Paradox PCS250

Paradox PCS250 GSM/GPRS Communication Module User Manual

Model: PCS250 | Brand: Paradox

1. INTRODUCTION

The Paradox PCS250 is a GSM/GPRS communication module designed to enhance the connectivity of Paradox alarm systems. It enables communication via the GSM/GPRS network, providing advanced features such as remote system management, voice alerts, and SMS notifications. This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your PCS250 module.

2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read all safety instructions carefully before installing and operating the PCS250 module. Failure to follow these instructions may result in damage to the device, property, or personal injury.

- **Professional Installation Recommended:** This device is designed for professional hard-wired installation.
- **Power Source:** Ensure the module is connected to a stable power source. An external supplementary power supply is recommended.
- **SIM Card Handling:** Handle SIM card slots with care as they can be fragile.
- **Antenna Placement:** Consider signal quality when placing the module. An antenna extension may be required in areas with weak GSM signal.
- **Environmental Conditions:** Do not expose the module to extreme temperatures, humidity, or direct sunlight.

3. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Paradox PCS250 is a compact and elegant communication module designed to integrate seamlessly with compatible Paradox alarm control panels.

3.1 Key Features

- GSM/GPRS communication capability.
- Direct connection to MAGELLAN MG5000/MG5050 (v4.0+), Spectra SP (v3.42+), and DIGIPLEX EVO

(v2.02+) control panels.

- Supports SIA and Contact ID formats for central station monitoring.
- Voice message alerts (with VDMP3 module) to up to 5 phone numbers (8 with DIGIPLEX EVO) for various events (alert, aggression, fire, power failure, low battery).
- Remote system arm/disarm, output activation, and status check via VDMP3 voice menu.
- SMS notifications for alarms (with zone name), arm/disarm (with user name), and system troubles/restorations to up to 8 phone numbers (16 with DIGIPLEX EVO).
- SMS arm/disarm and confirmation messages.
- SIM card credit and expiry information.
- Remote management of the control panel via GPRS using WinLoad, NEware, and BabyWare software.
- Module status and GSM/GPRS signal level display.
- Firmware updates for both the control panel and PCS250 module via GPRS.
- Report transmission to digital receiver over IP network for PARADOX IPR512 and IPRS-7 software.
- Can be installed up to 300m from the control panel via CVT485 module.

3.2 Package Contents

- Paradox PCS250 GSM/GPRS Communication Module
- VDMP3 Voice Communication Module (if included in package)
- Installation Guide (this document)

3.3 Product Diagram

Figure 1: Front view of the Paradox PCS250 module. The left side features a series of LED indicators for status and signal strength, while the right side is a smooth, white panel. The bottom edge shows the Paradox logo and a mounting screw hole.

4. Setup and Installation

The PCS250 module requires careful installation to ensure optimal performance. It is recommended that installation be performed by a qualified professional.

4.1 Compatibility Check

Ensure your Paradox control panel is compatible with the PCS250 module:

- MAGELLAN MG5000/MG5050: Version 4.0 or higher
- Spectra SP: Version 3.42 or higher
- DIGIPLEX EVO: Version 2.02 or higher

4.2 SIM Card Insertion

1. Power off the control panel and the PCS250 module before inserting the SIM card.
2. Locate the SIM card slot(s) on the PCS250 module. There are two possible slots.
3. Carefully insert the activated SIM card into one of the slots. Ensure it is fully seated.
4. *Note:* SIM card slots can be fragile. Handle with extreme care.

4.3 Wiring and Connection

1. Connect the PCS250 module directly to the control panel using the provided wiring. Refer to the control panel's manual for specific connection points.
2. If installing the module up to 300m from the control panel, use the optional CVT485 module.
3. Connect the external supplementary power supply to the PCS250 module as recommended.
4. Securely mount the PCS250 module in a location with good GSM signal reception.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed and powered, the PCS250 module will begin communicating with your Paradox control panel and the GSM/GPRS network.

5.1 Status Indicators

The LEDs on the module indicate its operational status and GSM/GPRS signal strength. Refer to the specific LED guide in the full technical manual for detailed interpretations.

5.2 SMS Notifications and Control

- **Receiving SMS:** The module sends SMS alerts for alarms, arm/disarm events, and system troubles to pre-programmed phone numbers.
- **Sending SMS Commands:** You can arm or disarm the system by sending specific SMS commands to the module's phone number. A confirmation message will be sent back.

5.3 Voice Communication (with VDMP3)

- **Voice Alerts:** In case of an alarm or specific event, the module will dial pre-programmed numbers and play a voice message describing the event.
- **Voice Menu Control:** By calling the module's number, you can access a voice menu (via VDMP3) to arm/disarm the system, activate outputs, or check the system status using voice commands.

5.4 Remote Management via GPRS

The PCS250 allows remote management of your control panel using Paradox software via the GPRS network:

- **WinLoad:** For professional installers to program and manage the control panel.
- **NEware:** For end-users to manage their alarm system.

- **BabyWare:** Another software option for system management.

Refer to the respective software manuals for detailed instructions on remote management.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your PCS250 module.

6.1 Firmware Updates

The firmware of both the control panel and the PCS250 module can be updated remotely via the GPRS network. Consult your installer or Paradox technical support for information on available updates and the update procedure.

6.2 SIM Card Management

- **Credit Monitoring:** The module can provide information on remaining SIM card credit and expiry. Regularly check this to ensure continuous service.
- **SIM Card Replacement:** If replacing the SIM card, ensure the module is powered off and handle the SIM card slot carefully.
- **Operator Compatibility:** Be aware that some mobile operators may have restrictions on using standard SIM cards in alarm systems. Verify compatibility with your chosen operator.

6.3 Cleaning

Clean the exterior of the module with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with the PCS250 module.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No GSM Signal / Weak Signal	Poor module placement; SIM card not activated; network issues.	Relocate the module to an area with better signal. Consider an external antenna extension. Verify SIM card activation with your mobile operator.
SMS/Voice Alerts Not Received	Incorrect phone numbers programmed; insufficient SIM credit; SIM card issues; VDMP3 module not connected/faulty.	Check programmed phone numbers in the control panel. Verify SIM card credit and expiry. Ensure VDMP3 module is correctly installed and functional.
Remote Management (GPRS) Fails	GPRS service not enabled on SIM; incorrect software configuration; network issues.	Confirm GPRS service is active on your SIM card. Check software (WinLoad, NEware, BabyWare) settings. Ensure stable internet connection on both ends.
Module Not Responding	No power; loose connection; module fault.	Check power supply and all connections. Power cycle the module and control panel. If problem persists, contact technical support.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail

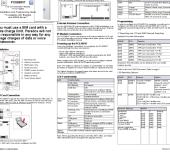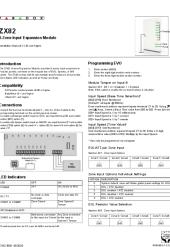| Feature	Detail
Model Number	PCS250
Brand	Paradox
Manufacturer	PARADOX
Dimensions (L x W x H)	19.05 x 10.41 x 6.1 cm (7.5 x 4.1 x 2.4 inches)
Weight	280 grams (0.62 lbs)
Color	White
Power Source	Battery with external power supply
Installation Method	Professional hard-wired
Connectivity Technology	Wired (to control panel)
Compatible Devices	MAGELLAN MG5000/MG5050 (v4.0+), Spectra SP (v3.42+), DIGIPLEX EVO (v2.02+) alarm control panels
Included Components	GSM/GPRS Communication Module, VDMP3 Voice Communication Module
Recommended Use	Enhance alarm system communication and enable remote management

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Specific warranty information for the Paradox PCS250 module is typically provided at the point of purchase or within the product packaging. Please refer to your purchase documentation or contact your authorized Paradox dealer for details regarding warranty coverage and terms.

For technical support, troubleshooting assistance beyond this manual, or service inquiries, please contact your professional installer or Paradox customer support directly. Contact information can usually be found on the Paradox official website or on your product packaging.

Related Documents - PCS250

Paradox PCS250 GPRS/GSM Communicator Module: Reference and Installation Manual

This comprehensive manual details the installation, configuration, and operation of the Paradox PCS250 GPRS/GSM Communicator Module. Learn about its features, connectivity options, SMS reporting capabilities, and compatibility with Paradox security systems.

Paradox PCS265V8 LTE Communicator Module Installation Manual

This installation manual provides detailed instructions for connecting, programming, and operating the Paradox PCS265V8 LTE Communicator Module. It covers system integration, SIM card setup, LED functionality, reporting options, technical specifications, and certifications.

Paradox PCS265V7 LTE Communicator Module Installation and Programming Guide

Comprehensive guide for installing and programming the Paradox PCS265V7 LTE Communicator Module, covering connections, setup, LED indicators, network configuration, SMS commands, technical specifications, and certifications.

Paradox ZX82 8-Zone Input Expansion Module Installation Manual

This installation manual provides comprehensive details for the Paradox ZX82 8-Zone Input Expansion Module, covering its features, compatibility with Paradox control panels, connection procedures, programming instructions for EVO and MG/SP systems, LED indicator functions, technical specifications, and firmware upgrade information.

Paradox SP5500+/SP6000+ User Guide: Expandable Security Systems

Comprehensive user guide for Paradox SP5500+ and SP6000+ expandable security systems. Learn about installation, operation, features like StayD, arming/disarming, remote controls, and communication options.

Paradox Magellan and Spectra SP User Guide

Comprehensive user guide for Paradox Magellan and Spectra SP alarm systems, covering setup, operation, features like StayD, remote controls, communication options, and troubleshooting.