

VSN240 Wireless Flush-Mount Sensor

The Sensys Networks VDS240 Wireless Vehicle Detection System uses wireless magneto-resistive sensors to detect the presence and movement of vehicles. The sensors – installed on the surface or in small holes cored in the roadway – transmit detection data in real-time via low-power radio technology to a nearby Sensys Networks access point. Vehicle detections are further relayed to a traffic signal controller, remote traffic management center, or other system.

The Sensys Networks Wireless Flush-Mount Sensor. Flush-mount sensors combine a state-of-the-art magnetometer and a low-power radio in a small, hardened plastic case suitable for installation directly in the pavement.

In typical traffic management applications, a sensor is placed in the middle of a traffic lane to detect the presence and passage of vehicles. Vehicle speeds and length are measured by two sensors installed in the same lane with the exact distance between them configured in software. The recommended distance between sensors depends on the range of expected speeds to be measured: for typical freeway applications, a separation of 20 to 24 feet (6.1 to 7.3 meters) is recommended; for typical arterial applications, a separation of 10 to 12 feet (3.1 to 3.7 meters) is preferred.

Advanced Magnetometer-Based Vehicle Detection.

The state-of-the-art magneto-resistive sensing devices in each wireless sensor measure the x-, y-, and z-axis components of the Earth's magnetic field at a 128 Hz sampling rate. As vehicles come within range, changes in the x, y, or z axes of the measured magnetic field become apparent. When no vehicles are present, sensors continually measure the background magnetic field to estimate a reference. Each sensor automatically self-calibrates to the local environment, and to any long-term variations of the local magnetic field, by allowing this reference value to change over time.

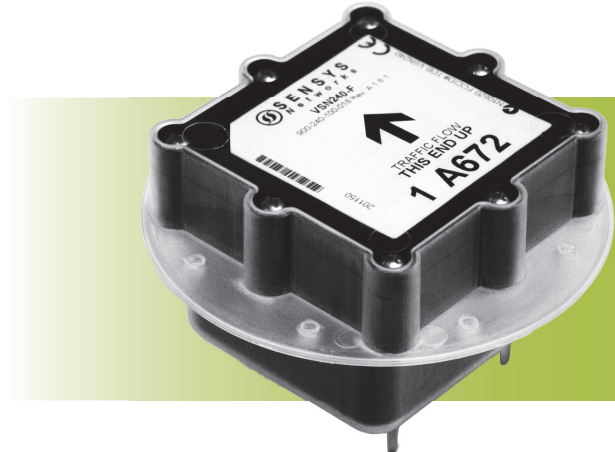
Types of Wireless Sensors. Sensys Networks offers two types of flush-mount wireless sensors:

VSN240-F

- Flush-mount wireless sensor for in-pavement installation
- For all freeway, arterial, and signal control applications

VSN240-T

- Flush-mount wireless sensor for in-pavement installation
- For signal control applications only



Functions / Features

3-axis magnetometer for vehicle detection

- 128 Hz sampling rate
- Count and presence detection modes
- Modes for bicycle and motorcycle detection

Superior accuracy

Exceptional reliability

Flush-mount in-pavement installation with no wires or lead-in cabling

Fast & simple installation

- Installs in less than 10 minutes in small hole using a hammer or core drill
 - 4" (10 cm) diameter; 2 1/2" (6.5 cm) deep
 - Covered with fast-drying epoxy
- Minimal lane closure time
- No saw cuts

Extremely long battery life – average of 10 years

- Rugged mechanical design
- Auto-calibration

Reliable 2-way radio communications with access point

- Uniquely addressable and configurable
- Firmware can be upgraded over-the-air

Can be readily deployed where other systems cannot be used

- Split roadways
- High water tables
- Damaged pavement

Functional Specifications

detection technique	3-axis magnetic field sensing
sampling rate	128 Hz
programmable vehicle detection parameters (mode B only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Z-axis detect threshold (mG) • Z-axis undetect threshold (mG) • X-axis undetect threshold (mG) • onset filter (ms) • holdover (ms) • auto-recalibration timeout (secs)
over-the-air protocol	Sensys Networks NanoPower (SNP) protocol (TDMA)
physical layer protocol	EEE 802.15.4 PHY
modulation	Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum Offset Quadrature Phase-Shift Keying (DSSS O-QPSK)
transmit/receive bit rate	250 kbps
frequency band	2400 to 2483.5 MHz (ISM unlicensed band)
frequency channels	16
channel bandwidth	2 MHz
antenna type	microstrip patch antenna (mounted below top surface of sensor)
antenna field of view	±60° (azimuth & elevation)
nominal output power	0 dBm
spurious emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 - 1000 MHz: < -56 dBm • 1 - 12.75 GHz: < -44 dBm • 1.8 - 1.9 GHz: < -56 dBm • 5.15 - 5.3 GHz: < -51 dBm
typical receive sensitivity	-95 dBm (PER = 1%)
saturation (max input level)	≥ 10 dBm

Compliance

safety	2006/95/EC
EMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FCC: This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation. • 2004/108/EC

Sensor Modes

mode	application	description
B (event)	count stations; advance detection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sends timestamped ON and OFF detection events using configurable detection parameters • not supported by VSN240-T
E (idle)	status reporting	disables magnetometer and sends sensor hardware and software version information
STOPBAR-# (presence detection)	stop bar detection; ramp management	sends timestamped <i>ON</i> and <i>OFF</i> detection events using pre-configured detection parameters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 different stop bar detection modes can be selected • recommended stop bar detection modes for specific applications: 		
	STOPBAR-0	bicycles/scooters
	STOPBAR-2	motorcycles
	STOPBAR-5	passenger vehicles (normal recalibration)
	STOPBAR-7	passenger vehicles (fast recalibration)
	STOPBAR-14	light rail

Power, Physical, & Environment

power supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • non-replaceable primary Li-SOCl₂ 3.6V battery pack • 7.2 Ah (nominal capacity)
dimensions	2.9" x 2.9" x 1.9" (7.4 cm x 7.4 cm x 4.9 cm)
weight	0.6 pounds/0.3 kg
environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • designed for in-pavement mounting • NEMA Type 6P enclosure • IP68 ingress protection
operating temp	-40°F to 176°F/-40°C to +85°C

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