

# eRIC USB Dongle



Utilising proprietary LPRS 'easyRadio' technology operating in the 434MHz or 868/915MHz Industrial Scientific & Medical (ISM) bands a pair of eRIC USB 'dongles' can provide a simple 'wireless bridge' between any host devices that support USB serial communications such as a PC or Raspberry Pi TM or BeagleBone Black etc.

These devices provide considerably greater range and less power consumption than similar WiFi or Bluetooth dongles operating in the overcrowded 2.4GHz bands.

Frequency, bandwidth, power output and data rate can (optionally) be configured to allow multiple devices to communicate free from interference from each other and any other RF devices.

| Features                                 | Benefits  |
|--|---|
|  |   |
| LPRS easyRadio RF Transceiver technology | Bi-directional link, no RF protocol software required |
| USB Connection                           | 'Plug & Play' operation, appears as a 'Com' port      |
| Low current consumption                  | Can be powered directly from USB port                 |
| Integral SMA Antenna connector           | Allows use of extension for optimal antenna position  |
| FTDI FT232 USB IC                        | Linux & Windows drivers available (see below)         |
| Transmit & Receive LEDs                  | Diagnostics   |
| Configurable RF parameters (optional)    | Fine tune for optimum performance                     |
| Up to 250 Bytes per packet               | Ideal for 'Sense & Control' applications              |
| Built-in Temperature Sensor              | Usable by host program                                |

Host devices can send and receive (half duplex) up to 250 Bytes of data per packet that will be seamlessly delivered and presented to other hosts within range. There is no need for any complicated 'bit balancing' or elaborate coding schemes.

Easy: Data In and Data Out!

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## **Specifications**

Supply: +5V ± 5%, Temperature 20°C

| Parameter             | Min             | Typical<br>/Default | Max   | Units                                   | Notes                           |  |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------|---|---------------------------------|--|
|                       |                 |                     |       |   |                                 |  |
| Supply Voltage        |                 | 5V                  |       | Volts                                   | Powered by USB connection       |  |
| Supply Current        |                 | 25                  |       | mA                                      | Receive (Idle state)            |  |
|                       |                 | 35                  |       | mA                                      | Transmit                        |  |
| USB Host Data Rate    | 2.4             | 19.2                | 115.2 | Kbps                                    | Configurable - See Note I below |  |
| Packet Size           | I               |                     | 250   | Bytes                                   | Auto detect end of packet       |  |
| Frequency (Default)   |                 | 434                 |       | MHz                                     | Configurable                    |  |
|                       |                 | 868                 |       | MHz                                     | Europe                          |  |
|                       |                 | 915                 |       | MHz                                     | US                              |  |
| Receive Sensitivity   |                 | -107                | -117  | dBm                                     | Configurable                    |  |
| RF Output Power       | -5              | +9                  | +10   | dBm                                     | Configurable                    |  |
| Antenna               |                 | 50                  |       | Ω                                       | Via SMA Connector               |  |
| Range                 |                 | 200                 |       | m                                       | Dependant on conditions/terrain |  |
| Operating Temperature | -40             | 20                  | 85    | °C                                      |                                 |  |
| Mechanical            |                 |                     |       |   |                                 |  |
| Size                  | 80 × 22 × 10    |                     | mm    | Including connectors, excluding antenna |                                 |  |
| Weight                | 11              |                     | g     | Without antenna                         |                                 |  |
| USB Connector         | USB Type A Plug |                     |       |   | Cable not supplied              |  |

#### **Notes**

- 1) Parameters can be configured using 'easyRadio Companion' software available from: www.lprs.co.uk
- Please read this datasheet in conjunction with the eRIC Radio Transceiver datasheet available from www.lprs.co.uk
- 3) The board is supplied with either an eRIC4 or eRIC9 module fitted together with a matching 434MHz 868/915 MHz antenna.

The dongle uses an FTDI FT232 USB to serial device. FTDI offers royalty-free virtual com port drivers for the following operating systems:

Windows 98, 98SE, ME, 2000, Server 2003, XP and Server 2008 Windows 7 32,64-bit Windows XP and XP 64-bit Windows Vista and Vista 64-bit Windows XP Embedded Windows CE 4.2, 5.0 and 6.0 Mac OS 8/9, OS-X Linux 2.4 and greater

## **Acknowledgements**

Raspberry Pi is a Trademark of the Raspberry Pi Foundation.

The design is 'Open Hardware' designed and published by Rick Winscot. Details: www.quilix.com

### **Product Order Codes**

| Name               | Description                          | Frequency  | Order Code |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| eRIC400 USB Dongle | UK/European Version (Can Marked '4') | 433MHz     | eRIC4-USB  |
| eRIC900 USB Dongle | Europe/US Version (Can Marked '9')   | 868/915MHz | eRIC9-USB  |
| Antenna            | UK & Europe                          | 433MHz     | ANTSR433   |
| Antenna            | Europe & USA                         | 868/915MHz | ANTST900   |

eRIC\_USB\_Dongle\_1.0.docx Page 2 of 3



# **eRIC USB Dongle**

#### **Document History**

| Issue | Date     | Notes/Comments               |
|-------|----------|------------------------------|
|       |          |                              |
| VI.0  | May 2015 | This document internal draft |
|       |          |                              |

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easyRadio modules are a component part of an end system product and should be treated as such. Testing to fitness is the sole responsibility of the manufacturer of the device into which easyRadio products are fitted, and is expected BEFORE deployment into the field.

Any liability from defect or malfunction is limited to the replacement of product ONLY, and does not include labour or other incurred corrective expenses.

Using or continuing to use these devices hereby binds the user to these te



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