

HIOKI

REMOTE OPERATION MANUAL

3804-50
3805-50

DIGITAL HiTESTER

HIOKI E. E. CORPORATION

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Introduction

The Section describes how to operate the meter via an optical interface.

- It also explains the detail information of all interface command sets of Standard Commands for Programmable Instruments (SCPI) used in the meter.
- The remote control operation enables the user either to manually operate the meter via a terminal or to execute a host computer program automatically.

Trademarks

Visual Basic is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

Symbols

Safety Symbol

The following symbols in this manual indicate the relative importance of cautions and warnings.

NOTE

Indicates advisory items related to performance or correct operation of the instrument.

Other symbols



Indicates the reference.



Terminology explained at the bottom of the word.

Remote Interface Overview

Chapter 1

Fig. 1 shows a connection between the 3804-50/ 3805-50 and a computer via an optical cable.

Either a USB or an RS-232C interface optical cable can be used for communication.

Procedure

1.

Connect the cable to the connector or USB port.

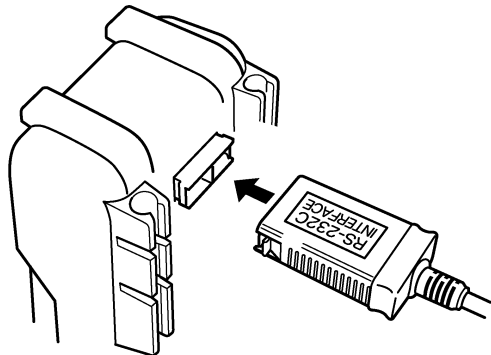
RS-232C interface optical cable	to the 9-pin Type D male connector on the computer.
---------------------------------	---

USB optical cable	Connect to the USB port on the computer.
-------------------	--

2.

Once the USB cable is connected and the USB driver is installed, a virtual RS-232COM port is created on the computer. (Only when using a USB optical cable)

- The remote interface is a serial binary data interchange, which operates from 4800 to 19200 baud rate.
- The communication port of the 3804-50, 3805-50 is designed in full duplex, which makes the meter more reliable and efficient in data taking.



Cable connection for Communication

NOTE

When connecting the communication cable to the meter, ensure that the label RS-232C INTERFACE label faces upwards as shown in Fig. 1.

Setting Remote Interface Parameters

Chapter 2

In order to operate the meter via a host computer or terminal, the parameters in interface within the 3804-50, 3805-50 have to match the parameters in the serial interface provided by the host or terminal.

The following procedures will guide the user to set up interface parameters within the 3804-50, 3805-50 to comply interface with the host.

The default settings of the meter at factory are 9600-baud rate, non-parity check, 8 data lengths, and 1 stop bit (9600, n, 8, 1).

The following table indicates the factory settings and user selectable communication parameters by using remote interface.

Remote Interface Parameters

Item	Parameter	Factory Setting	Selectable Parameter
1	Baud Rate	9600	4800, 9600, 19200
2	parity check	None	None, Odd or Even
3	data length	8	7 or 8
4	response	OFF	ON or OFF
5	data output	OFF	ON or OFF

response

With response ON, the meter responsees (returns) all the characters whatever it receives.

data output

- The RS232 of the 3804-50, 3805-50 is flashing when the meter is set to data output ON.
- If the remote interface of the 3804-50, 3805-50 is under data output mode, the 3804-50, 3805-50 will print out the measured data when the measurement cycle is completed.
- The 3804-50, 3805-50 auto-sends the newest data to a host continuously.
- The 3804-50, 3805-50 doesn't accept any commands under data output mode.

Setup Procedures for Communication Parameter

To ensure the remote interface will operate appropriately, user may need to configure the remote interface parameters on power on option. Please refer to operation procedures of POWER-ON OPTION.

❖ 3804-50, 3805-50 instruction manual "Power-On Options"

Commands Summary

Chapter 3

Overview of Command Type and Format

- All commands must be entered in the upper case.
- There are two types of the 3804-50, 3805-50 programming commands: IEEE 488 common commands and Standard Commands for Programmable Instruments (SCPI).
- Some commands are device-specific to the 3804-50, 3805-50. They are not included in the version 1999.0 of the SCPI standard. However, these commands are designed with the SCPI format in mind and they follow the syntax rules of the standard.

Common Command Format

- The IEEE 488 standard defines the common commands as commands that perform functions like reset and system query.
- Common commands usually come with the asterisk "*" character, and may include parameters. Some examples of Common command like: *IDN?, *RST, *CLS, GTL, LLO.

SCPI Command Format and Query Format

- The SCPI commands control instrument functions.
- A subsystem command has a hierarchical structure that usually consists of a top-level (or root) keyword, one or more lower level keywords, and parameters.
- The following example shows a command and its associated query:

- A. **CONFigure:VOLTage:DC 10** : Set the main display to the DC voltage measurement , and select the 10 V range.
- B. **CONFigure?** : Return the function of the main display measurement.
- CONFigure is a root level keyword with the second level keyword, VOLTage, and 10 is the command parameter.
 - The query command ends with a question mark "?".

NOTE

SCPI stems from IEEE488.1 and IEEE 488.2. Although the IEEE 488.2 standard addressed some instrument measurements, it principally dealt with common commands and syntax or data formats. Please refer to the IEEE488.2 and SCPI reference manual for more information.

Terminator

A terminator is a character sent by a host, which identifies the end of a command string. A valid terminator consists of two-byte data:

<CR> (Carriage Return, ASC(&H0D))

<LF> (Line Feed, ASC(&H0A))

Responding Message

Chapter 4

Return result

- After the meter executes a query command the return of the result will be in the following format:

<Result> + <CR> <LF>

- If communication of the meter is under data output mode, the meter will print out the measured data when the measurement cycle is completed. The printed data are only for primary display. The format of printed data will be shown as following:

<Measurement Data> + <CR> <LF>

- On the meter warning the return of the prompt will be in the following format except Xon and Xoff:

<Prompt> + <CR> <LF>

Data Types

- Returned message is the ASC II string from the meter responding to a query.
- A query is a command followed by a question mark.

The following table is explanation for data types.

Data Types of Responding Message and Parameter

Data Type	Explanation	Example
<NR1>	An integer	+10000, -10000, 123, -100
<NR2>	This numeric representation has an explicit radix point.	+13.234, -.00002, 3.4567
<NR3>	This representation has an explicit radix point and an exponent.	-1.20000000E+02, +9.90000000E+37*
<Boolean>	Single ASCII-encoded byte, is return for the setting query.	0 or 1, OFF or ON

Chapter 4 Responding Message

Data Types of Responding Message and Parameter

Data Type	Explanation	Example
<Literal>	ASCII-encoded bytes corresponding to the short form of the literal used as the command parameter.	DCV, ACA
*: +9.90000000E+37 means positive overload, -9.90000000E+37 means negative overload.		

Prompts

When the meter comes up any system warnings, the meter sends a prompt string to the host through remote interface.

The meter returns one of the prompts as shown on the following table.

Return Prompts

Prompts	Description
*L	Into local mode
*E	Remote command's error warning
*B	Battery low warning
*I	Input warning When the input voltage exceeds 610 V during voltage measurement
*0	Function switch position: V
*1	Function switch position: $\rightarrow$
*2	Function switch position: Ω
*3	Function switch position: $\rightarrow$
*4	Function switch position: μ A
*5	Function switch position: mA
*6	Function switch position: A
*7	Function switch position: T1, T2 (3805-50 only)
ASC(&H11)	Xon: The meter is available.
ASC(&H13)	Xoff: The meter is busy.

NOTE

- You can confirm the input warning status from the N and O items returned in response to the STAT? command.

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Instructions of Command Sets *Chapter 5*

5.1 IEEE 488 Common Commands

*CLS

Description	Clear the System Error Queue.
-------------	-------------------------------

*IDN?

Description	Query the Meter identification.
Response	Returns instrument maker name, model number, serial number and firmware version.

*RST

Description	Put the meter to power-on-reset state, but no affect the Output Queue and interface parameter.
-------------	--

NOTE

The reset operation is executed for 3 seconds at least. Be sure to execute other commands then.

LLO

Description	Put the meter into the local lockout state when in remote control. This means no local key operation at the front panel is allowed during remote control.
-------------	---

GTL

Description	Put the meter into the local state, clearing the remote state and front panel lockout.
-------------	--

5.2 SCPI Commands

This subsection describes the SCPI subsystem commands for the meter. The meter only accepts the UPPER CASE part of command. It is unnecessary to send complete command characters.

Some SCPI Symbol Conventions

Text	Symbol	Meaning
[]		Option: can be omitted
		Exclusive OR
< >		Defined element
()		Comment
?		Question mark
:		Separated two command keywords
;		Compound commands

CONFIgure Subsystem:

CONFIgure

```
:CURRent
:DC    [<range>]
:AC    [<range>]
:PERCent
```

Description	Set to DC or AC current measurement. The function switch is at current measuring. When measuring DCmA, select the % conversion. Use the SYST:CPER command to select the 4-20 mA or 0-20 mA scale.
Parameter	- If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to auto range. - Enter the current measurement range to <range>. The function switch is at μA measuring: 1m, 10m 1m (999.9 μA), 10m (9999 μA) The function switch is at mA measuring: 0.1, 1 0.1(99.99 mA), 1(999.9 mA) The function switch is at A measuring: 10 10 (9.99 A)
Example	<pre>CONF:CURR:DC : Set to DC current. CONF:CURR:AC 0.1 : Set to AC current and 99.99 mA range. CONF:CURR:PERC : For DCmA measurements, select the % conversion.</pre>

CONFigure**:VOLTage****:DC** [**<range>**]**:AC** [**<range>**]**:HRATio**

Description	Set to DC, AC voltage measurement or Harmonics Percentage Display. (3805-50 only:Harmonics Percentage Display) The function switch is at V measuring.
Parameter	- If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to auto range. - Enter the voltage measurement range to <range>: The function switch is at V measuring: 1, 10, 100 or 1000 1 (999.9 mV), 10 (9.999 V), 100 (99.99 V), 1000 (999.9 V)
Example	CONF:VOLT:DC : Set to DC voltage measuring. CONF:VOLT:AC 10 : Set to AC voltage and 9.999 V range. CONF:VOLT:HRAT : For voltage measurements, select the Harmonics Percentage Display.

CONFigure:CAPacitance [**<range>**]

Description	Set to capacitance measurement . The function switch is at C measuring.
Parameter	If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to auto range. Capacitance measurement range to <range>. (Unit: F) : 10u, 100u, 1000u or 10m
Example	CONF:CAP 100u : Set to capacitance measurement and 99.99 μ F range.

CONFigure:RESistance [**<range>**]

Description	Set to 2-wire resistance measuring. The function switch is at resistance measuring.
Parameter	- If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to auto range. - Enter the resistance measurement range to <range>. (Unit: Ω): 1000, 10K, 100K, 1000K, 10M or 100M
Example	CONF:RES 100k : Set to resistance measuring and 99.99 k Ω range.

CONFigure:CONTinuity [**<range>**]

Description	Set to 2-wire resistance measuring with the continuity test. The function switch is at resistance measuring.
Parameter	- If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to auto range. - Enter the resistance measurement range to <range>. (Unit: Ω): 1000, 10K, 100K, 1000K, 10M or 100M
Example	CONF:CONT 1000 : Set to resistance measuring with the continuity test and 999.9 Ω range.

CONFigure:DIODE

Description	Set to diode measuring with continuity test. The function switch is at diode measuring.
-------------	--

CONFigure:FREQuency

Description	Frequency measurement can be selected for voltage or current measurement. The function switch is at voltage or current measurement. (3805-50 only) The function switch is at voltage or current measuring.
Example	CONF:FREQ : Set to frequency measuring.

CONFigure:TEMPerature <T1|T2|DT> [,<K|J>]

Description	Set to temperature measuring. The function switch is at temperature measuring. (3805-50 only)
Parameter	• T1, T2, DT: Setting the measurement channel. • K, J: Thermocouple sensor (Type K or J).
Example	CONF:TEMP T1 :For measurements channel, select the T1.

CONFigure?

Description	Query the function.
Response	Return "<function, range, resolution"> format string, the examples are as following:

Example	Function	Range	Resolution
VOLT +1.000000E-01,+1.000000E-05	DCV	100 mV	0.01 mV
CURR:AC +1.000000E-02,+1.000000E-06	ACA	10 mA	0.001 mA
CPER:0-20mA +1.000000E+03,+1.000000E-01	DCmA percentage display: 0-20mA	1000%	0.1%
FREQ +1.000000E+03,+1.000000E-01	Frequency	1 kHz	0.1 Hz
HRAT	Harmonics Percentage Display		
CAP +1.000000E-07,+1.000000E-11	C (Capacitance)	10 nF	0.01 nF
RES+1.000000E+07,+1.000000E+03	R (Resistance)	10 MΩ	0.001 MΩ
CONT +1.000000E+02,+1.000000E-02	R (Continuous)	100 Ω	0.01 Ω
DIOD	Diode		
T1: K CEL	Temperature T1 K-thermocouple		

CALCulate Subsystem:

CALCulate:FUNCTION **NULL**
AVERage
NONE

Description	Set or off the function of the calculation.
Parameter	NULL - Enables the relative value (REL) display function. AVER - Recording function NONE - Disables calculation function settings.
Example	CALC:FUNC AVER

NOTE

When AVERage is selected, the trigger signal source changes to IMMEDIATE.

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The following calculation functions can be combined: AVER/NULL, NULL/AVER

CALCulate:FUNCTION?

Description	Query the function of the calculation.
Response	Return <Literal> format string: AVER , NULL or NONE .
Example	Return of AVER or NULL indicates that the recording and relative value (REL) display functions are enabled.

CALCulate:NULL:OFFSet?

Description	Query the offset value of the relative value (REL) function.
Response	Return <NR3> format string.

CALCulate

:AVERage
:MAXimum?
:MINimum?
:DIFFerential?
:AVERage?
:PRESent?
:COUNT?

Description	Query the value of the dynamic recording function.
Response	Return <NR3> format string.
Example	CALC:AVER:MAX? : Query the maximum measuring value. CALC:AVER:MIN? : Query the minimum measuring value. CALC:AVER:DIFF? : Query the maximum measuring value - minimum measuring value CALC:AVER:AVER? : Query the average measuring value. CALC:AVER:PRES? : Query the present measuring value. CALC:AVER:COUN? : Query the sampling frequency of the average mode.

TRIGger Subsystem:**TRIGger:SOURce < BUS | REFreshhold | IMMEDIATE >**

Description	Select the source of the start trigger signal.
Parameter	BUS - select a bus command and enter the trigger (hold) mode. REF - select a refresh-hold trigger source and enter the trigger mode IMM - select the internal trigger source and escape the trigger mode.
Example	TRIG:SOUR BUS

NOTE

- If BUS or REF is selected when the recording functions are enabled, they are disabled.
- The threshold for the refresh-hold function must be set before selecting BUS or REF.
- When the threshold of the refresh-hold mode is zero(OFF), the parameter REF is invalid. Contrary, the parameter BUS is invalid when the threshold of the refresh-hold mode is not zero(OFF).

TRIGger:SOURce?

Description	Query the type of the trigger source.
Response	Return <Literal> format string: BUS, REF, IMM

TRIGger:REFreshhold:COUNT <numeric>

Description	Set the threshold for the refresh hold mode.
Parameter	<numeric>: 0, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000.

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory.

TRIGger:REFreshhold:COUNT?

Description	Query the threshold of the refresh hold mode.
Response	Return <NR1> format string: 0 to 1000.

ABORt

Description	When the trigger hold function is enabled (TRIG HOLD displayed), the displayed value is reset and measurement is stopped. Measurement does not resume until a subsequent INIT or READ? command is sent, or when the HOLD key is pressed.
-------------	--

INITiate

Description	Acquires one sample when the trigger hold function is enabled (TRIG HOLD displayed). Valid when TRIGger:SOURce is set to BUS.
-------------	---

Measuring Subsystem:**FETCH?**

Description	• Return the display value of output buffer. • Retrieves the measurements taken by the INITiate command and places them into the device's output buffer. • The query will return data any time that the last reading is valid. • The meter produces an Error 230 in the following case, and no result is returned: When invalid data is present while awaiting a trigger event (such as when the range is changed while the Hold function is enabled).
Response	Return <NR3> format string.
Example	FETCH? : Return the display value, e.g. +1.23450000E+00

READ?

Description	• Return the display value of output buffer after the next triggered measurement is complete. • The command provides a method of performing a FETC? operation on fresh data. • The query command is identical to: ABOR; INIT; FETC?. The command is like FETCh? on the immediate trigger mode.
Response	Return <NR3> format string.

SYSTem Subsystem:**SYSTem:ERRor?**

Description	Query the error message.
Response	Return <Number,"Error String"> format string. The following table is a list of SCPI error message that might occur during operation.

NOTE

The buffer size of the system error queue is one.

SCPI Error Message

Num ber	Error String	Num ber	Error String
+0	No error	-213	Init ignoredInit
-100	Command error	-220	Parameter error
-200	Execution error	-230	Data stale

SYSTem:VERSion?

Description	Query the version of the SCPI.
Response	Return 1999.0 string.

SYSTem:BEEPer [< CONTInous | STOP | TONE >]

Description	• Set the action of the beeper. • Ignore the original state of the beeper.
Parameter	If parameter is omitted, the meter is set to tone. CONT - beep continuously. STOP - stop to beep. TONE - beep one tone.
Example	SYST:BEEP :beep one tone.

SYSTem:TCOMPensated <Boolean>

Description	Enable or disable the "0°C" temperature compensation. The function switch is at temperature measurement. Set this after enabling temperature measurement with the TEMP command. (3805-50 only) ♦ 16p
Parameter	Value to be entered to <Boolean>: ON, 1: OFF, 0

SYSTem:BLIT <Boolean>

Description	Enable or disable the back light.
Parameter	Value to be entered to <Boolean>: ON, 1: OFF, 0

NOTE

The back light will be auto turned off depending on below time setting. To turn off back light by this command once the time is set to "0".

Chapter 5 Instructions of Command Sets

SYSTem:BLIT:TIME <second>

Description	Set the time of the backlitgh.
Parameter	Value to be entered to <second>: 0 to 99 (Set "0" to disable auto turning off back light.)

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory.

SYSTem:AOFF:TIME <minute>

Description	Set the time of the auto power save function.
Parameter	Value to be entered to <minute>:0 to 99 (Set "0" to disable auto power save function.)

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory.

SYSTem:CPERcent < 0-20 | 4-20 >

Description	Selects the % conversion display (4-20mA or 0-20mA) for DCmA measurements. It is available when % conversion display is enabled by the CONF:CURR:PERC command.
Parameter	0-20: 0 mA (0 %) to 20 mA (100 %) 4-20: 4 mA (0 %) to 20 mA (100 %)
Example	SYST:CPER 4 to 20

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory.

SYSTem:COMMunication <band>, <parity>, <data>

Description	Set the communication port.
Parameter	<baud>:4800, 9600, 19200 <parity>:N (none), E (even), O (odd) <add>:7, 8
Example	SYST:COM 9600, N, 8

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory. The setting cannot be changed from the meter (by communication only). Communication may not be possible with 7-bit data length and no parity check. In this case, select two stop bits from the PC side.

SYSTem:BATtery?

Description	Query the battery level.
Parameter	<NR3>Outputs a formatted text string. Response from 0 to 100% corresponds to battery voltage of 6.0 to 10.0 V.
Example	0% (6.0 V) to 100% (10 V)

NOTE

Stored in non-volatile memory.

SYSTem:DEFAULT

Description	Returns meter settings to their factory defaults. Internal adjustments are unaffected. The meter resets after executing this command.
-------------	---

STATus Subsystem:**STATus?**

Description	Query the status of the meter.
Response	Return <"ABCDEFGHIJKLMNORSTU"> format string. Each character means as following:

	Item	Description
A	Recordong	0: off, 1: on
B	Relative value (REL)	0: off, 1: on
C	Unused	always 0
D	Unused	always 0
E	Unused	always 0
F	Percentage	0: 0-20 mA, 1: 4-20 mA
G	Trigger mode	I: IMM, B: BUS, R: REF
H	Refresh hold	0: off, 1: on
I	0°C temperature compensation	0: off, 1: on
J	Beep	0: off, 1: 1200Hz, 2: 2400Hz, C: 300Hz, F: 600 Hz
K	Auto power save	0: off, 1:on
L	Back light	0: off, 1:on
M	Meter mode	always L
N	Input warning	0:normal, 1:warming
O	Unused	always 0
P	Function switch position	0: V input 1: diode input →+ 2: resistance input 3: capacitance input → 4: μA input 5: mA input 6: A input 7: temperature input (3805-50 only)
Q	Unused	always 0
R	Rate	1:10000 counts
S	Battery	0:normal, 1:low
T	Unused	always 0
U	Auto range	0:off, 1:on

Summary of SCPI Commands

Chapter 6

Command	Parameter	Description
CONFigure?		Query the function of the display.
CONFigure		Configure the meter to perform specified measurement.
:VOLTage		Set the voltage measurement.
:AC	[<range>]	
:DC	[<range>]	
:HRAtio		Harmonics Percentage Display (3805-50 only)
:CURRent		Set the current measurement.
:AC	[<range>]	
:DC	[<range>]	
PERCent		
:FREQuency		Set the meter to frequency measurement.
:CAPacitance	[<range>]	Set the capacitance measurement .
:RESistance	[<range>]	Set the resistance measurement.
:CONTInuity	[<range>]	Set the resistance measurement with the continuity test.
:DIODE		Set the diode measurement.
:TEMPerature	<T1 T2 DT>[,<K J>]	Set the temperature measurement.
TRIGger		Trigger function
:SOURce?		Query the trigger source type.
:SOURce	<BUS REF IMM>	Select a trigger source.
:REF:COUNT?		Query the threshold of the refresh-hold mode.
:REF:COUNT	<numeric>: 0 to 1000	Set the threshold of the refresh-hold mode.

Command	Parameter	Description
ABORt		Reset the trigger system of the meter.
INITiate		Initiate the trigger system of the meter.
FETCh?		Query the latest measurement value.
READ?		Return the data any time that the last reading is valid.
CALCulate		
:FUNctIon?		Query the calculation function.
:FUNctIon	<function>	Set the calculation function.
:NULL:OFFSet?		Query the offset value of the relative (REL) function.
:AVERage		Query the value of the dynamic recording function.
:MAXimum?		
:MINimum?		
:DIFFerential?		
:AVERage?		
:PRESent?		
:COUNt?		
SYSTem		
:AOFF:TIME	<minute>: 0 to 99	Set the time of the auto power save function.
:BEEPPer	[<CONT STOP TONE>]	Set the action of the beeper
:BLIT	<Boolean>	Enable or disable the back light.
:TIME	<second>: 0 to 99	Set the time of the back light.
:CPERcent	< 0-20 4-20 >	For DCmA measurements, select the % conversion.
:TCOMPensated	<Boolean>	Sets 0 temperature compensation. (3805-50 only)
:COMMunication	<baud>, <parity>, <data>	Configure the COM port.
:DEFAult		Returns meter settings to their factory defaults.
:BATTery?		Queries the remaining charge state of the battery.
:ERRor?		Query the error message.
:VERSion?		Query the version of the SCPI.
STATus?		Query the status of the meter.

Remote Program Example Using Visual Basic 6 *Chapter 7*

Acquires ten measurement values and displays the average value.

```
Private Sub Command1_Click()
' Create a form containing the following three objects:
' 1.TextBox           - Text1
' 2.CommandButton     - Command1
' 3. Microsoft Comm Control 6.0 - MSComm1
' Add from the menu bar [Project] - [Component].

MSComm1.CommPort = 1           ' set COM1 port
MSComm1.PortOpen = True       ' open COM
MSComm1.Settings = "9600,n,8,1" ' communications settings

MSComm1.Output = "LLO" & vbCrLf ' send Local lock command
MSComm1.Output = "CONF:VOLT:DC 5" & vbCrLf ' set DCV 5V function

For i = 1 To 50000             ' wait for function ready
    DoEvents
Next i

buffer = MSComm1.Input
Text1.Text = ""                ' clear text box contents
reading = 0                    ' clear average value

For i = 1 To 10
    MSComm1.Output = "FETC?" & vbCrLf ' send FETCH? command
    buffer = ""
    Do
        buffer = buffer & MSComm1.Input
        Loop While InStr(buffer, vbCrLf) = 0 ' receive reading
        reading = reading + Val(buffer)      ' sum reading
        Text1.Text = Text1.Text & "Reading" & i & " = " & buffer & vbCrLf ' show reading
    Next i

Text1.Text = Text1.Text & vbCrLf & "Average = " & (reading / 10) & vbCrLf ' show average

MSComm1.Output = "GTL" & vbCrLf ' send Goto Local command
MSComm1.PortOpen = False        ' close COM
End Sub
```


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