

JFW Industries, Inc.



50PA-308
OPERATING MANUAL

JFW Industries, Inc.
5134 Commerce Square Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46237
Phone (317) 887-1340
sales@jfwindustries.com

Table of Contents

<u>Section Number/Description</u>	<u>Page #</u>
1. Introduction	3
2. Mechanical Specifications	3
3. Manual Control	3
4. Command Set	4
5. Ethernet Control	7
6. Ethernet Configuration Information	7
7. RS-232 Control	8
8. RS-232 Cable	8
9. RS-232 Port Settings	8
10. JFW Test Program	9
11. Error Code Listing	10
12. Troubleshooting	11

Additional Documents:

1. Mechanical Outline Drawing
2. Specification Sheet
3. Sample Ethernet Configuration Session

1. Introduction

The JFW model 50PA-308 test system consists of a single solid-state programmable attenuator that covers the frequency band 500-2500MHz. The unit is controlled remotely via Ethernet or RS-232. The unit is manually controlled on the front panel using the keypad and LCD display. There is a slide switch on the back panel that allows the user to select between either Ethernet or RS-232 modes. The programmable attenuator can be set from 0 to 127dB in 1dB increments. The attenuator is set to maximum attenuation (127dB) when the unit is powered on.

In addition to this manual a CD is also provided. The CD contains the following:

- 1) 50PA-308 Manual.PDF
- 2) 50PA-308 Specification Sheet.PDF
- 3) 50PA-308 Outline Drawing.PDF
- 4) JFW Test Program (50PA-308.exe)
- 5) Sample Ethernet Configuration Session.PDF

2. Mechanical Specifications

The 50PA-308 is designed in a 19" rack style enclosure. The outline drawing details all necessary package dimensions and connector layouts. The unit is AC powered via a 3-prong receptacle on the rear panel. A standard power cord is supplied with the unit. The power supply itself is a universal AC power supply that can handle input AC voltages 100-240 VAC (47-63 Hz).

The 50PA-308 is also AC current protected by use of a 2 Amp "Slo-Blo" AC fuse. The fuse is field replaceable in the event of any failure to the fuse. The fuse itself is a 5x20 mm "Slo-Blo" type fuse and can be ordered through JFW or directly from Littelfuse. The Littelfuse part number is #215-002. The JFW part number is #025-021.

3. Manual Control

The manual control is achieved with the keypad and LCD on the front panel of the unit. To change from remote mode to manual mode, press the "1" button on the keypad. In manual mode you have three options: press "1" to go back into remote mode, press "2" to set the attenuator to a new value, or press "3" to read the current attenuation setting.

If the unit is connected remotely to a user in Ethernet mode and you switch to manual mode, the unit will close that Ethernet connection before starting manual mode. While in manual mode, no remote Ethernet connections are allowed.

If the unit is in RS-232 mode and you switch to manual mode, the unit will stop executing RS-232 commands that it receives. When you switch back from manual mode to RS-232 mode, all RS-232 commands that were received while in manual mode are deleted from the buffer.

4. Command Set

The following command set is used for both Ethernet mode and RS-232 mode. This is the command set that JFW uses for newly designed attenuator test systems. JFW recommends that all new test software be written to use this format for the remote commands. The new command set consists of the five following commands:

- A) Identification Command
- B) Change Baud Rate Command
- C) Set Attenuator Command
- D) Read Attenuator Command
- E) Fade Attenuator Command

A) Identification Command

Syntax: IDN <CR>
<CR> = carriage return

Description: This command returns the identification information for this system and is followed by a carriage return and a line feed. It will list JFW Industries Inc, followed by the JFW model number and the firmware revision level.

Examples: IDN <CR>
Returns "JFW Industries Inc., Model 50PA-308, Firmware Rev B <CR> <LF>"

Notes: There must NOT be a space between the "I", "D", and "N".
Command is not case sensitive, but must be terminated by a carriage return.

B) Change Baud Rate Command

Syntax: CBx <CR>
x = new baud rate
<CR> = carriage return

Description: This command changes the baud rate of the unit. The current baud rate is displayed on the LCD while in remote mode.

Examples: CB9600 <CR> Changes the baud rate to 9600 baud
CB19200 <CR> Changes the baud rate to 19200 baud
CB38400 <CR> Changes the baud rate to 38400 baud

Notes: There must NOT be a space between the "CB" and the "x".
"x" must be either 9600, 19200, or 38400.
Command is not case sensitive, but must be terminated by a carriage return

Command Set (Continued)

C) Set Attenuator Command

Syntax: SAx y <CR>
x = attenuator number to control
y = attenuation value to set the attenuator to
<CR> = carriage return

Description: This command sets attenuator “x” to “y” attenuation in dB.

Examples: SA1 0 <CR> Sets attenuator 1 to 0dB.
SA1 63 <CR> Sets attenuator 1 to 63dB.
SA2 127 <CR> Sets attenuator 2 to 127dB.

Notes: There must be a space between the “x” and “y”.
There must NOT be a space between the “SA” and the “x”.
“x” must be 1 (there is only 1 attenuator in this test system).
“y” must be between 0 and 127 (attenuation range is 0-127dB x 1dB).
Command is not case sensitive, but must be terminated by a carriage return.

D) Read Attenuator Command

Syntax: RAx <CR>
x = attenuator number to query
<CR> = carriage return
<LF> = line feed

Description: This command returns the attenuation setting for attenuator “x”.

Examples: SA1 22 <CR> Sets attenuator 1 to 22dB.
RA1 <CR> Reads value of attenuator 1. Sends back “22dB <CR> <LF>”.

SA1 0 <CR> Sets attenuator 1 to 0dB.
RA1 <CR> Reads value of attenuator 1. Sends back “0dB <CR> <LF>”.

SA1 127 <CR> Sets attenuator 1 to 127dB.
RA1 <CR> Reads value of attenuator 1. Sends back “127dB <CR> <LF>”.

Notes: There must NOT be a space between the “RA” and the “x”.
“x” must be 1 (there is only 1 attenuator in this test system).
Command is not case sensitive, but must be terminated by a carriage return

Command Set (Continued)

E) Fade Attenuator Command

Milliseconds Interval Syntax: FAx y z tM <CR>

Seconds Interval Syntax: FAx y z tS <CR>

x = attenuator number to control

y = starting attenuation value

z = ending attenuation value

t = interval time

M = interval time format set to milliseconds

S = interval time format set to seconds

<CR> = carriage return

Description: This command fades the attenuator number "x" from "y" dB to "z" dB in "t" interval time. The interval time is from 1-9999. The intervals can be formatted to be in milliseconds or in seconds depending on if there is a "M" for milliseconds or "S" for seconds following the interval number. The fade command allows the attenuator to fade from a low dB value to a high dB or from a high dB value to a low dB value.

Examples: FA1 0 127 300M <CR> Fade attenuator #1 from 0dB to 127dB in 1dB steps with 300 milliseconds between steps.

FA1 31 63 1S <CR> Fade attenuator #1 from 31dB to 63dB in 1dB steps with 1 second between steps.

FA1 99 7 5S <CR> Fade attenuator #1 from 99dB to 7dB in 1dB steps with 5 seconds between steps.

FA1 80 100 7M <CR> Fade attenuator #1 from 80dB to 100dB in 1dB steps with 7 millisecond between steps.

FA1 75 2 50M <CR> Fade attenuator #1 from 75dB to 2dB in 1dB steps with 50 milliseconds between steps.

Notes: There must be a space between the "x", "y", "z", and "t".

There must NOT be a space between the "FA" and the "x".

Either a "M" or a "S" must follow the interval time "t".

There must NOT be a space between the "t" and the following "M" or "S".

"x" must be 1 or 2 (there are two total attenuators in this test system).

"y" must be between 0 and 127 (attenuation range is 0-127dB x 1dB).

"z" must be between 0 and 127 (attenuation range is 0-127dB x 1dB).

"y" and "z" should not be set to the same attenuation value.

"t" must be between 1 and 9999.

Command is not case sensitive, but must be terminated by a carriage return.

5. Ethernet Control

The 50PA-308 is Ethernet controlled via a standard RJ-45 Ethernet connector on the rear of the unit. When in Ethernet mode, it has five remote commands. Please refer to the Command Set section of this manual for the remote command formats. The command formats are the same for either Ethernet or RS-232 control. If commands are sent incorrectly to the unit, you will receive an error message. See the "Error Code List" portion of this manual for more details. The attenuators are set to maximum attenuation when the unit is powered on.

The slide switch on the back panel allows the user to select between either Ethernet or RS-232 control. The unit must be turned off and then back on, when changing between Ethernet and RS-232 control for the change to take affect.

6. Ethernet Configuration Information

This unit comes pre-programmed to the following settings:

I.P. Address	192.168.1.250
Gateway	192.168.1.1
Netmask	255.255.255.0
Port	3001 (hard-coded into the unit and can not be changed)

Important Note: An additional document "Sample Ethernet Configuration Session for JFW Model 50PA-308.PDF" comes with this manual and is located on the CD in PDF format. This sample session shows step by step how the Ethernet port is configured.

Open up a terminal session through your computer's COM port using a program like HyperTerminal. You must use a Null Modem cable (JFW part #012-174) to make the physical connection from your COM port to the "Ethernet Config. Port" on the rear of the 50PA-308. The terminal session should use the following COM port settings:

Baud Rate	9600
Data Bits	8
Parity	None
Stop Bits	1
Flow Control	None

You can verify a successful connection by typing "Hello World" in the terminal window. You should receive an echo back from the 50PA-308. The SET commands listed below can then be used to change the network properties.

SET IP xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx	changes the I.P address
SET NETMASK xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx	changes the Netmask
SET GATEWAY xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx	changes the Gateway
SET NAMESERVER xxx.xxx.xxx.xxx	changes the Nameserver

7. RS-232 Control

This unit is RS-232 controlled via a standard 9-Pin D connector on the rear of the unit. Before operating the unit in remote mode make sure your RS-232 port is configured as described in “RS-232 Port Settings” section of this manual. When in RS-232 mode, the test system has five remote commands. Please refer to the "Command Set" section of this manual for the remote command formats. The command formats are the same for either RS-232 or Ethernet control. If commands are sent incorrectly to the unit, you will receive an error message. See the "Error Code List" portion of this manual for more details. The attenuators are set to maximum attenuation when the unit is powered on.

The baud rate can be set at 9600, 19200, or 38400. The unit is set at 9600 baud at the factory. To change to a different baud rate, the remote command "change baud rate" must be sent. This remote command is fully described in the "command Set" section of this manual. In RS-232 mode, the current baud rate is displayed on the LCD located on the front panel.

The slide switch on the back panel allows the user to select between either RS-232 or Ethernet control. The unit must be turned off and then back on, when changing between Ethernet and RS-232 control for the change to take affect.

8. RS-232 Cable

Included with the system should be one “Null Modem” cable (JFW part #012-174). This cable is used to interface with the RS-232 Port. This cable is DE-9P to DE-9S and is the “Null Modem” type. The female connector will plug into the serial port on most PC’s, and the male connector will connect to 50PA-308. This cable can also be bought from L-Com (L-Com #CSNULL9MF-10)

9. RS-232 Port Settings

When sending commands to the 50PA-308, your computer’s RS-232 port settings must be configured as follows. The baud rate must be set at 9600, 19200, or 38400. The parity must be set to “none”. The data length must be set to “8” data bits. The stop bit must be set to “1”. If your RS-232 port is not configured with these settings, the 50PA-308 will not receive and execute the commands sent. It will not send back an error either, because communication was never established.

BAUD RATE	9600, 19200, or 38400
PARITY	none
DATA LEGNTH	8 bits
STOP BITS	1 bit
FLOW CONTROL	none

10. JFW Test Program

Nothing has to be installed onto your computer in order to run the JFW test program. Just copy the executable file (50PA-308.EXE) from the CD that comes with this manual to any location on your computer. Run the executable file 50PA-308.EXE to start the program.

The test program can be used to verify functionality of the 50PA-308. A picture of the test program is shown below. Before exiting the program, it is a good idea to close any connections you have made while using the software.

The test program allows the user to control the attenuator contained in the 50PA-308. It shows the commands as they are sent and the responses from the unit. It also allows the user to set an attenuator to a specified attenuation value or keypress through the attenuation values. You must enter the IP address (that you have programmed into the unit via the Ethernet programming port on the back of the box) into the IP address window. The port default setting is 3001. The commands are very straightforward, just enter in the attenuator value and setting in the appropriate blanks and click. You will see the command you sent in the Data Sent window and any response in the Data Received window. There is no response to the “set attenuation” command. A “set attenuation” command can be verified by a query of the attenuation value using the “read attenuation” command.

50PA-308 Test Program

RS-232 Setup

Close RS-232 Port

Com Port: COM1

Baud Rate: 9600

Parity = none
Stop Bit = 1
Data Length = 8

Ethernet Setup

Connect Ethernet

I.P. Address: 192.168.1.250

Port Number: 3001

Remote Commands

Set Attenuator Atten #: 1 dB: 0

Read Attenuator Atten #: 1

Keypress Atten #: 1 Start at dB: 0

Fade Attenuator Atten #: 1 Start at dB: 1 End at dB: 127 Interval Time: 50 milliseconds

Change Baud Rate

Typed Commands

Send Message Clear Message


Data Sent

FA1 1 127 50M

Clear Text

Data Received

Clear Text


www.JFWINDUSTRIES.com

11. Error Code List

- Error1** **Command is formatted incorrectly.**
This error occurs if characters other than IDN, CB, SA, RA, or FA appear in the buffer.
- Error2** **Attenuator address out of range.**
This error occurs if the attenuator address is not 1.
There is only 1 programmable attenuator in 50PA-308.
- Error3** **Attenuation value out of range.**
This error occurs when the attenuation value is not 0-127dB.
The attenuation range for this test system is 0-127dB x 1dB.
- Error4** **Interval time out of range.**
This error occurs when the interval time of the fade attenuator command is not 1-9999.
- Error5** **Interval time not properly formatted.**
This error occurs when a "M" or "S" does not follow the interval time for the fade attenuator command. The "M" formats the interval time to milliseconds. The "S" formats the interval time to seconds.

12. TROUBLESHOOTING

Initialization Time

After the 50PA-308 has been turned on, it will take 10-15 seconds for the unit to completely initialize itself. If you send remote commands while it is still initializing, the command will not be executed.

External Troubleshooting

If the 50PA-308 is installed in a system and does not seem to be functioning properly, JFW recommends first removing the 50PA-308 and testing it by itself. This will verify that it is indeed the 50PA-308 that is not working and not another part of the system. It is also recommended that all testing at this stage be done with the JFW test program to help determine software inconsistencies.

Ethernet Problems

It is very important that the remote command format follow the specified format as detailed earlier in the “Command Set” section of this manual.

Verify the following settings: IP address, Gateway, Netmask, and Port Number. Remember that the Port Number is hard-coded to 3001 and can not be changed.

If you changed from RS-232 control to Ethernet control with the manual switch on the back panel, you must turn the unit off and then back on for the change to take affect.

RS-232 Problems

It is very important that the remote command format follow the specified format as detailed earlier in the “Command Set” section of this manual.

Verify the following RS-232 settings: baud rate, parity (none), data length (8), and stop bit (1).

In RS-232 mode, the current baud rate is displayed on the LCD.

If you changed from Ethernet control to RS-232 control with the manual switch on the back panel, you must turn the unit off and then back on for the change to take affect.

AC Voltage Fuse

There is a AC voltage fuse located on the back panel. This fuse is rated at 250 Volts/2 Amps. If the fuse is blown, it can be replaced per the Littlefuse #215-002 or JFW part #025-021.

Unknown Error

If communication between the host computer and the 50PA-308 has been established and the software has been verified as working properly, then the problem lies internal to the unit either with the control board or one or more RF components. Please consult the factory at this point for possible further troubleshooting instructions. Use the email address sales@jfwindustries.com.