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**Manufacturer: Sensus Metering Systems, Inc.
Model: 5396390010001**

Manual

FlexNet EasyLink™ Reader

User Guide

AUG-10061-01



Revision History

Rev No.	Date	Description
Rev 01	22-SEP-2017	Initial Release

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Contents

Revision History.....	ii
Copyright.....	ii
 1 Introduction to FlexNet EasyLink™.....	4
Components.....	4
Specifications.....	5
 2 Setup the FlexNet EasyLink Reader.....	6
Setup the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application.....	7
Initial Login.....	8
Bluetooth Pairing.....	9
LEDs.....	10
Compliance Statements.....	11

1 Introduction to FlexNet EasyLink™

FlexNet EasyLink™ is a hardware and software solution that is capable of reading both Sensus' FlexNet SmartPoint modules and ERT devices that operate with Standard Consumption Message (SCM) packets. The FlexNet EasyLink™ Reader is a transceiver, installed in a vehicle, running an application that can merge with your existing route management and billing processes.

FlexNet EasyLink enables utilities to keep existing ERT devices while simultaneously deploying and reading Sensus SmartPoint modules in the field. It provides an easy path for upgrading from an AMR system to an AMI system.

The FlexNet EasyLink Reader contains two transceivers working with two antennas. One transceiver supports wake up ERT modes for ERT device reading and one transceiver supports mobile reading of FlexNet SmartPoint modules and bubble up ERT data collection. The FlexNet EasyLink Reader transmits readings via a USB connection on the device running the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application or via Bluetooth to the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application.

Components

The FlexNet EasyLink Reader and components come in a carrying case for ease of shipping and carrying. The FlexNet EasyLink Reader can be ordered with a ToughPad running the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application along with a mounting kit and power cable for the ToughPad.

The FlexNet EasyLink Reader kit includes a carrying case and with the following components inside the case:

- FlexNet EasyLink Reader (transceiver)
- FlexNet antenna with magnetic mount and antenna extender for sending tones to FlexNet SmartPoint modules and receiving responses from FlexNet SmartPoint modules and bubble up ERTs.
- ERT antenna with magnetic mount for sending an interrogation tone to wake up ERT devices
- Power cable
- USB cable
- Two nylon straps for carrying and securing the transceiver
- (Optional) ToughPad Kit running the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application, ToughPad DC power, mounting kit



Antenna pictures sourced from PCTel, Laird, and Tixie websites.

Specifications

Category	Specification
Dimensions	8" W x 12" D x 4" H (20.32cm W x 30.48cm D x 10.16cm H)
Weight	18 lbs. (8.16 kg)
Temperature	-20°C to +50°C Operating, -40°C to +85°C Storage (-4°F to 122°F Operating, -40°F to 185°F Storage)
Humidity	95% non-condensing, Operating & Storage
Rated Voltage	12Vdc nominal
Operating Voltage Range	10.5V minimum to 16V maximum DC
Power Consumption	<20 Watts in Receive Mode <60 Watts in Transmit Mode
Output Power	6.4 Watts nominal
Compliance	FCC CFR47 Part 15, Part 24 and Part 101
Label	Model: 53963900100XX FCC ID: SDBEZL01 IC: 2220A-EZL01
Emission Designator	5K90F1D/11K80F1D/8K75F1D/17K5F1D/14K80F1D
Authorized Bandwidth	Part 24.131 Mask 10 kHz and 20 kHz Part 101.111 25 kHz Part 101.111 12.5 kHz

2 Setup the FlexNet EasyLink Reader

The FlexNet EasyLink Reader and its' accessories are designed for using in a moving vehicle. Please follow all local safety regulations when operating a moving vehicle.

1. Place the FlexNet EasyLink Reader in a secure location inside the vehicle. A side strap is provided on the EasyLink Reader to carry the unit to the vehicle or use one the provided nylon strap(s) as a shoulder strap.
2. Secure the FlexNet EasyLink Reader so that it will not move around or shift while the vehicle is moving. You may choose to run the provided straps through the D rings to secure the unit to a seat if another secure mounting method is not readily available.



Note: If placing the unit in the passenger seat, it may be necessary to use the seatbelt or disable the airbag, depending on the type of vehicle.

Note: If mounting the unit using a third party mounting kit, follow all safety regulations and instructions for your particular mounting unit.

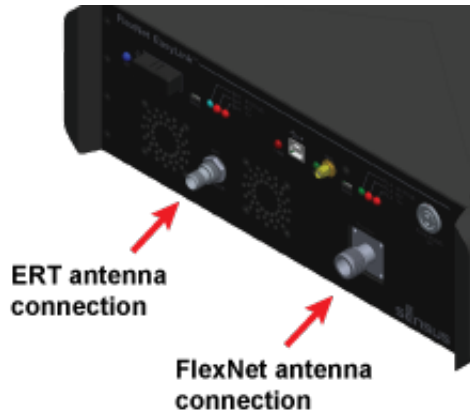


CAUTION: Do not block the cooling vents of the FlexNet EasyLink Reader. The intake cooling vents are located on the front of the unit. The exhaust cooling vents are located on the top of the back side and the back end of the top of the unit.

3. Secure the antennas to the top of the vehicle in the center of the roof. If you are using both antennas, place both as close to the center of the roof as possible.

The FlexNet antenna sends FlexNet NA2W wake up tones, FlexNet electric drive-by commands, and receives all FlexNet messages and ERT Standard Consumption messages. The ERT antenna sends the ERT Interrogation tone for wake-up ERT devices. The FlexNet antenna is the only antenna you need unless you have wake-up ERT devices.

4. Run the antenna cables between the door and body of the vehicle and connect them to the EasyLink Reader.



Note: Make sure you do not close either antenna cable in the vehicle door or window as this can damage the cable.

5. Connect to the ToughPad or your Windows enabled laptop via Bluetooth or use the provided USB Type A to USB Type B cable to connect from the FlexNet EasyLink Reader's USB port to the ToughPad/laptop.
6. Connect the power cable from the power connector on the FlexNet EasyLink Reader to the vehicle's 12V power receptacle. The FlexNet EasyLink Reader powers up immediately when power is applied.



CAUTION: There is no On/Off switch for power on the FlexNet EasyLink Reader. Take care not to bump the power cord as the FlexNet EasyLink Reader will turn off if the power connection is compromised.

7. Check the indicator lights (see [LEDs](#) on page 10) to make sure the FlexNet EasyLink Reader is operational.

Setup the FlexNet EasyLink Workbook Application

The FlexNet EasyLink Workbook Application runs on the supplied ToughPad or a Windows equipped laptop.

1. If using the ToughPad, clip it to the EasyLink Reader so that it does not slide around while driving.



2. Connect to the ToughPad or a Windows equipped laptop via the USB cable or Bluetooth.
 - If connecting via a USB cable, you will need to check the version of Windows. If you are running an earlier version than Windows 7, you will not have the appropriate drivers and will need to download a virtual COM port (VCP) driver first. (Available at <http://www.ftdichip.com/Drivers/VCP.htm>).
 - If connecting via Bluetooth, you will need to pair the FlexNet EasyLink Reader the first time it is connected. See [Bluetooth Pairing](#) on page 9.
3. Power on the ToughPad/laptop and the FlexNet EasyLink Reader.
4. If using the ToughPad, launch the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application which is pre-installed. If using a laptop, you will need to download and install the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application.
5. Open the EasyLink WorkBook application and login. If this is the first time you have logged in to the application you will need to follow the [Initial Login](#) on page 8 steps and you may need to create a new password.

Initial Login

If this is the first time you are logging in to the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application, you will need to follow a few additional steps.

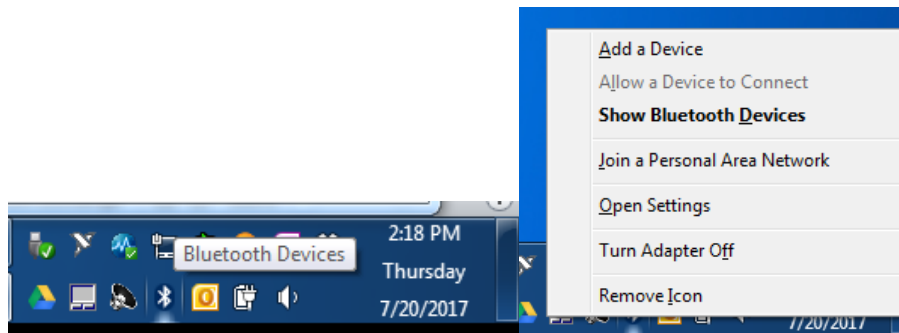
1. From the main screen of your ToughPad or laptop, open the EasyLink WorkBook application.
2. Click the settings button on the bottom right of the screen (the gear icon).
3. Click the SSL checkbox.
4. Click the Update button and wait for it to state "server updated successfully." If you do not get a success message, make sure that you have an active internet connection and that there are no firewall restrictions in your network preventing access.
5. Fill in all the fields.
 - Enter your username and password.
 - Click Groups and select EasyLink.
 - Click Profiles and select your company environment name.

6. Once all fields are filled in click the Connect button. If you are returned to the login screen the appropriate configuration files have downloaded and you may proceed with normal login.

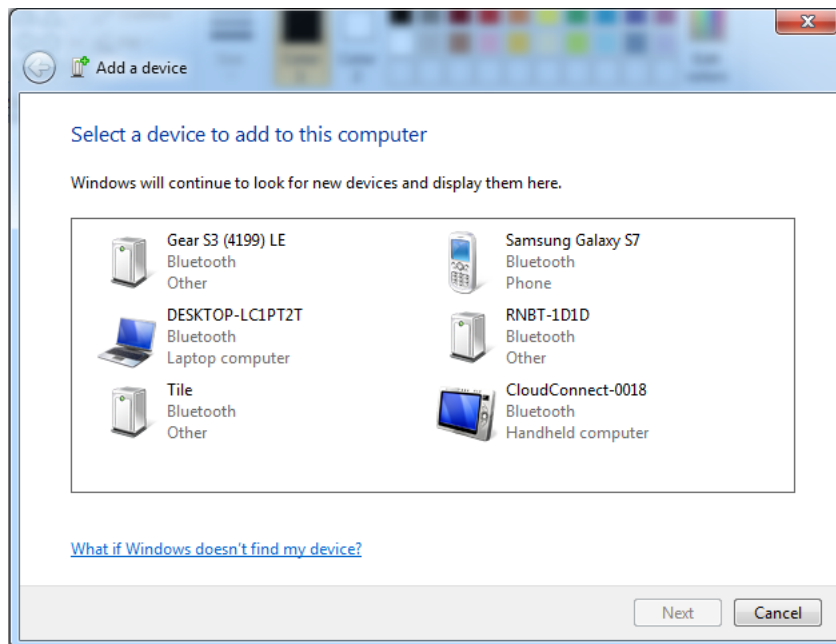
Bluetooth Pairing

If this is the first time you have used a ToughPad or a laptop with the FlexNet EasyLink Reader you will need to establish the Bluetooth connections.

1. From the taskbar, click on the Bluetooth Devices icon and select Add a Device.

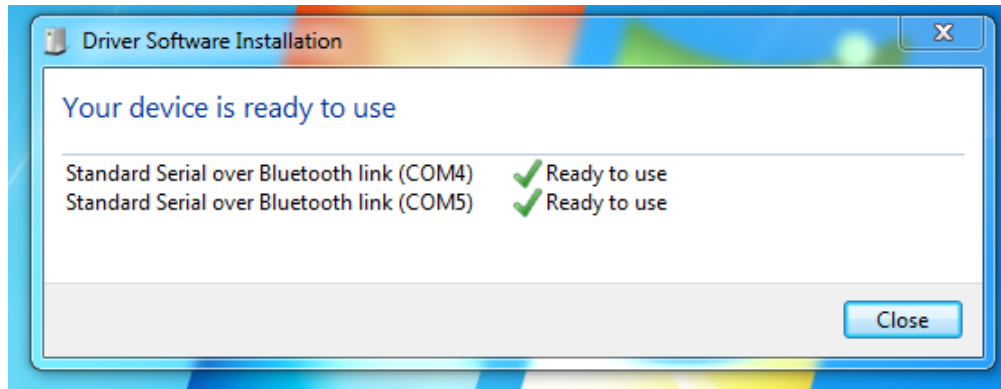


2. The FlexNet EasyLink Reader will appear in the list as RNBT-XXXX where XXXX is the last four digits of the Bluetooth radio's MAC address. Select this device and click Next.



Note: The Bluetooth radio's MAC address is included on a label found on the outside of the EasyLink transceiver.

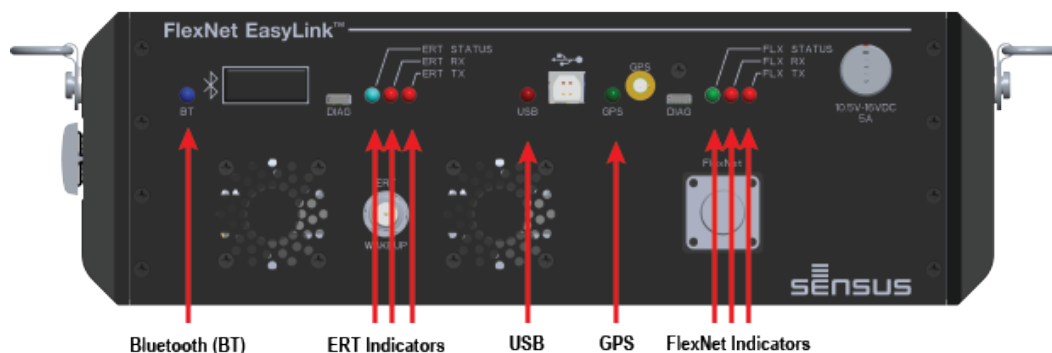
3. Depending on your version of Windows, you may be asked to verify the code that appears on the screen. If so, select **Yes** and then click **Next**.
4. Windows will install the appropriate driver. After the appropriate driver is installed, the device appears as ready to use and can be detected by the FlexNet EasyLink WorkBook Application.



LEDs

The FlexNet EasyLink Reader incorporates LEDs to provide a visual indication of device health. The lights can be solid, flashing, or blinking. Flash is a rapid on/off, like a heartbeat, while Blink is a slower interval. LED indicators include:

- **Bluetooth (BT):** Solid Blue to indicate a connection, Flashing Blue indicates traffic, and Blinking Blue when waiting for a connection.
- **ERT Status:** Flashes Red during initial boot, Blinks Green when operating.
- **ERT RX:** Flashes Red when receiving messages.
- **ERT TX:** Solid Red while transmitting to an ERT.
- **USB:** Flashes Red to indicate any communication through the USB connection.
- **GPS:** Blinks Green at a 1Hz rate, synchronized to the GPS time, indicating a GPS lock. Currently the solution uses the GPS on the laptop/ToughPad.
- **FLX Status:** Flashes Red during initial boot, Blinks Green when operating.
- **FLX RX:** Flashes Red when receiving messages.
- **FLX TX:** Solid Red while transmitting to a FlexNet SmartPoint module.



Compliance Statements



Warning: Sensus devices are for professional installation only. They are to be serviced by professional personnel only. This product is NOT for consumer installation or servicing.



RF Radiation Hazard: In order to satisfy the FCC RF exposure limit for transmitting devices, a separation distance of 100 cm (39.37 inches) or more should be maintained while operating the Sensus FlexNet EasyLink Reader. To ensure compliance, operation at closer than this distance is not recommended. This minimum safe distance is required between personnel and this antenna of this device.



RF Radiation Hazard: In order to satisfy the ISED RF exposure limit for transmitting devices, a separation distance of 100 cm (39.37 inches) or more should be maintained while operating the Sensus FlexNet EasyLink Reader. To ensure compliance, operation at closer than this distance is not recommended. This minimum safe distance is required between personnel and this antenna of this device.

Afin de satisfaire à la limite d'exposition RF pour les appareils de transmission, une distance de séparation de 100 cm (39.37 pouces) ou plus doit être maintenu pendant le fonctionnement du Sensus appareil. Pour assurer la conformité, un fonctionnement à distance inférieure à celle est pas recommandée. Cette distance minimale de sécurité est nécessaire entre le personnel et l'antenne de cet appareil.



Warning: The antenna used for this transmitter must not be co-located in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.



Shock Warning: Transmit only when people outside the vehicle are at least the recommended minimum lateral distance away from the body of a vehicle with a properly installed antenna. This separation distance will ensure that there is sufficient distance from a properly installed (according to installation instructions) externally-mounted antenna to satisfy the RF exposure requirements.



Attention: For Class B - Unintentional Radiators:

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help



Warning: Any modifications made to this device that are not approved by Sensus may void the authority granted to the user by the FCC to operate equipment.



Attention: ICES-003 Class B Notice-Avis NMB-003, Classe B

This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

Cet appareil numérique de la classe B est conforme à la norme NMB-003 du Canada.



Warning: When applicable, there is danger of explosion if batteries are mishandled or incorrectly replaced. On systems with replaceable batteries, replace only with the same manufacturer and type or equivalent type recommended per the instructions provided in the product service manual.

Do not disassemble batteries or attempt to recharge them outside the system. Do not dispose of batteries in fire.

Dispose of batteries properly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and local regulations.



Warning: Do not dispose in fire, mix with other battery types, charge above specified rate, connect improperly, or short circuit, which may result in overheating, explosion or leakage of cell contents.



Warning: This radio is intended for use in occupational/controlled conditions, where users have full knowledge of their exposure and can exercise control over their exposure to meet FCC limits. This radio device is NOT authorized for general population, consumer or any other use.



Attention: This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes: (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.



Attention: This radio transmitter EasyLink has been approved by Industry Canada to operate with the antenna types listed below with the maximum permissible gain and required antenna impedance for each antenna type indicated. Antenna types not included in this list, having a gain greater than the maximum gain indicated for that type, are strictly prohibited for use with this device.

Le présent émetteur radio EasyLink a été approuvé par Industrie Canada pour fonctionner avec les types d'antenne énumérés ci-dessous et ayant un gain admissible maximal et l'impédance requise pour chaque type d'antenne. Les types d'antenne non inclus dans cette liste, ou dont le gain est supérieur au gain maximal indiqué, sont strictement interdits pour l'exploitation de l'émetteur.

- OMNI +3.4dBi (FlexNet antenna and mount)
- OMNI ~+3dBi (ERT antenna and mount)



Attention: Under Industry Canada regulations, this radio transmitter may only operate using an antenna of a type and maximum (or lesser) gain approved for the transmitter by Industry Canada. To reduce potential radio interference to other users, the antenna type and its gain should be so chosen that the equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) is not more than that necessary for successful communication.

Conformément à la réglementation d'Industrie Canada, le présent émetteur radio peut fonctionner avec une antenne d'un type et d'un gain maximal (ou inférieur) approuvé pour l'émetteur par Industrie Canada. Dans le but de réduire les risques de brouillage

radioélectrique à l'intention des autres utilisateurs, il faut choisir le type d'antenne et son gain de sorte que la puissance isotrope rayonnée équivalente (p.i.r.e.) ne dépasse pas l'intensité nécessaire à l'établissement d'une communication satisfaisante.



Attention:

Mobile Antenna Installation Guidelines:

- These mobile antenna installation guidelines are limited to metal body motor vehicles or vehicles with appropriate ground planes.
- Antennas should be installed in the center line area of the roof taking into account the exposure conditions of backseat passengers and according to the specific instructions and restrictions in this guide along with the requirements of the antenna supplier.
- Use only the approved make and model, or supplied antenna for a replacement antenna. Unauthorized antennas, modifications, or attachments could damage the radio and may result in non-compliance with RF Safety Standards.



Warning:

For Vehicles with an Air Bag:

Do not mount or place a mobile radio in the area over an air bag or in the air bag deployment area. Air bags inflate with great force. If a radio is placed in the air bag deployment area and the air bag inflates, the radio may be propelled with great force and cause serious injury to occupants of the vehicle.



Warning:

Potentially Explosive Atmospheres:

Turn off your radio prior to entering any area with a potentially explosive atmosphere. Sparks in a potentially explosive atmosphere can cause an explosion or fire resulting in bodily injury or even death. The areas with potentially explosive atmospheres include fueling areas such as below decks on boats, fuel or chemical transfer or storage facilities, and areas where the air contains chemicals or particles such as grain, dust or metal powders. Areas with potentially explosive atmospheres are often, but not always, posted.



Warning:

Blasting Caps and Blasting Areas:

To avoid possible interference with blasting operations, turn off your radio when you are near electrical blasting caps, in a blasting area, or in areas posted: "Turn off two-way radio." Obey all signs and instructions. For radios installed in vehicles fueled by liquefied petroleum gas, refer to the (U.S.) National Fire Protection Association standard, NFPA 58, for storage, handling, and/or container information. For a copy of the LP-gas standard, NFPA 58, contact the National Fire Protection Association, One Battery Park, Quincy, MA.