FAQ Checklist - MobileCollect

The Most Frequently Asked Questions About MobileCollect Wireless

We are focusing on what separates our MobileCollect wireless system from other wireless systems. We want to help you select the right solution, whether our MobileCollect Wireless or another. Getting you connected is what we do.

1 Why should I include MobileCollect in my wireless system evaluation process?

We recommend you consider all available wireless systems before deciding. If your company has standardized on a gage brand that offers a wireless system with the functionality you require, then go with that solution. But, if you use more than one gage brand or have a unique requirement or situation, here are the top reasons to consider MobileCollect Wireless:

- ☐ **Compatibility:** MobileCollect connects ANY gage device with data output to ANY Windows or web-based software program. We support over 60 gage brands, 1000s of gage devices and continually research new gages for compatibility with MobileCollect.
- ☐ **Flexibility:** MobileCollect offers more receiver and transmitter options than any other wireless system. You can uniquely configure MobileCollect installations to meet your specific needs.
- ☐ **Focus:** MicroRidge is the only USA-based wireless system provider focused exclusively on measurement collection systems. We design, build, and support all our products, allowing us to implement any requested new features.

2 *What are the essential components of a MobileCollect wireless system?*

There are three components required for every wireless system:

- ☐ **Receiver:** Connect one to each data collection workstation.
- ☐ **Transmitter**: Attach one to each gage device.
- ☐ **Transmitter cable:** Provides the connection between the gage and transmitter.

3 *How many MobileCollect receiver and transmitter options are available?*

The MobileCollect wireless system consists of 4 receiver models, 5 transmitter models, and dozens of transmitter cables.

Receivers:

- ☐ **USB Base, RS-232/USB Base, and Wedge/USB Base:** Connect to desktop computers. The difference between these receivers is the connection to the data collection computer -- **USB serial**, **RS-232 serial**, or **USB keyboard wedge**.
- ☐ **USB MicroBase:** For "mobile" data collection. It is a portable version of the USB Base

receiver that plugs into a Windows laptop or tablet without a USB cable.

Transmitters:

- ☐ **Mobile Modules:** The **Mini, Command,** and **RS-232 Mobile Module** transmitters are battery-powered and mount onto handheld or mobile gages such as calipers, bore gages, and micrometers.
- ☐ **Remotes:** The **RS-232 Remote** and **Digital Remote** transmitters are AC-adapter powered and connect to stationary devices such as digital scales, height gages, or digital readouts.

4 *Can multiple transmitters be paired to a single Base unit?*

Yes, this is the most common setup on MobileCollect installations. Since each transmitter pairs with a specific receiver, multiple MobileCollect wireless systems can be in the same area, and someone will not send data to the wrong receiver.

5 *How many transmitters can you pair with a single receiver?*

It depends upon the information sent in the "data packet" from the transmitter. MobileCollect offers pre-defined and allows user-defined data packet formats. Each format falls into one of two categories – with Channel ID or without Channel ID.

- ☐ **With Channel ID:** A maximum of 30 transmitters can link to a single Base receiver if the data packet includes a "channel identifier." You can place the channel identifier before or after the measurement value. Example: **"01, 1.38"** (channel ID, measurement)
- ☐ **Without Channel ID:** If the data packet does not include a "channel identifier," there is no limit to the number of transmitters that can link to a single Base receiver. **A "measurement only"** data packet is the most basic "without Channel ID" format.

6 *Why does each transmitter need a transmitter cable?*

Transmitter cables provide the physical link between the gage device output port and the MobileCollect Wireless external transmitter.

- ☐ A transmitter cable can be unique to a single gage, a single gage series, or work with multiple gage series.
- ☐ Some cables, such as the **OPTO, POWER, PROXIMITY**, and **RS-232 serial**, are used by multiple manufacturers in various gage models.

7 *Does a specific transmitter model need to be used with a particular receiver model?*

There are no limitations when choosing a MobileCollect transmitter and receiver. Most installations have a mixture of transmitter models paired to each receiver. Use the transmitter and receiver models that best address your specific needs.

8 *How do I choose the proper receiver, transmitter & cable combination for my gage?*

It depends upon multiple factors, including the data collection method, the data collection software, the gage devices, and how you use each one. If you are in the early stages of researching wireless products, we highly recommend contacting MicroRidge or one of our authorized resellers for assistance.

- ☐ To simplify the process, we created the MobileCollect Selection Tool. This free software program identifies the transmitter and cable combination for over 3,200 gage devices.

Selection Tool link: http://www.microridge.com/wl_mc_select.htm

- ☐ Contact MicroRidge if your gage brand or model is not listed. We will do the research and include the results in the next Selection Tool update.

9 *What is the range of MobileCollect Wireless?*

The MobileCollect Wireless system has a maximum range of 133 feet line of sight indoors.

10 How secure is MobileCollect Wireless?

All measurements sent use a 32-bit encryption scheme to ensure data security.

11 *Is MobileCollect Wireless compatible with other wireless products?*

In November 2020, MicroRidge announced that all MobileCollect receiver models would offer compatibility with Mitutoyo U-Wave-T, U-Wave-TM, and U-Wave-TC transmitter models.

- ☐ The user can upgrade MobileCollect receivers purchased before the announcement to add the U-Wave feature by downloading and installing the latest receiver firmware from the MicroRidge website.
- ☐ More information is available on the Mitutoyo U-Wave Transmitters page in the "Wireless" section of the MicroRidge website.

12 *Do any gage devices have the MobileCollect Wireless transmitter built inside?*

The "Long-Range" versions of the Chicago Dial Indicators **CORE** and **VRS** indicator models have the MobileCollect RM2.4 radio module built inside the gage, eliminating the need for the external transmitter and cable combination.

- ☐ More information is available on the Chicago Dial CORE & VRS Indicators page in the "Wireless" section of the MicroRidge website.

For additional information on MobileCollect wireless, call or email Kevin Kelly at 541.593.3500 or kevink@microridge.com.