



# **MINISCALE PLUS**

Mounting Instructions | Technical Information



Mounting Instructions



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1.1	Scope of Application	
		These instructions describe installation of MINISCALE PLUS guideways with integ- rated measuring system.
		Supplementary Literature: MINI-X product catalog
1.2	Authorized Staff	
		MINISCALE PLUS guideways must only be assembled by appropriately trained spe- cialists who have read and understood these instructions.
1.3	Intended Use	
		MINISCALE PLUS guideways can only be exposed to the approved environmental influences (see product catalog).

# 1.4 General Safety and Protective Measures

- Before working on electrical equipment, switch off or disconnect the power supply and ensure that it cannot be switched on or connected again unintentionally.
- Country-specific regulations, standards and guidelines for accident prevention
   must be observed.



- MINISCALE PLUS is sensitive to electrostatic discharge! The electronics can be damaged if precautions are not taken against ESD; ESD regulations should therefore be observed when handling ESD-vulnerable parts (EN 100015-1).
- Do not store the products outdoors, and protect them against moisture (10% 70% relative humidity, non-condensing).
- Observe the specified temperature range (-40 °C to +80 °C)
- Only remove the products from their original packaging at their installation location and immediately prior to installation.
- The products are lubricated in the factory. Check the condition of the lubricant (the service life of the lubricant is limited).

Improper handling of the guideways can lead to pre-damage and thus to premature failure.

#### 1.5 Environmental Protection

- Lubricants should be disposed of in an environmentally responsible way.
- Decommissioned components should be disposed of in accordance with local/ national laws and guidelines.

#### 1.6 Transport

MINISCALE PLUS are high-precision components and should be handled with care. For transportation of these products in-house, the following points should therefore be noted:

- Transport guideways and accessories in their original packaging
- Protect guideways against impacts

# 2.1 General

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MINISCALE PLUS guideways are high-precision components. Flatness requirements of the base structure are correspondingly high so that surface inaccuracies are not transferred to the guideways.

MINISCALE PLUS perform best when mounted on a rigid structure with a high level of geometric accuracy. Inaccuracies in the guideway assembly surfaces have a negative impact on their overall accuracy, running behaviour, push force and service life. Unstable assembly surfaces can increase the internal forces within the guideway assembly, which also adversely affects service life. Due to their lower rigidity and limited machining accuracy, great care must be taken when designing base structures made of light metal for high-precision applications.

#### 2.2 Surface Quality



The surface quality of the supporting surface does not have a direct influence on the function and running behaviour of the guideway, but it does on the static position accuracy. Carriages and guide rails are compressed against the mounting surfaces by the attachment screws with a high level of force. To prevent relaxation of the assembly, a high surface contact ratio is required. This is achieved by means of high surface quality.

The accuracy of the application critically determines the required surface quality of the supporting and locating surfaces. It is therefore necessary to ensure the following:

Configuration of the base structure

- High-precision applications max. Ra value of 0.4
  - Standard applications n
- max. Ra value of 1.6

# 2.3 Flatness of the Mounting Surfaces

For the flatness of the surfaces (E6 and E7), the values in the table below should be targeted.



Dimensions	Flatness (in µm)
7	2
9	3
12	
_15	- 4
_14	4
18	
24	5
42	5

#### 2.4 Locating Height and Corner Radii

Observance of the following height specifications for the locating surfaces guarantees secure absorption of force and sufficient clearance for the carriages. The carriages and guide rails feature a chamfer on the edges of the locating surfaces. The corner radii specified in the following table are maximum values which ensure that carriages and guide rails contact the mounting surfaces correctly.

The locating side of the carriage is opposite the carriage side with the company logo/ type designation. The guideway can be located on both sides.

The dimensions listed for the locating surface should be applied to ensure optimal alignment of the guideway and an easy installation.



Locating Height and Corner Radii

Rail width	h <sub>1</sub>	r <sub>1max</sub>	r <sub>2max</sub>	h <sub>2</sub>
7	1.2	0.2	0.3	2.5
9	1.5	0.3	0.4	3
12	2.5	0.4	0.4	4
15	3.5	0.5	0.5	5
14	1.8	0.2	0.4	2
18	3	0.3	0.5	3
24	3.5	0.4	0.5	4
42	3.5	0.5	0.6	5

#### 2.5 Installation Methods

The load direction and installation complexity must be considered when choosing a suitable installation method and determining the number and arrangement of the lateral locating surfaces.

#### 2.5.1 Load

Tensile and compressive forces do not have any influence on the lateral locating surfaces. If lateral loads exceeding the permissible lateral force are present, locating surfaces must be provided and lateral fastening points may be necessary. The number and position depend on the actual forces.

The locating surfaces should be arranged according to the force direction of the main load. Lateral locating surfaces should also be provided when vibration and shock loads are present. They also increase the rigidity of the system.

# 2.5.2 Installation complexity

Locating surfaces simplify installation and reduce the effort necessary for aligning the guide rails. With careful manual alignment of the guideway, lateral locating surfaces are not essential. When deciding on a method, installation complexity should be carefully weighed against design and manufacturing complexity.

#### 2.5.3 Installation options

Shown below are some typical installation methods that differ in terms of the number and orientation of the locating surfaces, the lateral force capacity and the installation complexity. These examples are intended to serve as a design aid.



#### Installation option 1

- No reference surfaces
- The forces are transferred by friction locking
- · Long installation time and high engineering expense



#### Installation option 2

- · Both guide rails with one reference. Carriage side with opposite reference
- Simple installation
- High lateral force absorption from one direction, e.g. for hanging installation



#### Installation option 3

- A guide rail and carriage with reference and lateral clamping
- For high lateral forces from both directions (a guide rail with carriage will take the majority of the lateral force)
- Relatively simple installation

# 3.1 Preparing for Installation

# 3.1.1 Required tools and equipment

- Fastening screws
- Torque wrench
- ESD protection kit
- Oil stone
- Cleaning materials

#### 3.1.2 Preparing the locating surfaces

- Check locating surfaces of the machine bed and mounting plate for shape and position accuracy
- Clean all locating surfaces thoroughly. Remove ridges and surface irregularities
   with an oil stone
- Clean the locating and supporting surfaces of the guideways and carriage with
   a clean cloth
- Lightly oil the locating and supporting surfaces



Use white spirit or alcohol for cleaning. Do not use nitro thinner or acetone, since they can damage the measuring system.

Never use compressed air!



Locating surfaces

A Reference on the mounting plate for the carriage

B Reference on the machine bed for the guideway (both sides of the guideway can be used as locating surfaces)

#### **3.2** Installing the Guideway

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- Before installation, the guideway, machine bed, mounting plate and fastening screws must all be at room temperature.
- The MINISCALE PLUS sensor is an electrostatically vulnerable component and is delivered in ESD-protective packaging. To ensure the sensor remains protected, the ESD-protective packaging should not be removed during installation of the MINISCALE PLUS guideway.
- Always tighten the fastening screws with a torque wrench. See section 3.2.1 for tightening torques.
- With relatively long guideways, tighten the fastening screws alternately starting at the middle of the guideway.
- Always brace the locating surface of the guideway against the locating surface of the machine bed. The guideway can be located on both sides, the locating side of the carriage is opposite the carriage side with the company logo/type designation.
- The screws can be inserted and tightened through the opening in the carriage.

### 3.2.1 Tightening torques for the fastening screws

The recommended torque values can be found in the table. These values apply to oiled screws.

The friction coefficient  $\mu$  can be reduced by up to half when using greases containing MoS2. The corresponding torque values should be reduced by half.

The following table shows the torque values for the fastening screws of strength class 12.9 (friction coefficient 0.125) and of the strength class A2-70 (friction coefficient 0.2) in accordance with DIN 912:

Thursdal	Tightening torque in Ncm		
Inread size	Strength class 12.9	Strength class A2-70	
M1.6	28	20	
M2	60	30	
M3	210	110	
M4	500	260	

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# 3.3 Cleaning the Dimensional Scale

The dimensional scale of the measuring system is located on the top side of the MINISCALE PLUS guideway. After the guideway has been fixed but before the carriage is mounted, the dimensional scale must be cleaned to ensure it can be read by the sensor. Lubricants, fingerprints and other dirt residue must be removed. A clean, lint-free cloth should be used for cleaning. White spirit or rubbing alcohol are suitable cleaning fluids.Wipe down the dimensional scale on the surface of the guideway with a soaked cloth. Repeat the cleaning several times with a clean cloth for heavy dirt.

# 3.4 Lubrication

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The MINISCALE PLUS is lubricated in the factory and supplied ready for installation. No additional lubrication or cleaning is necessary. Do not degrease the tracks during installation.

# 3.4.1 MINISCALE PLUS subsequent lubrication intervals

The relubrication intervals depend on many factors, including the load, operating environment, speed, etc., and therefore cannot be calculated. It is therefore necessary to monitor the lubrication point over a relatively long time.

The initial factory lubrication may be sufficient for several years, depending on the load.

Always use the original type of grease for relubrication. Apply the lubricant to the tracks. Use only small amounts of lubricant, since overlubrication can cause failure of the optical sensors.

# 3.5 Mounting and dismounting carriages MINISCALE PLUS onto guideways



Use the included protective plastic rail. This protects the carriage from dirt and prevents it jamming, causing the ball bearings to subsequently escape.



Place the protective plastic rail in line with the guide rail and slide the MINIRAIL or MINISCALE PLUS carriage onto it.



For MINISCALE PLUS carriages, ensure the sensor is over the dimensional scale on the guideway.

#### 4.1 ESD Protection

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The MINISCALE PLUS optical sensor is an electrostatically vulnerable component and is delivered in ESD-protective packaging. (Electrostatic Discharge).

As soon as it is removed from the protective packaging, MINISCALE PLUS and the interface module of the flexible printed circuit board must be protected against electrostatic fields and discharge. As soon as MINISCALE PLUS is assembled and connected ready for use, it is protected from ESD.



MINISCALE PLUS with ESD Protection A ESD-protective packaging B Conductive tape



These installation instructions are not a substitute for ESD training. They only provide an overview of how to handle the MINISCALE PLUS.

For installation of the MINISCALE PLUS guideways, you need at least one ESD wrist strap with a ground lead or crocodile clip for grounding to the machine bed.

ESD protection and/or a wrist strap is not necessary as long as the MINISCALE PLUS flexible sensor print is in the ESD protective packaging.

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#### 4.2 Overview of Relevant Components





 A Carriages
 B Optical sensor
 C Flexible printed circuit board (must not be exposed to dynamic loads)
 D Guideway



Interface module with D-sub 9 con nector Control cable (supplied by customer)

ZIF connector

# 4.3 Mating the Interface Module and the Guideway

The rails and carriage of the MINISCALE PLUS guideways are labelled with serial numbers. The number is next to the SCHNEEBERGER logo.



Serial number on the carriage

Serial number on the rail

The interface modules are configured in factory and matched to the individual MINISCALE PLUS guideways.



#### Important!

The guideway is supplied as a set or system with the sensor and interface module and must be installed as such.

The carriage serial number is marked on the label of the interface module. This label is attached to the housing or packaging of the interface module.



The carriage number is printed on the label of the interface module

#### 4.4 Interface Module Installation Options



Stacked interface modules

ting structure

# Interface module with housing and D-Sub 9 connector

Advantages:

- Easy screw mounting with M3 screws
- Stackable
- Industry standard connector (D-Sub 9) for customer connection

#### Interface module without housing, with D-Sub 9 connector

Advantages:

- Board can be clamped on the sides or inserted in guides (board edges allow for 1.5 mm insertion depth)
- More compact due to absence of housing
- Industry standard connector (D-Sub 9) for customer connection



Plugging the interface module into the connec-

The interface module can be mounted on the electronics board vertically or horizontally

# Interface module without housing, with Micro Match connector

Advantages:

The board can be plugged into customer-provided electronics with a mating Micro Match connector



Note: The board must be additionally secured for protection against vibration.



Cable soldered directly to the interface module Module attached with silicone adhesive

#### Interface module without housing or connector, with solder terminals

Advantages:

- The board can be clamped on the sides, mounted in guides or secured with an electrically insulating adhesive
- · Less room necessary due to absence of housing and connector
- Cable can be soldered directly
- High flexibility for connection design

# 4.5 Connecting the Flexible Sensor Print to the Interface Module



The ESD-protective packaging should not be removed during installation of the guideway so that the sensor remains protected. The ESD-protective packaging can only be removed once MINISCALE PLUS is grounded on the machine bed and the person is properly protected from ESD (e.g. by wearing an grounded wrist strap).

Always use personal ESD equipment (wrist strap or equivalent) when removing the ESD protection bag



Removing the ESD protective packaging

Remove the glue strip A and the ESD protective packaging B

Be careful to avoid damaging the flexible sensor print **C** when removing the protective packaging.



# Important!

The flexible sensor print is connected to the interface module through a zero insertion force (ZIF) connector.

No force is necessary for insertion. Excessive strain on the ZIF connector can cause the locking mechanism to break. Excessive pressure on the flexible sensor print can cause it to buckle and damage the conducting tracks.

Opening the ZIF connector





The contact surfaces of flexible sensor print must face away from the PCB

Make sure that the contact surfaces of the flexible sensor print are

Gently insert the flexible sensor print C approximately 3 mm into the ZIF connector D.



facing upwards (away from the PCB) to make proper contact.





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After inserting the flexible sensor print, lock the ZIF connector again by pushing the black tabs toward the PCB.

Insert the flexible sensor print about 3 mm into the ZIF connector. Then push the tab back again



Correctly inserted sensor print

# 4.6 Extension Installation (FFC Cable)

# Important!

The flexible sensor print between the sensor and the interface module may only be used statically. The minimum allowable bending radius of the flexible sensor print is 2 mm.

Forcibly pulling out the flexible sensor print can damage the sensor print.

(the ZIF connector retaining force is only a few newtons)

The flat flex cable (FFC) is shielded. The shield consists of a metalized film connected to pin 2 (GND). The extension cable must therefore be connected to the adapter board and the interface module with the right orientation. For this, pay attention to the color coding. The metalized shield is covered by an insulation layer to prevent short circuits with other machine parts.



FFC extension cable (top and bottom views)



MINISLIDE MSQscale with FFC extension



Adapter board with flexible sensor print and extension



Adapter board with flexible sensor print and extension

# 4.6.1 Color coding

To avoid confusion and mistakes when connecting the individual components, they have specific color coding. When connecting the cable, ensure that the same color is visible on the cable end and the connector.

# 4.6.2 Inserting and locking the cable

When inserting the cable into the ZIF connector, pay attention to the combination of color markings. The green cable end goes to the green ZIF connector. The red cable end goes to the red ZIF connector.

- To unlock the ZIF connector, grasp both ends of the white tab and pull it out 1 mm.
- Gently insert the FFC about 3 mm into the ZIF connector.
- After inserting the flexible sensor print, lock the ZIF connector again by pushing the white tab toward the PCB.



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Make sure that the contact surfaces of the flexible sensor print and the FFC are facing downwards (toward the adaptor board) to make proper contact.

# 4.6.3 Design notes

# Minimum bending radius

The recommended minimum bending radius of the FFC cable for dynamic loads is 10 mm.



Recommended minimum bending radius of the FFC cable for dynamic loads (Example with MINISLI-DE MSQscale)

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# Folding the FFC cable

Single folds in the FFC cable are allowed for cable routing. This allows a large degree of design freedom.



Folded FFC extension cable

#### Strain relief

- Rear mounting with an M3 screw threaded into the internal M3 thread of the spacer.
- Front mounting with an M2 screw threaded into an M2 threaded hole in the substructure.



Strain relief of FFC extension cable

#### 4.7 Connecting a Customer-provided Cable

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If the interface module is not mounted directly on a PCB, it must be connected to the controller by a customer-provided cable.

#### 4.7.1 Recommendations for the customer-provided cable

- In order to ensure maximum resistance to interference, a shielded twisted pair cable is recommended. A cable with additional shielding should be used if necessary.
- Suitable shielding must be ensured in any case.
- The cable shielding must not act as a potential equalization conductor.
- Place the encoder cable apart from the power cables and ensure that the two are not parallel.
- If the cable is to be run through a cable carrier, a flexible cable that is suitable for this purpose should be used.
- Keep the cable short (The cable length between the interface module and the controller should not exceed 30 meters).
- The maximum cable length is reduced when increasing speeds in connection with the digital interface module.
- Example: For a maximum speed of 3.2 m/s (digital), the data rate is 8 MHz. This corresponds to a maximum cable length of 15 meters.



Maximum cable length with specified output signal frequency

#### 4.7.2 Example cable and connectors for interface module

- Cable:
   Igus Chainflex, Igus number CF11.02.05.02
- D-Sub 9 socket 9P: Solder terminals: TE Connectivity, TE number 3-1393483-8
- Micro-Match socket 10P: Straight: TE Connectivity, TE number 8-215079-0 90° angle: TE Connectivity, TE number 8-215460-0

#### 5.1 Signal Transmission

To increase noise immunity, we recommend using differential signals conforming to the RS-422 standard. Balanced signal transmission with opposing signal phases can virtually prevent interference. Virtually all modern drive controllers support this option.

Twisted pairs are used to transmit the signals (A+, B+, R+) and matching inverted signals (A-, B-, R-). At the receiver, the signal is generated by taking the difference between the two signal levels.

With single-ended signal transmission, the signal level changes relative to a reference potential. This type of signal transmission is more susceptible to interference. The signal amplitude in this case is half that of differentially transmitted signals.



Analog output signals at the interface module. They can be used either single-ended (referenced to ground) or differentially.



Digital output signals at the interface module. They can be used either single-ended (referenced to ground) or differentially.

Bus termination resistors for RS 422 should be 120 Ohms.

# 5.2 Pin Assignments



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# 5.2.1 Analog and digital interface module

Male 9-pin D-Sub connector or solder terminals:

Pin	Analog Signal	Digital Signal	Description
1	Ua1-	A -	Quadrature signal
2	OV	OV	Ground
3	Ua2-	В -	Quadrature signal
4	ERR NOT	ERR NOT	Error signal (Low = Error)
5	UaO -	R -	Reference signal
6	Ua1 +	A +	Quadrature signal
7	+ 5V DC	+ 5V DC	Supply voltage
8	Ua2 +	В +	Quadrature signal
9	UaO +	R +	Reference signal

Image 1: Pin connections of D-Sub 9 connector at the interface module

Image 2: Pin connections at the interface module with solder terminals

# Male 10-pin Micro Match connector:

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Indexpin 1 5

Pin connections of Micro Match connector at the interface module

Pin	Analog Signal	Digital Signal	Description
1	nc	nc	
2	Ua1 +	A +	Quadrature signal
3	+ 5V DC	+ 5V DC	Supply voltage
4	Ua2 +	В+	Quadrature signal
5	UaO +	R +	Reference signal
6	Ua1 -	A -	Quadrature signal
7	OV	OV	Ground
8	Ua2 -	В-	Quadrature signal
9	ERR NOT	ERR NOT	Error signal (Low = Error)
10	UaO -	R -	Reference signal



Pin connection of the flexible sensor print

# 5.2.2 Sensor print

Note:

This information is only relevant for customers that process the raw signals directly and therefore do not use the available interface module.

Pin	Signal	Description
1	PZ	Raw signal reference
2	GND	Ground
3	NZ	Raw signal reference
4	+5V DC	Supply voltage
5	Diode	Supply of lighting
6	PSIN	Raw signal sine
7	NSIN	Raw signal sine
8	PCOS	Raw signal cosine
9	NCOS	Raw signal cosine

#### 5.3 Controller

The MINISCALE PLUS is compatible with every controller that has an incremental encoder port for 1 Vpp signals (analog sine/cosine) or an RS-422 port (digital TTL). The MINISCALE PLUS can be connected to RS-422 or RS-485 encoder inputs.

Suitable modules are available from leading controller manufacturers, including Siemens, Beckhoff, ACS, etc.

For simple applications, a USB counter (for example from Heilig & Schwab; see product catalog Section 5.2) can be used to connect the MINISCALE PLUS directly to a PC.

The maximum input frequency must be considered when selecting a controller. Frequencies up to 8 MHz may occur, depending on the travelling speed and the resolution. See Section 6.4 for some calculated examples.



Controller with encoder port for 1 Vpp signals or quadrature signals

# 5.3.1 Settings For analog signals

The analog signal must be interpolated in the customer-provided equipment in order to obtain the appropriate resolution. The signal period corresponds to a distance of  $100 \ \mu m$ .

Example: Signal period 100  $\mu\text{m},$  interpolation factor 250 and four-edge evaluation yields 0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  resolution.

#### For digital signals

The step size in the drive controller must be configured according to the selected resolution and type of edge evaluation.

The standard resolution of the MINISCALE PLUS is 0.1  $\mu m$  . A resolution of 1  $\mu m$  or 10  $\mu m$  can be ordered as an option.

Most controllers allow selection of the type of edge evaluation. The choices are four-edge, two-edge and single edge evaluation (see Section 6.3).

# 5.4 Function Check

Interface module without MINISCALE PLUS flexible sensor print. Both the green and red LEDs light up.



Interface module with correctly connected MINISCALE PLUS flexible sensor print. The green LED lights up.

If the carriage is on the guideway and the LED lights up red despite the flexible sensor print being inserted, the error should be found using the table in chapter 9.2 "Error Description".

LED	Supply missing	Supply connected, normal operation	Error condition
red	does not light up	does not light up	light up red
green	does not light up	lights up green	lights up green
	0 1	0 1 0	0 1 0

The status of the interface module is shown electronically with the output ("ERR NOT"). ERR NOT is a 5-volt output (TTL level), where a "low - signal" = "pending error" and a "high - signal" = "no error".

The Error signal should be connected to a high-impedance input. If the input impedance is too low, a current will flow through the red LED and cause it to glow.

The green LED will light up if the MINISCALE PLUS is correctly supplied with power.

#### 6.1 Performance Perameters of MINISCALE PLUS

Max. acceleration	300 m/s <sup>2</sup>		
Max. speed	5 m/s analog, 3.2 m/s digital		
Preload classes	V1 Preload 0 to 0.03 C (C = c	lynamic load capacity)	
Accuracy classes	G1		
Materials - guideways, carriages, ball bearings - ball recirculation	Stainless, through-hardened steel POM		
Areas of application - temperature range <sup>©</sup> - vacuum - humidity - cleanroom	-40 °C to +80 °C (-40 °F to +176 °F) On request 10 % to 70 % (non-condensing) Cleanroom class ISO 7 or ISO 6 (in accordance with	ISO 14644-1)	
Resolution	TTL output 0.1 µm <sup>(3)</sup>	(optional: 1 µm / 10 µm)	
Accuracy <sup>(2)</sup>	1000 mm +/- 5 µm <sup>(4)</sup>		
Repeatability <sup>(2)</sup>	Unidirectional +/- 0.1 µm Bidirectional +/- 0.2 (with µm	resolution of 0.1 µm)	
Dimensional scale	Pitch100 µmMax. length1000 mmCoefficient of expansion11.7 x 10-6K-1		
Supply voltage	5 V DC +/- 5 %		
Current consumption (typical)	60 mA (analog) / 90 mA (digital)		
Output signal	Analog: 1 Vpp (at 120 Ω) Digital: TTL in accordance with RS 422 standard		
Source format	Differential sin/cos analog signals with reference pu or Differential, interpolated digital signals (A, B, R) The reference signal is synchronised with the increm	lse nental signals	

<sup>(1)</sup> The standard lubrication covers a temperature range from -20 °C to +80 °C. Lubricants for other temperatures are available upon request from SCHNEEBERGER.

<sup>(2)</sup> The values apply to a room temperature of 20 °C (68 °F).

<sup>(3)</sup> Note the high signal frequencies at high resolution and high speed.

<sup>(4)</sup> Linearity protocol available on request

#### 6.2 System Accuracy

#### 6.2.1 System accuracy

The system accuracy consists of the long-wave deviation (linearity of the dimensional scale) and the short-wave deviation (e.g. interpolation accuracy) of the scanning system (sensor and interface module). The accuracy values refer to a room temperature of 20 °C (68 °F).

#### Long-wave deviation

The linearity of the dimensional scale refers to the entire rail length. At this length, the deviation of the dimensional scale is always less than  $+/-5 \mu m$  at an ideal scale.

#### Short-wave deviation

All incremental distance measuring systems are influenced by the effects of periodic deviation. This periodic deviation, also called short-wave deviation, occurs due to small deviations in the sensor system or electrical signal processing. This means that the sine and cosine signals deviate from the mathematically exact form. If periodic deviations only occur during digitization and calculation of position, then we talk about an interpolation error.

The short-wave deviation of MINISCALE PLUS is always within a range of +/- 0.6 µm.

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The linearity of the dimensional scale is recorded for each system and can be provided to the customer on request. The record always refers to a specific guideway (see the rail number).



The system accuracy is determined by the long-wave deviation and the short-wave deviation

#### 6.3 Interpolation

For distance measuring applications, interpolation means the signal conversion of analog input signals into digital output signals with a smaller signal period. This is necessary as counter readings and/or position readings cannot be generated directly from analog signals.

The interpolation factor defines the ratio of signal periods from the analog input signal to the digital output signal.

The output of the interpolation process is a quadrature signal, which means two pulse waveforms with a 90° phase offset. The resolution is defined by the distance between two edges of the quadrature signal.



The analog input signals (sin, cos, REF) are interpolated (red arrow) to digital output signals (+A, +B, +R). Inverted signals are not represented:

- 1. Analog input signal: sin, cos, REF
- 2. Digital output signal: +A, +B, +Z
- 3. (Downstream electronics)
- 4. Interpolation
- 5. Signaling
- 6. Analog input signal (cos)
- 7. Analog input signal (sin)

- 8. Analog input signal (REF)
- 9. Digital output signal (+A)
- 10. Digital output signal (+B)
- 11. Digital output signal (+Z)
- 12. Measuring counter, PC, controller for machine etc.

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#### 6.4 Evaluation of Digital Signals

The digital signals, consisting of the two incremental signals **A** and **B** and the reference signal **R**, are transmitted to the downstream electronics. This can be a simple display unit, a PC or a machine controller.

The downstream electronics determines the position value from the digital signals by counting the signal edges. The counting direction is determined from the phase relationship of the signals **A** and **B**. Depending on how many edges are being evaluated, we talk about:

## 1. Single edge evaluation

Only one edge is counted per channel. One measuring step will therefore correspond to one digital signal period.

# 2. Two-edge evaluation

Both rising and falling edges of a channel are counted. One measuring step will therefore correspond to half the digital signal period.

#### 3. Four-edge evaluation

Both rising and falling edges of both channels are counted. One measuring step will therefore correspond to a quarter of the digital signal period.

1.



- Single edge evaluation
- 2. Two-edge evaluation
- 3. Four-edge evaluation
- 4. In each case one measuring step
- 5. Resolution
- 6. Digital signal period

#### 6.4.1 Resolution

The resolution is the smallest measurable change in position of the measuring system. This corresponds to the distance between two edges of the quadrature signal. The resolution is determined by the period of the analog signal, the interpolation factor and the evaluation method.

#### Example of resolution calculation (A)

I Interpolation factor (default)	250
P Period of the input signal	100 µm
E Evaluation (4 edges)	factor = 4

$$A = \frac{P}{1^{\circ}E} = \frac{100 \,\mu\text{m}}{250^{\circ}4} = 0.1 \,\mu\text{m}$$

#### 6.5 Signal Frequency

The signal frequency at the interface module output depends on the travelling speed and the resolution (digital module) or the increment of the dimensional scale (analog module). To ensure that no steps are lost, the maximum input frequency of the controller must be greater than the calculated maximum output frequency of the interface module.

f  = Frequency in Hz		V
v = Speed in m/s	f = -	
P = Increment in m		р

p

# 6.5.1 Example of calculation for analog MINISCALE PLUS

v	travelling speed	2 m/s
P	signal period (corresponds to the increment of the dimensional scale)	100 µm
f	Frequency $f = \frac{v}{m} = \frac{2 \text{ m/s}}{m} = 20'000 \text{ Hz} = 20 \text{ kHz}$	

100\*10<sup>-6</sup> m

# 6.5.2 Example of calculation for digital MINISCALE PLUS

The maximum output frequency of the digital interface module is 8 MHz per channel. This means that the A signal and B signal can each have a maximum frequency of 8 MHz. With Four-edge evaluation of the A/B signals, the counting rate is 32 MHz, corresponding to a maximum speed of 3.2 m/s with a resolution of 0.1  $\mu$ m.

#### Maximum performance of digital MINISCALE PLUS

V	max. speed	3.2 m/s
А	Resolution	0.1 µm
Ρ	Digital signal period (4 x resolution)	0.4 µm

Calculation of the maximum output frequency of the interface module, which corresponds to the minimum required input frequency range of the controller:

$$f = \frac{v}{p} = \frac{3.2 \text{ m/s}}{0.4^{\circ}10^{-6} \text{ m}} = 8'000'000 \text{ Hz} = 8 \text{ MHz}$$

Calculation of the minimum required controller counting frequency (with 4-edge evaluation):

$$f = \frac{v}{p} = \frac{3.2 \text{ m/s}}{0.1^{\circ}10^{-6} \text{ m}} = 32'000'000 \text{ Hz} = 32 \text{ MHz}$$

#### Example speed v

In the opposite direction, the speed or resolution can be calculated from a given frequency (for example, limited by the selected controller).

f max. controller input frequency	1 MHz
A Resolution	0.1 µm
P Digital signal period (4 x resolution)	0.4 µm

V<sub>max</sub> Speed

A

# 7.1 Interface Module

In the interface module, the sensor data is converted into standardized analog signals (1 Vpp) or standardized digital signals (TTL).

- The signals are amplified
- Phase errors between the sine and cosine signals are corrected
- The offset is compensated

The digital interface module also includes an interpolator that converts the analog signals into digital signals. For more information, see Section 6.2, "Interpolation".

Digital		Analog	
Designation	D	A	
Advantages	<ul> <li>Signal processing close to sensor provides better noise immunity</li> <li>No additional interpolation necessary</li> <li>Can be realigned at the customer site</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Customer can indepen- dently choose the interpo- lation factor</li> <li>Lower frequencies</li> <li>Faster travelling speed possible</li> </ul>	
Disadvanta- ges	<ul> <li>Very high frequencies at high speeds and high resolution</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Realignment at the customer site is not possible, which means that the entire system (guide- way and interface module) must be replaced in the event of a defect</li> </ul>	

7.1.1 Comparison of analog and digital interface modules



Digital, with housing



Top view: Digital, without housing



Bottom view: Digital, without housing



Analog, with housing



Top view: Analog, without housing



Bottom view: Analog, without housing

7.2	Accuracy Class		
		The accuracy class sp tem under the specific accuracy class of 3 µr	pecifies the maximum expected measuring deviation of a sys- ed operating conditions. A distance measuring system with an n allows deviations of +/- 3 µm.
7.3	Repeatability		
		Unidirectional repeata the ability to repeat the environmental conditi and be factored into th	bility of a measuring system is generally understood to mean e results that a particular system returns under exactly the same ons. In assessing this, the measuring deviation must be known he analysis.
		The repeatability of an using simple methods of many measuremen	axis position can be determined for a specific travelling speed by calculating the arithmetic mean and the standard deviation its.
7.4	Referencing		
		Incremental measurir switched on. For this re the reference track. Or track.	ng systems cannot determine the exact position after being eason, another track is added alongside the incremental track; ne or multiple reference points can be marked on the reference
		A reference run of the travels in one direction until the reference ma approached from the	carriage is required to reference the system. The axis usually until a mechanical stop. From there, the axis travels backwards rk is covered. Usually, the equidistant reference mark is always same direction. (unidirectional)
		The controller can then modify the internal counter to a specified value using the reference signal. For the analog interface module, the controller recognizes a prede- fined position for the incremental signals (this is usually SIN = COS and both greater than zero), as well as REF = "high" as the reference position.	
7.5	Periodic Deviations		
		All incremental distance measuring systems are influenced by the effects of periodic deviation, whose wave length corresponds exactly to the graduation spacing or a fraction of it. This periodic deviation, also called short-wave deviation (SWD), occurs due to small deviations in the sensor system or electrical signal processing. This means that the sine and cosine signals deviate from the mathematically exact form. Deviations can be classified depending on the arrangement (harmonics).	
		SWD period	Deviation occurs due to
		1 signal period	Sine/cosine offset
		1/2 signal period	Sine and cosine amplitude are different

# 7.5.1 Interpolation Errors

1/3 – 1/8 signal

period

If periodic deviations only occur during digitization and calculation of position, then we talk about an interpolation error.

from the sine wave shape

Sensors deliver a signal which is fundamentally different

7.6	Comparator Errors	
		The comparator error, also referred to as the Abbe error, is a systematic deviation which occurs when the axis of the length standards do not coincide with the axis of the distance standards. The causes for the deviation are minute rotary movements in the axis design, which influence the measuring result.
7.7	Sampling Rate	
		The sampling rate describes the frequency at which the analog signal is sampled per time interval. Usually the time interval is one second, which is why the unit for the sampling rate is Hz. In order to guarantee a complete reproduction of the original signal, the sampling frequency should be at least twice that of the original signal in accordance with the Nyquist–Shannon sampling theorem.
7.8	Single-Ended Signaling	
		For single-ended signaling, the voltages change relative to a reference potential (electrical ground). This is a simple and convenient way of transferring data, requiring just one wire per signal.
		The disadvantage is the relatively high susceptibility to interference. This type of signaling should therefore only be used for short distances and low speeds.
7.9	Differential Signaling	
		For differential signaling, the signals are described by a voltage difference without reference to electrical ground. Instead of a single signal conductor, a pair of wires is used. One wire carries the signal, and the other carries its inverse. The controller then composes the difference between the two signals into the so-called difference signal. (e.g. the A + and A - signals become A).
		Differential signaling is the better solution for most applications as it is more tolerant to interference. Couplings to the signals are almost identical for both wires such that interference is almost eliminated when generating a difference.
		The RS422 standard (differential) was specifically developed for larger distances and higher transfer rates.
7.10	Direction of Travel	
		The direction of travel can be read from the phase relationship of the electrical signals. One signal either leads or lags the other, depending on the direction.
		With the digital interface module: If the carriage moves in the direction of the flexprint, the signal on channel A is 90° ahead of channel B. From this the controller recognizes a positive direction of travel, meaning that the counter counts upwards. In the other direction, the signal on chan- nel A is 90° behind channel B. The counter counts downwards.

The counting direction for the analog interface module is reversed.

## 8.1 Operating Conditions for the MINISCALE PLUS measuring system

The MINISCALE PLUS has an open optical measuring system. As with every optical measuring system, contaminants such as dirt impair the operation of the system. It is therefore not recommended to use the MINISCALE PLUS in applications where dust, chips, particles or liquids are expected to be present during the process operation. Large scratches or other types of damage to the dimensional scale are equally harmful.

Generally speaking, the MINISCALE PLUS is most suitable for use in clean environments. Typically in situations where other optical devices are used or where a clean environment is present.

In this regard, the MINISCALE PLUS differs from the AMS distance measuring systems, which are specifically designed for harsher environments.

## 8.2 EMC Characteristics of the MINISCALE PLUS

The MINISCALE PLUS and its accessories have been tested according to the EN 61000 standard. The test results confirm that the MINISCALE PLUS complies with the requirements of the standard. However, this does not eliminate the possibility of unwanted electromagnetic interference in specific application cases. Compliance with relevant EMC design practice is always necessary.

## 8.3 Magnetic Effects on the MINISCALE PLUS

Static magnetic fields have no effect on the MINISCALE PLUS. Induction effects may occur with alternating fields, depending on the cable layout.

# 9.1 Aligning the Digital Interface Module

Alignment is only necessary for a subsequent delivery of the digital interface module! Calibration by the customer is not possible for the analog interface module.

# Procedure:

- Switch on MINISCALE PLUS
- Press and hold the alignment button A
- Move the guideway slowly along the entire stroke length (4 5 times)
- Release the alignment button
- Reset MINISCALE PLUS (= switch it off and on again)
- Drive the guideway along the entire stroke length and make sure that only the green LED lights up
- If the red LED lights up, the adjustment procedure must be repeated



Interface module with housing A Alignment button



Interface module without housing A Alignment button

# 9.2 Error Description

Error	Possible cause	Solution
Green LED on interface module not lit	No supply voltage or incorrect supply voltage at interface module	Check supply voltage (+5V DC)
	Incorrect pin assignment of custo- mer-provided cable	Check pin assignment
	D-Sub 9 or Micro Match connector not properly connected	Check connection
	The MINISCALE PLUS has been damaged by improper handling (not in compliance with ESD requirements)	Replace the MINISCALE PLUS
Red LED on interface module lights up	Incorrect supply voltage on interface module	Check supply voltage (+5V DC)
	Flexible sensor print not connected to interface module	Connect the flexible sensor print
	Flexible sensor print not correctly connected to interface module. The contact surface of the flexible sensor print is turned 180°.	Turn the flexible sensor print by 180°
	The flexible sensor print is not fully inserted in the ZIF connector	Check connection
	The flexible sensor print is damaged or kinked (for example, hairline cracks in the contacts)	Replace the MINISCALE PLUS
	The MINISCALE PLUS has been damaged by improper handling (not in compliance with ESD requirements)	Replace the MINISCALE PLUS
	Sensor input signals outside normal	Clean and coat the dimensional scale as described in Section 3.3
	range, for example due to dirty dimensi- onal scale	Realignment is possible with a digital system (see Section 9.1)
Red LED glows slightly	"ERR NOT" output connected to a low-impedance input, allowing a small current to flow through the LED.	Connect the "ERR NOT" output to a high-impedance input or ignore the glowing LED

Error	Possible cause	Solution
	Maximum input frequency of customer's controller exceeded	Reduce travelling speed or resolution
	Resolution set incorrectly in customer's controller	Adjust settings in customer's controller
	Edge evaluation factor too low	Set X4 edge evaluation in customer's controller
Position information does not match travel distance	Electromagnetic interference	Take EMC protective measures: Use shielded cable with twisted-pair conduc- tors, route motor cables and control cables separately, etc.
	The flexible sensor print is damaged or kinked (for example, hairline cracks in the contacts)	Replace the MINISCALE PLUS
	Dimensional scale is very dirty	Clean and coat dimensional scale as described in Section 3.3; replace system if necessary
	Maximum speed of 32 m/s exceeded (with 0.1 µm resolution)	Limit the speed to 3.2 m/s or reduce the resolution
Malfunction in digital interface module	The number on the interface module does not match the MINISCALE PLUS carriage number	Check matching of interface module and guideway
		Perform alignment as described in Section 9.1
		Return system to SCHNEEBERGER
	The number on the interface module does not match the MINISCALE PLUS	Check matching of interface module and guideway
Malfunction in analog interface module	carriage number	Return system to SCHNEEBERGER for alignment
	Reference mark not passed	Adjust travel distance
Reference mark not detected	Guideway is dirty	Clean and coat the dimensional scale as described in Section 3.3
		Return system to SCHNEEBERGER
Incorrect position indication with Heilig & Schwab USB counter	Analog: The interpolator has a fixed interpolation factor of 256, resulting in a resolution of 0.39 µm	Calculate with corresponding resolution
	The maximum input frequency of the digital input is 500 kHz, so with a resolution of 0.1 µm, the speed is limited to 0.2 m/s (counter 026) or 0.4 m/s (counter 046)	Reduce speed or resolution
Other error	Further investigation needed	Contact SCHNEEBERGER

#### EUROPE

AUSTRIA Haberkorn GmbH 6961 Wolfurt Phone: +43 5574 695-0 Fax: +43 5574 695-99 info.wolfurt@haberkorn.com

BULGARIA / MACEDONIA Atlas Technik EOOD Hippodroma, BL 139B, Eing. A, App. 6 1612 Sofia, PB 51 Bulgarien Phone +359 2 859 76 81 Fax +359 2 859 76 81 Mobile +359 8 852 32 595 E-Mail: al\_popoff@atlas-technik.com

CROATIA Haberkorn CRO d.o.o. 10431 Sveta Nedelja Phone +385 1 333 5870 Fax. +385 1 337 3902 E-Mail: info@haberkorn.hr

CZECH REPUBLIC INOMECH s.r.o.. Martina Koláře 2118 390 02 Tábor Phone +420 381 252 223 E-Mail: inomech@inomech.com

DENMARK HERSTAD + PIPER A/S Jernholmen 48c 2650 Hvidovre Phone +45 367 740 00 Fax +45 367 777 40 E-Mail: mail@herstad-piper.dk

FINLAND EIE Maskin OY PL, 80 Asematie 1 10601 Tammisaari Phone +358 192 239 100 Fax +358 192 239 199 E-Mail: info@eie.fi

FRANCE Region Rhône-Alpes Groupe BARET 6 avenue du 11 novembre 1918 69200 Venissieux Phone +33 4 78 77 32 32 Fax +33 4 78 00 90 00 E-Mail: contact@baret.fr

Regions ILe de France, Normandie, Bretagne Groupe LECHEVALIER 56 rue Jean Mermoz Parc d>activités de la Bretèque 76230 Bois-Guillaume Cedex Phone +33 2 35 12 65 65 Fax +33 2 35 59 89 97 E-Mail: contact@lechevalier-sa.com

Region Nord Pas de Calais LEFRANC LTL «Le Panetier» 35, rue Pierre Martin Parc d>Activités de l>Inquétrie 62280 Saint Martin Boulogne Phone +33 3 21 99 51 51 Fax +33 3 21 99 51 50 E-Mail: lefranc.boulogne@lefranc-sa.fr

GERMANY BGP-Blazevic Geradlinige Präzisionstechnik Stipo Blazevic Auerbacher Straße 8 93057 Regensburg Phone +49 941 463 704 0 Fax +49 941 463 704 50 Mobile +49 151 401 126 25 E-Mail: info@bgp-blazevic.de EUROPE

HUNGARY Haberkorn Kft. Asztalos Sándor u.12 Budapest, 1087 Phone +36 13030325 Fax +36 1/3030262 E-Mail: office@haberkorn.hu

ITALY Gruppo Rinaldi Via Campana, 233G 80078 Pozzuoli (NA) Phone +39 081 853 085 6 Fax +39 081 303 049 8 E-Mail: info@grupporinaldi.it

Nadella S.r.I. Via Melette, 16 20128 Milano Phone +39 022 709 329 7 Fax +39 022 551 768 E-Mail: customer.service@nadella.it

NORWAY EIE Maskin AS Tvetenveien 164 0671 Oslo Phone +47 675 722 70 Fax +47 675 722 80 E-Mail: elmeko@elmeko.no

POLAND TECHNIKA LINIOWA Rollico Rolling Components UI. Cegielniana 21 42-700 Lubliniec Phone +48 343 510 430 Fax +48 343 510 431 E-Mail: rollico@rollico.com

 ROMANIA

 Meximpex SRL

 4, Burebista Blvd.,

 bl. D13 sc. A et 2 ap. 9-10

 031108 Bucharest

 Phone
 +40 213 166 843 /44

 Fax
 +40 213 166 846

 E-Mail: office@meximpex.ro

RUSSIA Bearing Alliance, TD 121069 Moscow Phone +7495 987 32 92 add 114, 8 800 100 42 92 Fax. +7495 987 32 92 E-Mail: 114@9873292.ru

SERBIA/MONTENEGRO Haberkorn d.o.o. Kralja Petra I, 59 21203 Veternik, Phone +381 21 820 188 Fax +381 21 820 071 E-Mail: office@haberkorn.rs

SLOVAKIA KBM, s.r.o. Juraj Hajovsky Zitná 13 010 04 Zilina Phone +421 417 070 324 Fax +421 417 070 333 Mobile +421 090 585 1465 E-Mail: jhajovsky@kbm.sk

SLOVENIA / BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA Haberkorn d.o.o. Vodovodna ul. 7 2000 Maribor Phone +386 2 320 67 10 Fax +386 2 320 67 30 E-Mail: info@haberkorn.si EUROPE

SPAIN / PORTUGAL TECNOMECA-KIDELAN-DEXIS Pol Industrial Itziar 20829 DEBA (Gipuzkoa) Phone +34 943 199 201 Phone +34 943 199 273 E-Mail: tecnomeca@tecnomeca.com

SWEDEN EIE Maskin AB Box 7 12421 Bandhagen Phone +46 87 278 800 Fax +46 87 278 899 E-Mail: eie@eie.se

TURKEY Birlik Rulman (Paz.ltd.sti.) Mumhane Cad. No: 16 80030 Karakoy-Istanbul Phone +90 212 249 54 95 Fax +90 212 244 21 40 E-Mail: birlik@birlikrulman.com

Mustafa Kozanlı Mühendislik Ltd. Şti. Çalı Kavşağı Alaaddinbey Cad. No: 7 16130 Nilüfer / BURSA Phone +90 224 443 26 40 Fax +90 224 443 26 39 E-Mail: satis@kozanli.com.tr

#### ASIA

TAIWAN / REPUBLIC OF CHINA Ever Bright Systems Co., Ltd. 1F., No. 52, Lane 10, Chi-Hu Road 11492, Taipei Phone +886 2 2659 7881 Fax +886 2 2659 7831 E-Mail: sales@everbright.com.tw

INDIA Jagat Enterprise 83, Narayan dhuru street, 3rd floor, Mazjid Bunder Mumbai - 400 003 Phone +91 2223421941 Fax +91 2223413405 E-Mail: jagatent@gmail.com

M.R. Bearing Company MR Complex, 224 Linghi Chetty Street Parrys, Chennai - 600001 Phone +91 4425232847 Fax +91 4425264497 E-Mail: info@mrbearing.in

#### AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

Benson Machines 118 Carnarvon Street NSW 2128 Silverwater Australia Phone +61 1800 68 78 98 Fax +61 (02) 9737 9707 E-Mail: info@bensonmachines.com

#### SOUTH AFRICA

Fischli & Fuhrmann Ltd. P.O Box 253 1600 Isando Gauteng Phone +27 119 745 571 Fax +27 119 745 574 E-Mail: info@fifu.co.za

#### SOUTH AMERICA

Ibatech Tecnologia Ltda. Estrada da Arrozeira, 90 – Residencial Eldorado 92990-000 Eldorado do Sul Brazil Phone +55 51 3337 2870 (RS) Phone +55 19 3483 0007 (SP) E-Mail: vendas@ibatech.com.br







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