

Introduction to the Newsletter

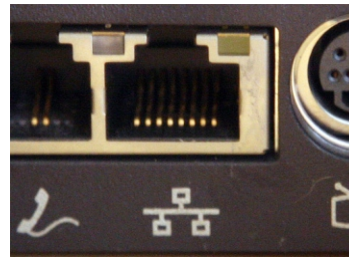
Welcome to Masstar Signs' first Newsletter. The goal of the newsletter is to better support and inform our valued customers who have purchased Digital Displays. This quarterly newsletter will offer many useful tips, tricks and updates for the Daktronics signs and software. We will cover both Venus 1500 versions (v.3 and v.4). We will also become more familiar with our sign equipment and how to troubleshoot the display.

PC EQUIPMENT

The sign package usually consist of three parts that I like to break down. First there is the customer pc, this is where the software is installed and where the signal to the sign is created and sent to our second part. The second part is the communication to the sign. This can be wireless radios, dial-up phone line and direct communication (CAT5 or fiber to sign). And last the sign controller, this is where the signal ends up after you have sent it from the PC.

When I go to a site to troubleshoot a display I start at the PC because this is where the signal originates. I first check to see if the communication wire is still connected to the computer. After checking the wire for connectivity I will check the settings on the port. Different forms of communication requires different ports. Serial radios require a serial port and Ethernet radios require an Ethernet port. I then check to see if the communication equipment is powered. Sometimes a storm can short out the power supply to the device, then other times the power supply is simply unplugged.

Next Newsletter to cover troubleshooting the software.



Ethernet Port



Serial Port



RS 232 to 422
Signal Converter



Serial Radio

Thanks for your time,
Jesse Hargrove

