1. Use a printer with cash drawer control, such as the Citizen IDP3550 series plus M125-B Base Cash Drawer. The IDP3550 series is available with either Centronics parallel or RS232 serial interfaces.

2. Use the M125-I Intelligent Cash Drawer connected between the host and printer. This option requires a host serial port.