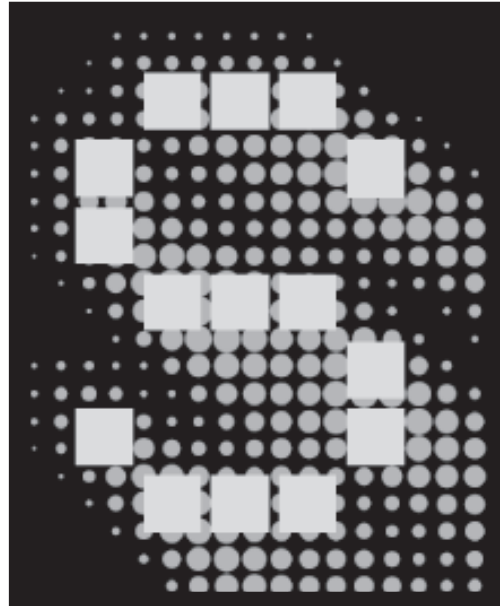


# SILENT MESSENGER II **SOL-R-SIGN™**

**SOLAR POWERED  
DOUBLE-SIDED  
PORTABLE DYNAMIC MESSAGE SIGN  
(MB-222-3048)**

**PROCUREMENT SPECIFICATION**



**SOLAR TECHNOLOGY, INC.**  
7620 Cetronia Road, Allentown, PA 18106  
Phone: 610-391-8600 Fax: 610-391-8601  
Website: [www.solartechnology.com](http://www.solartechnology.com)

---

***Harness the Power of the Sun***

Copyright © 2003 Solar Technology, Inc. All rights reserved.

SolarTech, SILENT MESSENGER SOL-R-SIGN, and Control Center 3000 are trademarks of Solar Technology, Inc.

Microsoft, Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, Windows Vista and other Microsoft products referenced herein are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation.

All other brands and product names mentioned herein are used for identification purposes only, and are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

This document presents a detailed specification for a double-sided solar powered portable dynamic (changeable) message sign. This specification typically requires additions and/or modifications to meet a user's specific requirements.

This specification is subject to periodic revisions as required without notice.

P/N 500-522-141

Fourth edition: 01 September 2009

General email: [info@solartechology.com](mailto:info@solartechology.com)  
Technical Support email: [techsupport@solartechology.com](mailto:techsupport@solartechology.com)

Web site: [www.solartechology.com](http://www.solartechology.com)

## 1. General

### 1.1 Product Description

The **SILENT MESSENGER II** is a solar powered portable dynamic message sign. The **SILENT MESSENGER II** consists of a sign display panel, a supporting structure for the display panel, a photovoltaic array, a battery power supply, an energy management system control unit, and an electronic control console, all mounted on a heavy duty trailer frame.

### 1.2 Design Objectives

1.2.1 Maximize reliability by using generally accepted design techniques for outdoor-use electrical and electronic equipment.

1.2.2 Minimize operating cost by using a renewable energy source, requiring minimal maintenance.

1.2.3 Maximize safety and effectiveness by using a non-glare, high contrast display panel with long-life expectancy, high-reliability display technology.

1.2.4 Meet or exceed the standards for Portable Changeable Message Signs as listed in the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).

### 1.3 Performance Objectives

1.3.1 Visibility up to 1 mile.

1.3.2 Legibility up to 1/2 mile.

1.3.3 Minimal glare from sunlight and head lights.

1.3.4 Continuous, uninterrupted operation on solar power.

1.3.5 One month minimum, three month typical maintenance interval.

### 1.4 Quality Assurance Objectives

1.4.1 All manufacturing shall be carried out in a facility with a completely implemented and properly maintained ISO 9001:2008 certified quality management system.

1.4.2 All units shall bear the CE Mark indicating acceptable EMC (Electromagnetic Compatibility) to insure that the units are neither susceptible to nor produce any electromagnetic interference.

1.4.3 Manufacturer shall have a factory authorized service center located within 150 miles of point of delivery. Authorized service center shall receive all units from factory in order to inspect for any shipping damage and verify proper operation prior to final delivery. Delivery directly from manufacturer's facility without inspection by an authorized service center shall not be permitted. Additionally, authorized service center shall be capable of performing warranty service and repairs, and shall provide on-site training on the proper use and maintenance of all equipment delivered.

## **2. Physical**

### **2.1 Dimensions**

2.1.1 Length Overall - 134 in. (341 cm)

2.1.2 Width Overall - 75 in. (191 cm)

2.1.3 Height

2.1.3.1 Sign in transport position - 90 in. (229 cm)

2.1.3.2 Sign in operating position - 90 in. (229 cm)

2.1.4 Ground Clearance, minimum - 13 in. (33 cm)

2.1.5 Weight - 1,840 lbs. (835 kg) approx.

### **2.2 Environmental**

2.2.1 Temperature, operating and storage - -40 to +185 °F (-40 to +85 °C)

2.2.2 Relative Humidity - 20% to 98%, non-condensing

2.2.3 Wind

2.2.3.1 Transport position, maximum trailering speed - 70 MPH (112 KPH)

2.2.3.2 Operating position, max. height, outriggers in place - 80 MPH (128 KPH) sustained

2.2.4 Electrical Interference - Unaffected by RFI (Radio Frequency Interference) and EMI (Electromagnetic Interference).

## **3. Trailer Chassis and Sign Support**

### **3.1 Trailer Chassis**

3.1.1 Frame Construction

3.1.1.1 Trailer frame shall be constructed of welded 7 Gauge (3/16-inch) CNC formed steel plate and structural steel tubing with 3 x 3 x 3/16 inch structural steel tubing receiver for the tongue, reinforced and welded to the front crossmember.

3.1.1.2 Trailer shall be equipped with a 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 3/16 inch structural steel tubing receiver capable of accepting a standard Class 2 drawbar and hitch pin to accommodate tandem towing. The rear hitch receiver shall be reinforced and welded to a 7 Gauge (3/16-inch) CNC formed steel plate rear cross member. Tandem trailer towing using rear hitch receiver is intended for off road use only and is subject to local laws and regulations!

3.1.1.3 The trailer tongue shall consist of 2 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 3/16 inch structural steel tubing. The tongue shall bolt into the tongue receiver to facilitate easy removal of the tongue for repair, transportation, or security purposes. The trailer tongue shall be equipped with a 2,000-pound capacity swivel-type topwind screw jack with a formed steel footpad.

3.1.1.4 Trailer frame shall be equipped with tie down points to facilitate securing unit to utility trailer or truck deck for transport.

### 3.1.2 Suspension

3.1.2.1 Trailer shall be equipped with an independent suspension, torsion-type axle with a 2,200 pound overall capacity. Axle load capacity shall be set at 1,600 pounds nominal.

3.1.2.2 Axle wheel spindles shall be equipped with spindle bearing caps with grease fittings to accommodate wheel bearing lubrication.

### 3.1.3 Coupler

3.1.3.1 Trailer tongue shall be capable of accepting a combination 2-inch ball and 2 1/2-inch pintle ring or an optional adjustable height coupler with a 2-inch ball and/or 3-inch pintle ring.

3.1.3.2 Trailer shall be equipped with 1/4-inch safety chains with snap-type hooks for secure attachment to tow vehicle hitch.

3.1.3.3 All coupler and safety chain configurations shall comply with SAE J684 standards for Class II (2) trailers.

### 3.1.4 Surface Preparation and Finishing

3.1.4.1 Trailer chassis and superstructure shall be completely cleaned and deburred prior to finishing. All metal surfaces shall be prepared for finishing using an iron phosphate wash-down process.

3.1.4.2 A polyamide epoxy primer shall be applied to a dry film thickness of 2.5 mils.

3.1.4.3 A high gloss federal safety orange aliphatic acrylic urethane finish shall be applied to a dry film thickness of 2.5 mils.

### 3.1.5 Lighting

3.1.5.1 Trailer shall be equipped with sealed flush-mounted combination stop, tail and turn lights.

3.1.5.2 Trailer shall be equipped with a lighted license plate holder.

3.1.5.3 Trailer wiring harness shall be completely sealed and water resistant.

### 3.1.6 Fenders

3.1.6.1 Trailer shall be equipped with unbreakable, molded, solid color, UV-stabilized HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) fenders, completely closed on the inner side to protect trailer frame.

3.1.6.2 Fenders shall be secured to trailer frame with zinc-plated steel thread forming screws and fender washers so as to facilitate easy repair or replacement.

### 3.1.7 Leveling Jacks

3.1.7.1 Trailer shall be equipped with four telescoping jacks consisting of 2 x 2 inch x 12 gauge perforated galvanized steel tubing equipped with a 3 x 3 x 3/16 inch x 6 inch wide steel foot plate.

3.1.7.2 Jack stands shall be inserted into 2 1/4 x 2 1/4 inch x 12 gauge galvanized steel tubing, welded to the trailer frame at a 45 degree angle.

3.1.7.3 Jack stands shall be locked into position by 3/8-inch zinc-plated steel tab lock pins secured to trailer frame by nylon-coated stainless steel lanyards.

3.1.7.4 Jack stands and tongue jack shall be configured such that unit can be set up on jack stands, level, in operating position, with the trailer wheels raised completely off the ground, permitting removal of wheels and tires for additional security.

3.1.7.5 Jack stands shall be configured such that, when in the operating position, they create a footprint of at least 56 inches, front to rear, and 93 inches, side to side, to provide adequate stability of unit in high winds.

### 3.1.8 Tires and Wheels

3.1.8.1 Tires shall be ST205/75R14 Load Range C.

3.1.8.2 Wheels shall be 14-inch x 4 1/2-inch, 5-lug pattern (4 1/2-inch bolt circle), white spoke dress wheel.

3.1.8.3 Wheels and tires shall be sized according to load requirements of trailer and axle.

## 3.2 Sign Panel Support

3.2.1 Trailer superstructure shall provide complete support of the sign panels in both the transport (retracted) and operating (extended) positions.

3.2.2 Trailer superstructure shall be completely assembled with removable fasteners to accommodate quick, easy maintenance and repair.

3.2.3 All fasteners shall be rust resistant and equipped with all metal (stover) and/or nylon lock nuts to prevent loosening of fasteners during normal transportation and operation.

3.2.4 All aluminum to steel attachments shall be made with stainless steel hardware and stainless steel or nylon spacers so as to minimize galvanic corrosion.

### 3.2.5 Sign Panel Support and Positioning System

3.2.5.1 Sign panels shall be independently and completely supported by welded steel mounting frames attached to four pivoting and telescoping supports consisting of 2 x 2 inch x 12 gauge perforated galvanized steel tubing enabling sign panels to be independently positioned up to +/- 15 degrees from trailer center-line to provide for optimal viewing by persons approaching from opposing directions.

3.2.5.2 Sign panel mounting frame telescoping supports shall be locked into position by 3/8-inch zinc-plated steel tab lock pins secured to trailer frame by nylon-coated stainless steel lanyards.

3.2.5.3 Trailer superstructure shall provide for support and operation of solar array, with solar array positioned to accommodate charging in both the operating and the traveling positions.

## **4. Message Display Panels**

### **4.1 Dimensions**

4.1.1 Width Overall - 92 in. (234 cm)

4.1.2 Height Overall - 54 in. (137 cm)

4.1.3 Depth Overall - 6 in. (15 cm)

### **4.2 Construction**

#### **4.2.1 Message Display Panel Case**

4.2.1.1 The message display panel case shall be constructed of heavy duty aluminum extrusion secured at each corner by a molded, fiberglass-reinforced plastic corner and black powered coated stainless steel torx head screws and nylon insert locknuts.

4.2.1.2 The back of the message display panel case shall be constructed of aluminum sheet bonded and riveted to the case frame.

4.2.1.3 Interior of message display panel case shall be equipped with formed aluminum channels to reinforce the display case and to support internal wiring and cables.

4.2.1.4 The display panel case shall be equipped with four breather filter vents, designed to allow the flow of vapor but not fluid, located at the top and bottom of the case frame to provide adequate ventilation to minimize condensation and fogging of the display panel door.

#### **4.2.2 Message Display Panel Door**

4.2.2.1 The display panel door shall be constructed of heavy duty extruded aluminum secured at the corners with glass fiber reinforced molded plastic inserts and black powered coated stainless steel torx head screws and nuts.

4.2.2.2 The door shall fit within a flange around the perimeter of the message display panel case frame to provide for a secure weatherproof enclosure.

4.2.2.3 A rubber seal shall be located inside of the flange on the case frame to provide a water tight, dust tight closure.

4.2.2.4 The message display panel shall be enclosed over the display area by a 3/16-inch thick clear UV resistant, scratch resistant, acrylic coated polycarbonate material with a non-glare outer surface to reduce reflection of ambient light and oncoming vehicle head lamps.

4.2.2.5 The polycarbonate material shall be secured in the door frame with an extruded rubber u-channel to provide a cushioned, weatherproof seal.

4.2.2.6 The message display panel door shall be secured in the open position for servicing by a pair of zinc-plated steel telescoping lid supports equipped with automatic latches. The door supports shall be located completely inside of the display panel housing, protected from weather.

4.2.2.7 The display panel door shall be secured in the closed position with adjustable, positive locking, stainless steel draw latches.

4.2.2.8 The message display panel door and case shall be equipped with stainless steel locking hasps capable of accepting standard padlocks to secure the door in the closed position.

#### 4.2.3 Surface Preparation and Finishing

4.2.3.1 Message display panel case and door shall be completely cleaned and deburred prior to finishing. All metal surfaces shall be prepared for finishing using an iron phosphate wash-down process.

4.2.3.2 A wash primer shall be applied to all prepared metal surfaces prior to applying final finish.

4.2.3.3 A matte black acrylic urethane finish shall be applied to a dry film thickness of 2.5 mils.

### 4.3 Display Characteristics

4.3.1 The message display area shall be approximately 84 inches in width by 48 inches in height.

4.3.2 The display area shall consist of a continuous (full) matrix of 48 pixels or dots in width by 27 pixels in height.

4.3.3 The pixels or dots shall consist of three (3) LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes) arranged in a triangular pattern so as to produce the appearance of a round image or dot at normal viewing distances.

4.3.4 The display color shall be amber (592 nanometer nominal wavelength).

4.3.5 The display shall produce a brightness greater than 10,000 candela per square meter at maximum intensity.

4.3.6 The display shall produce a minimum viewing angle of 24 degrees, with full and consistent intensity, color and integrity across the entire display panel.

4.3.7 The message display shall be capable of displaying one, two or three lines of alphanumeric characters or text with a nominal character height ranging from a minimum of 12 inches (30.5 cm) to a maximum of 38 inches (97 cm).

4.3.8 The message display panel shall be capable of displaying three lines of text with a minimum of three pixels (6 inches / 15 cm) between lines.

4.3.9 The message display shall also be capable of displaying graphic images and symbols using the full 48 pixel width and 27 pixel height.

### 4.4 Display Modules

4.4.1 Display modules shall be mounted in the sign panel using captive 1/4-turn wing-head fasteners to permit quick, easy module replacement without the need for any tools.

4.4.2 Display modules shall be mounted on rubber cushions to provide shock absorption during transport and to accommodate thermally-induced expansion and contraction of message display panel during operation.

4.4.3 Display module control circuitry shall include a fail-safe device, also known as a watchdog timer, to automatically monitor the performance of the display module and provide a reset / restart command to the on-board microcontroller in the event of any disruption of normal operation.

4.4.4 Display module control circuitry shall be designed to accommodate "hot swapping" - exchange of display modules while sign is operating.

4.4.5 The message display shall consist of an array of identical display modules capable of functioning in any position without the need for switch or jumper setup or special programming.

4.4.6 Display modules and message display panel shall accommodate complete service and exchange of display modules without the need for any tools.

4.4.7 Display modules shall be equipped with locking-type electrical / electronic connectors to provide secure, reliable operation while permitting quick, easy service and repair of message display.

#### **4.5 Cables and Wiring**

4.5.1 All message display panel wiring and cables shall be equipped with modular power and signal connectors to permit repairs without the need for any tools.

4.5.2 All power circuit connectors shall use tin or silver plated contacts.

4.5.3 All signal circuit connectors shall use gold plated or gold flashed contacts.

4.5.4 All system wiring, power and signal, shall consist of marine grade wire and cable, with multi-strand, tin-plated conductors.

4.5.5 All power and sign panel signal wiring and cables shall be installed in nonmetallic, flexible, liquid-tight conduits. All conduit fittings shall be installed with rubber sealing rings to maintain liquid-tight characteristics.

### **5. Main Control Console**

#### **5.1 Physical**

5.1.1 Control console shall be enclosed in a weather resistant, lockable, molded HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) enclosure secured to the trailer chassis.

5.1.2 Control console shall be completely sealed to accommodate operation in all types of weather.

5.1.3 Control console shall be mounted on heavy duty slides which allow the control console to slide up and pivot into a position enabling the operator to program the unit while facing traffic from a comfortable standing position. A controller location which requires the operator to stoop, bend or kneel for operation such that the operator cannot see approaching traffic shall not be permitted. Slide mechanism shall permit quick, easy removal of control console without the need for any tools.

5.1.4 Control console power and control cables shall include sealed, locking-type connectors to permit quick, easy removal of control console without the need for any tools.

5.1.5 Control console front panel shall consist of a backlit full color LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) with integrated industrial grade touch-screen, sealed and waterproof, to provide a reliable and user-friendly interface for the operator under any weather condition.

## 5.2 General Operation

5.2.1 Control console shall provide for the complete control of the dynamic message sign, including remote control, radar speed monitoring and radar data collection (when equipped with optional radar speed monitor), dynamic message sign geographic location monitoring (when equipped with optional GPS receiver), and sign panel orientation monitoring (when equipped with optional digital flux-gate compass), without the need for additional hardware, software, external computers or hand-held control devices.

5.2.2 Control console shall include all necessary hardware and software to operate the dynamic message sign, locally and remotely (including web-access, NTCIP, and UTMC), including radar speed monitoring and data collection (when equipped with optional radar speed monitor), geographic location monitoring (when equipped with optional GPS receiver), and sign panel orientation monitoring (when equipped with optional digital flux-gate compass) both locally and remotely.

5.2.3 Control console, in conjunction with the message display panel, shall have the capability of monitoring and detecting sign panel communication loop failures. In the event of a sign panel communication loop failure, the control console, in the case of soft errors (temporary disruption of message display), shall have the ability to correct the failure immediately and in the case of hard errors (hardware failure), shall have the ability to completely blank the sign panel so as to prevent the display of incorrect, potentially misleading messages. Control console shall have the capability of reporting sign panel operational status remotely (including web-access, NTCIP, and UTMC). Additionally, control console shall have multiple diagnostic modes (manual and automatic - local and remote) for troubleshooting sign panel to enable an operator to quickly track down and replace a faulty display module in the sign panel.

5.2.4 Control console embedded CPU shall incorporate a soft-core microprocessor design to insure future hardware and software compatibility through upgrades provided by manufacturer free for life of the machine. Operating system shall be Linux based and include multiple watchdog timers to ensure automatic restarts in the event that any critical function stops working properly.

5.2.5 Control console shall be capable of connection to any standard IBM or compatible desktop or portable (lap-top) computer via a standard serial interface (COM) or Ethernet port to facilitate routine service or repair, extensive diagnostics, and the analysis of user files or operating programs.

5.2.6 Control console shall be equipped with at least one USB port, one Ethernet port, one serial port (DB-9 connector), six (6) digital outputs, six (6) digital inputs, and two (2) analog inputs.

5.2.7 Control console shall be capable of driving more than one sign panel for dual sign panel installations.

5.2.8 Control console operating processor, firmware and software shall be field (locally) upgradeable with a standard USB flash-drive (memory key) or remotely upgradeable over an IP addressable network connection - wire-line or wireless via IP addressable modem. Upgrades shall be provided by manufacturer free of charge for life of machine.

5.2.9 Full color LCD display shall be equipped with an automatic backlighting with automatic dimming capability to accommodate both direct sunlight daytime and low ambient light level night time operation. Backlighting shall automatically activate upon any touch-screen activity and remain on for five minutes following the last touch-screen activity. Additionally, an automatic log-out feature shall be incorporated to insure security of the unit when left unattended. Automatic log-out feature shall be capable of being disabled by the operator as desired.

5.2.10 Main power to the sign panel and the control console shall be controlled by a combination switch and circuit breaker in order to provide electrical protection without the need for fuses. All connections to controller and Energy Management System shall be made with locking type quick disconnect connectors. The use of fuses and/or terminal strips for connections shall be strictly forbidden.

### 5.3 Programming

5.3.1 Control console shall provide an intuitive icon-driven graphical user interface (GUI) along with step by step instructions to the operator, via the LCD display, as the various programming functions are performed, for simple easy programming and operation. On-screen help files shall be included in all languages. Control console shall support a minimum of six (6) operating languages (English, Spanish, French, Dutch, German and Portuguese) and four (4) standard keyboards (English, French, Portuguese/Spanish, and Arabic) along with associated font sets. Controller shall be capable of being setup for either a US Standard DOT, US 3-Line DOT, Ontario MTO-2 or an International font set by an operator with Administrator access to prevent unauthorized use of inappropriate fonts by operators with User access.

5.3.2 Control console shall be capable of storing all messages in alphabetical order by the first letter of the first word of the name assigned to the message to permit quick recall of messages without the need for maintaining a numeric listing of pages and/or messages. Messages shall be automatically sorted any time messages are added to or deleted from the library. Because of difficulty in locating and retrieving stored pages and/or messages via numerical codes, number coded storage of pages and/or messages requiring any form of a lookup table/directory shall be strictly forbidden.

5.3.3 Control console shall accommodate a minimum of fifty (50) full alphanumeric passwords each providing one of four levels of access to various control console functions. Each password shall allow access to only the functions required by that particular dynamic message sign operator. The four levels of access are as follows:

Quick-Picks	Select from up to six (6) pre-programmed messages with no programming required. Simply touch a message for display. No access to any permanent data files.
User Menu	Create, Edit, Delete, Save, Display, and Schedule messages. Create, Assign and Edit Quick-Picks. Check System Status and perform basic diagnostics.
Supervisor Menu	All User Menu Functions. Create and delete Quick-Picks and User passwords. Set system operating parameters.
Administrator Menu	All Supervisor Functions. Create and delete Administrator and Supervisor passwords. Set controller operating parameters.

5.3.4 Control console shall be capable of displaying a message on the message sign display panel during such time as the operator may be adding, editing or deleting messages from the control console user files. Blanking of the message sign display panel during normal operator activity is considered unsafe and shall be strictly forbidden.

5.3.5 Control console shall be capable of monitoring ambient light conditions and making appropriate adjustments to the intensity of the sign panel to maintain an acceptable display contrast during all ambient lighting conditions. The control console shall provide a minimum of sixteen (16) intensity levels between minimum and maximum display brightness. An operator with Supervisor access shall be capable of adjusting the upper and lower photocell set-points as to adjust the overall range for the automatic brightness control to accommodate any local variations in ambient lighting.

5.3.6 Control console shall be equipped with Scheduler that utilizes a real time clock and calendar feature to accommodate automatic, unattended changing of messages at predetermined dates and times. Scheduler shall support unique, single event schedules along with recurrent schedules such that messages may be easily scheduled for daily, weekly or monthly repetition. Recurrent schedules shall be capable of incorporating a start and stop date as desired. Scheduler shall also be capable of displaying messages based upon data driven events such as input from a radar gun, photocell, battery voltage, temperature and/or switch closures (up to eight). Data driven events shall also be capable of being restricted to specific dates and times. Scheduler shall incorporate a priority system for resolution of conflicting schedules and/or events to permit one schedule/event to override another based upon level of importance (i.e. priority). Additionally, the control console shall have the capability to create and display on the sign panel an Override Message that takes priority and overrides all programmed Schedules and Events until cleared to enable an operator to display a message continuously on the sign panel regardless of programmed schedules and/or events.

5.3.7 Control console shall provide special function buttons to provide access to common user functions in a single step including (from the main log-on screen) selecting control console Operating Language, Blanking the Sign Panel, creating an Instant Message, and selecting from Quick Picks.

5.3.8 Control console shall provide a system status page that enables an operator to quickly and easily determine the unit's current time, date, photocell reading, battery bank voltage, temperature, MAC address, IP address, run-time since last re-boot, current run-time (resettable timer), lifetime run-time, and serial modem type along with modem signal strength and quality, latitude & longitude and sign panel heading.

5.3.9 Control console shall be capable of storing a minimum of 500 messages, each message capable of accommodating a minimum of 200 pages (text or graphic images). Control console shall be equipped with an upgradeable flash memory card such that memory can be increased to support storing a minimum of 2,000 messages.

5.3.10 Control console shall provide a minimum of ten font sizes (with full uni-code support for each font) including an adaptive font that automatically and dynamically sizes text to fit on a page as it is typed such that the largest font is always used for a given amount of text on a page to ensure maximum visibility and legibility. One of the included font sizes shall be a standard 5x7 DOT pixel font.

5.3.11 Control console shall support the incorporation of multiple dynamic data sources per page during message creation such that multiple pages within a message can include output from multiple dynamic data sources. Pages containing dynamic data sources shall be automatically refreshed and updated prior to every display such that the most recent data is always displayed on the sign panel. System shall include, as a minimum, the following data sources: radar gun (if equipped), real-time clock (time and date - day, month, year and time in various formats), photocell (ambient light level), battery voltage, and countdown & count-up features from a specified date and/or time. System shall also provide operator with the ability to create and incorporate additional dynamic data sources for display and scheduler control for maximum flexibility during system integration.

5.3.12 Control console shall be capable of page display times from 0.1 seconds to a minimum of 99 seconds in 0.1 second increments.

5.3.13 Control console shall be capable of displaying messages in a preview screen, during message creation, editing or selection, exactly as they will appear on the message display panel.

5.3.14 Control console shall permit the editing of messages that are currently being displayed, showing the revised message as soon as message editing has been completed.

5.3.15 Control console shall enable an operator to create, copy, add/insert, move about, edit and delete/remove pages to/from a message dynamically during message creation and/or editing. It shall not be necessary to create pages first and then assemble the pages into a message. Additionally, control console shall have the ability to insert pages and/or messages from a master library into a new message and move them about within the message. Control console shall also accommodate the creation and editing of graphic images directly from the GUI during message creation. Additionally, control console shall provide the operator with the ability to easily flash a page within a message, flash a line(s) within a page and/or add static or dynamic arrows/chevrons to a page within a message through the use of page annotations.

5.3.16 Control console shall provide a selection of standard highway work zone sign graphic images, including but not limited to: fixed left and right arrow images, moving or sequential left and right arrow images, and moving or sequential left and right chevrons, etc.

5.3.17 Control console shall provide the capability to display battery bank voltage to 0.1 Volt accuracy directly on the control console display.

5.3.18 Control console shall provide for a user selectable low-battery-voltage caution message when the battery voltage drops to a user specified level (above the low-battery automatic shut down voltage). The low-battery-voltage caution message shall be user programmable by an operator with Supervisor access.

5.3.19 Control console shall be equipped with three (3) Run-Time counters: an Up-Time counter that indicates total number of days, hours and minutes since last re-boot, a Current Run-Time counter that indicates total hours of operation since last reset of the counter (resettable run-time counter), and a Lifetime Run-Time counter that indicates total hours of control console operation (non-resettable).

5.3.20 Control console shall include the ability to reset the Current Run-Time counter, Message Library, Scheduler, and all Factory Settings automatically, individually or all at once through performing a variety of Master Resets which will clear all memory and reset all settings to original factory setpoints to various levels.

5.3.21 Control console shall support both dynamic and static IP address network connections along with serial dial-up modem communications.

5.3.22 Control console shall provide a method for setting a battery offset to calibrate battery voltage readings.

5.3.23 Control console shall provide a method for switching radar gun output from MPH to KPH directly from control console GUI.

5.3.24 Control console shall be NTCIP compatible. The following NTCIP standards must be supported:

- NTCIP 1201 (v3.03b) - Global Object Definitions
- NTCIP 1203 (v2.35a) - Object Definitions for Dynamic Message Signs
- NTCIP 2101 (v1.19) - Subnetwork Profile: PMPP over RS232
- NTCIP 2104 (v1.11) - Subnetwork Profile: Internet
- NTCIP 2201 (v1.15) - Transport Profile: Transportation
- NTCIP 2202 (v1.05) - Transport Profile: Internet

Unit shall support an administrator community string along with 255 other communities. Each community shall be capable of being assigned read-only or read-write access.

Unit shall support defining 255 changeable (persistent) and 255 volatile messages.

Each message shall support at least 20 pages.

Unit shall support a scheduler with support for up to 255 schedules, 255 day plans and 255 day plan entries.

Unit shall support at least 255 graphics via the monochrome 1 bit graphics scheme.

Unit shall support at least 100 user-defined fonts in addition to the standard font set provided by the manufacturer.

5.3.19 Web-Interface (Smart-Phone Control): Control console shall function as a Web-Server which enables an operator (via user name and password access) through any standard Web-Browser to:

- Create a unique Web-Name for the unit for browser ID
- View the current status of the unit to include current message displayed on sign panel, battery voltage, photocell reading, date & time, and NTCIP control status
- Blank the unit's sign panel
- Select, preview, edit and activate any message from the unit's message library
- Create, edit, preview and activate a new multi-page text message (up to 6 pages)
- Turn NTCIP control on/off if NTCIP control is enabled on control console

Access to the Web-Server shall be through any standard web browser over a standard network connection and/or public IP address (i.e. IP addressable modem). Access shall be protected by a user name and password created by the operator through the manufacturer's proprietary remote control software to ensure security is maintained at all times. The Web-Server shall be capable of being controlled (i.e. turned on and off) via manufacturer's proprietary remote control software. Web-Access to the control console shall not require access to a central server. All access to the Web-Server shall be logged and recorded.

## **6. Power System**

### **6.1 General**

6.1.1 Operating Voltage - 12 Volts DC nominal

6.1.2 Operating Energy Requirement - 120 Amp Hours per day nominal at Spring or Fall Equinox  
(i.e. 12 hours of daylight, 12 hours of darkness)

6.1.3 Main Power Switch - Main power switch shall be a combination switch and electromagnetic, thermal circuit breaker to provide complete electrical system protection without the inconvenience of conventional fuses. Main power switch shall be splash proof and weather resistant.

## **6.2 Battery Bank**

6.2.1 Number of batteries: Eight (8)

6.2.2 Battery type - BCI Group GC-2, 6-Volt, heavy duty, deep cycle - specify flooded lead-acid or gel-cell

6.2.3 Energy capacity - 1,200 Amp Hours nominal (8 batteries). Sufficient energy capacity to operate the message sign, displaying typical three-line normal size character messages for 14 days, without any energy input from the solar array.

6.2.4 Battery / Equipment Compartments

6.2.4.1 Battery / Equipment Compartments shall be constructed of molded HMWPE (High Molecular Weight Polyethylene), color impregnated with Federal Safety Orange with 0.5% UV stabilizer added to prevent fading.

6.2.4.2 Compartments shall be designed to completely contain spills from a failed or damaged battery case.

6.2.4.3 Compartments shall be capable of supporting an operator standing on top of the battery / equipment compartment to service unit.

6.2.4.4 Compartments shall be designed such that the lid automatically latches in the closed position and holds the batteries in place. Lid shall be capable of being locked in the closed position with a standard padlock.

6.2.4.5 Lid shall be secured to compartment by an integral hinge and shall be completely removable to facilitate easy replacement / repair.

6.2.4.6 Lid shall be supported in the open position to facilitate easy access to control console and shall open fully when required to accommodate safe, simple replacement of batteries.

6.2.4.7 Compartments shall be designed to provide adequate ventilation for the batteries during charging yet prevent the ingress of water during use or transport.

6.2.4.8 Compartments shall be capable of housing four (4) BCI Group GC-2 batteries.

## **6.3 Solar Array**

6.3.1 Photovoltaic module type - Single crystal (monocrystalline) silicon

6.3.2 Number of solar cells per module - 36

6.3.3 Solar array power output - 300 Watts peak

6.3.4 Solar array shall tilt down for fast, easy cleaning and maintenance

6.3.5 Solar array energy output shall be sufficient to operate the changeable message sign, under normal operating conditions, with the solar array in a flat, horizontal position. It shall not be necessary to tilt or rotate the solar array to provide sufficient energy output from the solar array to operate the message sign continuously.

6.3.6 Photovoltaic module junction boxes shall be equipped with watertight strain reliefs at all cable entry points.

#### **6.4 Wiring and Cabling**

6.4.1 All power and control wiring and cables shall be in nonmetallic, flexible, liquid tight conduits.

6.4.2 All conduit fittings shall be sealed at bulkheads or enclosure entry points.

6.4.3 All wiring shall be marine grade, multi-strand, tin-plated copper with PVC insulation rated for outdoor use.

6.4.4 All power system wire terminals shall be tin-plated copper to minimize the effects of galvanic corrosion.

6.4.5 Main power wiring shall be 8 AWG minimum.

6.4.6 Battery terminations shall consist of 5/16-18 UNC marine stud with stainless steel split lock washer and hex nut with 5/16 tin-plated copper ring terminal.

6.4.7 Solar panel terminations shall consist of stainless steel screws with #8 tin-plated copper snap spade terminal.

6.4.8 All other terminations shall consist of locking-type quick-disconnect connectors with tin-plated terminals for power connections and gold-plated terminals for signal connections. Terminal strips, screw or compression type, shall not be permitted

#### **6.5 Energy Management System**

6.5.1 Solar energy management system control unit shall include a completely solid state charge controller capable of operating in an outdoor environment. No mechanical or electromechanical switching to control charging current is permitted.

6.5.2 All wiring connections to the energy management system control unit shall be made with locking-type multi-pin connectors to facilitate quick, easy servicing of the control unit without the need of any tools. Electrical connections shall include an auxiliary 12-Volt power connection to provide power for accessory devices.

6.5.3 Energy management system control unit shall monitor solar array voltage, solar array current, battery voltage, battery current and ambient temperature.

6.5.4 Energy management system control unit shall regulate energy flow from the solar array into the battery bank based on ambient temperature so as to avoid over charging of the batteries and minimize the consumption of electrolyte.

6.5.5 Energy management system control unit shall provide for the controlled periodic pulsing of the solar array current to assist in minimizing sulfate deposit buildup on the battery plates.

6.5.6 Energy management system control unit shall provide for remote monitoring of the battery bank voltage, at the terminals of one of the batteries, to assist in optimizing the transfer of power into the battery bank.

6.5.7 Energy management system control unit shall be equipped with a 2-line by 16-character LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) displaying sequentially, solar array voltage, solar array current, battery voltage, and battery current. In addition, the energy management system control unit shall display a low battery voltage warning message whenever the battery bank voltage drops below 10.9 Volts.

6.5.8 Energy management system control unit shall automatically switch current to the message sign off whenever the battery bank voltage drops below 10.7 Volts to prevent damage to the battery bank due to over-discharging the batteries.

6.5.9 Energy management system control unit shall provide for automatic reverse polarity protection, including reverse polarity indicator lamps, for the solar array and the battery bank.

6.5.10 Energy management system control unit shall provide for automatic fault protection without the need for fuses. The use of fuses for fault protection shall not be permitted.

## **7. Documentation**

### **7.1 Operation and Maintenance Manual**

7.1.1 Setup and Operation

7.1.2 Programming

7.1.3 Maintenance

7.1.4 Troubleshooting and Repair

7.1.5 Assembly Diagrams and Parts Lists

7.1.6 Specifications

7.1.7 Appendix

### **7.2 Control Center 3000 for Windows - Users Manual**

7.2.1 Installation and Setup

7.2.2 Control Center Operation

7.2.3 Appendix

### **7.3 User Guide**

7.3.1 Pre-transport checklist.

7.3.2 Job site setup checklist.

7.3.3 Basic programming instructions.

7.3.4 Basic system status evaluation.

7.3.5 Weatherproof card attached to unit with nylon-coated stainless steel lanyard.

## **7.4 Integration Support Documentation**

7.4.1 Proprietary Protocol Documentation for Custom System Integrators

7.4.2 NTCIP Support Documentation for NTCIP System Integrators

7.4.3 Web-Server Protocol Documentation for Web Based Application System Integrators

## **8. Maintenance**

### **8.1 Scheduled Maintenance**

8.1.1 Solar Array - Clean with water and mild detergent as needed.

8.1.2 Battery Bank - Check electrolyte level once each month and add distilled water as needed.  
(Note: Not required with Gel-Cell batteries.)

### **8.2 Preventive Maintenance**

8.2.1 Inspect and lubricate axle hubs once per year.

## **9. Warranty**

### **9.1 Standard Warranty**

9.1.1 Bumper to Bumper - Full warranty five (5) years - consult factory for terms & conditions

9.1.2 Solar Panels - Ten years

**9.2 Extended Warranty** - Consult factory

## **10. Options**

### **10.1 Battery Charger**

10.1.1 Charger type - Switching regulator, constant voltage with automatic switch to maintenance or trickle charge.

10.1.2 Input Voltage - 110 VAC 50/60 Hz (specify 220 VAC 50 Hz for international use)

10.1.3 Available models with typical recharge times.

10.1.3.1 30-Amp - 54 hours (12 batteries), 36 hours (8 batteries), 18 hours (4 batteries)

10.1.3.2 45-Amp - 36 hours (12 batteries), 24 hours (8 batteries), 12 hours (4 batteries)

10.1.3.3 75-Amp - 22 hours (12 batteries), 16 hours (8 batteries), 8 hours (4 batteries)

10.1.4 Battery charger unit shall install in the field with minimum effort.

## **10.2 Remote Control**

### 10.2.1 General

10.2.1.1 The remote control option shall provide for complete control of all dynamic message sign functions. The remote control option shall, at a minimum, provide for:

- Operating and maintaining a minimum of 100 remotely located message signs
- Sending a message to a remote PCMS for immediate display
- Receiving the message currently displayed on a remote PCMS
- Managing the message libraries and message schedules & events on a remote PCMS
- Checking the operating status, including sign panel status, system date & time, battery voltage, estimated autonomy, temperature, unit Up-Time, Current Run-Time, Life-Time Run-Time, and ambient light level of a remote PCMS
- Managing the control console's Web-Server and NTCIP status
- Retrieve up to 30 days worth of logged Radar Statistics from units equipped with optional Radar Speed Monitor (see section 10.3 for optional Radar Speed Monitor)
- Provide for the ability to perform various system resets including a complete re-boot/restart of the system

10.2.1.3 Communication Protocol - Proprietary with complete CRC error detection and correction and full challenge-response password authentication.

10.2.1.4 Data Format - Data is encrypted and compressed for added security and reliability.

10.2.1.5 All operating software for message sign control console and host computer shall be included with basic message sign package.

10.2.1.6 Remote control system shall install in the field with minimum effort.

### 10.2.2 Telephone Land Line Operation

10.2.2.1 Data rate - Selectable from 1200 to 9600 bps.

10.2.2.2 MNP 2-4 Error Control - Automatic error detection and correction.

10.2.2.3 MNP 5 Data Compression - Higher data rates, shorter connection times.

### 10.2.3 Digital Dial-Up Cellular Transceiver Operation

10.2.3.1 Data rate - Selectable from 1200 to 9600 bps.

10.2.3.2 Wireless modem with full 3-Watt cellular transceiver.

10.2.3.3 MNP 2-4 Error Control - Automatic error detection and correction.

10.2.3.4 MNP 5 Data Compression - Higher data rates, shorter connection times.

10.2.3.5 MNP 10EC - Enhanced performance over noisy cellular connections.

### 10.2.4 TCP/IP Network Communications (Dynamic or Static IP Address)

#### 10.2.4.1 Data rate - 10/100 Base-T Ethernet

10.2.4.2 Remote control of any networked (IP addressable) PCMS may be achieved from any host computer with internet connectivity (either with standard NTCIP commands via SNMP or STMP, or with Control Center 3000). Remote control software (Control Center 3000) shall be provided free of charge with unit and function on any host computer, independent of operating system. Control console and remote control software shall incorporate a challenge/response encrypted type password security system to prevent unauthorized access of any networked PCMS.

#### 10.2.5 IP Addressable Cellular Transceiver Operation

10.2.3.1 Wireless modem with up to a 3-Watt cellular transceiver.

10.2.3.2 MNP 2-4 Error Control - Automatic error detection and correction.

10.2.3.3 MNP 5 Data Compression - Higher data rates, shorter connection times.

10.2.3.4 MNP 10EC - Enhanced performance over noisy cellular connections.

### 10.3 Radar Speed Monitor

#### 10.3.1 General

10.3.1.1 Operating Frequency - 24.15 GHz (K-Band)

10.3.1.2 Antenna Beamwidth - 12<sup>0</sup> (Circular Pattern)

10.3.1.3 Capture Angle - 16.5<sup>0</sup> typical (Circular Pattern)

10.3.1.4 Target Speed Range - 5 to 125 MPH (20 to 200 km/h)

10.3.1.5 Target Speed Accuracy - 1 MPH typical

10.3.1.6 Detection Distance - 1,500 Feet (Automobile-size target)

10.3.1.7 Radar unit shall install in the field with minimum effort.

10.3.1.8 Message sign shall be pre-wired and pre-programmed for radar speed monitor option.

#### 10.3.2 Operating Features

10.3.2.1 Target Speed Display - The speed of the target may be displayed as part of any user-created messages, in any character size, in any position in the message. Multiple messages which include target speed can be stored in the message library.

10.3.2.2 Triggered Display - A message may be displayed only when an acquired target exceeds a preset speed threshold. This message may include the display of the target speed. If no target is acquired or if the acquired target is below the preset threshold, the default message will be displayed. Default message can be a blank display.

10.3.2.3 Window Triggered Display - Upper and lower speed thresholds may be preset such that the special message is displayed only when the target speed is above the lower threshold but below the

upper threshold. This message can include the display of the target speed. If no target is acquired or if the acquired target is above or below the preset thresholds, the default message will be displayed. Default message can be a blank display. Multiple windows can be programmed each with a different message to be displayed when the acquired target speed is above the minimum speed but below the maximum speed threshold for that particular window. Each of these messages can include the display of the target speed.

10.3.2.4 All necessary software features shall be included with the basic message sign package.

### 10.3.3 Radar Statistical Data Collection

10.3.3.1 Control Console shall automatically log and record (to a standard USB memory stick) all raw data provided by the radar gun along with basic statistical information about the collected data in 15 minute intervals. The data shall be stored in two CSV (Comma Separated Value) files which may be opened in Microsoft Excel or any other similar spreadsheet type application for viewing, manipulation and analysis. Additionally, the most recent 30 days worth of Radar Statistics (statistical radar data logged every 15 minutes) shall be maintained in the control consoles non-volatile memory and shall be retrieved remotely via Control Center 3000 - see Control Center 3000 manual for further details.

#### 10.3.3.2 Data Provided

10.3.3.2.1 Raw Data File: (radar\_data file) - (Year, Month, Day, Time, Reading) - every reading - readings recorded every 250ms while tracking a target

10.3.3.2.2 Statistical Data File: (radar\_statistics file) - (Year, Month, Day, Time, # of Readings, Mean, Median, Mode, Standard Deviation, Lowest Reading, Highest Reading) - based on all readings - readings are taken every 250ms while tracking a target

## 10.4 GPS Receiver

### 10.4.1 General

10.4.1.1 Operating Voltage: 8-33 Vdc

10.4.1.2 Input Current: 40 mA @ 12 Vdc maximum

10.4.1.3 Receiver Sensitivity: -185 dBW minimum WAAS Enabled

10.4.1.4 Operating Temperature Range: -22F to +176F (-30C to +80C)

10.4.1.5 Acquisition Time: Cold - 45 seconds maximum

10.4.1.6 Update Rate: 1 record per second

10.4.1.7 Accuracy: < 3 meters

## 10.5 Sign Panel Flux-Gate Digital Compass

### 10.5.1 General

10.5.1.1 Operating Voltage: 8-28 Vdc

- 10.5.1.2 Input Current: 40 mA @ 12 Vdc maximum
- 10.5.1.3 Operating Temperature Range: -40C to +65C (-40F to +150F)
- 10.5.1.4 Shock/Vibration: meets MIL-STD-810 requirements
- 10.5.1.5 Altitude: 40,000 ft. maximum
- 10.5.1.6 Reliability: MTBF > 30,000 hours
- 10.5.1.7 Accuracy: +/-0.5 degrees
- 10.5.1.8 Repeatability: +/-0.2 degrees
- 10.5.1.9 Resolution: 0.1 degrees
- 10.5.1.10 Dip Angle: +/-80 degrees
- 10.5.1.11 Tilt Angle: +/-16 degrees
- 10.5.1.12 Response Time: 1 second