



**Wilmore**<sup>®</sup>  
ELECTRONICS CO., INC.

**USER MANUAL**  
Series 1605  
DC-to-DC Converters

## **SERIES 1605 800-Watt DC-to-DC Converters**



This User's Information Manual is applicable for the following Models:

1605-130-24-30  
1605-130-24-30-M3

1605-130-48-16  
1605-130-48-16-M3



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## I. General Description

These dc-to-dc power converters provide an isolated, regulated and adjustable output voltage from station batteries or other widely fluctuating voltage sources. The input voltage range, the output voltage, and maximum rated output current are each listed in Table 1 for each specific model (continuous duty rating with free air convection cooling). The converter output is galvanically isolated from the input source and chassis and, therefore, may be connected as either a positive or a negative output.

These converters are electronically protected against overloads, short circuits, and converter-induced output overvoltages. Recovery to normal operating conditions is automatic upon removal of an overload or short-circuit fault. An overvoltage condition will cause the front-panel circuit breaker to trip, and this circuit breaker must be reset to resume converter operation. Protection against accidental reversal of the input-voltage polarity during installation is provided by a shunt diode working in conjunction with the front-panel circuit breaker.

The operating efficiency of these converters exceeds 90% for most of the output load range. An approximation of input current for a specific input voltage and output load current can be determined as follows:\*

$$\text{Input Current} = \frac{(\text{Output Voltage}) (\text{Output Current})}{(0.90) (\text{Input Voltage})}$$

Note that these converters are constant-output-power devices, i.e., with a constant load, the input current and input voltage are inversely proportional. This means that the maximum input current is drawn at the minimum input voltage.

\*This approximation applies for output load currents equal to or greater than 30% of maximum rated load current. For loads less than 30% of the maximum rating, linearly decrease input current from its calculated value at 30% load to 100 milliamperes at no load.

**Table 1**

MODEL	INPUT VOLTAGE RANGE (VDC)	OUTPUT VOLTAGE ADJUSTABILITY (VDC)	OUTPUT CURRENT (ADC)	EFFICIENCY (%)
1605-130-24-30 (-M3)	90-160	24V, ±2Vdc	30	90
1605-130-48-16 (-M3)	90-160	48V, ±4Vdc	16	90

## II. Installation and Operation

Note: If this converter is equipped with standard options as described in the subsequent section titled "Optional Features", please read the applicable portion of that section AND the following information before installing the converter.

Connection and operation of Series 1605 converters are almost entirely self-explanatory from the front- and rear-panel markings on each unit. To access the rear panel, loosen (but do not remove) the four #6 panhead screws that secure the rear cover panel to the converter and remove the cover panel. The positive and negative terminals are clearly marked beneath the input/output terminal block, and deliberate caution should be exercised to avoid polarity mistakes. Both the input and the output of the converter are dc-isolated from the chassis and from each other.

The terminal block screws accept lugs for use with #12 hardware. It is suggested that No. 12 AWG or larger cables be used to connect the converter to its 130-volt source. It is desirable that these cables be kept as short as possible, and, if their length must exceed 10 feet, it may be desirable to use larger wire.

For the output connections between the converter and its load, No. 8 AWG or larger cables should be used for the 1605-130-24-30, and No. 10 AWG or larger cables should be used for the 1605-130-48-16, subject to the same comments as above regarding the desirability of minimum length.

During final test at the factory, the output voltage is preset to its nominal rating. If it becomes necessary to change this setting, this may be accomplished by loosening the locking nut on the front-panel potentiometer and adjusting the potentiometer.

### Input Protection

Good installation practice for power conversion equipment dictates that an input fuse or circuit breaker should be located at the power-source end of the cables feeding the equipment. The type and rating of such devices are largely dependent on local and/or national codes and installation variables such as cable routing and wire gauge. Wilmore cannot anticipate these variables and consequently does not recommend specific fuse or circuit breaker values. However, it is important to note a few operating characteristics of this unit that may affect an installer's choice of protection devices.

- 1) As mentioned previously, this unit is a constant-power device; that is, it draws its maximum input current at its minimum input voltage.
- 2) As with essentially all electronic equipment with significant input capacitance, the unit will draw an initial peak current many times its normal operating current for a very brief period (a few milliseconds or so) when power is initially applied. **Consequently, instantaneous-trip circuit breakers or non-time-delay fuses may be activated by normal power-up events and are not recommended.**
- 3) Following the brief capacitor-charging current described above, the unit will exhibit a "soft-start" characteristic that limits its input current to approximately that of its full load current (see Section I for specific load current information) as the circuit reaches its normal operating mode. Consequently, and even though the user's application may only require a fraction of the unit's power rating, the input circuit breaker or fuse must be sized to accommodate the full-load input current to avoid nuisance tripping.

### III. Optional Features

Series 1605 dc-to-dc power converters can be provided as a standard unit, or with a factory-installed option. The presence of this option is indicated by the suffix "M3" in the converter model number, which is silk-screened on the rear panel. If a designation other than M3 appears as part of the model number, this indicates a non-standard factory modification to the converter - please consult the factory. A brief description of this standard option configuration follows.

#### **M3: Paralleling Diode, Auxiliary Contacts, and Proportional Load Sharing**

This configuration is provided for applications in which the outputs of two or more "M3" configured converters are paralleled to provide fault-tolerant redundancy and/or additional output power capability. For example, three M3-type converters can be paralleled to power a load capable of being powered by only two converters. The three converters will share the load current (when set up properly using the instructions below), and if any one converter becomes inoperable, the two remaining converters will power the load.

A power diode is wired in series with the converter's positive (+) output terminal. In the event of a loss of output from one converter, the remaining converter(s) continues to power the load without potential adverse effects from the diode-isolated nonfunctioning converter.

An internal output-sense circuit monitors the converter's output preceding the paralleling diode and indicates output status via a single-pole, double-throw contact arrangement brought out to a three-position terminal block beneath the input/output terminal block. For system wiring flexibility, access to both normally-open and normally-closed contacts is provided. "Normal" condition means that the converter is ON, with proper output present and auxiliary contact relay coil energized.

The following initial **set-up procedure** should be used when installing converters with the M3 configuration:

1. After connecting converter power cables and auxiliary alarm circuits but before replacing rear cover panels, turn any one converter ON with no load on its output.
2. Load converter to approximately 50% of its rating, and let it warm up for five minutes. Using a digital voltmeter with 3-digit or better accuracy, measure the output voltage and adjust the front-panel potentiometer to the desired output voltage.
3. Turn the converter OFF.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 with each individual converter, applying an identical output load and setting each one's output voltage alike.
5. Replace rear panel covers.

Converters with the M3 configuration, adjusted in this manner, will proportionally share the system load current and provide redundancy when properly sized for the system load current. A slight degradation in output-voltage regulation with respect to variations in load current may occur.

## IV. Maintenance Information

Other than preventing dust accumulation on internal components and external surfaces of the converter, no periodic maintenance should be required.

A damaged or malfunctioning unit should be returned to Wilmore for repair. Multiple-component cascade failures in power conversion circuitry can greatly complicate trouble-shooting procedures, and factory technicians familiar with the circuitry can locate the problem quickly, explore adjacent circuitry for stressed or damaged components, and subject the converter to a thorough retest.

Wilmore maintains a **Return Material Authorization** system in order to efficiently track your inbound shipment and expedite its repair and return to you. Before shipping material for repair to Wilmore, please call (919) 732-9351 or email [info@wilmoreelectronics.com](mailto:info@wilmoreelectronics.com) and request a **RMA Number** for your shipment. If possible, please provide the complete model number of the equipment, its serial number, and a brief description of the problem. Place this **RMA Number** on the outside of the package and ship prepaid to:

WILMORE ELECTRONICS CO., INC.  
607 U.S. 70A East  
P.O. Box 1329  
Hillsborough, NC 27278

## V. Limited Warranty

Wilmore Electronics Company, Inc. warrants this product to be free from defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year after delivery to the original purchaser. During this period, a defective product for which an authorization to return the product has been given, shall be returned to Wilmore freight prepaid. The products will be repaired, replaced, or credit allowed only if the defect, after examination by Wilmore, is determined to be a defect in material or workmanship. If this returned product is determined by Wilmore to have suffered from user misuse or abuse or to have been opened or modified without written instructions from Wilmore, or if the date of receipt of a request for return authorization exceeds the 1-year warranty period, the warranty is null and void. In such cases, Wilmore will determine the cost of repair, quote this price to the purchaser, and continue as advised by the purchaser.

The sole obligation of Wilmore and the purchaser's exclusive remedy under this or any other warranty, expressed or implied, is the repair or replacement of a defective product as provided above, or the issuance of credit in an amount not to exceed the contract price for the product deemed to be defective. Wilmore makes no warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular use. Wilmore shall not be responsible for incidental or consequential damage, whether or not foreseeable, caused by defects in this product. There are no other warranties which shall extend the description above.