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AEOTEC ZW090

AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 Z-Wave Hub User Manual

Model: ZW090

Introduction

The AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 is a Z-Wave Plus USB gateway designed to enable the creation of a custom Z-Wave smart home hub. It allows users to build a locally hosted, cloud-free Z-Wave network with control over features, security, and privacy. This device supports up to 232 Z-Wave devices, including Z-Wave Plus, and is compatible with various operating systems and open-source home automation software.

Key Features:

- Compatible with Windows, Mac, Linux, and Raspberry Pi 4 (2020 upgrade) for Z-Wave and Z-Wave Plus device control.
- Compact size: 1.1 x 0.4 x 3.5 inches, capable of controlling up to 232 Z-Wave devices.
- Supports firmware upgrades for compatible Z-Wave Plus devices via OTA/wireless methods.
- Works with popular home automation software including Home Assistant, HomeSeer, Indigo 7, OpenHab, and OpenHab2.
- Z-Wave Plus certified (Certification number: ZC10-15060006).
- Features an inbuilt, rechargeable info-lithium battery for enhanced network performance and reduced downtime.

Product Overview

The AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 is a small, white USB stick with a circular button on its surface. It connects to a host device (PC, Raspberry Pi, etc.) via a standard USB-A port.



Figure 1: Front view of the AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5, showing the USB connector and the central action button.



Figure 2: Angled view of the AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5, highlighting its compact design and USB connector.

Setup

1. Initial Connection

1. Ensure your host device (PC, Raspberry Pi, etc.) is powered on.
2. Insert the AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 into an available USB port on your host device.
3. The host device should recognize the Z-Stick as a serial port. You may need to install appropriate drivers depending on your operating system.

2. Pairing Z-Wave Devices

The Z-Stick Gen5 can operate in two modes for device inclusion: Controller Mode (plugged into host) or Inclusion Mode (unplugged, using its internal battery).

Inclusion Mode (Unplugged):

1. Unplug the Z-Stick Gen5 from your host device.

2. Press the action button on the Z-Stick once. The LED will blink slowly, indicating it is in inclusion mode.
3. Bring the Z-Stick close to the Z-Wave device you wish to pair.
4. Activate the pairing function on your Z-Wave device (refer to the device's manual for specific instructions, usually a button press).
5. If pairing is successful, the Z-Stick's LED will flash rapidly, then return to a solid state or turn off.
6. To exit inclusion mode, press the action button on the Z-Stick once more.
7. Plug the Z-Stick back into your host device.

Controller Mode (Plugged into Host):

1. Ensure the Z-Stick Gen5 is plugged into your host device.
2. Open your chosen home automation software (e.g., Home Assistant, OpenHab).
3. Navigate to the Z-Wave configuration section within the software.
4. Initiate the "Add Device" or "Include Device" function within the software.
5. Activate the pairing function on your Z-Wave device.
6. The software should detect and add the new device.

Your browser does not support the video tag.

Video 1: This video demonstrates the process of connecting Z-Wave devices using the Z-Stick Gen5. It shows the steps for putting the Z-Stick into pairing mode and activating a Z-Wave device for inclusion.

Operating

The AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 acts as a Z-Wave controller for your home automation software. Once connected and devices are paired, all control and automation logic are managed through your chosen software.

Software Compatibility:

The Z-Stick Gen5 is compatible with a wide range of Z-Wave enabled home automation software. Some popular options include:

- Domoticz
- Home Assistant
- HomeSeer
- Indigo for MacOS
- OpenHab / OpenHab2
- Axial Control

Refer to the documentation of your chosen software for detailed instructions on configuring the Z-Stick and managing your Z-Wave network.

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Video 2: This video provides an overview of setting up an open-source smart home system using the Z-Stick Gen5 with Home Assistant. It covers aspects of software configuration and network management.

Maintenance

Firmware Updates:

The Z-Stick Gen5 supports Over-The-Air (OTA) firmware upgrades for compatible Z-Wave Plus devices. Check the AEOTEC support website or your home automation software's documentation for information on available firmware updates and the update process for the Z-Stick itself.

Battery Care:

The Z-Stick Gen5 contains an inbuilt, rechargeable lithium-ion battery. This battery is primarily for enabling inclusion/exclusion mode when unplugged from a host. For optimal battery life, avoid prolonged storage in extreme temperatures and recharge periodically if not in regular use in unplugged mode.

Troubleshooting

- **Device Not Recognized:**

  Ensure the Z-Stick is fully inserted into the USB port. Check your operating system's device manager for the serial port. You may need to manually install drivers if not automatically detected. Refer to AEOTEC's support resources for driver downloads.

- **Cannot Pair Devices:**

  Verify the Z-Stick is in inclusion mode (slow blinking LED when unplugged, or initiated via software when plugged in). Ensure the Z-Wave device is also in pairing mode and within close proximity to the Z-Stick. Check the Z-Wave device's manual for its specific pairing procedure. If using software, ensure the Z-Wave service is running correctly.

- **Z-Wave Network Issues:**

  If devices are unresponsive or the network is unstable, try healing the Z-Wave network through your home automation software. Ensure there are enough Z-Wave repeaters (mains-powered devices) in your network to extend coverage. Check for potential interference from other wireless devices.

- **Software Compatibility:**

  Ensure your home automation software version is compatible with the Z-Stick Gen5. Consult the software's documentation or community forums for specific configuration steps and known issues.

Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model Number	ZW090
Brand	AEOTEC
Color	White
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	1.1" x 0.4" x 3.5"
Item Weight	18.14 g
Z-Wave Certification	Z-Wave Plus certified (ZC10-15060006)
Max Devices Supported	Up to 232
Included Components	Z-Stick Gen5
Power Source	USB-powered, with inbuilt rechargeable lithium battery

Warranty

The AEOTEC Z-Stick Gen5 comes with a **1-year warranty** against manufacturer defects. Please retain your proof of purchase for warranty claims. For detailed warranty terms and conditions, refer to the official AEOTEC website or contact customer support.

Support

For further assistance, technical support, or to access the latest documentation and drivers, please visit the official AEOTEC support resources:

- **AEOTEC Official Website:** https://aeotec.com/
- **AEOTEC Support Portal:** Check the website for dedicated support sections, FAQs, and community forums.
- **Amazon Brand Store:** Visit the AEOTEC Store on Amazon

When contacting support, please have your product model (ZW090) and any relevant purchase information ready.

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