Pixblasters® MS1 Video LED Controller

REAL-TIME CONTROL OF ADDRESSABLE LED STRIPS AND PANELS



The Pixblasters MS1 video LED controller connects to any computer and any operating system as an ordinary monitor to display the user-selected portion of the monitor image on up to 16,384 RGB LEDs at 60 frames per second (FPS). Multiple MS1 controllers can be easily chained to drive immense video displays built of hundreds of thousands of perfectly synchronized addressable LEDs¹. The Pixblasters MS1 displays any visual content with absolutely no programming required and with no burden on the driving computer that is free to run digital signage players, media players, and other software at the full speed.

The LED displays controlled by the Pixblasters MS1 can be remotely managed anywhere in the world by virtually any digital signage software. With the MS1 LED controller, even those with minimal technical skills can build giant LED displays with no soldering and by using only simple tools like pliers, wire cutters and screwdrivers.

- Supports 3-wire (WS2811, WS2812B...) and 4-wire (APA102, SK9822, HD107S...) LED strips
- Supports WS2812B LED panels: 8x8, 16x16, 32x8, 22x22, 44x11 and other custom formats
- Includes the DVI® compatible video input with the on-board EDID flash and accepts the standard monitor cable
- Supports different video input resolutions (max. 720p 1280x720@60) and the RGB666 (256K colors) color format
- Drives up to 16,384 LEDs through 32 digital outputs that drive up to 512 LEDs each
- Supports wide range of output resolutions (H x V): 512 x 32 (native), 256 x 64, 128 x 128, 180 x 96 and others
- Integrates video input cropping, multiple lines per output mode, brightness control and LED gamma corrections
- Displays any graphics and video content no limits on font types, animations, image and movie formats...
- Chained controllers can drive more than 200,000¹ of perfectly synchronized LEDs arranged in giant video displays
- Maximum LED display frame rate (60 FPS for WS2812B) is not affected by a number of controllers and attached LEDs
- · Validated with different computers and different OSes: Raspberry Pi, PC, media boxes, phones and tablets...
- Can be remotely controlled anywhere in the world through the network interfaces of the driving computer
- The driving computer is free of LED controls and the size of the LED display does not influence its performance
- The driving computer can run digital signage players, media players, web kiosk applications, custom software, etc.
- Display content can be designed and remotely administrated by any Digital Signage Software²
- On-board Microchip PIC18F26J50 microcontroller enables updates and permanently stores the display configuration
- Fully configurable through a configuration menu on the PC connected via the USB cable
- · New features can be added to deployed controllers through a simple firmware upgrade procedure
- Single MS1 can be easily configured as a master or as a slave controller by on-board DIP switches
- Snap-action connectors enable easy wiring of the complete display with no need for any soldering
- The LED power supplies need to be wired separately to enable power and current requirements of giant LED displays
- Based on the AMD Spartan®-6 XC6LX9-3 FPGA chip
- Board dimensions: 95 x 100 mm

ANY COMPLITER & ANY OS

PC, Raspberry Pi, media boxes, phones... – connects to any computer as an ordinary monitor.

NO PROGRAMMINO

Plug-in the monitor cable and the controller will smoothly drive LEDs at the maximum frame rate of 60 fps.

DISPLAY MANAGEMENT

Use any Digital Signage Software and add layered screen divisions, text, animations, video, RSS...

REAL-TIME CONTROL

Develop your own software for realtime controls of smart lighting fixtures, art installations, etc.

REMOTE ACCESS

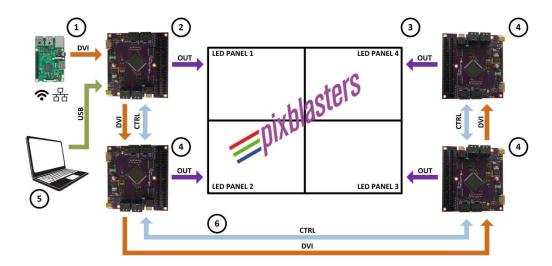
Control it remotely anywhere in the world through network interfaces of the driving computer.

² Assumed compatible digital signage player running on the controlling computer



¹ Estimated through simulations; controls addressable RGB LEDs

System Connections Example



- A single LED driving computer (1) generates the video for the LED display, and with the standard monitor cable, connects to the DVI compatible video input of the master Pixblasters MS1 video LED controller (2).
- The computer (1) can be locally or remotely controlled through different network interfaces. It can run any video display application, including digital signage players that automatically connect to online digital content services.
- The master (2) controls slave controllers (4) through the video link and an optional control⁵ link. Each slave controller displays the exact portion of the video image on the attached LED panels (3) built of up to 16,384 RGB LEDs.
- The video and the control links (6) between the chained Pixblasters MS1 controllers use ordinary Ethernet cables to enable simple and flexible display wiring. The links guarantee automatic and perfect LEDs synchronization.
- Each controller (2, 4) is configured for Master/Slave mode by on-board DIP switches. Other configuration parameters are setup only once for each board through a simple configuration menu on the PC (5) connected with the USB cable.
- Display's configuration parameters, such as LED timing parameters and the video input image part for display on the attached LEDs, are permanently stored in the on-board microcontroller that also controls the LED system's boot-up.
- Example: four LED panels (3) built of 60 LED/m strips form the 18.8 m² LED display³ that can be differently arranged to support various video (W x H) resolutions, e.g. 1024 x 64, 256 x 256 and many others.
- Separate +5V DC power supplies must provide sufficient power for the complete display.



To place an order, please contact Pixblasters at info@pixblasters.com.

To order from our distributors, please visit Crowd Supply 6: https://www.crowdsupply.com/pixblasters/video-led-controller

Part No:	Distributor	Product Name
CS-PIXBLASTER-01	Mouser Electronics	Pixblasters MS1 Video LED Controller

- ³ Assumed square pixel and LED strips ⁴ Supports a subset of MS1 functions
- ⁵ Optional future expansions

LED MATERIAL

and 4-wire LED strips.

DISPLAY SIZE

DISPLAY SPEED

Pixblasters MS1 supports video LED

A single MS1 can control³ 4.7/17.7 m²

display built of 60/30 LED/m. Chained

measuring tens and hundreds1 of m2.

LEDs work at their maximum speed

and perfectly synchronized, no matter

the number of LEDs, chained MS1

Anything that shows on a computer monitor shows on the LEDs as well. No need for special software for antialiasing, fonts, image processing...

controllers, or the display size.

controllers can control displays

displays built of different types of addressable RGB LED panels, or 3-

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www.pixblasters.com E-mail: info@pixblasters.com







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