

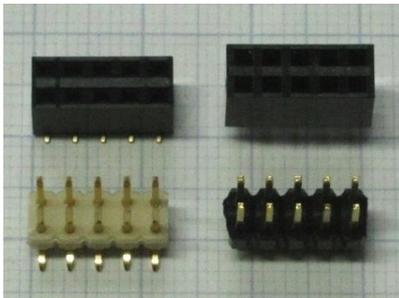


## 1. Purpose of the Standard

This standard describes the interface for vehicles on large scale model railroads that require more than 2 Amperes of power for motors, electrical components and sounds. The interface can be implemented in steps from 16 to a maximum of 44 contacts. The volume is scaled to the number of contacts.

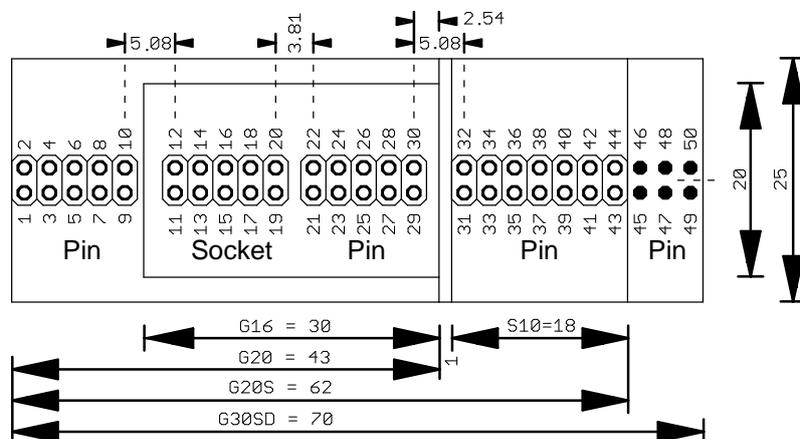
## 2. Basic Principles

In order to comply with this standard the electrical and mechanical characteristics must be complied with. The space needed to install a decoder according to Table 2 must always be kept clear inside vehicles. It is not required that all functions of the interface be supported. The connections for unsupported functions should not be connected or populated. The manufacturer must document the specifics of the installed interface and any missing functions.



## 3. Mechanical Properties

The interface is composed of up to four 10 conductor, 0.64mm pin headers and their corresponding pin sockets in a 2.54mm grid spacing on the motherboard of the vehicle. Protection against improper plug insertion is ensured through the variation of the spacing of the plugs. The assembly in the area of the pin sockets on the decoder has a height of 7 (+1/-0) mm. The assembly in the area of the decoder's pin header has a height of 10 (+1/-0) mm. The spacing between the motherboard and decoder is a minimum of 10mm and can be increased through taller pin/socket headers if needed.



**Figure 1: Top View of Motherboard**

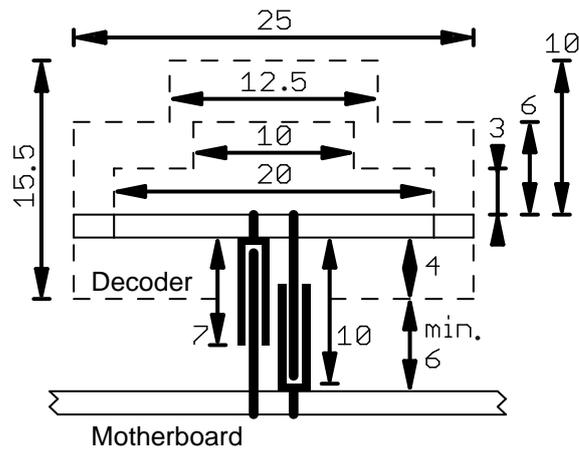


Figure 2: Side View of Motherboard and Decoder

The respective dimensions can be taken from the above drawings (tolerance +/- 0.5 mm). The maximum height for current conducting contacts of components must each be 1mm less.

The decoder types are found in Table 1.

Table 1:

| Type      | Pin Numbers | allowed load | Width | Length | Height   | Component Height<br>Top Middle/Edge | Component Height<br>Bottom |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|-------|--------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| PluG-16   | 15 ... 30   | 2A           | 20    | 30     | 3 ... 6  | 6 / 3                               | 4                          |
| PluG-20S  | 11 ... 40   | 3A           | 25    | 62     | 6 ... 10 | 10 / 6                              | 4                          |
| PluG-20   | 11 ... 30   | 3A           | 25    | 43     | 6 ... 10 | 10 / 6                              | 4                          |
| PluG-S    | 31 ... 40   | -            | 25    | 18     | 6 ... 10 | 10 / 6                              | 4                          |
| PluG-30SD | 1 ... 44    | 3A           | 25    | 70     | 6 ... 10 | 10 / 6                              | 4                          |

#### 4. Electrical Properties

The load limit is 3 A continuous per contact. Short term spikes in current such as when setting into motion, with a doubled value are allowed and must be supported by decoders. Table 2 describes the assignment of the contacts. Table 3 describes the function connections and voltage carrying signals.

Table 2:

| Tech. Data           | Direction | Description                  | Contact |    | Description                    | Direction | Tech. Data         |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|----|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 10 mA / Logic        | ◀ ▶       | Lokbus -a                    | 1       | 2  | Lokbus -b                      | ◀ ▶       | 10 mA / Logic      |
| 10 mA / Logic        | Dec. ▶    | IR-Transmitter/F-A17         | 3       | 4  | F-A18 / IN-6                   | Dec. ▶    | PU / Logic         |
| 0.3 A / OC           | Dec. ▶    | F-A15                        | 5       | 6  | F-A16                          | Dec. ▶    | 0.3 A / OC         |
| 10 mA / Logic        | Dec. ▶    | Servo-3 / F-A13              | 7       | 8  | F-A14 / Servo 4                | Dec. ▶    | 10 mA / Logic      |
| 0.3 A / OC           | Dec. ▶    | F-A11                        | 9       | 10 | F-A12                          | Dec. ▶    | 0.3 A / OC         |
| 10 mA / Logic        | Dec. ▶    | Servo-1 / F-A7               | 11      | 12 | F-A8 / Servo-2                 | Dec. ▶    | 10 mA / Logic      |
| Track. prot'd / 22 V | ▶ Dec.    | Motor Switch                 | 13      | 14 | F-A6 / IR-Receiver             | ◀ ▶       | PU / 10 mA / Logic |
| 1.5 A / 3.0A         | Dec. ▶    | Motor -                      | 15      | 16 | Motor +                        | Dec. ▶    | 3.0 A / 1.5 A      |
| 2.0 A / 3.0A         | ▶ Dec.    | Track -                      | 17      | 18 | Track +                        | ▶ Dec.    | 3.0 A / 2.0 A      |
| 1A                   | Dec. ▶    | (→Pin35) (GND)<br>Dec-       | 19      | 20 | Dec+ (→Pin36)                  | Dec. ▶    | 1 A                |
| 0.1 A / OC           | Dec. ▶    | (BC) Buffer Control          | 21      | 22 | F-A1                           | Dec. ▶    | 0.3 A / OC         |
| 0.3 A / OC           | Dec. ▶    | F-LV                         | 23      | 24 | F-LH                           | Dec. ▶    | 0.3 A / OC         |
| 0.3 A / OC           | Dec. ▶    | F-A2                         | 25      | 26 | F-A3                           | Dec. ▶    | 1.0 A / OC         |
| PU / 10 mA / Logic   | ◀ ▶       | IN-1 / F-A5                  | 27      | 28 | F-A4                           | Dec. ▶    | 1.0 A / OC         |
| 10 mA / Logic        | ◀ ▶       | (→Pin39) (Susi-Clk)<br>Bus1a | 29      | 30 | Bus1b (Susi-Data)<br>(→Pin 40) | ◀ ▶       | PU / 10 mA / Logic |
| 8 Ohm / min. 2 W     | Dec. ▶    | Speaker-1a                   | 31      | 32 | Speaker-1b                     | Dec. ▶    | 8 Ohm / min. 2 W   |
| PU / Logic           | ▶ Dec.    | Clock 1 / IN-2               | 33      | 34 | Potentiometer<br>(Volume)      | ▶ Dec.    | 0 ... 5 k Ohm      |
| 0.7 A                | ▶ Dec.    | (→Pin19) (GND)<br>Dec-       | 35      | 36 | Dec+ (→Pin20)                  | ▶ Dec.    | 0.7A               |
| PU / 10 mA / Logic   | ◀ ▶       | F-A9 / IN-3                  | 37      | 38 | IN-4 / F-A10                   | ◀ ▶       | PU / 10 mA / Logic |
| 10 mA / Logic        | ◀ ▶       | (→Pin29) (Susi-Clk)<br>Bus2A | 39      | 40 | Bus2B (Susi-Data)<br>(→Pin30)  | ◀ ▶       | 10 mA / Logic      |
| 8 Ohm / min. 2 W     | Dec. ▶    | Speaker-2a                   | 41      | 42 | Speaker-2b                     | Dec. ▶    | 8 Ohm / min. 2 W   |
| PU / Logic           | ▶ Dec.    | Clock 2 / IN-5               | 43      | 44 | + 5 V                          | ▶ Dec     | 100 mA             |
| ???                  | ???       | - Future use -               | 45      | 46 | - Future use -                 | ???       | ???                |
| ???                  | ???       | - Future use -               | 47      | 48 | - Future use -                 | ???       | ???                |
| ???                  | ???       | - Future use -               | 49      | 50 | - Future use -                 | ???       | ???                |

**Note:** Pins 45 ... 50 are reserved for future expansion and are not presently populated.

**Table 3:**

| Function/ Voltage Carrying Signal | Description   | Comments  |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Track+                            | Right rail in direction of travel (special case with 45mm garden layouts = left rail)                       |   |
| Track-                            | Left rail in direction of travel (special case with 45mm garden layouts = right rail)                       |   |
| Dec- / GND                        | Signal Ground (GND) behind rectifier.   | Dec- may be connected to a rectifier on the interface motherboard.  |
| Dec+                              | Supply voltage after the rectifier.   | Dec+ may be connected to a rectifier on the interface motherboard.  |
| Motor +/-                         | Connection to Motor   | Consider rotation direction.  |
| F-Ax, F-Lx                        | Switched output for additional function.  | Observe the technical data of the OC or logic.  |
| OC                                | Electronically switched output (Open Collector) against GND.  | Consumers are supplied by „Dec+“ or a regulated voltage.  |
| Logic                             | Output direct form the processor with 5 V level.  | Consumers are supplied by „Dec- / GND“. The logic outputs can be protected through series resistors (max. 470 Ohm). |
| BC                                | Control connection (OC) to charge and discharge control of storage capacitors.                              |   |
| Motor switch                      | Signal input to switch the motor output (Analog + Digital) :  | Uin value > 2.0V means ON   |
| +5 V                              | Auxiliary voltage for sensors or other processors in the vehicle.   | This power must NOT be used for consumers (lights, servos, etc.)  |
| IN-x                              | Control input for clock, Magnetic sensors   |   |
| PU                                | Decoder contains (switchable) pull-up resistor against +5 V for sensors with OpenCollector                  |   |
| Bus                               | SuSi-Bus or Lokbus (29 + 30) decoder output , Sound module input (39+40)                                    | Lokbus - future use, defined by VHDM  |
| Lokbus                            | Future use, defined by VHDM   |   |
| Speaker                           | Minimual power 2 Watt at 8 Ohm  | Amplifier output should be adjustable.  |
| Potentiometer                     | Adjustable resistor to GND:<br>0 k Ohm (= quiet) to 5 k Ohm (= loud) ,<br>voltage over resistor maximum 5 V |   |
| IR-Transmitter / Receiver         | Future use, defined by VHDM   |   |
| Servo                             | Standardized control signal for model servo motors  |   |

## 5. Bridge Plug

In analog operations an OEM Bridge Plug is utilized. The connections are made according to Table 4.

**Table 4:**

| Connection from | Contact Number | Connection To  | Contact Number | Comment   |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| Motor+          | 16             | Track+         | 18             |   |
| Motor-          | 15             | Track-         | 17             | rather than Track-, on can also connect Motor Switch contact 13 |
| OC              |                | GND            | 19, 35         | if needed   |
| Logic           |                | 5 V aux. power | 44             | if needed   |

**Note:** If on vehicle consumers are powered by an auxiliary supply (e.g. 6 V) via a clocked DC/DC converter, then directional outputs should not be directly connected to „Track+“ or „Track-“ through diodes. Control must be done by an OpenCollector circuit in order to prevent cross currents at the regulator.

## 6. Note

The decoder must provide for appropriate feedback signals in Service-Mode in the case of usage of a sound module (PluG-S) without motor control.

## 7. Further Information

On the VHDM website ([www.railcommunity.org](http://www.railcommunity.org)) more information is accessible under RCN-123.