SOFTLOK PC-CONTROL CARD

For those model railway enthusiasts who are still riding conventionally there is something NEW!

You want to ride digitally, but you do not want to spend so much money on digital control equipment, which several companies are offering. Unfortunately you can't escape of converting your locos. This is not a disadvantage, but this will offer you new opportunities. Power supply remains on the track continuously, hence inside lighting stays on even when the loco is stationary. In addition, it gives you the opportunity to shunt with two or more locos on the same track. Also several functions can be switched independently of each other, like a telex coupling or a smoke generator.

Should you ever like to connect a computer to your railway, you always need an interface "to convert" the commands to the railway. The "digital system" offers the Standard interface. Just regard the MÄRKLIN digital system, which was launched in 1986. Many companies are now also offering a digital system.
If you don't want to use a computer to control your railway, then digital has only some advantage, as described above. To control digital points/signals will offer limited added value, because the offered possibilities to control your railway with the existing digital system are very limited. However, the computer would be a perfect add-on to control or to computerise your railway, provided you have the right software.

SOFTLOK offers now a special control card, which enables you to convert your railway easily to DIGITAL.

What do you need?

1)   PC (MS-DOS compatible) 286 of better
2)   PC- CONTROL CARD
3)   Software
4)   Decoders for locos
5)   Decoders for points/signals
6)   An "old" transformer, e.g. from a starter kit (ca. 16 V~/ 40 VA)

Price-list:

The PC is already present at most people, so this does not have to be bought separately.
Decoders for locos, points/ signals are sold nowadays by many companies for attractive prices.

Because the PC (with the software) now acts as the control panel for train speed and points/signals, you only need an interface to convert the "computer commands" to the railway. This will now be done by the PC-CONTROL CARD.
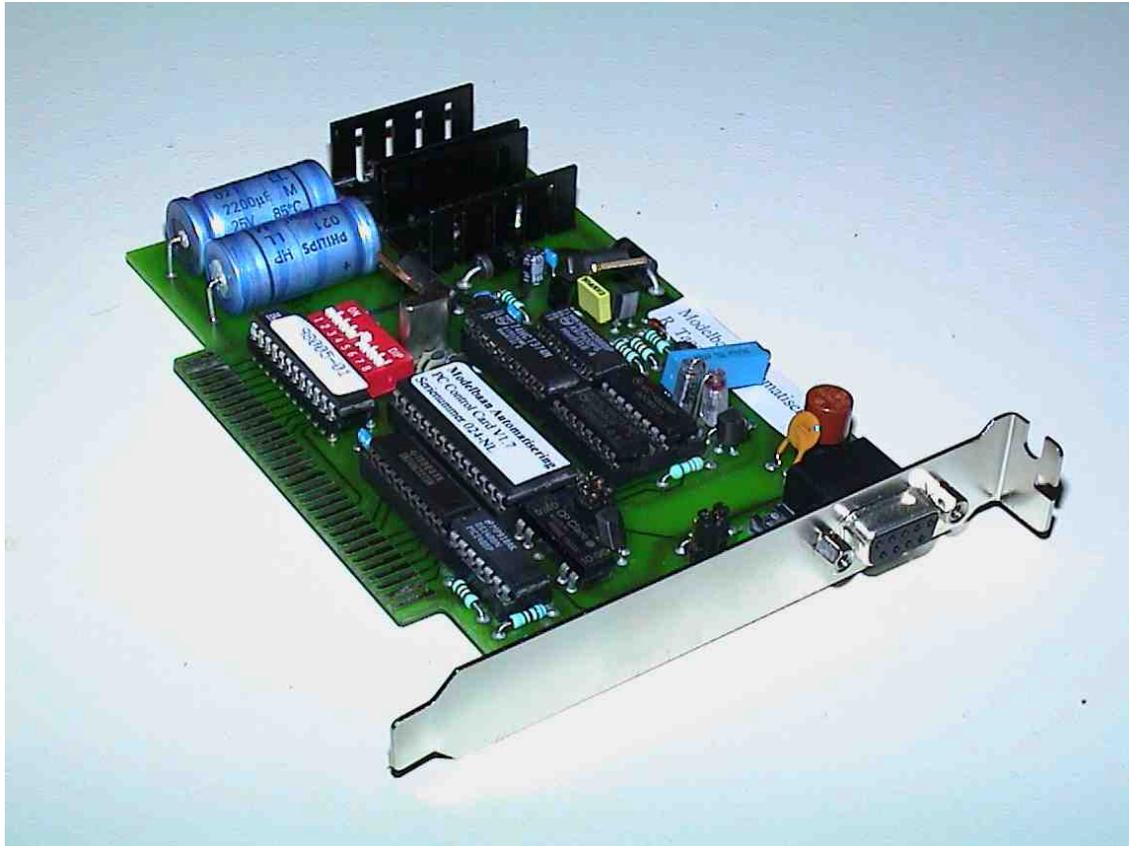

How does it work?

The PC- CONTROL CARD will be placed in your PC (free ISA slot). This card will be externally connected to a transformer with an alternating current (ca. 16V~) to supply your railway.
De PC- CONTROL CARD is fully compatible with MÄRKLIN (~) digital (MOTOROLA FORMAT).
This means that all decoders which are suitable for MÄRKLIN (~) digital are also suitable for the PC- CONTROL CARD.
At the moment you can also buy decoders for the 2-railsystem (MOTOROLA FORMAT). So if you ride for example with a direct current railway and FLEISCHMANN or ROCO locos, these can then simply be converted with a decoder from the firm Uhlenbrock or LENZ (they supply decoders for 2-railsystems which are using the MOTOROLA FORMAT).

What are the advantages compared to a current digital system?

1) The purchase price is much lower
2) The communication is much faster (no serial connection, but direct)
3) Less space is needed adjacent to the railway

What does it cost?

This unique card will be offered for the introduction price of € 115, -
(Euro).

Technical specifications:

- Fully compatible with the MÄRKLIN (~) digital (MOTOROLA FORMAT)
- Suitable for PC (IBM-compatible) with a free ISA slot
- Maximum output supply (digital) 1.5 Ampere
- Connection to external power amplifier (booster)
- Needs an external power supply (alternating current 16….19V~)
- Feedback will be read externally (PC I/O card)

Delivery:

- PC- CONTROL CARD
- Cable for connection of transformer and railway
- Mounting and connection instruction
- Software (**SOFT**LOK demo version)