



**Better Way Lighting** 

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### Introduction

The 2-Channel Decoder is a device with a small form factor designed for use in theatrical and film productions. It functions both as a wireless CRMX decoder and as a basic manual controller.





### **Specifications**

Channels	2
Wireless Technology	LumenRadio CRMX
Input Voltage	12-48VDC
Bit Depth	8, 16
Frequency	5, 10, 20kHz
Current Rating	Up to 3A per pin, 6A total
Ambient Temperature	0-45 C
Dimming Control	PWM
Load Type	12-48V LED, Constant Voltage
Body Dimensions	H 14 mm x L 65 mm x W 24 mm
Weight	19.5 g
Wire Gauge	26 AWG (0.1288 mm²)

### Safety

No user serviceable parts Do not open the housing Not intended for permanent installation For use in dry location only Store in a cool, dry environment Do not operate outside of rated temperature Do not operate if broken or deformed

# **Factory Settings**

Listed below are the default values each parameter is set to when using the device for the first time.

#### **CRMX Control**

Basic		Advanced		
Linking	> Unlinked	Bit Depth	>	8
Start Address	> 1	Fade Value	>	1
Mode	> Direct	PWM Frequency	>	5 kHz
		Gamma Curve	>	5

#### **Manual Control**

#### Basic

Mode > Direct

#### **Mode Specific Settings**

Direct	Bicolour	
Ch1 Manual → 0	Manual Intensity	> 0
Ch2 Manual → 0	Manual Temp.	> 2800
	Min. Temp.	> 2800
	Max. Temp.	> 6900
Flicker		Advanced

Presets	>	Preset 1			PWI	M Free	quency	>	5 kHz
Intensity	>	0%			Gan	nma C	urve	>	5
Variance	>	100%							
Speed	>	0%							
Smoothing	>	0%							
Advanced Opts.		Intensity split	>	50%					
		Ch 1 Weight	>	50%					
		Ch2 Weight	>	50%					

### **Device Overview**





# **Device Startup**

To begin, connect the device to a 12-48VDC Battery or Power Supply and it will automatically turn on.



 + Pins are common and can be wired together to achieve the 6A device total.

#### **Select Control Type**



#### **CRMX** Control

If a wireless CRMX transmitter is being used, select CRMX Control and go to **page 9**.



#### **Manual Control**

To use as a basic manual controller, select Manual Control and go to page 15.

# Menu Navigation

#### **Navigation Buttons**

Use the three buttons for menu navigation and option selection.

Follow the navigation icons displayed on the screen.



#### **Navigation Lockout**

The device will lock after a period of inactivity.



#### **Screen Sleep**

The screen will sleep after a period of inactivity. Press any button to wake the screen.

## CRMX Control • Basic Settings

Use CRMX Control when using a wireless CRMX transmitter to send DMX data to the device. The device will function as a wireless 2 channel decoder.

#### Linking

Prior to the linking procedure, ensure that the decoder is powered on and unlinked from any previously used CRMX transmitter.

Linking is initiated by the CRMX transmitter. Refer to your CRMX transmitter manual for the linking procedure.

#### **Status Screen**

This screen is intended as a diagnostic tool to aid in troubleshooting performance issues. It displays information about the signal strength, whether or not DMX data is being received from the transmitter, the operating mode, and the assigned starting address.



# CRMX Control • Basic Settings

#### Unlinking

Can be initiated by the decoder. Once the decoder is unlinked, it is ready to link with a new CRMX transmitter.



TipThe decoder always remembers the previous<br/>transmitter that it was linked with and will not link<br/>with a new transmitter until unlinked.<br/>Powering the device off and on will not unlink<br/>the decoder, you must go through the unlinking<br/>procedure on the decoder.

#### **Starting Address**

Select the DMX starting address for the LED light source(s).

#### Number of Used Addresses

	Mode	8 Bit	16 Bit
>	Direct	2	4
>	Bicolour	2	4
>	Flicker	7	14

#### Mode

Choose Mode depending on your desired usage.

- **Direct:** A general purpose mode for use with any light source. Channels 1 and 2 directly control dimming values on the output.
- **Bicolour:** This mode is designed for use with tungsten-daylight fixtures. The device controls the colour temperature and light intensity of the output.

8 Bit Uses 2	addresses.	<b>16 Bit</b> The device uses 4 addresses:			
Ch. 1	Intensity	Ch. 1, 2	Intensity (course, fine)		
Ch. 2	Colour Temp.	Ch. 3, 4	Colour Temp		
			(course, fine)		

It is important that the tungsten and daylight channels on the light source are wired to the correct channels on the decoder, as shown on the following diagram.

#### Wiring Diagram for Tungsten-Daylight LED



#### Flicker Mode

In Flicker Mode, the output channels flicker according to parameters which generate organic flicker effects.

Intensity	>	Sets the maximum brightness of the flicker		
Variance	>	Sets the difference between the min. and max.		
		brightness.		
Speed	>	Sets the speed of the flicker.		
Smoothing	>	Sets the smoothness.		
Intensity split	>	Biases one channel to be more intense than		
		the other.		
Ch1 / Ch2 Weight	>	Specifies a bias towards the min. or max. level.		

See page 19 for more details and example flicker settings.

Send CRMX data according to the following fixture profile to control the flicker parameters wirelessly.

	8 Bit	16 Bit	Parameter
	1	1 & 2	> Intensity
	2	3 & 4	> Variance
s	3	5&6	> Speed
ldres	4	7 & 8	> Smoothing
Ac	5	9 & 10	Intensity Split
	6	11 &12	> Ch1 Weight
	7	13 & 14	> Ch2 Weight

# CRMX Control • Advanced Settings

#### **PWM Frequency**

Adjust this setting to eliminate on-camera banding caused by a mismatch between the speed of the LED's duty-cycle and the camera's capture speed settings.

Tip The highest frequency will eliminate visible banding for most camera settings. However, we recommend doing a camera test and setting the PWM frequency as low as possible. This is because lower PWM frequencies allow for finer intensity adjustments and decrease the device's operating temperature.

5 kHz	14 bit resolution
10 kHz	13 bit resolution
20 kHz	12 bit resolution

#### **Bit Depth**

Adjust this setting to change the resolution of control. More steps translates to finer control.

8 Bit	256 levels		
16 Bit	65536 levels		

- Tip
  - Some controllers do not support 16-bit mode. To improve dimming performance in 8-bit mode, add a Gamma Curve.
    - > 16-Bit Control is helpfull when fine-tuning a RGB source.

#### Gamma Curve

Adjust this setting to manipulate the size of the dimming steps and optimize the usage of bits. The more aggressive the gamma curve, the more resolution you have at the lower end of light intensity where the human eye is most perceptive to change. The trade-off is the loss in granularity of control on the upper end of light intensity.



#### Fade

Adjust this setting to increase the time between dimming steps and create the perception of smoothness as the light intensity changes.

	Transitic	on tim	e in milisec	onds	
0	Instantaneous	3	100 ms	7	500 ms
	jump (No fade)	4	170 ms	8	640 ms
1	20 ms	5	260 ms	9	810 ms
2	50 ms	6	370 ms	10	1000 ms

### Manual Control • Basic Settings

Use Manual control when there are no transmitter sending data to the LED light-source. The device functions as a basic 2 Channel Controller.

#### Mode

Choose Mode depending on your desired usage.

- **Direct:** A general purpose mode for use with any light source. Channels 1 and 2 directly control dimming values on the output.
- **Bicolour:** This mode is designed for use with tungsten-daylight fixtures. The device controls the colour temperature and light intensity of the output.

It is important that the tungsten and daylight channels on the light-source are wired to the correct channels on the decoder, as shown on the following diagram.

#### Wiring Diagram for Tungsten-Daylight LED



Prior to adjusting the "Temp" setting, ensure that the Upper Temp and Lower Temp parameters are set correctly on the decoder. Go to the CCT Range settings on **page 17** for more information.





#### Flicker Mode

In Flicker Mode, the output channels flicker according to preset parameters to generate organic flicker effects.

Presets	>	Sets the default parameters based on the
		desired effect.
Intensity	>	Sets the maximum brightness of the flicker
Variance	>	Sets the difference between the min. and max.
		brightness.
Speed	>	Sets the speed of the flicker.
Smoothing	>	Sets the smoothness.
Intensity split	>	Biases one channel to be more intense than
		the other.
Ch1 / Ch2 Weight	>	Specifies a bias towards the min. or max. level.

See page 19 for more details and example flicker settings.







#### CCT Range (Manual Bicolour Mode only)

Set the CCT Range to match the tunable range of the bicolour LED light source. There are two settings to establish the range: Temp Lower and Temp Upper.

Temp. LowerWarmest end of the CCT range.Temp. UpperCoolest end of the CCT range

NoteSetting CCT range is only neccessary when specific<br/>colour temperatures are required.<br/>It is not essential if adjusting by eye.

Temp Lower <



# Manual Control • Advanced Settings

#### **PWM Frequency**

Adjust this setting to eliminate on-camera banding caused by a mismatch between the speed of the LED's duty-cycle and the camera's capture settings.

Tip The highest frequency will eliminate visible banding for most cameras. However, we recommend doing a camera test and setting the PWM frequency as low as possible. This is because lower PWM frequencies allow for finer intensity adjustments and decrease the device's operating temperature.

5 kHz	14 bit resolution
10 kHz	13 bit resolution
20 kHz	12 bit resolution

#### Gamma Curve

Adjust this setting to manipulate the size of the dimming steps and optimize the usage of bits. The more aggressive the gamma curve, the more resolution you have at the lower end of light intensity where the human eye is most perceptive to change. The trade-off is the loss in granularity of control on the upper end of light intensity.



Tip In Manual Control, we suggest using the #5 setting as a starting point. It's the most aggressive gamma curve, providing the maximum resolution on the low end of light intensity.

### **Flicker Mode**

In flicker mode, the device generates highly customizable, randomized flicker effects using simple parameters. The device randomly switches between configured Maximum and Minimum levels for each channel to simulate organic motion.

Tip After editing a preset, an star will appear next to it, meaning the values have been changed and they are no longer the original. To reset it back to its original state, press and hold the middle button while looking at the option.



#### Intensity > Sets the maximum brightness of the flicker

Variance > Sets the difference between the min. and max. brightness. For example, with a variance of 80%, the maximum

For example, with a variance of 80%, the maximum brightness will be 100% and the minimum 20%.



#### > Sets how fast the flicker is.

#### **Smoothing** > Sets how smooth the flicker is.

Speed

Intensity split > Biases one channel to be more intense than the other.







#### eg.

An intensity split of 80%, would have Ch2 with a 100% brightness, and Ch1 with 25%

Ch1 / Ch2> Set a bias towards the minimum or maximum level forWeighta channel.

For example, a weight of 0% means only the minimum level will be shown.

A weight of 100% means only the maximum level will be shown.

50% means it will spen an equal amount of time on both (max. and min.)

#### **Flicker Examples**



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