

# INFORMATION BULLETIN

## ***NEW R-NET WIRELESS PROGRAMMER WI-FI DONGLE***

### **INTRODUCTION**

On March 1, 2024, an exciting new programming tool for R-net electronics was released. The Wireless Programmer (Wi-Fi Dongle) is only available with R-net electronics at this time but compatibility with VR2 electronics is expected in the near future.

The Wi-Fi Dongle brings wireless programming to all R-net power wheelchair (PWC) control systems – even those already in the field. The Wi-Fi Dongle contains a local, embedded website that presents a programming interface and a Wi-Fi connection. This means that any device (PC, Apple, Android, Chrome) with an Internet browser can be used as a programming and diagnostic tool. The Wi-Fi connection is local between the Wi-Fi Dongle and the device – no actual Internet connection is required.

It is no longer necessary to download PC Programming software nor is an app needed - any device with an Internet browser can be used as a programming and diagnostics tool. The connection process from a device to the Wi-Fi Dongle is simple and secure; for example, no different than to logging-on to a Wi-Fi network in a coffee shop or hotel. Unlike software-only solutions, which require online registration of individual devices, possession of the Wi-Fi Dongle provides security against unauthorized programming.

New devices or operating system revisions often mean that installed Apps or software no longer function and themselves need upgrading. Because this solution is website based, these concerns are completely removed. Future upgrades to the Wi-Fi Dongle's software may be required, to support product enhancements or new-model control systems. In this case, upgrades will be free of charge and effected via a simple, online process.

Connection of the Wi-Fi Dongle to a PWC is done the same way as the existing R-net programming tool, via the R-net bus. As with the current programming dongle, on board programming (OBP) can still be done when the system has a joystick with a color screen and does not require a PC cable, software or additional device. Also like the current programming tool, the Wi-Fi Dongle can be powered via its USB connection to allow file management away from a PWC. In addition, on-board memory means the Wi-Fi Dongle can be used to store programming files or other information such as operating instructions.

The real benefit of the Wi-Fi Dongle is the ability to access the full functionality of the R-net PC Programmer software, wirelessly. This software presents the many programmable options of R-net in a larger, user-friendly logical format which makes complex set-ups adjustments easier. Furthermore, it also makes accessing and downloading diagnostic tools and error logs easier as well. No more wired connection to a PC, dealing with firewalls and access permissions to download software and ensuring your drivers are up to date. Plug in, connect to the local internet browser and program away!

## New R-net Wireless Programmer – Wi-Fi Dongle (cont'd)

### SIDE BY SIDE

#### CURRENT WIRED DONGLE



#### NEW WI-FI DONGLE



#### CURRENT PROGRAMMER

##### Considerations

- Supports OBP when plugged into R-net BUS and joystick with color screen present.
- Wired programming of R-net Control Systems
- Requires wired connection to Windows based PC for use of R-net Programmer software.
- Amylior R-net PC Programmer software must be downloaded on Windows based PC.
- R-net programmer software works only on Windows based system.
- Using USB connection can manage programs without PWC present.

#### NEW RELEASE

##### Advantages

- Supports OBP when plugged in to R-net BUS and joystick with color screen present.
- Wireless programming of R-net Control Systems
- Compatible with previously shipped powerchairs
- No Apps or installable software required.
- Any device with modern Internet browser can be used as a programming tool.
- No authorization process required.
- Easily upgradeable online for future functionality
- Using USB connection can manage programs without PWC present.
- Can be used as a file storage device

***New R-net Wireless Programmer – Wi-Fi Dongle (cont’d)***

**FAQ**

QUESTION	ANSWER
Will my wired dongle still work?	Yes, the Wi-Fi dongle serves as an alternative method for programming and diagnostics, with no impact on the functionality of the wired dongle.
Is the R-net PC programming software/interface changing?	No, the new Wi-Fi Dongle contains a local, embedded website which doesn't require PC programming software. The wired Dongle will still function with the current Amylior PC Programmer software, available on our website.
Can I program VR2?	Not at the moment. Curtiss-Wright will eventually add support for the VR2 in the Wi-Fi Dongle. Once this option becomes available, you can update your Wi-Fi Dongle by following the instructions provided on the device.
Can I use a wireless dongle obtained from another manufacturer to program my Alltrack?	Yes, it is possible since the Wi-Fi Dongle utilizes a local, embedded website which is independent of different manufacturers.
What if I can't access cellular service or Wi-Fi when I want to program?	The Wi-Fi Dongle features its own local, embedded website, eliminating the need for connection to any cellular service or external Wi-Fi network for reading, editing, writing parameters, or performing diagnostics. You can also store logs and wheelchair configurations directly on the Wi-Fi Dongle to be transmitted later when cellular service or Wi-Fi is available. Additionally, the Wi-Fi Dongle can host configuration files for access from anywhere. If you anticipate working in an area without cellular service or Wi-Fi and need to program a specific configuration file, we recommend saving a copy on the Wi-Fi Dongle or the device intended for use with it. Please refer to the Instruction Guide on the Amylior website for more details

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

**Availability and Pricing**

The kit includes: The Wi-Fi Dongle, a USB cable Type A to Micro B, R-net bus cable, QR Code referring to the Instruction Guide online, all in a vinyl carrycase.

This kit is available for on-chair ordering and is identified by the code: ASCPWIFI. Pricing details are provided in the Order Forms. Alternatively, this kit can be ordered as parts using the code: 1004835. Pricing for the parts kit can be obtained through a Request for Quote (RFQ).

**Corresponding updates**

All Order Forms have been updated and are currently published on our website. This item will be in the Parts Manual in its next release.

**An Instruction Guide is on our website in the Support/For Pros/Instruction Guides section.**

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