

Application Note

MS2600 Series Spectrum Analyzers

Connecting Standard Printers

Background

There are two related considerations when using printers with the MS2660 Series (MS2661C, MS2663C, MS2665C, MS2667C, and MS2668C) and MS2680 Series (MS2681A, MS2683A, MS2687B) of spectrum analyzers:



1. A user cannot have both the GPIB Interface (standard) and the Centronics Interface (Option 10) at the same time. Note: some MS2600 data sheets say “GPIB interface cannot be used simultaneously” in connection with Option 10 but this should say “GPIB interface cannot be installed simultaneously”.
2. If the user chooses the Centronics Interface (Option 10), it’s somewhat limited in that it will only work with a dot matrix printer. If the user chooses the GPIB Interface, he may have problems outputting data to a printer.

Exception: The MS2683A has both the GPIB and Centronics Interfaces as standard. However, the selection of printers allowed is still limited.

Printer Interface Conversion

The RS-232C (serial) connector is always available. Using a serial to parallel converter enables operation with most or all standard HP DeskJet printers.

One such converter is available on the Internet from the Black Box Corporation (catalog.blackbox.com), telephone 724-746-5500. Relevant part numbers are:

- Model PI045A — Serial to Parallel converter: DIP switch housed in the serial connector housing; powered by the spectrum analyzer; cable length about 6 feet; price about \$120.
- Model FA440 — DB9 Gender Changer: male; price about \$5.

Setup

To use the converter, the spectrum analyzer must be told to send the print output to the RS-232C connector and the "Connect to Controller" must say "None" or "GPIB".

Set up the spectrum analyzer using the following commands:

(Shift), (Copy Cont.), (Printer), (More) to go to page 2 of menus,
(Printer Setup), (HP2225), (Magnify 2X2)

(Shift), (Interface), (RS232C Setup), (Baud Rate) toggle to read 9600 bps,
(Return), (Connect to Controller) -- must say Connect To Controller-None or
Connect To Controller-GPIB, (Connect to Prt/Plt) -- must say Connect to
Prt/Plt RS232C

The DIP switch settings on the Black Box converter are set as follows:

2-On
All others-Off

Anritsu has tested this satisfactorily with both a DeskJet 310 and a DeskJet 612C,
and we believe that it will work fine with the rest of the DeskJet line.

ANRITSU COMPANY SALES & SUPPORT

United States
1155 Collins Boulevard
Richardson, TX 75081
Tel +1-800-ANRITSU (+1-972-644-1777)
www.us.anritsu.com
E-mail: us-sales@anritsu.com

Europe
200 Capability Green, Luton
Bedfordshire LU1 3LU, U.K.
Tel +44-1582-433433
www.eu.anritsu.com
E-mail: info@eu.anritsu.com

Mexico
Eje Central Lazaro Cardena 616,
Torre C-301, Col Alamos
03400 Mexico, D.F.
Tel +52-55-9180-1448

Canada
700 Silver Seven Road Suite #120
Kanata, Ontario K2V 1C3
Tel +1-800-ANRITSU (+1-613-591-2003)

Brazil
Praca Amadeu Amaral, 27 - 1 Andar
01327-010 - Paraiso - Sao Paulo
Tel +55-11-3283-2511

Japan
1800 Onna, Atsugi-shi, Kanagawa
243-8555 Japan
Tel +81-46-223-1111

Asia-Pacific
Suite 923, 9/F, Chinachem Golden Plaza
77 Mody Road, Tsimshatsui East
Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel +852-2301-4980

