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milliGAT[®] Pump Manual



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1. Product Description

The microprocessor-controlled milliGAT[®] pump^{*} consists of

- a pump head with appropriate fluid line connectors,
- a motor and gearbox assembly,
- a stepper motor controller,
- a switch-mode power supply (100 240 VAC to 24 VDC), and
- various cables.

Several models of the pump are available and are listed in the following table:

Table 1: Pump model numbers

Model	Pump	Gearbox and Motor	Controller
MG-1	MG-LF low flow	1.8° stepper motor / 4.75x gearbox	ML-4 – MicroLynx
MG-1M17	MG-LF low flow	1.8° stepper motor / 4.75x gearbox	MDrive 17 plus
MG-1M17-EE	MG-LF low flow	1.8° stepper motor / 4.75x gearbox / external encoder	MDrive 17 plus ²
MG-2	MG-HF high flow	1.8° stepper motor / 10x gearbox	ML-4 – MicroLynx
MG-2M17	MG-HF high flow	1.8° stepper motor / 10x gearbox	MDrive 17 plus
MG-2M17-EE	MG-HF high flow	1.8° stepper motor / 10x gearbox / external encoder	MDrive 17 plus ²
MG-5	MG-LF low flow	0.9° stepper motor / 22.56x gearbox	MForce 17 plus
MG-5E	MG-LF low flow	0.9° stepper motor / 22.56x gearbox / external encoder	MForce 17 plus ²

The performance characteristics of each of these pumps are given in §10.

2. Principle of operation

The central component in the pump is a cylindrical rotor that is fitted with four equally spaced pistons (two are shown in Figure 1). This rotor seals against the stator end cap. The stator end cap has an inlet and outlet port. These ports are coupled to an inlet channel in the shape of an arc and a similar outlet channel in the stator cap. As the rotor turns, a cam governs the back and forth displacement of the spring-loaded pistons with a piston stroke of 1/8'' (3mm). The diameter of the pistons of the HF pump is larger than the pistons of the LF pump. As the motor turns the rotor, one piston is dispensing into the outlet channel, one piston is filling from the inlet channel and the other two are moving between the inlet and outlet channels. The cam has been engineered to ensure a smooth transition when one piston hands off to the next.

^{*} US Pat No. 6,079,313 issued to Global FIA, Inc.



Figure 1: milliGAT pump cross section

A stepper motor governs rotation rate and direction. Flow direction is determined by the direction of rotation. Flow rate is determined by the rate of rotation. The metering capability of the pump is determined by the accuracy of the stepper motor working in micro-step mode. In addition to various levels of gearing, the stepper motor is operated in a mode where every stepper motor step is divided into 256 micro-steps. For the low flow (LF) pump one revolution of the pump displaces 100 μ L and for the high flow (HF) pump, one revolution displaces 630 μ L. The volume per micro-step is dependent on motor, gearing, and pump used and can be calculated using the formula given on page 38.

In the event of a deadhead blockage, the backpressure overcomes the spring that holds the rotor against the stator. The rotor of the pump moves away from the stator and fluid leaks into the pump internals and eventually from one of the pump's leak ports. If this occurs, the leakage must be well flushed from the pump using distilled water and isopropyl alcohol to prevent permanent damage (see §4.2.1 for more detailed instructions on dealing with a leak).

While care has been taken to ensure a smooth transition from one piston to the next, some users with sensors that are extremely sensitive to flow may notice a small perturbation as one piston hands off to the next.

The pistons are Teflon[™] tipped and the Teflon tip is longer than the piston stroke thereby ensuring that the wetted surface of the piston chamber is not exposed to air. This has a positive implication for wear life of the pistons as crystals of dried dissolved solids cannot form and scratch the seal surface.

The milliGAT[®] is a self-priming positive displacement pump and can tolerate gas in the fluid lines.

An animated depiction of the operation of the pump is given at http://www.vici.com/liqhand/m6.php

3. Installation and use

3.1 Getting started

In order to operate the pump you must:

• Mount the pump and controller using the provided mounting points.

For best results, the milliGAT pump must be orientated with its ports facing up. If the pump is orientated in any other direction, bubbles may be trapped in the internal chambers of the pump. This will have an adverse affect on accuracy and smoothness of flow.

- Plumb tubing to the inlet and outlet ports of the pump. The inlet is labeled with an **A** and the outlet is labeled with a **B**.
- Connect the serial port on the pump controller to a suitable serial port on a computer.
- For systems with separate stepper motor controllers, connect the motor to the controller.
- Connect the power supply and power up the pump.
- Run a suitable serial port terminal emulation program. There are several options for this step. Many users simply make use of the Terminal Emulation program called Hyper Terminal that comes packaged with most Windows operating systems. A more specialized Terminal emulation program called IMS Terminal is supplied with the disk that was supplied with the pump or it can be downloaded from http://www.imshome.com/software_interfaces.html. A third and very powerful option is to use the demo version of FloZF written by Global FIA and available for download at http://www.globalfia.com/software.html

Subsequent sections will describe each of these steps in more detail and provide the command structure for each model of the pump.

3.2 Pumps with MicroLynx controller (MG-1, MG-2)

3.2.1 Mounting

The mounting points of the pump and controller are given in Figure 2 together with the external dimensions of each module. Because the high flow pump (HF) makes use of a dual stage gearbox, its enclosure is 1" (25.4 mm) longer than the low flow pump. All other dimensions are the same.

The controller should be mounted in such a way to allow adequate cooling and circulation of air around the controller.



Pump and Motor Assembly

Figure 2: Mounting points and external dimensions for milliGAT LF (MG-1)

3.2.2 Plumbing

The low flow milliGAT[®] pump (MG-1) has two 10-32 threaded female ports. The high flow pump (MG-2) is equipped with two 1/4-28 female ports. If you look carefully, you will see that they are labeled A and B. Port A is the inlet and port B is the outlet for positive pump movements.

If you plan on using 1/32" (0.8 mm) OD tubing with the low flow pump, care must be taken not to insert the tubing too far into the pump and so damage the **pump rotor**. A fitting set suited for $\frac{1}{32}$ OD tubing that includes a 6-40 finger-tight fitting and an adapter to the 10-32 female port in the pump is available (see §7 for part numbers)

A set of 10-32 finger-tight fittings and ferrules are supplied with the low flow pump. These fittings are suitable for $1/_{16}$ " (1.6 mm) OD tubing. Figure 3 is a picture of 10-32 fittings correctly fitted on PFA tubing.



Figure 3: 10-32 fittings on 1/16" (1.6 mm) OD tubing

For the high flow pump, $\frac{1}{28}$ fittings are supplied for either $\frac{1}{16}$ " (1.6 mm) or $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3.1 mm) OD tubing.



Figure 4: $\frac{1}{4}$ -28 fittings on $\frac{1}{16}$ " (1.6 mm) OD tubing and $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3.1 mm) OD tubing

The following instructions describe how to make a good fitting connection. The leak-tightness and integrity of the connection is dependent upon tubing preparation and the correct procedure in making up the fitting. It is important to use the fittings supplied with the pump. Fittings from other suppliers have been known to damage the pump.

- 1. To ensure a good seal and avoid unswept volumes, make a square cut of the tubing using a sharp blade or tubing cutter. Make sure that the end of the tube is free of burs or cut debris.
- 2. Slide the nut and ferrule onto the tubing in the order shown in the pictures above.
- 3. Insert this tubing into the female port on the pump and screw the nut in two or three turns.
- 4. Push the tubing all the way forward into the detail so that it seats firmly. This is essential for a proper zero dead volume connection.
- 5. Tighten the nut in the port until it is finger-tight. Do not over tighten the fittings as you could damage the threads of the port.
- 6. Remove the fitting and inspect it. The tubing should protrude past the ferrule by approximately 2mm for the 10-32 fittings and should be flush with the ferrule for the ¹/₄-28 fittings.
- 7. When made up properly, the ferrule may be free to spin axially on the tubing, but should have no lateral movement along the tubing. If the ferrule moves laterally, re-install the fitting into the detail and tighten it another 1/8 turn past finger tight.
- 8. Remove, re-inspect, and repeat, if necessary.

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3.2.3 Electrical connections

NOTE! It is a good practice to only apply power to the power supply after all connections have been made. Failure to do so may destroy the controller. Take precautions to avoid static discharges to the controller.

Figure 5 shows how to connect an RS-232 serial port to the MicroLynx. For computers such as Laptops equipped only with USB ports, a USB to RS-232 converter can be used. One that has been found to be reliable is available from Global FIA (see §6).



MicroLYNX-4 (10 Pin Header)

Figure 5: MicroLynx cabling diagram with RS-232 connection

Figure 6 indicates two possibilities for connecting the controller to an RS-485 port. In the inset, the RS-485 pins on the MicroLynx are connected to the A and B pins of a 2-wire RS-485 port. In the main diagram, the Receive pins on the MicroLynx are connected to the corresponding Transmit pins on the RS-485 port and the Transmit pins on the MicroLynx are connected to the Receive pins on the RS-485 port. Custom cables to suit user requirements are available form Global FIA.



Figure 6: MicroLynx communication cabling with RS-485 connection

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In a third possible arrangement, the MicroLynx is coupled to the PC via a RS-232 connection and acts as a host for communication to other devices on an RS-485 network.

This arrangement is represented schematically in Figure 7 for subsequent communication on a 2-wire RS-485 loop. Communication on a 4-wire RS-485 loop can be derived from this figure.



Figure 7: MicroLynx communication cabling with RS-232 and RS-485 connections

The pin outs for the serial port are given in Table 14 and Table 15.

Figure 8 indicates how the pump and power supply are to be connected to the MicroLynx.



Figure 8: Power connection for MicroLynx and Pump

3.2.4 Serial communications with a MicroLynx from a host computer using RS-232

- 1. Connect the cables as indicated in Figure 5.
- 2. Run a Terminal emulation program such as IMS Terminal, Windows Hyper Terminal or the FloZF terminal emulator.
- 3. Configure the communication settings in the software to **9600 baud**, **no parity**, **8 data bits**, **1 stop bit**, and with no hardware or software flow control.
- 4. Power up the pump. An identifying string should be displayed on the screen, or the resident program (if there is one) will commence. If not, power down the pump. Ensure that all cables are properly connected and that the communication settings are correct. Power the pump up again.
- 5. You can also type **PRINT VER<CR>** where <CR> is the enter key, and the controller should reply with the firmware version.

3.2.5 Serial communications with multiple slave devices using a RS-232 to RS-485 converter

- 1. Using an RS-232 connection set the following system variables on each of the slave devices before changing the address
 - HOST=0

ECHO 2=0 for full duplex 4-wire RS-485 communication or HOST=0

ECHO 2=1 for half duplex 2-wire RS-485 communication

- 2. Set up the addresses on each slave device.
- 3. Connect cables as shown in Figure 6.
- 4. Follow steps 2 through 4 in §3.2.4. Precede each command with the address of the device addresses are case sensitive and end each command with Ctrl-J.

3.2.6 Communicating with multiple MicroLynx controllers with one MicroLynx as host

This mode of operation is also called Party mode.

1. Using an RS-232 connection to only the first MicroLynx, set the following system variables before changing the address on the device.

HOST=1

ECHO 2=0 for full duplex 4-wire RS-485 communication or

HOST=1

ECHO 2=1 for half duplex 2-wire RS-485 communication

- 2. Save these settings by issuing the SAVE command. This controller is now designated as the **host**.
- 3. Connect cables as shown in Figure 7 and Table 16 to the slave controllers. It is preferable to use 4-wire RS-485 communication. Note that the RX pins on the host are wired to the TX pins on the slave controllers and the TX pins on the host are wired to the RX pins on the slave controllers. Connection from one slave controller to the next is RX to RX and TX to TX.
- 4. Set the address switches on the side of each controller to a unique address per Table 2. Note addresses are case sensitive.
- 5. Cycle power (remove power, pause until LED goes out, then re-apply power) or send a Ctrl-C from the keyboard. The MicroLynx is now in party mode and all communications directed to this unit <u>must</u> begin with the address you picked from Table 2. Furthermore, all communications <u>must</u> be terminated with a Ctrl-J (line feed) instead of a carriage return (Enter key). There will not be any sign on message. All controllers will now be in party mode.

NOTE: while in party mode, you must precede all commands with the address and terminate all commands with a Ctrl-J! For example, ASlew 10[Ctrl-J]. If you press *Enter* by mistake, just press Ctrl-J to send the command. If commands appear not to be getting through, press Ctrl-J to set all controllers to receive mode again. You can configure CR to send CR+LF in most terminal emulation packages. Then when you press Enter, a CR and LF (Ctrl-J) will be sent.

- 6. Test by sending the command **APRINT VER[Ctrl-J]** if A is a valid address. You should receive the line; VER =x.xx.
- 7. To obtain full duplex communication for each device type **aECHO 2=0[Ctrl-J]**, where "a" is the devices address from Table 2. Save the new setting by typing **aSAVE[Ctrl-J]**. When using the dip switches to set addresses, all addresses are in uppercase. If you use a lower case addresses or an invalid address, all MicroLynx controllers will ignore further input until **Ctrl-J** is pressed.
- When in party mode there is no sign on message, but you can check for communication to a specific device by monitoring the pilot light and then press Ctrl-C, the pilot light should go off and then on again.

Address	A2	A1	A0
None	Off	Off	Off
А	Off	Off	On
В	Off	On	Off
С	Off	On	On
D	On	Off	Off
E	On	Off	On
F	On	On	Off
G	On	On	On

Table 2: Party mode address settings

3.2.7 Communicating with multiple slave devices using RS-485 with one MicroLynx as host

- 1. Using an RS-232 connection set the following system variables for the host MicroLynx before changing the address of the MicroLynx
 - HOST=1

ECHO 2=0 for full duplex 4-wire RS-485 communication or HOST=1

ECHO 2=1 for half duplex 2-wire RS-485 communication

 Using an RS-232 connection set the following system variables on each of the slave devices before changing the address of the device HOST=0 ECHO 2=0 for full duplex 4-wire RS-485 communication or

ECHO 2=0 for full duplex 4-wire RS-485 communication or HOST=0

ECHO 2=1 for half duplex 2-wire RS-485 communication

- 3. Set up the addresses on each slave device.
- 4. Connect cables as shown in Figure 7.
- 5. Follow steps 2 through 4 in §3.2.4.
- 6. Any commands sent for devices down line of the host controller will be relayed by the host controller. Replies will be passed through to the computer by the host controller

3.2.8 Pump commands for the MicroLynx controller

Once serial communication has been established between the computer and the MicroLynx, simply type the commands from the terminal program (or the Terminal window of IMS Terminal) or issue them from your custom software to activate the pump. *Appendix B: MicroLynx Commands* provides a list of selected MicroLynx commands. Further details on the MicroLynx controller can be found in the MicroLynx hardware or software manual which can be downloaded from http://www.imshome.com/manuals.html.

Table 3 provides the basic commands necessary to control the pump. When the controller receives a valid command it returns a > prompt (when not in party mode), if the command is not valid, the controller returns a ? prompt.

	Description: Pump continuously at the specified flow rate	Min	Max	Units
SLEW	Example: SLEW=20	0.004	167	μL/sec
	Description: Sets the flow rate for pump commands	Min	Max	Units
VIM	Example: VM=20	0.004	167	μL/sec
	Description: Pumps the specified volume, pump direction is	Min	Max	Units
MOVR	determined by the sign			
	Example: MOVR=-100	±0.001	± 10 ¹⁵	μL
COTD	Description: Stops pump movement*	Min	Max	Units
551P	Example: SSTP			

Table 3: Basic pump commands for the MicroLynx

Table 4 provides a few examples with descriptions given in the first column and the required commands given in the second column.

Description	Command
Aspirate [†] 0.5 μ L at 5 μ L/sec	VM=5
	MOVR=-0.5
Dispense 1000µL at 100µL/sec	VM=100
	MOVR=1000
Pump continuously at 50µL/sec	SLEW=50
Stop the pump	SSTP
Re-establish pump factory settings	INIT
Save all present settings to non-volatile RAM	SAVE

Table 4: Sample commands for the MicroLynx

Each command is sent to the controller by pressing the **Enter** key (except when in party mode, then **Ctrl-J** is used). When entering these commands, always ensure that the controller returns a > prompt. If it returns a ? prompt, then there is an error in the command and you must retype it. You can clear the error by typing **PRINT ERROR**. Error codes are given in the MicroLynx software manual.

3.2.9 Pump units

The default units for the pump when the MicroLynx controller is used are μ L (volume), μ L/sec (flow rate and slew rate), and μ L/sec² (flow acceleration rate). The conversion factor between volumetric units and micro steps is given by the controller variable MUNIT. The value of MUNIT can be determined using the equation on page 38. You can determine the present value of MUNIT by typing **PRINT MUNIT<CR>.**

3.3 *Pumps with MDrive controller (MG-1M17, MG-2M17)*

3.3.1 Mounting

For these pumps, the controller in integrated with motor and so there is no separate controller. The mounting points of the pump and controller are given in Figure 9 together with the external dimensions of each module. Because the high flow pump makes use of a dual stage gearbox, the motor and gear assembly is 0.52" (13 mm) longer than the low flow pump. All other dimensions are the same.

^{*} Pressing the **ESC** key will also halt a pump action

[†] Switch inlet and outlet ports if flow direction is reversed

The pump should be mounted in such a way to allow adequate cooling and circulation of air around the controller.



Figure 9: Mounting points and external dimensions for milliGAT LF with integrated controller (MG-1M17)

3.3.2 Plumbing

Details for the plumbing of these pumps is the same as for the pumps that use the MicroLynx controller and are given in $\S3.2.2$

3.3.3 Electrical connections

NOTE! It is a good practice to only apply power to the power supply after all connections have been made. Failure to do so may destroy the controller. Take precautions to avoid static discharges to the controller.

The MDrive controller is equipped with an RS-485 (also called RS-422) port for communication. Figure 10 shows how to make a serial connection to the MDrive. A USB to RS-422/485 or RS-232 to RS-422/485 converter is available for computers that do not have the correct ports. Part numbers are listed in §6. The mating plug for this connector on the controller is Amp 1-111623-8.



Figure 10: MDrive cabling diagram with RS-422/485 connection



Figure 11: MDrive cable diagram for multiple devices

Figure 11 shows how multiple devices can be controlled from a single serial port. Each device requires a unique address (or Device Name - DN). §3.3.5 describes how to configure each drive for this mode of operation.

Figure 12 indicates how to connect power to the MDrive. Two models of the MDrive are shown, the one with flying leads and the other with a seven pin pluggable terminal.



Figure 12: Power connection for MicroLynx and Pump

3.3.4 Serial communications between a MDrive and a host computer using RS-422/485

- 1. Connect the cables as indicated in Figure 10.
- 2. Run a Terminal emulation program such as IMS Terminal, Windows Hyper Terminal or ProComm.
- 3. Configure the communication settings in the software to **9600 baud**, **no parity**, **8 data bits**, **1 stop bit**, and with no hardware or software flow control.
- 4. Power up the pump. An identifying string should be displayed on the screen, or the resident program (if there is one) will commence. If not, power down the pump. Ensure that all cables are properly connected and that the communication settings are correct. Power the pump up again.

3.3.5 Communicating with multiple MDrive controllers

This mode of operation is also called Party mode.

NOTE: when in party mode, you must precede all commands with the address and terminate all commands with a Ctrl-J! For example, ASL 10000[Ctrl-J]. If you press *Enter* by mistake, just press Ctrl-J to send the command. If commands appear not to be getting through, press Ctrl-J to set all controllers to receive mode again. You can configure CR to send CR+LF in most terminal emulation packages. Then when you press Enter, a CR and LF (Ctrl-J) will be sent.

Each drive has to be assigned a unique Device Name (DN). The factory default address is "A". Connect to one MDrive at a time and set the following drive variables:

1. Once you have established communication type, **ADN="a"<CR>** where a is the device name (the device name can be an alphabetic character A-Z). Addresses are case sensitive. Once named, the device name must precede the instruction to that drive.

- 2. Type **aS<CR>** to save the address to non-volatile memory.
- 3. Once all devices have been configured, then connect them as indicated in Figure 11. When in party mode there is no sign on message. Some embedded programs may display device addresses at startup.

3.3.6 Pump commands for the MDrive controller

Once serial communication has been established between the computer and the MDrive, simply type the commands from the terminal program (or the Terminal window of IMS Terminal) or issue them from your custom software to activate the pump. *Appendix C: MDrive and* MForce commands provides a list of selected MDrive commands. Further details on the MDrive controller can be found in the MDrive Motion Control hardware or software manual (see http://www.imshome.com/manuals.html).

Table 5 provides the basic commands necessary to control a pump where the device name has not been set.

For the MDrive, all variables (e.g. flow rates) must be integers. Pump move, flow rate and acceleration settings are given in microsteps. You can convert to μ L by multiplying the desired μ L value by EU. EU stands for engineering units and represents the number of micro steps in a μ L. For desired volumetric settings that are not integers, you will have to calculate the equivalent micro steps and then issue the appropriate command, e.g. for EU=2432, and a desired flow rate of 0.1 μ L/sec use the command **VM=243**

SL	Description: Pump continuously at the specified flow rate	Min	Max	Units
	Example: SL=20*EU	1	167	μL/sec
VM	Description: Sets the flow rate for pump commands	Min	Max	Units
VIM	Example: VM=20*EU	1	167	μL/sec
MR	Description: Pumps the specified volume, pump direction is	Min	Мах	Units
	determined by the sign			
	Example: MR=-100*EU	1	± 10 ¹⁵	μL
SL=0	Description: Stops pump movement*	Min	Max	Units
	Example: SL=0			

Table 5: Basic pump commands for the MDrive 17

The MDrive does not have built-in backlash correction. A small program has been installed on the MDrive which compensates for backlash. Backlash comes into play when you change pump direction. There are small tolerances in the drive train and gear box that must be taken up before the pump actually starts to move. So when the direction of flow changes, a small volume equal to the backlash must be added to the desired dispense volume. The embedded program takes care of this but you must use a different command set to aspirate or dispense a particular volume. VL specifies the volume in μ L to pump. EX FL runs the embedded program that completes the move with backlash compensation where appropriate. Table 7 provides the commands to use if you need backlash compensation.

Table 6 provides a few examples with descriptions given in the first column and the required commands given in the second column.

^{*} Pressing the **ESC** key will also halt a pump action

Description	Command
Aspirate [*] 10 μ L at 5 μ L/sec	AVM=5*EU
	AMR=-10*EU
Dispense 1000µL at 100µL/sec	AVM=100*EU
	AMR=1000*EU
Pump continuously at 50µL/sec	ASL=50*EU
Stop the pump	ASL=0
Re-establish pump factory settings	AEX IZ
Save all present settings to non-volatile RAM	AS

Table 6: Sample commands for the MDrive 17

Each command is sent to the controller by pressing the Ctrl-J. For this example the MDrive was configured with a device name of A.

Table 7: Pump commands for the MDrive 17 with backlash compensation

VL	Description: Set the desired volume to aspirate or dispense	Min	Max	Units
	Example: VL=25	1	$\pm 10^{15}$	μL
	Description: Execute the pump move	Min	Max	Units
EXFL	Example: EX FL			
VS	Description: Set the desired volume in µsteps	Min	Max	Units
	Example: VS=1216	1	$\pm 10^{15}$	μsteps
Ex FS	Description: Execute the pump move for volume in μ steps	Min	Max	Units
	Example: EX FL			

3.3.7 Pump units

The default units for the pump when the MDrive controller is used are μ steps. The conversion factor between volumetric units and μ steps is given by the controller variable EU. The value of EU can be determined using the equation for MUNIT on page 38 (EU=MUNIT).

3.4 Pumps with MForce controller (MG-5, MG-5E)

3.4.1 Mounting

These pumps have a standalone controller. The mounting points for the pump and controller are given in Figure 13 for the device without external encoder. If the motor is equipped with an external encoder, the motor and gearbox will be $\frac{5}{8}$ " (16 mm) longer

^{*} Switch inlet and outlet ports if flow direction is reversed



Figure 13: Mounting points and external dimensions for milliGAT with MForce controller (MG-5)

The controller should be mounted in such a way to allow adequate cooling and circulation of air around the controller.

3.4.2 Plumbing

Details for the plumbing of these pumps is the same as for the pumps that use the MicroLynx controller and are given in $\S3.2.2$

3.4.3 Electrical connections

NOTE! It is a good practice to only apply power to the power supply after all connections have been made. Failure to do so may destroy the controller. Take precautions to avoid static discharges to the controller.

Ensure that electrical connections are made according to Table 8.

Table 8: Power connections for MForce

Pin	Function
15	Power 24VDC
16	Power Ground

Connect the power, motor and serial control cables as shown in Figure 14



Figure 14: Motor and serial cable connections for MForce controller

The MForce controller is equipped with an RS-422 port for device control. The mating plug for this connector is a SAMTEC - TCSD-05-01-N. Global FIA can provide a USB to RS-422 converter cable (P/N: USB-RS-422) or other custom ordered cables to suit a user's application.

Pin	Function
1	TX+
2	TX-
3	RX+
4	RX-
5	Aux Logic
6	RX+
7	RX-
8	TX-
9	TX+
10	Gnd

Table 9: Pin outs for MForce RS-422 serial port

RS-422 allows the possibility of connecting multiple devices to a single serial port. For multiple devices from a single serial port, each device requires a unique device name (DN). The default address for single MForce devices is "A". §3.4.5 describes how to configure each drive for this mode of operation.

3.4.4 Serial communications between an MForce controller and a host computer using RS-485

- 1. Connect the cables as indicated in and Figure 14 and Table 9. If you use the USB-422 you can download the driver for the virtual USB serial port from the ftdi web site at http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm
- 2. Run a Terminal emulation program such as IMS Terminal, Windows Hyper Terminal or ProComm.
- 3. Configure the communication settings in the software to **9600 baud**, **no parity**, **8 data bits**, **1 stop bit**, and with **no hardware or software flow control**.
- 4. Power up the pump. An identifying string or > prompt should be displayed on the screen. If not, power down the pump. Ensure that all cables are properly connected and that the communication settings are correct. Power the pump up again.

3.4.5 Communicating with multiple MForce controllers

- 1. Each drive has to be assigned a unique Device Name (DN). The factory default address is "A". Connect to one MForce at a time and set the following drive variables:
- Once you have established communication type, ADN="a" where a is the device name (the device name can be an alphabetic character A-Z). Addresses are case sensitive. Once named, the device name must precede the instruction to that drive.
- 3. aS to save the address to non-volatile memory.

NOTE: All commands must be terminated with a CR and LF! For example, AVM10000<CR><LF>. You can configure CR to send CR+LF in most terminal emulation packages. Then when you press Enter, a CR and LF will be sent.

3.4.6 Pump commands for the MForce controller

Once serial communication has been established between the computer and the MForce simply type the commands from the terminal program or issue them from your custom software to activate the pump. Appendix C: MDrive and MForce commands provides a list of selected MForce commands. Further details on the MForce controller can be found in the Motion Control MForce hardware manual (see http://motion.schneider-electric.com/products/mforce_microdrive_mfi.html).

Table 10 provides the basic commands necessary to control a pump where the device address is the default address A.

For the MForce, all variables must be integers. Pump move, flow rate and acceleration settings are given in microsteps.

	Description: Pump continuously at the specified flow rate	Min	Max	Units
SL	Example: ASL 231040	100	231040	µsteps/
				sec
	Description: Sets the flow rate for pump commands	Min	Max	Units
VM	Example: AVM 23104	100	231040	µsteps/
				sec
	Description: Pumps the specified volume, pump direction is	Min	Max	Units
MR	determined by the sign			
	Example: AMR 2310400	10	± 2x10 ⁹	μsteps
SI	Description: Stops pump movement	Min	Max	Units
JL	Example: ASL 0			

Table 10: Basic pump commands for the MForce Controller

Commands assume a module address of A.

Table 11 provides a few examples with descriptions given in the first column and the required commands given in the second column. For this example the MForce controller is configured with an address of A.

Table 11: Sample commands for the MForce Controller

Description	Command
Aspirate [*] 10 μ L ⁺ at 2 μ L/sec	AVM 46208
	AMR -231040
Dispense 100µL at 1µL/sec	AVM 23104
	AMR 2310400
Pump continuously at 20nL/sec	ASL 462
Stop the pump	ASL 0
Re-establish pump factory settings	AEX IZ
Save all present settings to non-volatile RAM	AS

Each command is sent to the controller by pressing the **Enter** key <CR>. The software should be configured to send <CR> + <LF> when **Enter** is pressed.

The MDrive does not have built-in backlash correction. A small program has been installed on the MDrive which compensates for backlash. Backlash comes into play when you change pump direction. There are small tolerances in the drive train and gear box that must be taken up before the pump actually starts to move. So when the direction of flow changes, a small volume equal to the backlash must be added to the desired dispense volume. The embedded program takes care of this but you must use a different command set to aspirate or dispense a particular volume. VL specifies the volume in μ L to pump. EX FL runs the embedded program that completes the move with backlash compensation where appropriate. Table 12 provides the commands to use if you need backlash compensation.

^{*} Switch inlet and outlet ports if flow direction is reversed

[†] There are 23,104 μsteps per μL

N/I	Description: Set the desired volume to aspirate or dispense	Min	Max	Units
VL	Example: AVL=25	1	$\pm 10^{15}$	μL
	Description: Execute the pump move	Min	Max	Units
EXFL	Example: AEX FL			
VC	Description: Set the desired volume in µsteps	Min	Max	Units
V5	Example: AVS=1216	1	$\pm 10^{15}$	μsteps
	Description: Execute the pump move for volume in µsteps	Min	Max	Units
EXFS				

Table 12: Pump commands for the MForce with backlash compensation

Example commands assume a module address of A. Each command is sent to the controller by pressing the **Enter** key <CR>. The software should be configured to send <CR> + <LF> when **Enter** is pressed.

3.4.7 Pump units

Example: AEX FS

The default units for the pump when the MForce controller is used are microsteps. There are 23,104 $\mu steps$ in a $\mu L.$

4. Pump maintenance and troubleshooting

4.1 Maintenance

There are NO user serviceable parts inside the pump. Opening the pump by removing, or even loosening the hex bolts that hold the pump together will void the pump's Limited Warranty.

To obtain optimum performance and maximum life from the milliGAT[®] pump, it is important to follow the recommended cleaning and maintenance instructions.

4.1.1 Routine maintenance

- Flush the pump thoroughly with distilled or de-ionized water after each use. Store the pump dry.
- Avoid running the pump dry for extended periods. The pump is self priming and will dispel entrapped bubbles when orientated vertically.
- Inspect the pump for leaks and correct any problems immediately. Liquid entering the motor housing could damage the motor and gear assembly. The pump is equipped with a leak port. Leakage from this port indicates excessive back pressure and unreliable pumping action.
- Wipe up all spills on and around the pump immediately. If fluid is seen coming from the leak port, flush the internals of the pump through the leak port with distilled water and then isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and allow it to dry before further use.
- If the flow manifold is such that leaks through the leak port are frequent, then it is a good idea to incorporate a pressure relief valve (Part No.: PRV-100) downstream of the pump to allow over pressure situations to leak safely to waste.

4.1.2 Routine cleaning

The pump fluid path can be cleaned with one of the following cleaning solutions

1. Weak detergent wash. We have found Micro-90^{*} to be a good general purpose detergent.

^{*} http://www.coleparmer.com/Catalog/product_index.asp?cls=504

- 2. Weak acid and base wash: pump 5 mL of 0.1N NaOH followed by 5 mL of water followed by 5 mL of 0.1N HCl, followed by 10 mL of water.
- 3. Weak bleach wash: pump 5 mL of a 10% beach solution followed by 10 mL of water.

The pump is not amenable to autoclaving. High temperatures compromise pump seals. Chemical cleaning procedures should be employed to ensure sterility.

4.2 Troubleshooting

4.2.1 Pump leaks

The most frequent cause of leaks is over pressurization of the pump. The maximum pressure capability of the pump is 100 psi (approx. 7 bar). If this pressure is exceed by pumping against a dead head or blockage or by using a high flow rate in very narrow bore tubing, then the rotor moves away from the stator and fluid leaks into the pump internals. There are three leak ports on the pump. One is in the stator and the other two are in the side of the pump housing. If fluid leaks into the pumps internals, eventually it will leak from one of the leak ports. If this occurs it is important to flush out the pump internals through the leak port with distilled water and isopropyl alcohol. This is particular important if the leak fluid is corrosive or has a high dissolved solids content. In most cases, simply flushing out the pump in this way and removing the source of back pressure will get the pump back to good working condition. If the leak fluid has done more permanent damage, then the pump will have to be returned for refurbishment.

4.2.2 Pump stalls

When the torque of the pump exceeds the torque output of the motor, the pump will stall. Depending on the flow rate, a characteristic growling sound or vibration or ticking and no flow of the fluid will indicate that the pump is stalling. There are a few possible causes of this problem:

- 1. Wires or connections are loose. If the wires between the pump and controller are loose or damaged, the torque output of the motor will be less than optimal. Repair wires or tighten connections to remedy
- 2. Check the run current. The run current determines the current which is sent to the motor. For the MicroLynx the run current (MRC) is 35. This can be increased to 40 (MRC=40). On the MDrive the default run current (RC) is 60. This can be increased 80 (RC=80). If it is increased, the motor will run a little hotter than normal but it will not harm the motor or pump. A higher current will give a higher torque.
- 3. Check the voltage. The controller will accept a voltage between 12 and 48 VDC. The supplied power supply has an output voltage of 24VDC. Slightly higher torque is achievable if a power supply with a higher voltage output is installed. Although the controller will still work with an input voltage of 12 VDC. It is doubtful whether 12VDC will provide enough power to turn the pump.
- 4. Certain solvents cause the wetted components to swell. Some organic solvents will cause slight swelling of the rotor or stator. A small increase in certain dimensions could cause the pump to stall. Flush out the organic solvent (this may require manual turning of the pump) with distilled water and allow it to dry out and stand for a while. Under certain conditions, the polymers will shrink back to the correct size and the pump will again begin to function. Under these conditions, the pump is probably not suited to such solvents.

4.2.3 Bubbles in output flow

When a continuous stream of bubbles is in the pump outlet but not the inlet, the most likely cause is a poor fluid connection usually in the inlet. Ensure that the tubing is cut square and that the fitting is finger tight. An extra ¼ turn of the fitting beyond finger tight may also help. Bubbles could also occur if there is a negative pressure on the outlet. In this instance, bubbles may be drawn out of solution or the solvent may even vaporize. Reduce the negative pressure on the outlet.

4.2.4 No communication

Sometimes when setting up a new system it is difficult to get communication between a computer and a controller. This problem is exacerbated by the fact that there are so many things that can go wrong with serial communications and it is tedious to identify the defective component. Although time

consuming tracking down these problems simply requires a systematic evaluation of each component in the communication system. This includes:

- 1. Ensure that the serial port on the computer that you are using is functional does it communicate with other devices?
- 2. If you are using a USB to RS-232 or RS-485 converter, or RS-232 to RS-485 converter, ensure that it is working.
- 3. Ensure that you have selected the correct communications settings including Port number, baud rate, number of data bits, number of stop bits, and parity checking.
- 4. In the terminal emulation software ensure that you are connected. Sometimes simply restarting the Terminal emulation software is helpful.
- 5. Check the cable that you are using, ensure that all wires are intact and connected and that the pin-outs are correct.
- 6. Is the controller configured with an address and are you using the address.
- 7. If in party mode are you using [Ctrl-J] (LF) to send the commands?
- 8. Is the controller correctly powered?
- You can see whether signals are getting through to the MicroLynx controller by pressing [Ctrl-C] when you do, the status LED should flash. On the MDrive, a [Ctrl-C] should force a soft restart. If there is an embedded program, you should see the embedded program startup routine run.

4.2.5 Status light on controller flashes

If the status LED on the MicroLynx flashes you probably have the power connector in backwards. If not, then the controller is faulty and needs to be returned for repair.

4.2.6 Flow is not smooth

If a bubble is trapped in the pump, it can cause pulsing flow. To remove the bubble, increase the flow rate to about 50 μ L/sec and aspirate 500 μ L and then dispense 500 μ L (or 3000 μ l for the HF pump). You can also displace a small bubble by passing a large bubble (>50 μ L) through the pump. It is also a good idea to periodically pump a solution containing a surfactant through the pump. We have found Zonyl FSN^{*} to be a good surfactant for this purpose and have demonstrated that it is compatible with many systems including those involving biochemical elements. In many of our systems we include a few drops of Zonyl FSN in 500 mL of distilled water and use this as a carrier stream. We have also found Micro-90 to be a good cleaning agent for the pump and tubing in general.

5. Material compatibility

5.1 Materials of construction

Wetted materials used in the milliGAT $^{\ensuremath{\mathbb{R}}}$ are described below.

5.1.1 PTFE

The piston tips are made from PTFE.

Polytetrafluoroethylene is the generic name for the class of materials such as Teflon[®]. It offers superior chemical resistance and lends itself to good sealing characteristics. Because it's so easy to handle, it is often used in low pressure devices such as the milliGAT[®]. Volatile compounds of low molecular weight can permeate PTFE. Fumes of strong acids such as hydrochloric acid can permeate the PTFE and should be constantly purged from the internals of the pump by blowing instrument air in through one of the leak ports. A barbed fitting (Cat No.: P-N) is available to allow convenient hookup of an air line.

5.1.2 PAEK

The pump port end cap makes use of a PAEK-based composite.

Polyaryletherketone is the generic name for the family of polyketone compounds. PAEK includes PEK, PEEK, PEKK, and PEKEKK, which differ in physical properties and, to a lesser degree, in inertness.

^{*} <u>http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/catalog/search/ProductDetail/ALDRICH/421413</u>

This composite resists all common HPLC solvents and dilute acids and bases. However, concentrated or prolonged use of halogenated solvents may cause the polymer to swell. Avoid concentrated sulfuric or nitric acids (over 10%) and see guidelines in §5.2.

5.1.3 Valcon P

The low flow pump rotor is made from Valcon P.

This composite, the majority of which is PTFE and carbon, has been used extensively in many analytical applications that use Valco valves. It is routinely used in other applications at 1000 psi, 75°C, and can also be used at temperatures approaching 200°C with decreased sealing tension.

5.1.4 Valcon-E3

The low flow pump port end cap is made of a PAEK-based composite called Valcon-E3.

Polyaryletherketone is the generic name for the family of polyketone compounds. PAEK includes PEK, PEEK, PEKK, and PEKEKK, which differ in physical properties and, to a lesser degree, in inertness. This composite resists all common HPLC solvents and dilute acids and bases. However, concentrated or prolonged use of halogenated solvents may cause the polymer to swell. Avoid concentrated sulfuric or nitric acids (over 10%).

5.1.5 Valcon H2

The high flow pump stator cap is a carbon fiber-reinforced, PTFE-lubricated inert polymer.

5.1.6 Viton®

Viton® O-rings are used to seal the piston chambers in the pump rotor in the low flow pump. Besides its excellent mechanical properties, Viton® provides the best proven fluid and chemical resistance of the commercial non-fluorinated elastomers.

Kalrez has been found to be superior in certain instances and a special pump can be constructed with Kalrez o-rings.

5.1.7 Sapphire

The milliGAT[®] piston chambers are made of sapphire and are sealed in place with a Viton[®] o-ring in the low flow pump.

Sapphire has a unique set of properties including high strength, hardness, surface smoothness, and excellent chemical compatibility. It is commonly used in applications where a combination of exceptional mechanical and chemical properties is essential.

5.1.8 Ceramic

In the high flow pump, the rotor and piston chambers are made from ceramic. The ceramic employed in this component comprises of zirconium dioxide.

There are no wetted o-ring seals.

5.2 Guidelines

Specific reagent combinations should be tested to ensure compatibility with pump components. Since the least chemically inert component in these composites is PEEK, for optimum component life time, the following guidelines^{*} given for PEEK should be followed:

Acids and bases	No stronger than 1 M
H ₂ SO ₄	Resistant to 10%
HCI	Resistant to 20%
HF	Not Resistant to 70% (no data on lower conc.)
HNO ₃	Resistant to 20%

* Corrosion Resistance Tables, Schweitzer, Marcel Dekker, 1991

www.zeusinc.com/product_sheets/resins/peek/chemical_compatibility.html

Dibutylamine in Toluene TBAH NaOH H ₂ S CH ₂ SH	Not Rated Not Rated (Dionex uses PEEK as column material at 1 mM) Resistant Resistant Not Rated
acetone	Resistant
methyl ethyl ketone	Resistant at Room Temp.
methyl alcohol	Resistant
toluene	Resistant at Room Temp.
xylene	Resistant
chloroform	Resistant
chlorobenzene	Resistant at Room Temp.
iodine/iodide in water	Not Rated
sodium hypochlorite (household bleach) permanganate	Resistant at Room Temp. Resistant at Room Temp.
hexane	Resistant at Room Temp.

6. Accessories

6.1 Pressure relief valve (P/N: PRV-100)



Figure 15: Pressure relief valve

The most frequent failure mode for the milliGAT pump occurs when the pump is over-pressurized. A pressure relief valve installed immediately downstream of the pump ensures that the fluid pumps to waste if there is a blockage that causes the back pressure to exceed 100 psi. In this way, the pump is protected against fluid getting into the pump internals. Any system where there is the possibility of blockage or restriction should be equipped with a pressure relief valve.

6.2 Right angle drive (P/N: RAD)



Figure 16: Right angle drive

In some instances it is desirable to orientate the motor horizontally, for example to mount the pump to a vertical plate. The pump must be orientated vertically and so to accommodate such a mounting scenario, a right angle drive can be installed between the motor and pump.

6.3 IO Switch (P/N: IOS)

Where only a few pump settings or actions are needed, these can be downloaded as an embedded program to the controller and then selected using a rotary switch coupled to the IO ports of the controller. Contact Global FIA for custom embedded program development.

6.4 USB to RS-422/485 converter (P/N: USB-485)

Most laptop computers are only equipped with USB ports. This adapter provides an RS-485 port that plugs into a USB port. Output connectors are for the MDrive controller.

6.5 RS-232 to RS-485 converter (P/N: SER-485-I)

This adapter provides a RS-485 connection for the MDrive controller that plugs into a RS-232 port on a computer.

6.6 FIoZF demo mode software (P/N: FLOZF-DEMO)

FloZF is a device control and data acquisition package developed by Global FIA. A free demo version of this software^{*} which you can download from the Global FIA web site allows control of the milliGAT pump and certain Valco valves.

7. Spare parts list

Table 13: Spare parts list

Part No.	Description
ZN1FPK-10	Zero dead volume finger-tight fitting with 10-32 thread(10 pack)
ZF1PK-10	Zero dead volume ferrule (10 pack)
A-1032-640	Zero dead volume 10-32 to 6-40 adapter
640FF-32	Zero dead volume finger-tight fitting with 6-40 thread for 1/32" OD tubing
FF-16W	$\frac{1}{4}$ -28 nut and ferrule for $\frac{1}{16}$ " (1.6mm) OD tubing
FF-8B	$\frac{1}{4}$ -28 nut and ferrule for $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3.5mm) OD tubing
SER-232	RS-232 cable (9 pin D-shell to 10 pin ribbon connector)
SER-P-n	Party mode serial cable with "n" slave controllers
ML-4	MicroLynx controller
PS-2450	24 VDC power supply
I-23688	Pump motor cable
RAD	Right-angle drive
PRV-100	Pressure relief valve (100 psi)
PRV-40	Pressure relief valve (40 psi)

8. Technical Support

All technical support for this product is handled by the Global FIA, Inc. facility on Fox Island, WA or through your local distributor.

253-549-2223 (Telephone)

253-549-2283 (Fax)

info@GlobalFIA.com (Email)

^{*} http://www.globalfia.com/software.html

9. Returning pumps to Global FIA

The following procedure must be followed when pumps are returned to Global FIA for repair:

- 1. Obtain a Return Merchandise Authorization number (RMA#) from Global FIA.
- 2. With the RMA number, Global FIA will provide a *Request for Repair* form in pdf format. Complete the form.
- 3. Describe in detail:
 - a. what is wrong with the pump
 - b. the environment in which it is used including the fluids used in the pump
 - c. your power and communications setup
- 4. Include contact name, address, telephone number, email address
- 5. Include the form with the item being returned.
- 6. Return the pump to:

Global FIA, Inc Attn: RMA# 684 Sixth Ave Fox Island, WA, 98333, USA

10. Operational and technical specifications

Specifications for each of the pumps are given in the following tables. These specifications are subject to change from time to time as improvements are made to the pump and the manufacturing and testing procedures.

Physical Specifications	MG-1 milliGAT LF (Low flow)	MG-2 milliGAT HF (High flow)
Dimensions	See Figure 2	See Figure 2
Weight pump	520g	520g
Weight motor and gear assy.	530g	645g
Weight stepper controller	300g	300g
Weight power supply	300g	300g
Volume per rev	100 μL	630 μL
Resolution MSEL=256	243,200 micro steps / 100μL	504,811 micro steps / 630μL
Pump volume range	10 nL – 800 mL in discrete moves or 10 ⁹ L when	100 nL – 8L in discrete moves or 10 ⁹ L when
	using SLEW command	using SLEW command
Pump speed range	0.004 – 167 μL/sec	0.040 – 500 μL/sec
	(240 nL/min – 10 mL/min)	(2.4 μL/min – 30 mL/min)
Back pressure	100 psi	100 psi
Volume precision (C.O.V.)	<0.08% at 1.25 mL	<0.1% at 1.25 mL
	<0.7% at 12.5 µL	<0.6% at 125 µL
Fittings	10-32 female thread with Valco detail	1/4-28 female thread with flat bottom
Fluid contact	PTFE, Sapphire, Viton, Valcon E-3 and Valcon P	PTFE, Ceramic and Valcon-H2
Power requirement		
Rest current draw	200 mA	200 mA
Operational current draw	1400 mA (Typ.) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)	1400 mA (Typ.) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)
Voltage	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)
Motor		
Туре	2 Phase Bipolar (1.8° per step)	2 Phase Bipolar (1.8° per step)
Gear Assembly		
Туре	Planetary	Planetary
Ratio	1:4.75	1:9.86
Communications		
Туре	COM1 RS-232	COM1 RS-232
	COM2 RS-485 (RS-422)	COM2 RS-485 (RS-422)
Baud rate	9600 (default), 4800 - 38 800 bps	9600 (default), 4800 - 38 800 bps
Parity	None	None
Data bits per character	8	8
Stop bits	1	1
Error checking	None	None
Mode	ASCII	ASCII
Environmental		
Operating Temperature	0 – 50°C	0 – 50°C
Operating Humidity	< 90% non-condensing	< 90% non-condensing
Storage Temperature	-20°C − 70°C	-20°C − 70°C

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Physical Specifications	MG-1D milliGAT LF (Low flow)	MG-2D milliGAT HF (High flow)
Dimensions	See Figure 9	See Figure 9
Weight pump	520g	520g
Weight motor, gear, and	580g	655g
controller		
Weight power supply	300g	300g
Volume per rev	100 μL	630 μL
Resolution MSEL=256	243,200 micro steps / 100μL	504,811 micro steps / 630μL
Pump volume range	10 nL – 800 mL in discrete moves or 10 ⁹ L when	100 nL – 8L in discrete moves or 10 ⁹ L when
	using SLEW command	using SLEW command
Pump speed range	0.004 – 167 μL/sec	0.040 – 500 μL/sec
	(240 nL/min – 10 mL/min)	(2.4 μL/min – 30 mL/min)
Back pressure	100 psi	100 psi
Volume precision (C.O.V.)	<0.08% at 1.25 mL	<0.1% at 1.25 mL
	<0.7% at 12.5 µL	<0.6% at 125 µL
Fittings	10-32 female thread with Valco detail	10-32 female thread with Valco detail
Fluid contact	PTFE, Sapphire, Viton, Valcon E-3 and Valcon P	PTFE, Ceramic and Valcon-H2
Power requirement		
Rest current draw	200 mA	200 mA
Operational current draw	1200 mA (Typ.) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)	1200 mA (Typ.) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)
Voltage	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)
Motor		
Туре	2 Phase Bipolar (1.8° per step)	2 Phase Bipolar (1.8º per step)
Gear Assembly		
Туре	Planetary	Planetary
Ratio	1:4.75	1:9.86
Communications		
Туре	RS-485 (RS-422)	RS-485 (RS-422)
Baud rate	9600 (default), 4800 - 38 800 bps	9600 (default), 4800 - 38 800 bps
Parity	None	None
Data bits per character	8	8
Stop bits	1	1
Error checking	None	None
Mode	ASCII	ASCII
Environmental		
Operating Temperature	0 – 50°C	0 – 50°C
Operating Humidity	< 90% non-condensing	< 90% non-condensing
Storage Temperature	-20°C – 70°C	-20°C – 70°C

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Physical Specifications	MG-5 milliGAT (Smooth low flow)	MG-5E milliGAT (Smooth low flow) w/ encoder
Dimensions	See Figure 2	See Figure 2
Weight pump	520g	520g
Weight motor and gear assy.	570g	645g
Weight stepper controller	g	g
Weight power supply	300g	300g
Volume per rev	100 μL	100 μL
Resolution Step resolution=256	2,310,400 micro steps / 100µL	2,310,400 micro steps / 100μL
Pump volume range	10 nL – 200 mL in discrete moves or 10^9 L	10 nL – 200 mL in discrete moves or 10 ⁹ L when
	when using SL command	using SL command
Pump speed range	0.005 – 10 μL/sec	0.005 – 10 μL/sec
	(0.03 μL/min – 0.6 mL/min)	(0.03 μL/min – 0.6 mL/min)
Back pressure	100 psi	100 psi
Volume precision (C.O.V.)	<0.08% at 1.25 mL	<0.08% at 1.25 mL
	<0.7% at 12.5 µL	<0.7% at 12.5 µL
Fittings	10-32 female thread with Valco detail	10-32 female thread with Valco detail
Fluid contact	PTFE, Sapphire, Viton, Valcon E-3 and Valcon P	PTFE, Sapphire, Viton, Valcon E-3 and Valcon P
Power requirement		
Rest current draw	0 mA	0 mA
Operational current draw	1200 mA (Typ) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)	1200 mA (Typ) (peak 1600 mA at acceleration)
Voltage	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)	12-48 VDC, 24 VDC (Typ.)
Motor		
Type	2 Phase Bipolar (0.9º per step)	2 Phase Bipolar (0.9º per step)
Gear Assembly		
Type	Planetary	Planetary
Ratio	1:22.56	1:22.56
Communications		
Type	RS-485	RS-485
Baud rate	57,600 Dps	57,600 Dps
Parity Data kita nan akana atan	None	None
Data bits per character	8	8
Stop Dits	Z	Z
Error checking	None	None
Fruirenmental	ASCII	ASCII
Operating Temperature	0 50%C	0 50°C
Operating Temperature	< 90% non-condensing	< 90% non-condensing
Storage Temperature	-20°C - 70°C	-20°C - 70°C

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11. Appendix A – Technical details

11.1 Serial cable wiring

The pin outs for the serial port for the MicroLynx are given in Figure 17.

If the RS-232 interface is used, then only the RS-232 connections are wired through to an appropriate serial connector (usually a 9 pin D-Shell). The following table provides the connections for a standard RS-232 installation.

Table 14: RS-232 pin outs

10 pin connector on MicroLynx	9 pin Female D-Shell
2 TX	2 RX
3 RX	3 TX
5 Gnd	5 Gnd

If the RS-485 interface is used, then only the RS-485 connections are wired through to an appropriate connector. In some applications, only a single pair is used to communicate. The following table provides the connections for both situations.

10 pin connector on MicroLynx	1 pair RS-485	2 pair RS-485
6 RX+	В	TX+
7 RX-	А	TX-
8 TX-	А	RX-
9 TX+	В	RX+
10 Gnd	Gnd	Gnd

Table 15: RS-485 pin outs

The MicroLynx can also be used in a host mode where it is hooked to a computer via the RS-232 interface but then communicates with other devices via the RS-485 interface. In his mode the MicroLynx must be configured as the host (HOST=1) and the two serial ports on the MicroLynx must be configured for half duplex communication (Echo 1=1 and Echo 2=1). Where this communication layout is required, the following connection table pertains.

Table 16: RS-232 / RS-485 pin outs

9 pin Female D-Shell	MicroLynx 10 pin header	MicroLynx 7 pin Phoenix	1 pair RS-485	2 pair RS-485
2 RX	2 RX	2 TX		
3 TX	3 TX	1 RX		
5 Gnd	5 Gnd	6 Gnd		
	6 RX+	4 RX+	В	TX+
	7 RX-	3 RX-	А	TX-
	8 TX-	5 TX-	А	RX-
	9 TX+	7 TX+	В	RX+
	10 Gnd	6 Gnd	Gnd	Gnd



Figure 17: Pin outs on MicroLynx

11.2 Stepper motor wiring

The stepper motor used is a bipolar motor with four leads. This motor is wired as indicated in Table 17.

Table	17:	Motor	wiring
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Phase	Wire Color
Phase A	Black
Phase Bar A	Red
Phase B	White
Phase Bar B	Green

11.3 Default values for controller variables

The factory default parameters that may be changed by the user are listed in the following table. All other parameters are set to factory defaults described in the MicroLynx, MDrive or MForce manual.

Note: The values of the variables should only be changed by a qualified person as changing some variables may have a drastic impact on the pump's operation.

Parameter	MicroLynx (LF)	MicroLynx (HF)	MDrive (LF)	MDrive (HF)	MFroce
Pump units	μL	μL	μSteps	μSteps	μSteps
Volume - µstep conversion	MUNIT=2432	MUNIT=800	EU=2432	EU=800	23,104
Step resolution	MSEL=256	MSEL=256	MS=256	MS=256	MS=256
Max flow rate	VM=20	VM=100	VM=20*EU	VM=50*EU	VM=10*EU
Initial flow rate	VI=0.001	VI=0.003	VI=10	VI=10	VI=10
Acceleration rate	ACCL=1000	ACCL=1000	A=500*EU	A=1000*EU	A=100*EU
Deceleration rate	DECL=1000	DECL=1000	D=500*EU	D=1000*EU	D=100*EU
Motor hold current	MHC=5	MHC=5	HC=5	HC=5	HC=5
Motor run current	MRC=35	MRC=35	RC=60	RC=60	RC=60
Motor acceleration current	MAC=40	MAC=40			
Backlash enable	BLE=1	BLE=1	BE=1	BE=1	BE=1
Backlash mode	BLM=1	BLM=1			
Backlash amount	BLSH=1.5	BLSH=9.5	BL=3740	BL=4000	BL=35530
Holding current delay	HCDT=1	HCDT=1	HT=100	HT=100	HT=100

Table 18: Factor	y settings for	controller variables
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For the MicroLynx, the present value of any variable can be determined by using the **PRINT** command, e.g. **PRINT VI** will display the present value for VI, the initial flow rate. The present value for all variables can be seen by typing **PRINT ALL.** For the MDrive and MForce, the print command is **PR**.

On the MicroLynx, to save changes to the default values, use the **SAVE** command. Changes not saved will be lost when the pump is powered down. For the MDrive and MForce, the save command is S.

11.4 Calculating MUNIT for different MSEL values

MUNIT is the variable that allows the conversion from stepper motor pulses to a more meaningful engineering unit. This means that instead of expressing pump flow rate in motor Hz or volume in terms of number of stepper motor steps, it is possible to express it in familiar units such as μ L/sec and μ L.

Some users are more familiar with expressing flow rate in terms of a volume per minute. This is not conveniently accommodated in the milliGAT[®] controllers because all rate and acceleration based parameters are expressed in terms of seconds. Changing MUNIT to a value that would give flow rates in terms of volume per minute would render volume and acceleration settings obscure. Table 19 provides a conversion table for selected flow rates.

µL/sec	mL/min	µL/sec	mL/min	µL/sec	mL/min	µL/sec	mL/min
1.00	0.06	10.00	0.60	1.67	0.10	16.67	1.00
2.00	0.12	20.00	1.20	3.33	0.20	33.33	2.00
3.00	0.18	40.00	2.40	5.00	0.30	50.00	3.00
4.00	0.24	50.00	3.00	6.67	0.40	66.67	4.00
5.00	0.30	60.00	3.60	8.33	0.50	83.33	5.00
6.00	0.36	70.00	4.20	10.00	0.60	100.00	6.00
7.00	0.42	80.00	4.80	11.67	0.70	111.67	7.00
8.00	0.48	90.00	5.40	13.33	0.80	133.33	8.00
9.00	0.54	100.00	6.00	15.00	0.90	150.00	9.00

Table 19: Flow rate conversion table

For the milliGAT[®] pump, MUNIT (and EU) is calculated as follows:

 $MUNIT = \frac{(\text{step resolution}) * (360/\text{motor step size}) * (\text{gear ratio})}{\text{volume moved by one revolution of the pump in pump units}} \dots 1$

MSEL sets the pump step resolution. For example, pump units in μ L for a pump with a 1:4.75 gear box and a 1.8° stepper motor used in micro stepping mode (MSEL=256) with a pump with an internal capacity of 100µl.

$$\text{MUNIT} = \frac{256*(360/1.8)*(4.75)}{100}$$

Note: all motor commands pertaining to motor velocity (flow rate) and acceleration are expressed in terms of seconds. In the above example, flow rates will be measured in μ L/sec and volumes in μ l, etc.

11.5 Backlash correction

The MicroLynx can be set up to automatically compensate for the mechanical variance in a system. The gearbox, motor to pump coupling, and certain internal pump components contribute to this variance. This variance (and therefore backlash compensation) is only applicable when the direction of flow changes. The MicroLynx has a suite of commands to automatically compensate for the backlash. Table 20 lists the pertinent commands.

Table 20: Automated backlash compensation

Command	Description	Setting
BLE	Backlash compensation enable flag	Enable : BLE=1
		Disable : BLE=0
BLM*	Backlash compensation mode	BLM=1
BLSH	Backlash compensation amount in μL	$BLSH=1.5^{+}$

When backlash compensation is enabled (BLE=1), a move in the opposite direction to the previous move will have the value of BLSH added to it in the direction of the present move. This will have the effect of taking up the backlash resulting from the change in direction. When there is no change in direction, no backlash compensation is necessary. The backlash of a specific pump is characteristic to that pump and is determined for each pump – motor combination. This value is listed on the **Certificate of Conformance** for the pump and is usually about 1.5 μ L. If backlash is disabled, then whenever there is a change in direction, the volume dispensed will be less than the required volume by an amount equal to the backlash.

You can check the backlash of the pump at any time by carrying out the following simple test sequence.

- 1. Prime the pump making sure that all bubbles have been purged from the pump. Aspirate a small 5 μL bubble into the outlet line of the pump so that you can visually observe movement of the liquid.
- 2. Set BLE=0. This will disable backlash compensation.
- 3. MOVR -5. This will cause the fluid in the outlet to move towards the pump.
- 4. MOVR 1.0. This will cause the fluid in the outlet to move away from the pump and represents a change in direction. Because you have disabled backlash compensation, the fluid in the outlet line will not actually move the backlash has not been taken up yet.

There is an error in the Lynx manual 03_10_2000.pdf p. 3-48) in the description of BLM. The modes are incorrectly swapped.

[†] This amount may vary with extensive pump wear

- 5. Repeatedly issue MOVR 0.1 commands until you observe movement of the liquid.
- 6. The backlash is equivalent to 1.0 plus the number of 0.1 increments necessary <u>before</u> movement was observed.
- 7. You can determine the backlash more accurately by incrementing smaller volumes. If you do this, it is useful to use narrow bore tubing with an ID of 250 μ m or less so that you can physically see the movement.
- 8. Set BLSH to the new determined value for backlash.
- 9. Set BLE=1 to enable backlash compensation.
- 10. Verify correct operation by moving the fluid back and forth the same volume. You should end up at the same spot.

Of course, whenever you change direction, even though the pump is moving, for the first short period of time, you will not see movement of the fluid as the pump takes up the backlash. With backlash enabled, this is handled automatically.

On the MDrive there is no in-built function for compensating for backlash. We have installed a small embedded program on the Drive to allow backlash compensation. To compensate for backlash, you must set the desired volume to aspirate or dispense first, **VL=n**, where n is the desired volume in integer μ L. Then issue the command **EX FL**. TO specify the required volume in μ steps, issue the command **FS=n** and then **EX FS**. Remember to precede commands with the address if in party mode and terminate commands with a **[Ctrl-J]**. You can change the value of the backlash by changing the variable **BL**, backlash must be specified in μ steps.

11.6 Embedded programs

The MicroLynx and MDrive have powerful *Program Modes*. Using these modes, sequences and programs can be downloaded to the controller to add functionality. All pumps that use the MicroLynx or MDrive are shipped with a small memory resident program installed. This program can be viewed by typing **LIST** on the MicroLynx or **L** on the MDrive. If this program becomes corrupted or is lost, contact Global FIA for instructions and how to re-instate the embedded program.

Global FIA can also develop custom embedded programs to suit customer needs.

11.7 Upgrading the firmware

Periodically Intelligent Motion Systems releases a new version of the Controller Firmware for the MicroLynx and MDrive controllers. The present version of your firmware can be determined by typing PRINT VER at the > prompt for the MicroLynx or **PR VR** for the MDrive. The latest version of the firmware is available at http://www.imshome.com/software.html. Once the latest version has been downloaded and unzipped, the following procedure should be followed to install the new version.

- 1. Run IMS Terminal and ensure communication between IMS Terminal and the controller.
- 2. Click on the **Upgrade** menu option.
- 3. Click the Next button to begin the process and then follow the on screen instructions as described below.
- If you need to Save Pgms, Vars, and Flags, click the Save button, otherwise click Next. If you click the Save button, you will leave the Upgrade wizard and return to Immediate mode where you can manually save or upload variables and programs.
- 5. Locate and select the upgrade file and click **Next**.
- 6. Ensure that the serial cable is plugged in and click **Next** to setup the Comm. port.
- 7. Set the indexer upgrade DIP switch on the side of the MicroLynx to the **On** position and click **Next**. The small status indicator LED on the controller will shine red. Alternatively type the required UPGR command for the MDrive.
- 8. Cycle power to the Controller and press **Next**.
- 9. Wait for Comms to be established and then press **Upgrade**.
- 10. Allow new firmware to download.

- 11. When it is finished downloading, power down the Controller and switch the Upgrade DIP switch back to **Off** and click **Done**.
- 12. Power up the system. The small status indicator LED on the MicroLynx controller will shine green.
- 13. Confirm that the new version is present by typing Print ver in the Comm Window at the > prompt or **PR VR** for the MDrive.
- 14. Re-enter the system variables as specified in §11.3 and save these variables to non-volatile memory by typing **SAVE** for the MicroLynx or **S** for the MDrive.

12. Appendix B: MicroLynx Commands

Command	Description	Factory
		1000
	Acceleration Value, µL/sec	1000
		1
	Decle declaration type	1000
	Peak deceleration rate, µL/sec	1000
SLEW n,m	Siew the motor at a constant velocity, m=0 use acceleration ramp, m=1 do not use	
CCTD	acceleration ramp, velocity in μL /sec	
SSIPM	Stop the current motion, m=0 stop motion only, m=1 stop motion and program, m	
	omitted is the same as m=0	0.001
VI=n	Initial pump velocity, µL	0.001
VM=n	Maximum velocity of pump during a pump action, µL	20
MOVA n,m	Move to an absolute pump position, n is position in μL , sign of n indicated direction,	
	m=0 with deceleration, m=1 no deceleration, m=0 if omitted	
MOVR n,m	Dispense / aspirate, n is volume in μL , sign of n indicates direction, m=0 with	
	deceleration, m=1 no deceleration, m=0 if omitted	
MVG	Flag that indicates whether the pump is moving, TRUE=moving, FALSE=stopped. Use	
	the PRINT command to see the present value	
POS=n	Register that contains the present pump position in μL	
MAC=n	Motor acceleration current used when the pump is accelerating, $n=\%$ of 4A	40
MHC=n	Motor holding current used when the pump is stationary, $n=\%$ of 4A	0
MRC=n	Motor run current used when the pump is running, $n=\%$ of 4A	30
MSEL=n	Micro stepping resolution, n=2,4,8,16,32,64,128,256	256
MUNIT=n	Conversion factor from motor pulses to user units, $n=19$ for MSEL=2, $n=304$ for	2432
	MSEL=32	
BLE=n	Backlash compensation enable flag, $n=1$ enable, $n=0$ disable	1
BLM=n	Backlash mode, n=0 mathematical, n=1 mechanical	1
BLSH=n	Backlash compensation amount, μ L	1.5
CTR1	Counter of pulses sent to motor	
ALL	Variable used with GET, PRINT, and IP instruction	
ERR	Read only flag that indicates whether an error has occurred	
ERROR	Read only variable that gives the error code of the most recent error	
FLAGS	Used with GET, PRINT, and IP instruction	
IP	Initialize specified parameters to factory default settings, you will need to manually	
	update variables given in Table 18	
PGM	Keyword to place Micro Lynx into program mode	
PRINT n	Instruction to output variable value to screen	
SAVE	Instruction to save ALL variables to non-volatile memory	
SER	Read only variable that contains the serial number of the Micro Lynx	
VARS	Used with GET, PRINT, and IP instruction	
VER	Read only variable that contains the present Micro Lynx firmware version	
CP=n	Clears the program space	
EXEC n	Execute the program located at address n	
	List the program starting at address n	
<esc></esc>	Terminate all active operations and running programs	
Ctri-C	certainate all active operations and running programs, forces a partial reset	06
BAUD=n	Sets the baud rate	96
DN="n"	Set the device address for PARTY mode operation	"!"
ECHO=n	Specifies whether commands will be echoed back over comm. line, n=0 Full duplex,	0
DDIAT	n=1 Hair duplex, $n=2$ Only respond to PRINT and LIST commands	
PRMT	Specifies the character to be used as a prompt character	>
PARTY	Enables / disables PARTY mode for multi drop applications	

13. Appendix C: MDrive and MForce commands

Command	Description	Factory
A=n	Peak acceleration value microstens/sec ²	1000*EU
D-n	Peak deceleration value, microsteps/sec	1000 E0
SI = n	Flow the motor at a constant volucity in microstans (see	1000 L0
SL=n	Siew the motor at a constant velocity in microsteps/sec	0.01*511
VI=n	Initial pump velocity, microsteps/sec (also creep velocity with the command)	0.01 E0
vm=n	Maximum velocity of pump during a pump action, microsteps/sec (also seek velocity	20**E0
MA	With HM command)	
MAN	Move to absolute motor position, n is microstep position, sign indicates direction	
MRN	Move motor relative to present position, n is no of microsteps, sign indicates	
	direction	
MV	"Read only" flag that indicates if the pump is moving. Use the PR command to see	
	the value of this flag. $1 = moving$, $0 = stopped$.	
P=n	Set or print the motor position counter in microstep units	
HC=n	Motor holding current used when the pump is stationary, $n=\%$ of 2A	0
HT=n	Hold current delay time, msec	0
RC=n	Motor run current used when the pump is running, $n=\%$ of 2A	60
MS=n	Micro stepping resolution, $n=2,4,8,16,32,64,128,256$	256
AL	Variable used with PR instruction	
ER	"Read only" variable that gives the error code of the most recent error	
IP	Initialize all motion control parameters to their stored values	
FD	Returns all variables to factory defaults	
S1	Setup IO point 1 (available for S2, S3, and S4) (see MDI manual for details)	1,1
01=n,	Switch digital output on and off $(n=1 - on n=0 - off)$	
02=n,		
03=n,		
04=n		
I1, I2,	Present state of digital input, 1=on, 0=off	
13, 14		
D1	Input 1 digital filtering (available for D2, D3, and D4 as well)	1
PG	Keyword to place controller into program mode	
PR n	Print to screen selected data or text	
CL n,m	Call subroutine, n label of subr, m – conditional statement	
RT	Return from sub routine	
BR n,m	Branch to sub routine, n label of subr, m – conditional statement	
DC	Decrement variable	
IC	Increment variable	
H=n	Hold program operation for time n in msec if blank or 0 till motion stops	
LB	Create program address label, SU will run on startup	
E	End program execution	
S	Instruction to save ALL variables to non-volatile memory	
VA	Create a user variable in program mode	
R1, R2, R3,	32 bit user registers	
R4		
VR	"Read only" firmware version	
СР	Clears the program space	
Ln	List the program stating at address n or label n	
<esc></esc>	Terminate all active operations and running programs	
BD=n	Sets the baud rate	96
DN="n"	Set the device address for PARTY mode operation	``! ″
EM=n	Specifies whether commands will be echoed back over communication line. $n=0$ Full	Ó
	duplex, n=1 Half duplex, n=2 Only respond to PRINT and LIST commands	
BY	Flag that indicates whether a program is running	
PY	Enables / disables PARTY mode for multi drop applications	

All variables are integers, no floating point capabilities

All commands are preceded by the address if DN has been set (default A) and terminated with a line feed (Ctrl-J)

14. WARRANTY AND DISCLAIMER

This Limited Warranty gives the Buyer specific legal rights.

For a period of 365 calendar days from the date of shipment, Global FIA Inc. (hereafter Seller) warrants the goods to be free from defect in material and workmanship to the original purchaser. During the warranty period, Seller agrees to repair or replace defective and/or non-conforming goods or parts without charge for material or labor OR at Seller's option demand return of the goods and tender repayment of the price. Buyer's exclusive remedy is repair or replacement of defective and nonconforming goods OR at Seller's option return of the goods and repayment of price.

SELLER EXCLUDES AND DESCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY, WHETHER ARISING IN CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, FOR LOSS OF USE, REVENUES OR PROFITS, PERSONAL INJURY, INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE, OR FOR CONSEQUENTIAL INCIDENTAL OR SPECIFIC DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF, RESULTING FROM, OR RELATING IN ANY MANNER TO THESE GOODS.

There are NO user serviceable parts inside the pump. Opening the pump by removing, or even loosening, the hex bolts that hold the pump together will void this Limited Warranty.

This Limited Warranty does not cover defects or nonconformity resulting from abuse, misuse, neglect, lack of reasonable care, modification or the attachment of improper devices to the goods. This Limited Warranty does not cover expendable items. This warranty is VOID when repairs are performed by a non-authorized service center or representative. At Sellers option, repairs or replacements will be made on site or at the factory. If repairs or replacements are to be made at the factory, Buyer shall return the goods prepaid and bear all the risks of loss until delivered to the factory. If Seller returns the goods, they will be delivered prepaid and Seller will bear all risks of loss until delivery to the Buyer. Buyer and Seller agree that this Limited Warranty shall be governed by and construed with the laws of the State of Washington.

The warranties contained in this agreement are exclusive and in lieu of all other warranties, obligations and liabilities, express or implied, arising by law or otherwise, including: (a) any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose; (b) any implied warranty arising from course of dealing or usage of trade; and (c) any right, claim or remedy in tort, whether or not arising from the sellers negligence.

This Limited Warranty supersedes all prior proposals or representations oral or written and constitutes the entire understanding regarding the warranties made by Seller to Buyer. This Limited Warranty may not be expanded or modified except in writing signed by the parties hereto.