ICS ELECTRONICS
division of Systems West Inc.

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MODEL 4808 GPIB TO SERIAL INSTRUMENT INTERFACE
ANNOUNCED BY ICS ELECTRONICS

PLEASANTON, CA, November 19, 2008. Today ICS Electronics announced a new GPIB-to-Serial Interface Board for interfacing devices with an RS-422 or RS-485 interfaces to the GPIB bus. Designated the Model 4808, this new board provides a IEEE-488.2 compliant, GPIB-to-serial, data path to the device and includes an RS-232 to RS-485 converter that provides a transparent RS-232 communication path to the serial device. The 4808 is a new type of interface board that combines a GPIB interface and an RS-232 interface to control a serial device with RS-422 or RS-485 differential signals.

The Model 4808 is an intelligent IEEE 488.2/GPIB to Serial Interface that adapts any device with RS-422 or RS-485 signals to the GPIB or HP-IB bus. The 4808 provides the serial device with an IEEE-488.2 compatible interface that responds to all of the required IEEE-488.2 Common Commands and includes the 488.2 Status Reporting Structure. The 4808 also responds to SCPI commands that let the user set its GPIB address and serial parameters. All other GPIB messages are converted into serial strings and sent to the serial device. Device responses are buffered and output on the GPIB bus when the 4808 is next addressed to talk. The 4808 uses only a single GPIB address and does not rely upon escape sequences or extra commands to differentiate device data from internal commands.

The 4808 has three operating modes to handle virtually any kind of serial device. The Asynchronous mode is for devices like transducers that periodically output serial messages. The 4808 saves the last message and outputs it when addressed to talk. The Standard mode is for the majority of serial devices that receive messages and then output responses when queried. The Smart mode adds the ability for the internal serial device, which may be a micro controller or an embedded computer, to communicate with the 4808.

In the Smart mode, the 4808 sends the serial device copies of all 488.2 commands in case the serial device needs to respond to the command. The serial device can set the 4808's GPIB address, can set or reset bits in the 4808's Status Structure to generate Service Requests, can query the local/remote status, and can request to go to local mode.

The 4808 is designed as a low cost interface for OEM applications. The unit is a small 4 in x 4.5 in board that can be mounted to the rear panel of the host chassis so that the GPIB and RS-232 Serial connectors protrude through the rear panel. Connections to the serial device are made via a DE-9S connector on the back side of the 4808. The unit can operate on regulated 5 Vdc or on unregulated 5.5 to 12 volt power.

Delivery is 4 weeks ARO. Prices start at $ 340.00 and include the Instruction Manual and a Support CD with example software and utility programs.

ICS Electronics is a pioneer and leader in the design and development of IEEE 488/GPIB, Serial, Ethernet and VXI bus products. The ICS has been supplying GPIB interfaces for over 30 years and the 4808 is the latest interface in this series of products.

ICS Electronics is headquartered at 7034 Commerce Circle, Pleasanton, CA 94588. **Phone (925) 416-1000. Contact Jerry Mercola, Marketing Manager for more information.**

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