Using the Compact Flash

Using the Compact Flash Card

A 2 Gigabyte Compact Flash card is pre-installed inside the Digital Electronics Enclosure and is located inside the enclosure on the reverse side of the HMI touch screen. Run data is stored on the Flash Drive but only when the TOP.RUN page is currently displayed. The internal data logger operates using two separate processes. The first samples each data point at the rate specified by the factory (1/second), and places the logged data into a buffer within the RAM of the panel. The second process executes every minute, and writes the data from RAM to the Compact Flash card. Note that because data is not committed to the Compact Flash for a minute, this amount of log data may be lost when the terminal is powered-down. Further, if the terminal is powered-down while a write is in progress, the Compact Flash card may be corrupted. Data is being written to the Compact Flash card when the middle yellow LED light on the front of the HMI panel is flashing. Do not turn the power off or remove the Compact Flash while the yellow LED is blinking!

Removing the Flash Card

The process for removing the Compact Flash card is called Hot Swapping. Hot Swapping is not the preferred method of transferring data from the flash card to an external source due to the possibility of data files being corrupted if the Flash card is removed improperly. Please remember that the Compact Flash card cannot be removed while data is being written to the Flash card, or when the yellow LED is flashing.

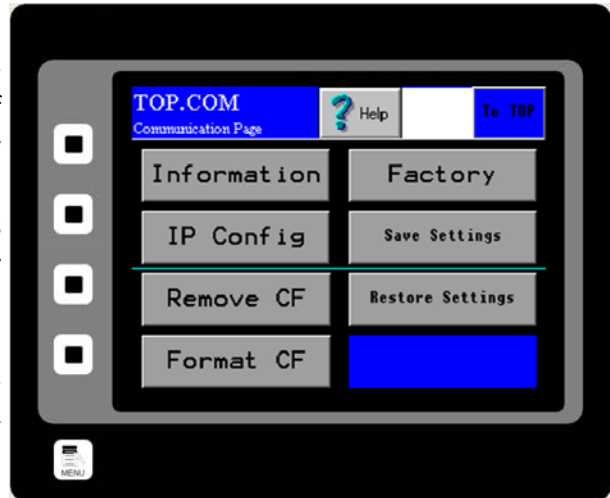To Hot Swap, go to the TOP.COM page by pressing the COM button from the main menu.

You will now be on the COM.REMOVE page. Next, press the Remove CF button and finally, press the SAFELY REMOVE COMPACT FLASH button. When the 'Safe' prompt is indicated, you may safely remove the Compact Flash card.

Open the Electronics Enclosure and remove the Flash card from the back of the HMI panel in the door of the Electronics Enclosure.

Save Settings

You can also save your settings and configurations to your Flash Card and restore them if your settings have been unintentionally changed. To save your HMI settings to a Flash Card (provided you have one installed), press the COM Button from the TOP Menu to enter the TOP.COM page (seen on right). Now, press the Save Settings Button. You will be prompted with "Do you want to save the HMI configuration to flash?" Press "Yes" to save the configuration settings.

Restore Settings

This allows you to restore the saved configuration settings in the event that your settings have been changed on the HMI. From the TOP.MENU page, press the COM Button to enter the TOP.COM page. Press the Restore Settings Button. Again, you will be prompted with "Do you want to load the HMI configuration from flash?" Press "Yes" to load the settings from the flash card. This procedure will fail if no flash card is present, or previous HMI settings have not been saved to the Flash Card currently installed in the HMI.

Please note that as data is saved on your Compact Flash Card and the Card reaches its data storage capacity, the HMI will begin overwriting the oldest data as the newest data is saved to the Compact Flash Card.

Format Flash Card

To format your Compact Flash Card ensure that your it is securely inserted into the HMI. Press the COM Button from the Main Menu and then press the FORMAT CF Button. Next, press the large Yellow FORMAT COMPACT FLASH CARD Button. Your Compact Flash Card should now be formatted. Please note that all data will be erased from the Compact Flash Card and so if you would like to preserve the data, you will need to save the data to another location.