



SOLVIMUS
METERING SOLUTIONS

MBUS-PU3 - USER MANUAL

MBUS-PU3 USB Level Converter for mobile usage

Version: 1.2
Date: 1 August 2025

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1 Notes and conventions

1.1 About this document

This manual provides guidance and procedures for a fast and efficient installation and start-up of the units described in this manual. It is imperative to read and carefully follow the safety guidelines.

1.2 Legal basis

1.2.1 Placing on the market

Manufacturer of the MBUS-PU3 is the solvimus GmbH, Ratsteichstraße 5, 98693 Ilmenau, Germany.

1.2.2 Copyright protection

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1.2.3 Personnel qualification

The product use described in this documentation is intended exclusively for qualified electricians or persons instructed by these. They must all have good knowledge in the following areas:

- Applicable standards
- Use of electronic devices

1.2.4 Intended use

If necessary, the components or assemblies are delivered ex works with a fixed hardware and software configuration for the respective application. Modifications are only permitted within the scope of the possibilities shown in the documentation. All other changes to the hardware or software as well as the non-intended use of the components result in the exclusion of liability on the part of solvimus GmbH. Please send any requests for a modified or new hardware or software configuration to solvimus GmbH.

1.2.5 Exclusion of liability

Study this manual and all instructions thoroughly prior to the first use of this product and respect all safety warnings, even if you are familiar with handling and operating electronic devices.

The solvimus GmbH accepts no liability for damage to objects and persons caused by erroneous operation, inappropriate handling, improper or non-intended use or disregard for this manual, especially the safety guidelines, and any warranty is void.

1.2.6 Disclaimer

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1.3 Symbols

-  **Danger:** It is essential to observe this information in order to protect persons from injury.
-  **Caution:** It is essential to observe this information in order to prevent damage to the device.
-  **Notice:** Boundary conditions that must always be observed to ensure smooth and efficient operation.
-  **ESD (Electrostatic Discharge):** Warning of danger to components due to electrostatic discharge. Observe precautionary measures when handling components at risk of electrostatic discharge.
-  **Note:** Routines or advice for efficient equipment use.
-  **Further information:** References to additional literature, manuals, data sheets and internet pages.

1.4 Font conventions

Names of paths and files are marked in italics. According to the system the notation is using slash or backslash.
e. g.: *D: \Data*

Menu items or tabs are marked in bold italics.
e. g.: ***Save***

An arrow between two menu items or tabs indicates the selection of a sub-menu item from a menu or a navigation process in the web browser.
e. g.: ***File*** → ***New***

Buttons and input fields are shown in bold letters.
e. g.: **Input**

Key labels are enclosed in angle brackets and shown in bold with capital letters.
e. g.: **⟨F5⟩**

Programme codes are printed in Courier font.
e. g.: ENDVAR

Variable names, identifiers and parameter entries are marked in italics.
e. g.: *Value*

1.5 Number notation

Numbers are noted according to this table:

Numbering system	Example	Comments
Decimal	100	Normal notation
Hexadecimal	0x64	C-like notation
Binary	'100' '0110.0100'	In apostrophes Nibbles separated by dots

Table 1: Numbering systems

1.6 Safety guidelines

- ✖ Observe the recognized rules of technology and the legal requirements, standards and norms, and other recommendations.
- ✖ Do not open the device. It does not contain any parts to be replaced or serviced by the user.
- ✖ Study the instructions for the extinction of fire in electrical installations.
- ✖ The power supply must be switched off before replacing components and modules.
- ✖ Use exclusively flame-retardant cables/electric lines complying with IEC 60332-1-2 and IEC 60332-1-3.
- ✖ Take appropriate lightning protection measures when using an external antenna.
- ✖ This device is not suitable for use in locations where children are likely to be present.

If the contacts are deformed, the affected module or connector must be replaced, as the function is not guaranteed in the long term.

The components are not resistant to substances that have creeping and insulating properties. These include e.g. aerosols, silicones, triglycerides (ingredient of some hand creams). If the presence of these substances in the vicinity of the components cannot be excluded, additional measures must be taken:

- Install the components in an appropriate casing.
- Handle components with clean tools and materials only.
- ⚠ Only use a soft, wet cloth for cleaning. Soapy water is allowed. Pay attention to ESD.
- ⚠ Do not use solvents like alcohol, acetone etc. for cleaning.
- ⚠ Do not use a contact spray, because in an extreme case the function of the contact point is impaired and may lead to short circuits.
- ⚠ Assemblies, especially OEM modules, are designed for installation in electronic housings. Do not touch the assembly when it is live. In each case, the valid standards and directives applicable to the construction of control cabinets must be observed.
- ⚡ The components are populated with electronic parts which can be destroyed by an electrostatic discharge. When handling the components, ensure that everything in the vicinity is well earthed (personnel, workplace and packaging). Do not touch electrically conductive components, e.g. data contacts.

1.7 Maintenance

Maintenance requires an annual inspection of the screw terminals and of the isolation of cables/electric lines and connectors. If need be, tighten screw terminals and replace damaged cables/electric lines.

1.8 Scope

This manual describes the device manufactured by solvimus GmbH, Ilmenau, as stated on the title page.

1.9 Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
2G	Mobile radio standard, synonym for GSM or GPRS
3G	Mobile radio standard, synonym for UMTS
4G	Mobile radio standard, synonym for LTE
ACK	Acknowledge
AES	Advanced Encryption Standard
AFL	Authentication and Fragmentation Layer
AI	Analog Input
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
AO	Analog Output
APN	Access Point Name
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ASHRAE	American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
BACnet	Building Automation and Control networks

Continued on next page

Table 2 – Continued from previous page

Abbreviation	Meaning
BBMD	BACnet Broadcast Management Device
BCD	Binary-coded decimal numbers
BDT	Broadcast Distribution Table
BMS	Building Management System
CA	Certification Authority
CHAP	Challenge Handshake Authentication Protocol
CI	Control Information
CLI	Command line interface
COSEM	COmpanion Specification for Energy Metering
CPU	Central processing unit
CRC	Cyclic redundancy check
CSV	Character-Separated Values
CTS	Clear to send
D0	D0 interface (optical interface, IEC 62056-21)
DDC	Direct Digital Control
DHCP	Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
DI	Digital Input, digital input terminal
DIF	Data information field
DIFE	Data information field extensions
DIN	Deutsches Institut für Normung, German Institute for Standardization
DLDE	Direct Local Data Exchange (EN 62056-21, IEC 1107)
DLDE RS	DLDE communication via RS-232 or RS-485
DLMS	Device Language Message Specification
DNS	Domain Name System
DO	Digital Output, digital output terminal
EEG	German Renewable Energy Sources Act
EIA/TIA	Electronic Industries Alliance/Telecommunications Industry Association
ELL	Extended Link Layer
EMC	Electromagnetic compatibility
EN	European norm
ESD	Electrostatic Discharge
FCB	Frame Count Bit
FCV	Frame Count Valid Bit
FNN	Forum Netztechnik/Netzbetrieb, subgroup of VDE
FSK	Frequency Shift Keying
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
FTPS	FTP via TLS
GB	Gigabyte
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time
GPRS	General Packet Radio Service
GSM	Global System for Mobile Communications
HCA	Heat cost allocator
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
HTTPS	Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure
I2C	Inter-Integrated Circuit
I/O	Input/Output
ICCID	Integrated Circuit Card Identifier
ICMP	Internet Control Message Protocol
ID	Identification, Identifier, unique marking
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IoT	Internet of Things
IP	Internet Protocol or IP address
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation
LAN	Local area network
LCD	Liquid-crystal display
LED	Light-Emitting Diode
LSB	Least significant byte
LSW	Least significant word
LTE	Long Term Evolution
M2M	Machine-to-Machine
M-Bus	Meter-Bus (EN 13757, part 2, 3 and 7)
MAC	Medium Access Control or MAC-Adresse
MB	Megabyte
MCR	Multi Channel Reporting
MCS	Modulation and Coding Scheme
MDM	Meter Data Management
MEI	Modbus Encapsulated Interface
MHz	Megahertz
MQTT	Message Queuing Telemetry Transport

Continued on next page

Table 2 – Continued from previous page

Abbreviation	Meaning
MSB	Most Significant Byte
MSW	Most Significant Word
MUC	Multi Utility Communication, MUC controller
NB-IoT	Narrow Band Internet of Things
OBIS	Object Identification System
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
OMS	Open Metering System
PAP	Password Authentication Protocol
PEM	Privacy Enhanced Mail
PID	Product ID
PIN	Personal Identification Number
PKI	Public Key Infrastructure
PLC	Programmable Logic Controller
PLMN	Public Land Mobile Network
PPP	Point-to-Point Protocol
PPPoE	Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet
PTC	Polymer with positive temperature coefficient
PUK	Personal Unblocking Key
RAM	Random Access Memory
REQ_UD	Request User Data (Class 1 or 2)
RFC	Requests For Comments
RSP_UD	Respond User Data
RSRP	Reference Signal Received Power
RSRQ	Reference Signal Received Quality
RSSI	Received Signal Strength Indicator
RTC	Real-Time Clock
RTOS	Real-Time Operating System
RTS	Request to send
RTU	Remote Terminal Unit
S0	S0 interface (pulse interface, EN 62053-31)
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCP	Secure Copy
SFTP	SSH File Transfer Protocol
SIM	Subscriber Identity Module
SML	Smart Message Language
SMTP	Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
SND_NKE	Send Link Reset
SND_UD	Send User Data to slave
SNTP	Simple Network Time Protocol
SPST	Single Pole Single Throw Relay (closing switch)
SRD	Short Range Device
SSH	Secure Shell
SSID	Service Set Identifier
SSL	Secure Sockets Layer
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
THT	Through-Hole Technology
TLS	Transport Layer Security
U	Unit width of the housing (1 U = 18 mm)
UART	Universal Asynchronous Receiver Transmitter
UDP	User Datagram Protocol
UL	Unit load for M-Bus
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telecommunications System
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
UTC	Universal Time Coordinated
VCP	Virtual COM port
VDE	Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik e.V., German Association for Electrical, Electronic & Information Technologies
VHF	Very high frequency
VID	Vendor ID
VIF	Value information field
VIFE	Value information field extensions
VLAN	Virtual Local Area Network
VPN	Virtual Private Network
WAN	Wide Area Network
WLAN	Wireless Local Area Network
wM-Bus	Wireless Meter-Bus (EN 13757, part 3, 4 and 7)
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
XSLT	eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformation

Table 2: Abbreviations

2 Introducing the device

2.1 General information

The M-Bus (Meter-Bus) is an established and well-known interface for automated meter reading. Especially the ease of installation (simple two-wire system with powering by the bus) and the robustness are important features. These are also special attributes that are of interest for use in industrial environments.

The M-Bus is defined in the standard EN 13757. It establishes an own physics as well as an own protocol. For connecting it to other systems, a translation is necessary.

The bit transmission in the M-Bus corresponds to the one in a UART interface. The data are transferred according to the common time response. Exclusively the levels of voltage and current are characteristic for the M-Bus. The levels are very robust and permit a continuous supply of the connected devices (slaves) by the bus master.

Any UART is compatible to M-Bus by a conversion of the physical layer, that is the level. Hence, any PC with a USB interface can be made a (physical) bus master. This is the task of level converters. They convert the typical levels to M-Bus levels. Level converters for RS-232 are common on the market. However, the presence of the RS-232 interface on PCs is declining sharply, and it is no longer present on mobile devices (laptop, tablet). Modern end devices use almost exclusively USB for serial communication. This proposes to equip a level converter with USB so that it can be used with modern end devices. The M-Bus protocol can thus be mapped in a PC software. This enables a simple meter reading and meter configuration with a PC.

The level converter MBUS-PU3 is a very compact USB level converter specifically designed for a readout of small M-Bus installations. The MBUS-PU3 is thus ideal for mobile or temporary usage.

The device supports operating 3 unit loads at the wired M-Bus (mostly equivalent to the number of meters). The MBUS-PU3 is installed in the housing of a USB stick and can be connected directly on the USB connector of the end device. The supply is assured by the USB connector.

The serial number of the devices of the solvimus GmbH can be read from the housing.

2.2 Delivery variants and scope of delivery

The MBUS-PU3 is a compact level converter.

Variant	Article number	M-Bus interface
MBUS-PU3	500358	max. 3 unit loads

Table 3: Delivery variants

The scope of delivery contains the device and a Quick Start Guide.

2.3 Connectors

The connectors and interfaces of the MBUS-PU3 are on different sides of the device.

The following figure shows the device:



Figure 1: MBUS-PU3

The following connectors are available at the MBUS-PU3:

Connector	Designation	Pin assignment	Comments
USB connector	USB	VUSB: positive power supply GND: negative power supply D-: data line Data- D+: data line Data+	USB connector, type A, USB 2.0 FS
M-Bus connector	MBUS+ MBUS-	MBUS+: positive bus line MBUS-: negative bus line	spring terminal cross section 1.5 mm ²

Table 4: Pin assignment MBUS-PU3

2.4 Status LEDs

The MBUS-PU3 is equipped with 3 status LEDs. These indicate the following states:

LED*	Colour	Description
Power	red	The device is powered via USB.
Transmit	yellow	Data are sent from the master to the slaves.
Receive	green	Data are sent from the slaves to the master.

* without legend

Table 5: Status LEDs

2.5 First steps

The MBUS-PU3 is operational after connection to the host system via USB. The red Power LED indicates the operation of the device.

The following figure shows a typical usage of a MBUS-PU3:

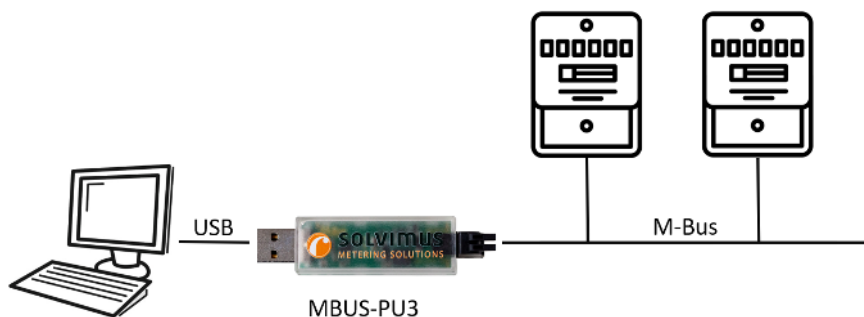


Figure 2: Typical usage of the MBUS-PU3

Further steps are not required for commissioning the device. All other settings must be performed on the host system, e. g. a PC.

The MBUS-PU3 is fully transparent to the data communication on the M-Bus. This means that the device is neither visible to the logical master nor to the slaves and baud rate changes master do not need any user interaction on the device.

2.5.1 Installation of the driver

The MBUS-PU3 runs on a USB component CP2104 from Silicon Laboratories. A driver might need to be installed on the target system.

It is recommended to install the driver prior to the first connection to the host system. The driver can be downloaded from the manufacturer:

➔ <https://www.silabs.com/developers/usb-to-uart-bridge-vcp-drivers?tab=downloads>

Pick the driver „CP210x VCP Windows“. The installation of the driver is initiated by launching the installer file. The following dialogue will be displayed:

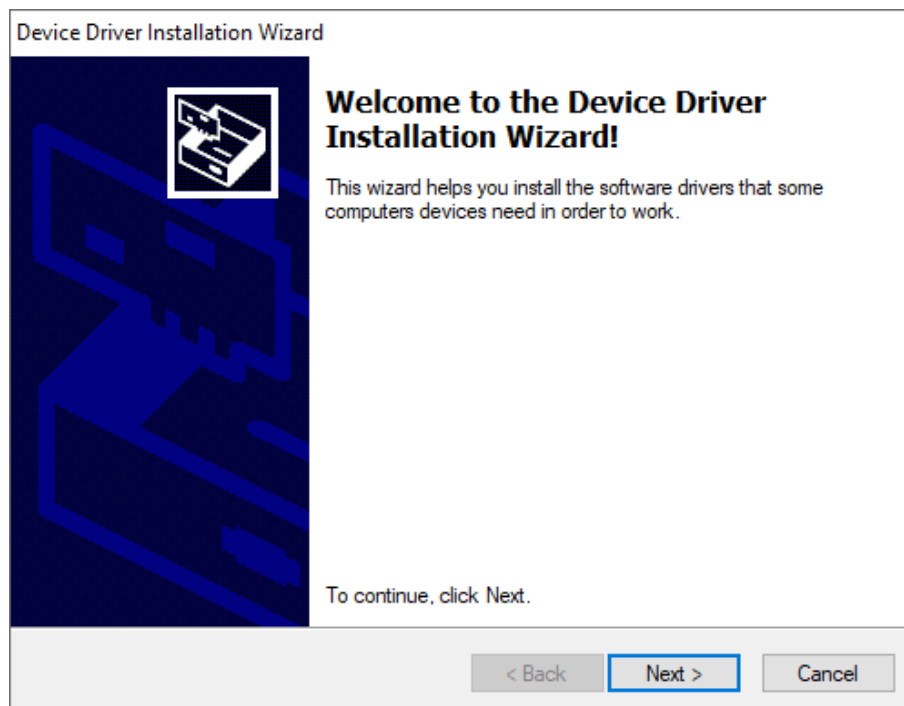


Figure 3: Dialogue for the installation of the driver

Once the installation of the driver is achieved, the MBUS-PU3 can be used for the communication with the M-Bus.

2.5.2 Configuration of the logical bus master

Whereas the MBUS-PU3 provides the physics of the M-bus master, the protocol, which is the logic of the M-bus, needs to be implemented via software on a PC.

The range of functions of such a software can be very diverse, stretching from a simple terminal programme up to a complete MDM system. In all cases the M-Bus must be driven physically. To achieve that, the MBUS-PU3 is connected to the USB interface of the logical master.

A (virtual) COM port (VCP) is created by the driver for each MBUS-PU3 connected to the host system. Thereafter, it can be used like any normal COM port in an M-Bus software.

In Microsoft Windows systems, the easiest way to identify the corresponding COM port number is via the device manager.

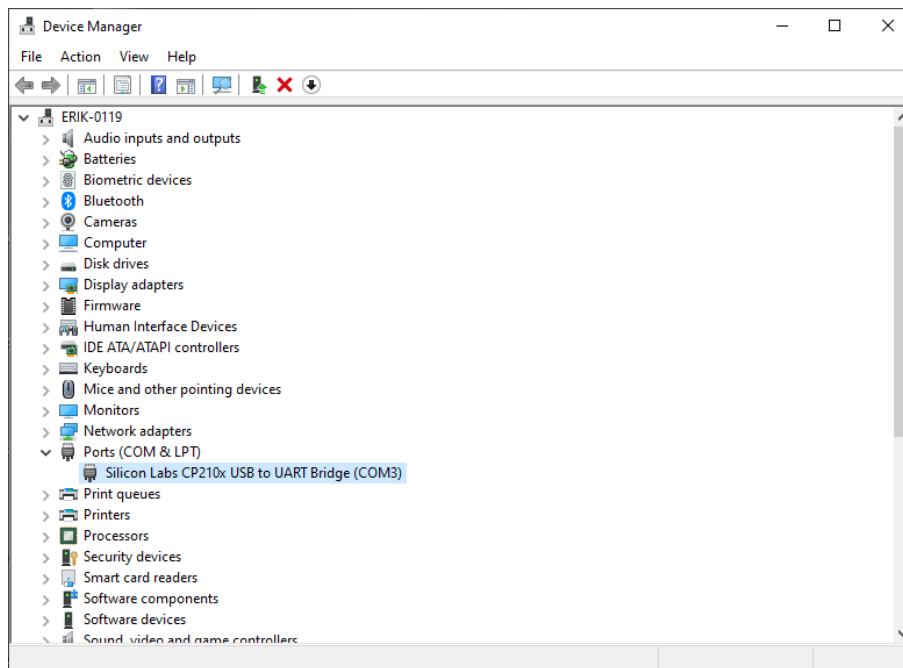


Figure 4: Device manager with CP210x USB to UART Bridge at COM port

An external software (not included) is required to access the data of the M-Bus participants. Further interface parameters are parametrised in the respective system using the communication software. These settings are then automatically adopted for the M-Bus. Usually, the following parameters are to be used for the M-Bus:

Parameter	Value	Hint
Baud rate	2400 bps	Common are 300, 2400 and 9600 bps, 2400 bps is most widespread.
Data bits	8	The M-Bus uses 8 data bits.
Parity	Even	The M-Bus uses even parity.
Stop bits	1	The M-Bus uses 1 stop bit.

Table 6: Parameters for the COM port interface

✔ Consult your supplier regarding the parameterisation of your particular software solution.

2.5.3 Signalling on the M-Bus

The M-Bus is a single master multiple slave bus. Therefore, a single bus master controls the bus and the data traffic on the bus. Several slaves, i.e. meters, can be connected to the bus.

📘 A second physical master is not allowed on the M-Bus.

On a physical level, the M-Bus uses voltage and current modulation to transmit data. The master transmits telegrams by modulating the bus voltage, the slave transmits telegrams by modulating the current through the bus. This is shown schematically in the following figure (values of current and voltage may deviate):

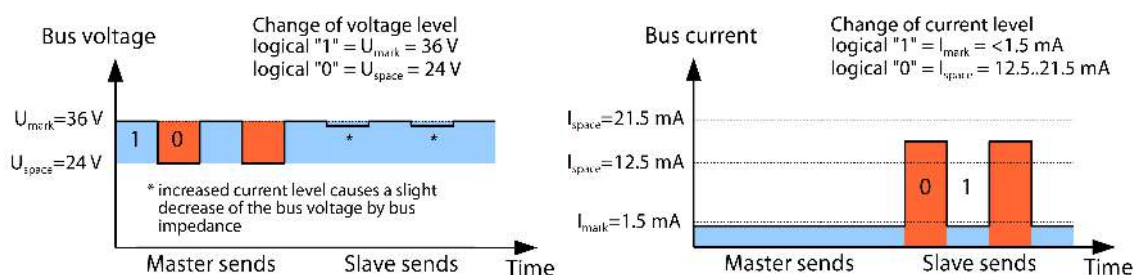


Figure 5: Signalling on the M-Bus

The M-Bus follows the principle of request-response, i.e. the master initiates the communication by a request/command which is then answered/confirmed by the slave. Spontaneous data transmission on the part

of the slaves is not allowed.

- ✔ As the MBUS-PU3 does not detect the M-Bus idle current, the M-Bus connectors may not be exposed to more than 3 UL (4.5 mA). This assures the safe detection of the Space signal in the response packets of the M-Bus slaves.

Certain terms are used in the M-Bus standard. The basics of communication are taken from IEC 60870-5-101. Key terms are explained in the table below:

Term	Description
ACK	ACKnowledge, confirmation of a command, transmitted over the M-Bus as a single character telegram with content 0xE5.
Application reset	Reset of the application layer, command to reset the meter to the default state and to reset the meter for consecutive telegrams (multipaging).
Broadcast	Broadcast, command or request is sent to all slaves, special addresses 0xFE and 0xFF are used.
C-field	Command field, code that indicates the direction in which a telegram is exchanged and the meaning of the telegram.
Checksum	Check number for checking transmission errors, the checksum the M-Bus uses, results from the addition of the transmitted data (without telegram header, up to checksum).
Single character	One of the three telegram formats the M-Bus uses with a length of exactly 1 byte, telegram header and end, consisting of checksum and 0x16, are not present, used on the M-Bus for ACK.
FCB	Frame Count Bit, bit in the C field, which is alternately set to 1 or 0 in consecutive telegrams, consecutive telegrams can be retrieved when the bit changes in the request.
I _{mark}	Transmit current of the slave at logical 1, usually 1 UL.
I _{space}	Transmit current of the slave at logical 0, usually 12.5-21.5 mA.
Short frame	One of the three telegram formats the M-Bus uses with a length of exactly 5 bytes, is only sent from the master to the slave (e.g. commands and instructions), the telegram header is 0x10 and the telegram ends with the checksum and 0x16.
Long frame	One of the three telegram formats the M-Bus uses with a variable length, the telegram header consists of 0x68 LL LL 0x68 (LL is the length of the telegram in each case), the telegram ends with the checksum and 0x16.
Multipaging	M-Bus method of distributing large amounts of data into several logically consecutive telegrams, use of the FCB for sequence control.
Primary address	M-Bus Link layer Address, this is used to address the requests/commands, address space 0-250, special addresses 253 (0xFD), 254 (0xFE) and 255 (0xFF).
REQ_UD2	ReQuest User Data type 2, request for consumption data, transmitted over the M-Bus by the master as a short frame telegram.
RSP_UD	ReSPond User Data, response of the meter to a request for data, transmitted over the M-Bus by the slave as a long frame telegram.
Secondary address	Worldwide unique identification number of the meter, consisting of manufacturer code, 8-digit serial number, medium ID and version number.
Slave select	Procedure for extending the address space to the secondary address of the meter, use of the SND_UD for selecting the meter via the application layer, then selected meter can be addressed via special address 0xFD.
Unit load	Defined idle current that a meter may draw from the M-Bus, according to the standard 1 UL=1.5 mA.
SND_NKE	Send Link Reset, initialization command to the slave (reset FCB bit and selection), transmitted by the master as a short frame telegram on the M-Bus.
SND_UD	SeND User data, sending data or commands to the meter, transmitted by the master as a long frame telegram on the M-Bus.
U _{mark}	Mark voltage, upper voltage of the M-Bus signals at the master, representation of the logical 1, idle state, usually 24-42 V.
U _{space}	Space voltage, lower voltage of the M-Bus signals at the master, representation of the logical 0, usually 12-30 V.
UL	Unit of unit load (see above)

Table 7: M-Bus specific terms

2.6 Specific troubleshooting

In case the MBUS-PU3 does not work as described in this document, it is useful to locate the malfunction in order to resolve the issue and to recover the full functionality again.

2.6.1 Hardware errors

The device does not respond.

- ⚠ Only trained and appropriately qualified personnel are allowed to check the electric power supply (see Section 1.2.3).

The device does not show a reaction after connection to the host system. None of the LEDs is illuminated and the device is not detected.


Check if the USB connector is faulty or if it is activated.

If errors could not be eliminated, please contact our customer support:

E-Mail: support@solvimus.de

Phone: +49 3677 7613065

The device is not detected by the host system.

-  Only trained and appropriately qualified personnel are allowed to check the electric power supply (see Section 1.2.3).

The red LED is flashing, but no additional COM port is available at the host system.

Check the host system for the appropriate drivers:

- Is the driver for the CP2104 installed?
- Has an additional USB device been enumerated (VID = 0x10C4, PID = 0xEA60)?
- Is the USB connector faulty or activated?

Check also at another USB connector.


If errors could not be eliminated, please contact our customer support:

E-Mail: support@solvimus.de

Phone: +49 3677 7613065

2.6.2 Errors while meter reading.

The transmission LED remains off while sending.

-  Only trained and appropriately qualified personnel are allowed to check the electric power supply (see Section 1.2.3).


Check the USB connector at the host system.

If errors could not be eliminated, please contact our customer support:

E-Mail: support@solvimus.de

Phone: +49 3677 7613065

The reception LED remains off after sending.

-  Only trained and appropriately qualified personnel are allowed to check the electric power supply (see Section 1.2.3).

Check the cable between MBUS-PU3 and the meter, and replace faulty cables if necessary. Measure the M-Bus voltage at the device and at the meter, it should be approximately 32 VDC.

If these 32 VDC are not detected, check the M-Bus for a short circuit:

- Disconnect the M-Bus from the device and measure the voltage at the device again.
- Is it 32 VDC now? An internal fuse may have switched off the bus because of overload.
- If possible, measure the current consumption of the M-Bus.

If no data are received, the cause might as well be the protocol, that is the software e. g. on the PC. Check above all the logical settings.

If errors could not be eliminated and if all logical settings are correct, please contact our customer support:

E-Mail: support@solvimus.de

Phone: +49 3677 7613065

2.7 Technical data

2.7.1 General specifications

Dimensions/Mass

The device has the following dimensions (including connector) and the following mass:

- Width: 19 mm
- Height: 12 mm
- Depth: 80 mm
- Mass: approx. 15 g

Mounting

The device is intended for mobile usage:

- Temperature range for operation: 0..50 °C (daily average); -20..70 °C (short-time)
- Temperature range for transport and storage: -20..70 °C
- Air humidity: 0..95 % relH, non-condensing
- Degree of protection: IP30 (IEC 60529)

2.7.2 Electrical specifications

Power supply

The device is directly supplied via USB (pin assignment see Section 2.3):

- Voltage: 4.75..5.25 VDC, USB connector type A, peak inrush-current <500 mA
- Power consumption: <0.1 W (idle state), max. 0.5 W
- Safety: reverse polarity protected M-Bus, overvoltage protection (transients), electronic resettable fuse

Meter interfaces

The device has an M-Bus meter interface (pin assignment see Section 2.3):

- Compliant to EN 13757-2, U_{mark}=32 V, U_{space}=20 V, spring terminal ($\leq 1.5 \text{ mm}^2$)
- Max. bus load: 3 unit loads (UL)
- Max. current rating permanent: approx. 30 mA
- Max. baud rate: 9600 bps

Communication interfaces

The device has a USB communication interface (pin assignment see Section 2.3):

- USB component: CP2104 from Silicon Laboratories
- USB connector: USB connector type A, compatible to USB 1.1, 2.0 and 3.0
- USB speed: Full Speed (12 Mbps)
- USB Vendor ID (VID): 0x10C4
- USB Product ID (PID): 0xEA60

Galvanic isolation

The M-Bus interface and the USB interface are not galvanically isolated from each other.