

This advanced 2.4 GHz **GigaRad** Radio Receiver/Controller is designed to be used with a **GigaRad GPTX10** transmitter only, as part of a complete **GigaRad Radio Points System**.



It is designed for the radio control of a single semaphore signal using a standard RC servo as the operating mechanism.

The controller may be user programmed, in-situ for:

- Allocation to any one of twelve point numbers, each individually controllable from the **GPTX10**.
- Signal **clear** and **danger** servo positions.

The servo rotation rate is pre-programmed to give realistic signal arm operation.

It complies fully with all UK legislation for licence free operation.

Specification

Frequency	2.4 GHz Radio Control Model Band
RF Sensitivity	-94 dBm
Modulation	Gaussian Frequency Shift Keying
Range	Up to 100 metres with any GigaRad GPTX10 transmitter, in a normal model railway or garden environment
Size	47 mm [over pins] x 35 mm x 11 mm
Power Supply	4.8 V to 6V d.c. battery supply

Introduction

The **GPRX8** comprises a 2.4 GHz **Gigarad** radio receiver and signal arm controller within a single package.

The receiver will operate only with any **GigaRad GPTX10 Point Control** transmitter and, during setup is bound to a specific transmitter, such that it will respond only to transmissions from that transmitter. It may be re-bound by the user to another transmitter at any time.

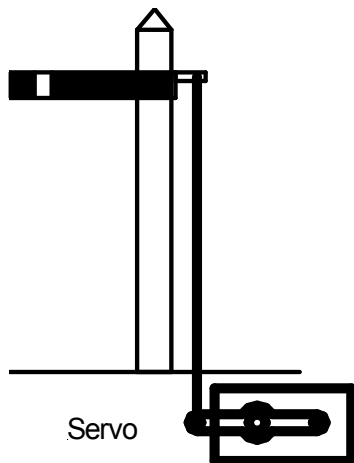
The output from the **GPRX8** is a standard servo control PWM signal, with two user programmable stable positions [**Clear** and **Danger**] and a controlled rotation rate between these two positions.

The activation of the servo output can be user programmed to respond to the activation of any one of the **twelve** available point number channels on the transmitter.

Principles of Operation

The **GPRX8** is designed to use any standard RC servo as the operating mechanism with movement of the Signal arm controlled directly by the servo arm, rotating between two fixed positions, **Clear** and **Danger**.

Signal setting is controlled by any one of the twelve transmitter point channels, selected by a rotary switch, and a single pair of **Set [Clear]** and **Reset [Danger]** switches.



Both the **Clear** and **Danger** positions of the servo are user programmable from the transmitter, operating in a special calibration mode.

User Notes

Indicator LED

At all times, the **GPRX8** indicator **LED** shows the current operational status of the unit.

LED Indication

Interpretation

LED Off

No power to **GPRX8**.

Fast Flash

[5 per second]

No valid radio pulses detected at power up.

Transmitter not on, or not bound.

Very Fast Flash

[15 per second]

Bind procedure successful.
Normal operation.
The LED flashes once each time a valid data packet is received from the transmitter, normally once every 65 ms.

Slow Flash

[1 per second]

Loss of valid radio pulses following normal operation.

On Power Up

On power up of the **GPRX8**, the signal arm will remain at its current position until the first valid data packet has been received from the transmitter. It will then assume the position specified by the transmitter. As the transmitter automatically remembers the last valid transmitted setting before power off, this will normally result in the signal remaining at its initial power up setting.

On loss of Radio Communication

If radio communication is lost, for any reason, during normal operation, the signal will remain in its last valid controlled state, until radio communication is restored or until power is removed from the **GPRX8** and re-applied.

The maximum programmable rotation angle of the servo is constrained to approximately 90°, centred around the nominal servo centre position, corresponding to a PWM pulse width of 1.5 ms. This will give a linear movement of approximately 17 mm, when connected by a 12 mm servo arm, adequate for most signal arms. If less travel is required, a shorter servo arm may be used.

The rotation rate of the servo arm during operation is automatically controlled by the **GPRX8** to give a realistic prototypical rotation period of approximately 0.8 seconds for the maximum 90° rotation, and pro-rata for smaller angles.

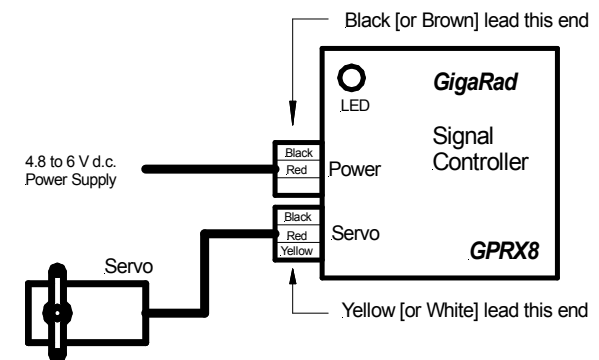
Binding and Point Number Allocation

Before use, the **GPRX8** must be bound to the transmitter with which it is to be used, and allocated to a specific **point number** in the range **1** to **12**. Once bound, this process need not be repeated unless you wish to use a different transmitter, or change the allocated point number.

All **binding** and **point number allocation** procedures are undertaken from the transmitter, and no access to the receiver is required. Refer to the user manual of your **GigaRad GPRX10** transmitter for binding and point number allocation instructions.

This manual is available for download from the [Timdpdon Electronics website](http://www.timdpdon.co.uk).

Wiring and Connections



Notes on Wiring and Connections

- 1 Connect the servo via its 3 wire plug directly to the **GPRX8 Point Servo** connector. Ensure that you observe the correct polarity.
- 2 Connect a d.c. supply to the **GPRX8 Power** connector. Ensure that you observe the correct polarity. The supply voltage must be between 4.8 V and 6 V nominal, to match the operating voltage limits of standard servos.

The point system will only draw significant current while the servo is in motion, so 4 x **AA** primary or rechargeable batteries are perfectly adequate, and should give reasonable battery life.

You are recommended to switch off or disconnect the battery supply when your layout is not in use, to avoid draining the batteries unnecessarily.

- 3 Before use, the **GPRX8** must be bound to your transmitter, as described above, allocated to a specific point number and programmed for **servo rotation angles**. The calibration procedure is described below.

Servo Mounting and Calibration

- 1 Mount the servo so that the point operating linkage will be approximately at 90° to the signal operating mechanism when in use. At this stage, **do not connect** the operating linkage to the servo.
- 2 Connect the servo to the **GPRX8**. Power up and bind the **GPRX8** to the transmitter.

The factory default settings for the **GPRX8**, as shipped, are:

- **Reset [Danger]** Servo PWM = **1.50 ms** [central]
- **Set [Clear]** Servo PWM = **1.70 ms** [angle = 20°]

Servo Mounting and Calibration

continued

- 3 Set the **GPTX10** transmitter for **normal operation**. Select the **appropriate point number**, and press and release the transmitter **Reset** switch.

The servo will take up the factory default position, corresponding to a servo PWM pulse width of **1.50 ms** — i.e. central.

Fit the servo arm to the servo so that it is at right angles to the signal operating link.

- 4 Now press and release the transmitter **Set** switch, and check that the servo arm rotates approximately 20°. Do not worry if the servo rotation direction is opposite to that required. This will be corrected during calibration.
- 5 Return the servo to its **Danger** position using the transmitter **Reset** switch. Fit the operating linkage between the point and the servo, and adjust its length so that the signal arm is roughly half way between at the **Danger** and **Clear** positions, with the servo arm positioned as described in Step 3.
- 6 This completes the mechanical set up procedure. You may now proceed to calibrate the **GPRX8** for final **Set [Clear]** and **Reset [Danger]** positions for the point. All servo calibration is performed from the transmitter. Refer to the **GPTX10** user manual for detailed instructions.
- 7 You may wish to experiment with calibration before fitting the point operating linkage described in Step 5, in order to familiarise yourself with the procedure, without risking damaging the servo by accidental mis-setting.