

# New!! Vizulinx firmware update

## V1.1.45

In line with our program of continuous product development Kentec have released a new version of firmware for the Vizulinx Alarm Management module. The new release version 1.1.45 replaces the previous version 1.1.6 providing new features as well as major improvements in performance and functionality.

### New features

#### BACnet support for Syncro/Elite panels

Following the introduction of BACnet support for Taktis based control panels in the previous firmware version, this firmware introduces BACnet support for Syncro/Elite type panels. The setup for BACnet support on these control panels follows the same configuration as used previously for Taktis.

BACnet provides status data for Panels, Zones, Devices, and sub-addresses (max 7 sub-addresses) to a BACnet controller using Object IDs.

Object IDs for all detection zones and network nodes are provided by default in the Vizulinx module. 500 Object IDs associated with loop devices or sub-addresses are provided as default within the controller, additional Object IDs for loop devices and sub-addresses can be unlocked through purchase of a BACnet upgrade license. Each BACnet upgrade license will unlock an additional 500 Object IDs.

#### BACnet data format – Binary/Analogue values

On previous versions the BACnet information transmitted by Vizulinx was in a data string format which allows the transmission of all status information within one Object ID. This data format cannot be interpreted by all BACnet controllers. To address this, we have added the option to transmit BACnet data as a combination of binary and Analogue values which will allow us to interface Kentec panels to any BACnet controller.

##### *BACnet bit string*

Bit string data - Each Network node, Zone, Device, and sub-address are allocated a unique Object ID, each object ID has an associated data string which contains information on the status i.e., Alarm, Fault, Disabled etc.

##### *BACnet binary/analogue*

Binary values - Each network node and zone have eight potential states Fire, Fault, Pre-alarm, Tech alarm, disablement etc. Each potential state will be allocated an Object ID which will be either active or not active (1 or 0).

Analogue values - Loop devices and associated sub-addresses will also have the same possible states as the panels and zones. Each device address and sub-address (Max 7 sub-addresses supported) will be allocated an object ID, the status of that Object ID will be represented by an analogue value i.e., Fire – 1, Fault – 32, Disablement – 64 etc.

## Major improvements

### Loop offset mapping for Syncro

The previous version of firmware included loop offset support for Taktis, this version includes the same loop offset configurability for Syncro. To support Syncro networks which use loop offset numbering i.e., all loops across all panels numbered in continuous sequences, Vizulinx has the added configuration of loop offset mapping. This allows loop numbering on Vizulinx SMS and e-mail messages to match the offset loop numbers off a Syncro network.

### Regional time setting

The ability to configure the regional time setting has been added to Vizulinx. Due to the way in which the Media Gateway date and time stamps event (regardless of panels regional setting), e-mail and text messages were displayed as standard UTC. The regional time zone setting added to Vizulinx ensures that e-mail messages show the correct time and date stamp for our global customers.

### Cleared event behaviours (Taktis type panels only)

Vizulinx behaviours are the cause and effect rules controlling the Vizulinx operation i.e. If an alarm event is received by Vizulinx then send a text message. Previously behaviours could only be configured for activated events i.e., alarm, fault, disablement etc. This firmware has been improved to make cleared events on the Taktis visible allowing notification events to be sent on a cleared event i.e., fault cleared, disablement cleared etc.

Note: This feature will be added for Syncro type panels in the next firmware update.

### Email messaging via GSM

E-mail messaging using the Hi-Link dongle and the “zero config e-mail” option has been an area where we have been having some reliability issues. The Huawei Hi-Link dongle provides a connection to GSM for sending of text messages as well as connection to the internet via Wi-Fi for sending of e-mail messages. We have experienced a few issues with various Hi-Link dongles and the reliability of the internet connection, due to changes in the Huawei regular updates in the Huawei product firmware etc.

We have addressed these reliability issues by modifying the method of sending e-mails when using the USB GSM modem and “Zero config e-mail setup”. To prevent reliability issues with the internet connectivity of the dongle any Huawei Hi-Link dongle will be forced to operate in “Stick Mode” this is a GSM mode only. The Vizulinx is pre-configured that if there is no internet connectivity it will send a coded text message to the Vizulinx zero config e-mail server via GSM (Text message is coded to protect the e-mail address information contained in the message).

The Vizulinx uses two pre-configured phone numbers to send texts to the “Zero config mail” server, a UK phone number, and a US phone number. Vizulinx users can select which number they use dependent on their location.

The recommended USB modem dongles that have been tested with the Vizulinx are as follows:

- Huawei E3531i-2
- Huawei E3372s-153
- Huawei E303

- Huawei E8372
- Huawei E156G

Upgrading existing systems will not change the functionality they will automatically adapt to the new method of working.

This has no impact on systems that use e-mail over LAN however it can be utilised as a back-up should internet fail over LAN e-mails will be sent via GSM.

## Field updates

Firmware is field upgradeable for units running firmware beginning V1.1 i.e., V1.1.6, V1.1.7 etc.

Any older units out there which are running firmware beginning V1.0 i.e., V1.0.13, V1.0.15 etc. cannot be upgraded with this firmware. As per the previous firmware update bulletin.

Vizulinx firmware can be requested from [techsupport@kentec.co.uk](mailto:techsupport@kentec.co.uk)

## Vizulinx product range

| Part no.  | Description   |
|-----------|---|
| K85000M2  | Vizulinx Gateway Unit   |
| K85000    | Vizulinx Gateway Module (Unboxed)   |
| K85110AM3 | Vizulinx Gateway Unit (Housed - AM3) 110V AC  |
| K85240AM3 | Vizulinx Gateway Unit (Housed - AM3) 240V AC  |
| K85001BLU | BMS license upgrade<br>(adds 1000 additional Modbus addresses per license to the Vizulinx module) |
| K85001BAC | BACnet license upgrade<br>(adds 500 additional object IDs per license to the Vizulinx module)     |

Information on Vizulinx can be found on the Kentec website [www.kentec.co.uk](http://www.kentec.co.uk)

Should you require any further information on this or any of our other products please contact your local sales representative.

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For further information visit

[www.kentec.co.uk](http://www.kentec.co.uk)

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