Analog OMNI-BEAM™ Sensors
with Voltage Sourcing Outputs

- Proven OMNI-BEAM optical performance in sensors with analog voltage sourcing outputs
- Ideal for applications requiring a continuously variable control voltage that is either directly or inversely related to a sensing parameter; "mirror-image" outputs
- Analog output is ripple-free and temperature-stable
- Non-interactive NULL and SPAN controls for ease of adjustment
- Built-in 10-element LED display indicates output voltage
- Models available for diffuse, convergent, and fiber optic sensing modes, and for ac or dc supply voltages

Banner Analog OMNI-BEAM™ Sensors combine the proven optical performance of standard OMNI-BEAM™ sensors with a 0 to 10V dc or 10 to 0V dc sourcing analog output power block to produce a highly versatile and practical analog photoelectric control. Analog photoelectric sensors are especially useful in applications such as process control, where it is necessary to monitor an object's position or size to produce a variable control voltage for an analog device such as a motor speed control. Analog photoelectric sensors are also used to monitor the optical reflectivity or optical clarity of materials.

Analog OMNI-BEAM sensors provide a variable dc voltage output that is either directly related ("non-inverting" output) or inversely related ("inverting" output) to the strength of the received light signal. When properly adjusted, the two analog outputs are mirror-images of each other, with their output voltage plots intersecting at 5 volts (see page 3). Each sensor has multi-turn NULL and SPAN controls to set the minimum and maximum limits of the sensor's sourcing voltage outputs. An innovative, custom-designed analog sensor circuit design allows NULL and SPAN to be adjusted without interaction, greatly simplifying the setup adjustment procedure. A convenient 10-element moving-dot LED array gives a visual indication of relative light signal change and power block voltage output to within the nearest volt.

Analog OMNI-BEAM sensors consist of two basic "building blocks": a sensor head and a power block. The sensor head contains optical components, an analog amplifier, NULL and SPAN adjustment controls, and LED indicator array circuitry. Sensor heads are available for diffuse, convergent, and fiber optic sensing modes. Fiber optic mode models include infrared and visible-light glass fiber optic models, and a visible-light plastic fiber optic model. The power block contains power supply and analog voltage output circuits, and is offered in three basic models: model OPBT3 (for +15 to 30V dc), model OPBA3 (for 105 to 130V ac), and model OPBB3 (for 210 to 250V ac). Power block models are listed in the table on page 2.

Power blocks are available with either an attached 6-foot PVC-covered cable or an integral QD (Quick-disconnect) connector. Twelve-foot lengths of mating minifast™ quick-disconnect cable are sold separately.

To order an Analog OMNI-BEAM sensor, specify the following:
1) a sensor head model (from pages 3, 4, and 5), and
2) a power block model (from page 2).

Specifications

Power requirements:
- +15 to 30V dc, OPBT3 power block models
- 105 to 130V ac (50/60Hz), OPBA3 power block models
- 210 to 250V ac (50/60Hz), OPBB3 power block models

Output:
The output is an analog voltage that is related to the intensity of the light reaching the receiver. The relationship between the 0 to 10V dc analog output voltage and the received light signal intensity is determined by the wiring configuration, and may be either direct or inverse. Output capacity 10mA, maximum. Both outputs may be used simultaneously, but the maximum total load may not exceed 10mA. Outputs are protected against short-circuit and overload.

A comprehensive introduction to the theory and use of photoelectric analog sensors begins on page 5.

Dimensions

The sensor head module and the power block module are sold separately.

Dimensions (Specifications are continued on page 2)

Please read Personnel Safety WARNING, page 8.
Specifications (continued from page 1)

Response time: Output response is the sum of the sensor's fixed R-C time constant and the programmable R-C time constant. 63% of any output transition will occur within the period of the total time constant. Fixed response times are as follows:

- OASBD, F, FV, FP sensor heads = R-C time constant 1.5 ms
- OASBCV sensor head = R-C time constant 3.3 ms
- OASBDX, FX sensor head = R-C time constant 15.0 ms

The programmable R-C time constant is set using the switches located at the base of the sensor head (see “Adjustment Procedure”, page 3):

- All switches “off” = 1 ms
- Switch #3 “on” = 1 sec
- Switch #1 “on” = 10 ms
- Switch #4 “on” = 10 sec
- Switch #2 “on” = 100 ms

If more than one switch is “on”, the time constant is additive.

Adjustments:

- NULL: Null is adjusted (for the condition of greatest received light) until the #1 LED on the moving dot LED output display just turns “off” (only the POWER indicator LED should be “on” at this point). Further decrease the NULL adjustment until the inverting output just reaches 0 volts, or the non-inverting output just reaches +10V dc. Refer to the Adjustment Procedure (page 3) and the hookup diagrams below.

Span is adjusted to produce the desired voltage swing between the lightest and darkest sensing conditions. Minimum guaranteed signal contrast (i.e. minimum SPAN) which will result in a 10 volt output swing is 16:1.

Both controls are 15-turn clutched potentiometers with slotted brass elements, located beneath a gasketed cover on top of the sensor. A small, flat-bladed screwdriver is required for adjustment.

Status indicators:

- Power On: a red LED lights whenever power is applied to the power block;
- Output: Ten-element moving-dot LED array indicates approximate voltage output.

Output connector:

- 6-foot attached PVC-covered cable is standard. Cable may be spliced: order 100-foot long extension cable model EC312-100 for power block OPBT3, or EC915-100 for power block models OPBA3 and OPBB3.

Power block models with “QD” suffix have an integral threaded standard quick-disconnect connector. Twelve-foot long mating quick-disconnect (QD) cables are sold separately. See table below for more information.

Construction:

- Housing: molded VALOX® thermoplastic polyester
- Top view window: transparent Lexan® polycarbonate
- Hardware: stainless steel

When properly assembled, all components are fully gasketed. Fully assembled unit is rated NEMA 1, 3, 4, 12, and 13.

Operating temperature range:

- 0 to 50°C (+32 to 122°F)

Humidity:

- 95% maximum relative humidity (non-condensing).

Selecting a Power Block Module

A power block module performs the dual functions of providing the proper operating voltage for the sensor block and of interfacing the sensor block to the circuit to be controlled. See Specifications section (page 1) for information on power block output load capacity. Below is a list of power block modules that may be used with the Analog OMNI-BEAM sensor block modules. Sensor block and power block must be ordered separately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Output(s)</th>
<th>Required supply voltage</th>
<th>Cable Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OPBA3</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>105 to 130V ac (50/60 Hz) 6-ft. 5-conductor PVC-covered cable</td>
<td>MBCC-412 required (see below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPBA3QD</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>105 to 130V ac (50/60 Hz) MBCC-512 cable required (see below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPBB3</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>210 to 250V ac (50/60 Hz) 6-ft. 5-conductor PVC-covered cable</td>
<td>MBCC-412 required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPBB3QD</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>210 to 250V ac (50/60 Hz) MBCC-512 cable required (see below)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPBT3</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>+15 to 30V dc, 100mA max. 6-ft. 4-conductor PVC-covered cable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPBT3QD</td>
<td>analog solid-state voltage sourcing (2)</td>
<td>+15 to 30V dc, 100mA max. MBCC-412 cable required</td>
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Hookup Information: OPB3, OPB3QD, OPBB3, AC Input OPBB3QD Analog Output Power Blocks

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Hookup Information: OPBT3 and OPBT3QD, DC Input Analog Output Power Blocks

MBCC-type minifast™ QD Cables for QD model power blocks (purchase cables separately; see table above)
Adjustment Procedure, Analog OMNI-BEAM Sensors

1) Before adjusting the NULL and SPAN, slide the OALM board out from the base of the sensor head and set the output response time at the DIP switch. Refer to the photo (below right) and the information printed on the OALM board. Switch settings are given in the Specifications section (page 2, top). Longer time settings are useful for "smoothing" sensor response. Slide the OALM board back into the sensor head.

2) Begin with the sensor mounted at the sensing position and connected, per the hookup diagrams on page 2, for the desired output (inverting or non-inverting). The most precise adjustment is attained by using a voltmeter connected to monitor the desired output, as shown in the hookup diagrams. Present the "lightest" expected sensing condition to the sensor (the condition that results in the most light seen by the receiver). Next, perform either step #3 or step #4.

3) To adjust the inverting output: monitor the voltage on the black wire. Adjust the NULL control to the point where the output just reaches 0 volts*. Then present to the sensor the "darkest" expected sensing condition (the condition that results in least light seen by the receiver), and adjust the SPAN control to just reach 10 volts output.

4) To adjust the non-inverting output: monitor the voltage on the white wire. Adjust the NULL control to the point where the output just reaches 10 volts. Then present to the sensor the "darkest" expected sensing condition (the condition that results in the least light seen by the receiver), and adjust the SPAN control to just reach 0 volts* output.

As can be seen from the graph (above, right), the slopes of the two 0-to-10V outputs are mirror-images of each other, and the plots intersect at 5 volts output. When the 0 and 10 volt points of one output have been properly set, the other output will track very close to the predicted values.

Other voltage ranges may be used. The practicality of doing so depends upon conditions specific to each individual application. Substitute the lower voltage for "0 volts", and the higher voltage for "10 volts" in the preceding adjustment instructions. When a range of other than 0 to 10 volts is used the NULL and SPAN controls will no longer be non-interactive. If you require further assistance, contact your Banner field sales representative or a factory applications engineer.

*Adjust the pot for minimum voltage near 0 volts dc. Voltmeter may not indicate exactly 0 volts.

Diffuse (Proximity) Mode: models OASBD and OASBDX

Model OASBD
Beam: infrared, 880nm
Maximum Response Range
(at maximum NULL and maximum SPAN): 36 inches (0,9m)

Model OASBDX
Beam: infrared, 880nm
Maximum Response Range
(at maximum NULL and maximum SPAN): 12 feet (3,7m)

NOTE: The target used to plot the OSBD and OSDBD response curves is a 90% reflectance white test card which measures 16 inches by 20 inches (400mm x 500mm). Actual sensor response must consider both the relative surface reflectivity and the actual reflective surface area of any target.
Fiber Optic models OASBF, OASBFX, OASBFV, and OASBFP

Sensors for use with Glass Fiber Optics

**Model OASBF**  
Infrared light source, 880nm

Model OASBF. OASBFX and OASBFV are identical in appearance to the OASBF.

**Model OASBFX**  
High-power infrared light source, 880nm

Opposed fiber optic mode

Diffuse fiber optic mode

**Model OASBFV**  
Visible red light source, 650nm

**Model OASBFP**  
Sensor for use with Plastic Fiber Optics  
Visible red light source, 650nm

Model OASBFP, shown with coiled, bifurcated plastic fiber optic assembly.

See pages 5 through 8 for a comprehensive discussion on the theory and use of analog sensors.
Photoelectric Sensing Modes and Their Use in Analog Control

Every analog sensing application requires that the sensor produce a predictable change in output that directly corresponds with a predicted mechanical change. The analog sensor output usually produces a measureable change in voltage or current.

In the case of a photoelectric sensor, the mechanical change within the process being monitored must produce a change in light intensity at the sensor’s receiver. Most analog sensor applications involve the tracking of a process represented by a change between specific light levels, say “level A” and “level B” (see Figure 1).

The best photoelectric sensor for any analog application is one which:
1) Senses the greatest amount of light level change between levels A and B,
2) Produces a constantly increasing or decreasing change of output between levels A and B.

Also, in applications where no circuitry is available to integrate or otherwise condition the sensor output, it is often desirable or necessary that the sensor produce an output which tracks linearly between levels A and B.

The selection of the best Analog OMNI-Beam sensor for a specific application is a matter of:
1) Selecting the sensor head that has the optimum optical response per the above criteria, and
2) Configuring the sensor optics within the application to optimize these same criteria.

An understanding of the differences between the various photoelectric sensing modes greatly simplifies sensor selection decisions. The Banner Handbook of Photoelectric Sensing offers a discussion of sensing modes. The following discussion presents, in general terms, how each sensing mode is most commonly used for analog sensing applications.

Diffuse (Proximity) Sensing Mode: models OASBD and OASBDX

Distance measurement applications include stack height control, web loop control (Figure 2), and bin level control. Successful photoelectric distance measurement usually demands that the reflectivity of the material being sensed remain constant. If the material being sensed has a specular (shiny) surface, then the angle of the sensor to the material’s surface must also remain constant. These sensing constraints severely limit the use of photoelectric sensors for distance measurement. For long distance measurement, analog ultrasonic sensors (Figure 3) are often the first choice. Ultrasonic sensors measure the elapsed time between a sound transmission and the returned echo. Consequently, analog ultrasonic sensors have the benefit of offering an output that is truly linear with sensing distance.
In applications where the material being tracked is absorbent to sound, analog photoelectric sensor become the first choice. Sound-absorbent materials include cloth fabrics, carpeting, loose-fiber insulation, and open-cell foam.

Excess gain curves may be used to predict the general response of diffuse mode analog sensors. Figure 4 is a plot of distance vs. excess gain for sensor model OASBD. The sensor's NULL control is adjusted so that the received signal at the maximum sensing distance produces an excess gain of 4X. This is the point at which the inverted output first reaches zero volts, or at which the non-inverted output just reaches 10 volts. When NULL is set for 4X excess gain, there is no interaction between the NULL and SPAN adjustments.

From the plot of maximum NULL, the minimum distance (where excess gain is 4X) can be as far as 5.5 inches from the sensor lens. The minimum distance can be as close as .15 inch. However, from .15 inch outward, the excess gain increases until the target is just over 1.0 inch away, and then decreases. Most applications require the excess gain to constantly decrease with increasing target distance. It follows that a minimum NULL setting will place the 4X excess gain point at about 1 inch (i.e. at the top of the curve).

Minimum SPAN required to produce a full 10 volt output swing represents an optical contrast of 1.5:1 (i.e. a change in excess gain from 4X to 2.7X). Maximum SPAN corresponds to a contrast ratio of 16:1 (i.e. a change from 4X to .25X).

From the excess gain plots for the OASBD, the sensing distances for the limits of adjustment can be estimated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settings</th>
<th>NULL</th>
<th>SPAN</th>
<th>Change in Excess Gain</th>
<th>Range of Measurement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>4X to .25X</td>
<td>5.5 to 36 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>MIN</td>
<td>4X to 2.7X</td>
<td>5.5 to 7 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3</td>
<td>MIN</td>
<td>MAX</td>
<td>4X to .25X</td>
<td>1 to 9 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>MIN</td>
<td>MIN</td>
<td>4X to 2.7X</td>
<td>1 to 2 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sensor output voltage changes in proportion to change in excess gain. The excess gain plots for the OASBD (Figure 4) appear fairly linear beyond the signal peak at 1 inch. This is because the excess gain level is plotted on a log scale. Excess gain decreases at a exponential rate with increasing distance. Figure 5 illustrates how the output for model OASBD would respond at the four extreme settings of the NULL and SPAN controls (as listed in the table above). These plots are for the inverting output. Note that greater linearity of response is possible over short distances (i.e. with lower SPAN settings).

It is important to keep in mind that the actual reflective properties of the material to be sensed can have a dramatic effect on actual sensor response. The performance reference for all diffuse mode sensors is a Kodak 90% reflectance white test card. Objects with lower reflectivity will be “seen” over a shorter range. Objects with surfaces that are specular (i.e. shiny mirror-like) can produce very high excess gain when viewed squarely at right angles by a diffuse mode sensor, but produce very low excess gain when viewed at an angle only a few degrees off of perpendicular. Also, the size of the Kodak test card is 8x10 inches. Smaller objects may return less light energy to the sensor.

In short, photoelectric analog distance measurement is dependent upon too many variables to allow meaningful performance curves to be published. Each Banner Analog OMNI-BEAM sensor head has a specified maximum response distance. This is the distance to a 90% reflectance white test card where the excess gain is .25X, and assumes that the NULL and SPAN controls are both set to maximum. It is always best to determine analog response empirically. Whenever possible, sample materials should be sent to Banner’s Application Engineering Group for test sensors.

Analog OMNI-BEAM model OASBDX may be used with a retroreflective target (such as model BRT-3) to monitor the gradual accumulation of dirt, dust, frost, or other contaminants that attenuate the passage of light (Figure 6). In practice, the retroreflective target is mounted to a surface where the buildup is to be monitored. In some applications, the target and sensor lens are both allowed to accumulate buildup. This same technique may be used to monitor density levels of smoke or other airborne particles which flow between the OASBDX and its retroreflector.

Convergent Beam Sensing Mode: model OASBCV

A convergent beam sensor uses a lens system that focuses the emitted light to an exact point in front of the sensor, and focuses the receiver element on the same point. This is a very efficient use of reflective sensing energy. Most objects with small profiles can be reliably sensed.

A convergent beam sensor will detect an object of a given reflectivity at the sensor’s focus point, plus and minus some distance. This sensing area, centered on the focus point, is called the sensor’s depth of field. The size of the depth of field depends upon the reflectivity of the object to be sensed. The excess gain curves for model OASBCV (Figure 7) are plotted using a Kodak 90% reflectance white test card.

Most of the analog distance measuring applications that use convergent model OASBCV utilize half of the response curve. Distance measurement usually begins at the focus (1.5 inches from the sensor lens) and moves farther out, away from the sensor (Figure 8). It is evident from the excess gain curve that an analog convergent beam sensor best monitors object displacements of less than .5 inch.

Much smaller displacements may be measured if the convergent beam sensor can be located such that the edge of the object enters the focus point from the side (Figure 9). In this type of application, the reflectivity of the object and the angle of the object’s surface to the sensor lens must remain constant.

Specular surfaces can “confuse” a convergent beam sensor. When viewed straight-on, mirror-like reflections can cause a shiny surface to...
be seen far beyond the normal depth of field, and small changes in viewing angle can cause complete loss of the received light signal.

Model OASBCV uses a visible red (650nm) light source. Consequently, this sensor may be used successfully in some applications to monitor the reflectivity differences contributed by a change in object color. However, a convergent beam sensor may be used to monitor such color changes only if the sensing distance and other factors contributing to the object's surface reflectivity remain constant. Color monitoring applications always require a feasibility study. Your Banner Field Sales Engineer or Factory Applications Engineer can assist with testing.

Fiber Optic Sensing Modes: models OASBF, OASBFX, OASBFV, OASBF

Fiber optics offer many possibilities for analog sensing and control. Individual fiber optics may be used for opposed or mechanical convergent sensing. Bifurcated fiber optics may be used for diffuse mode sensing. Selection of fiber diameter (plastic fibers) or fiber bundle diameter (glass fibers) affords a means of customizing the sensing optics for optimum analog response. Fiber optics also offer ease of sensor mounting, especially in tight locations.

Individual fiber optics:
Glass or plastic individual fiber optics are used in an opposed configuration for distance measurement (Figure 10). If a pair of fibers are kept in alignment with one another while moving apart, the decrease in excess gain is predicted directly by the inverse square law. This fact is illustrated by the straight-line excess gain curves for opposed mode sensors (Figure 11). Long distance measurement is accomplished by adding lens assemblies to individual fiber optics with threaded end tips. Give consideration to the warnings about flexing of glass fiber optics whenever a fiber optic is repeatedly moved back and forth over a long distance.

A pair of fiber optics with a small fiber or fiber bundle will offer highly accurate measurement over short distances.

One way to accurately measure small displacements is to position a pair of opposed fiber optics so that the displacement between two surfaces causes misalignment of the two fibers. Figure 12 illustrates how linear displacement may be monitored. Rectangular glass fiber optic assemblies can be used to monitor displacement over a long distance with relative fiber movement occurring along the length of the rectangular bundle termination. Figure 12 also illustrates how opposed glass fiber optics with rectangular sensing ends may be used for very precise displacement measurement with movement across the width of the rectangular termination. Figure 13 shows how opposed fiber optics are used to measure angular displacement within any specified plane of rotation.
Bifurcated fiber optics:

Bifurcated fiber optics may sometimes be successfully applied to monitor distance to a surface (Figure 17). As the excess gain curve in Figure 18 suggests, distance measurement with bifurcated fiber optics is possible only over relatively short ranges. Repeatability of distance sensing with bifurcated fiber optics demands that the reflectivity of the surface and the viewing angle to the surface remain constant. Once the relative reflectivity of the surface to be monitored is known, the desired response to the predicted displacement can be obtained through selection of sensor head and fiber (or fiber bundle) size. Your Banner Field Sales Engineer or Factory Applications Engineer can assist you with the best selection.

**WARNING** These analog photoelectric sensors do NOT include the self-checking redundant circuitry necessary to allow their use in personnel safety applications. A sensor failure or malfunction can result in either a high or a low sensor output voltage.

Never use these products as sensing devices for personnel protection. Their use as safety devices may create an unsafe condition which could lead to serious injury or death.

Only MACHINE-GUARD and PERIMETER-GUARD Systems, and other systems so designated, are designed to meet OSHA and ANSI machine safety standards for point-of-operation guarding devices. No other Banner sensors or controls are designed to meet these standards, and they must NOT be used as sensing devices for personnel protection.

**WARRANTY:** Banner Engineering Corporation warrants its products to be free of defects for one year. Banner Engineering Corporation will repair or replace, free of charge, any product of its manufacture found to be defective at the time it is returned to the factory during the warranty period. This warranty does not cover damage or liability for the improper application of Banner products. This warranty is in lieu of any other warranty, either expressed or implied.