

The BA688C is a dc powered instrument that can display text and simple graphics in a process area. Incorporating six push buttons and two single pole outputs, the BA688C is a robust low cost operator interface ideal for simple machine and process control applications.

Available with either an RS485 or RS232 port and incorporating Modbus RTU, BEKA and Legacy protocol, the BA688C may be directly connected to many industrial networks and instruments, including new installations and upgrades to existing systems.

A high contrast liquid crystal display incorporates a green backlight allowing the display to be read in all lighting conditions from full sunlight to total darkness. The text display is therefore suitable for mounting in control panels or incorporated into measuring instruments.

Six push buttons which may be used for operator acknowledgments or controls are included on the instrument front panel. If larger industrial switches are required, these may be connected to the text display rear terminals. When activated, the front panel push buttons are automatically disabled.

Two single pole switch outputs, which are controlled via the serial data link, may be used to switch a small load such as a valve, actuator or sounder.

Standard screen formats contain one, two, three, four or eight variables, together with units of measurement, tag descriptions and bargraphs on some of the screens. Use of one of these eleven standard screens greatly reduces the amount of programming required and will satisfy most display requirements. If a custom display format is required, this can be developed using BEKA protocol.

The BA688C is a Modbus RTU slave that can display up to eight process variables together with units of measurement and tag descriptions. When used with one of the eleven standard screen formats, no programming is required apart from setting the BA688C communication parameters and writing each Modbus variable into the BA688C

Modbus register address map. If a custom screen layout is required in a Modbus system this can be constructed using the BEKA protocol.

**BEKA protocol** enables custom screen formats to be designed and stored in non-volatile memory using a wide selection of lines, boxes, bargraphs and fonts. Although screens can be manually designed, free BEKA ScreenWriter software which will run on a PC simplifies the process.

Legacy protocol enables the BA688C to replace an MTL644 for safe area applications without the need for a galvanic communications isolator and with the added advantage of a display backlight. No software changes are required and the BA688C will fit into the existing panel cut-out. If required, simple modifications to the host software will allow the enhanced features of the BA688C to be used i.e. five font sizes, simple graphics, additional operator buttons and a second output.

Scripts are a sequence of commands, downloaded to and stored in non-volatile memory by the BA688C text display, that can be executed by the instrument without intervention from the host. For example a routine may be written to monitor the instruments push-buttons and to change the displayed screen or variable depending upon which button has been operated.

Pattern matching is a powerful feature which allows the BA688C to capture and display data contained in a proprietary ASCII serial string, such as that from a weighing system or barcode reader primarily intended for printing.

The front panel of the BA688C has IP66 protection and a neoprene gasket seals the joint between the text display and the panel, making it suitable for use in areas that will be hosed.

To simplify system design the instruction manual is supplemented by comprehensive Modbus and programming guides plus a free instrument simulator which will run on a PC. All are available from the BEKA sales office or may be downloaded from www.beka.co.uk

# BA688C Serial text display

# General purpose

- High contrast display with backlight.
- Modbus RTU slave
- BEKA and Legacy protocols.
- 11 standard screen formats.
- Six operator push-buttons & two switch outputs.
- IP66 front panel
- Free simulator and ScreenWriter software.
- 3 year guarantee

www.beka.co.uk/ba688c



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#### **SPECIFICATION**

Hidden screen

Power supply

20 to 36V dc Voltage Current 95mA max

Display

Туре 120 x 64 pixel backlit liquid crystal Size

86.5 x 45mm

Screens

11 standard formats 1, 2, 3, 4 or 8 variables plus units of

measurement & tag information, some

include bargraphs.

Custom format See Programming Guide

ASCII character set, 5 font sizes. May be written to at any time and

displayed when required.

**Controls** 

Front panel Six push-buttons which can be software

interrogated. Each button function may be displayed on the screen. Buttons

may be disabled.

External switches Control may be transferred to six

external switches; front panel buttons

are inhibited.

Switch cable length 5m max

Two software controlled single pole Outputs

> relay contacts. 250V; 5A ac

30V: 5A dc Reactive loads must be suppressed

**Data transmission** 

Rating

Speed 0.3, 0.6, 1.2, 2.4, 4.8, 9.6, 19.2, 38.4,

67.6 &115.2k bps.

1 or 2 stop bits; odd, even or no parity Format

bit; 7 or 8 data bits.

Selectable Modbus RTU. BEKA or Protocol

Legacy that is compatible with the

MTL643 & MTL644.

Address

Modbus protocol 1 - 247

Zero reserved for single BEKA protocol 0 - 247Legacy protocol 0 – 15 instrument applications.

**Environmental** 

-20 to 60°C Operating temp Storage temp -40 to 85°C To 95% @ 40°C Humidity Enclosure Front IP66, rear IP20

**EMC** In accordance with EU Directive

2004/108/EC.

No error for 10V/m field strength Immunity between 150kHz and 1GHz.

Complies with the requirements for

Class B equipment.

Mechanical

**Emissions** 

Terminals Removable with screw clamp for 0.5 to

1.5mm<sup>2</sup> cable.

Weight 0.7kg

Accessories

Tag number Thermally printed strip on rear of

instrument.

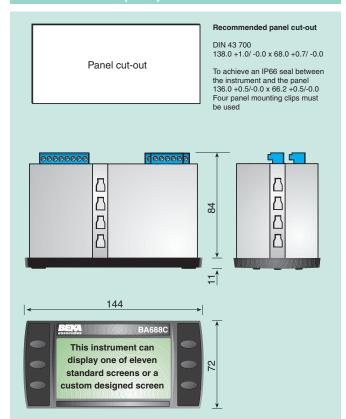
Modbus Guide Programming Guide Instrument simulator BEKA ScreenWriter

May be downloaded from www.beka.co.uk

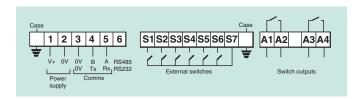
Custom screen design aid for personal

computer.

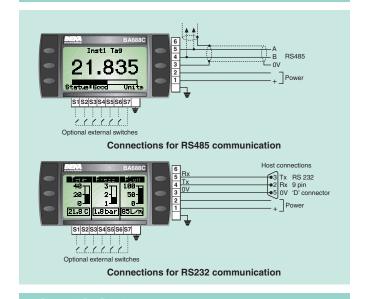
### **DIMENSIONS** (mm)



#### **TERMINAL CONNECTIONS**



#### CONNECTION



## **HOW TO ORDER**

#### Please specify

Model number Communication port

Accessories Tag number

Modbus Guide Programming Guide Instrument simulator BA688C RS485 or RS232

Please specify if required

Legend

Serial Text Display - Modbus Guide Serial Text Display - Programming Guide Instrument simulator for use on personal computer.