Quo vadis, central station®?

Central Station® reloaded - update 3.0.0.
Looking at the the Märklin® Central Station® joy and grief are very close together. At the presentation this unit was the most advanced digital controller of the World and a consistent, courageous step of Märklin® and its development partner ESU. Nobody knew if the model railroaders would accept a graphical user interface with a large LCD screen and a touch panel for data input. But these were enthusiastic about the concept and enjoyed on a hitherto unknown game comfort. Talking loco names and icons, an almost unlimited number of locomotives, which got automatically registered by mfx® decoder or graphical icons for magnetic items are standard today, but were actually only with the Central Station® introduced.

Obstacles in the way
Because the Central Station® is basically a small computer, the system lives of subsequent updates. Many functions of the new world were initially not yet finished and should be retrofitted. This was not the case and the Central Station® owners asked themselves frustrated what are the reasons for this compulsive break. ESU showed afterwards with the ECoS how to continue developing the successful Central Station® concept for the purposes of the customers and showed the public new, innovative ideas. After one finally made the upgrade to version 2.0.4. the development of the Central Station® no longer be pursued.

New routes
ESU was not able to change the undue state for the customers in the past, but here is the most important message:

The development of the Central Station® 60212 is ensured by ESU. Nobody is forced to write off its investment and to buy new equipment.

Central Station® - reloaded
On the contrary: According to our philosophy, revalue available devices by new functions, we may explain to you here our imagination for the future of the Central Station®: The update 3.0.0.

With this update of hardware and software components your 60212 finally reaches the achievement level which you have always fancied. And completely without costly new acquisitions. Keep your proven controller and take pleasure in many new functions.

Hardware
To exhaust really the efficiency of the Central Station®, some important devices are immediately included with in the update parcel 3.0.0. The stabilized 90VA power supply has more than enough power to feed the integrated Booster. With the new update it is capable of 4A instead of only 2.8A! This increased performance often saves an external Booster completely. The output current can be adjusted within the range of 15V to 21V and therefore works with all gauges. The enclosed stylus makes it easier for you to operate the touch panel.

Ordering information

| 59990 | Update packet 3.0.0. for Central Station® 60212, including power supply 90VA, stylus, individually created data medium. Very important: Please indicate the serial number in any case! |
Software
With the update 3.0.0 you are helping your unit to a never before known capacity. After the update the Central Station® will also be able to use the Selectrix® and the worldwide standard DCC protocol in addition to the already known data formats Motorola® and mfx®. All of the four data formats can be used simultaneously and individually per loco. Of course, 20 functions can be used during DCC operation. For each loco and depending on the data format you can select between 14, 27, 28, and 128 speed steps. It is possible to also control mfx® locomotives with 28 speed steps. All DCC decoders can be programmed comfortably of course. Beside all known DCC programming modes a particularly comfortable graphical interface is available for programming ESU decoders. Of course it is a given that from now all solenoid devices can be controlled with the DCC format. Finally, you have the freedom to buy any decoder that is on the market.

The locomotive selection will be made easier thanks to multiple favorite lists and different sorting options (Steam, Diesel, Electric). Stay in control even with a large locomotive inventory. With the new multi-screen driving display you can directly control up to 10 locomotives. Switching between them is done by a single press of a button. The graphical turntable control simplifies the operation of your turntables. One of the highlights is the track plan. Display an image of your layout on the screen and see the current state of your switches and signals.

Expansibility
Obviously every booster which is conform to the DCC standard or Märklin® 6017-compatible can be connected to the Central Station®. Alternatively, you can also decide for the ESU ECOS-Boost which is directly connected to the ECOslink: beside the build-in RailCom® two way communication a complete feedback unit is implemented. The Central Station® is intended for use with our ECOSControl Radio handheld controller: a module connector called ECOslot occupies a special receiver on board. The ECOSControl Radio fits perfectly in the environment and behaves like a fully wired system hand controller. An attractive expansion opportunity, developed from and with ESU, is the Dynamis® System from Bachmann®. This infrared-based system with the help of the Bachmann® Pro Box can be connected directly to the ECOslink bus. Up to 4 infrared transmitters are possible on your Central Station®. With these, up to 40 locomotives, each with 20 functions, and also the accessories like switches or signals can be operated. Additionally, you can use the built-in booster from the Bachmann® Pro Box.
FAQ about the Central Station® Update 3.0.0

Which prerequisites are necessary prior to the Central Station® update 3.0.0?

The ESU update can only be used exclusively by the owner of the Märklin® Central Station® 60212. It will not work on other digital control units.

Furthermore, your Central Station® 60212 must have software 2.0.3. or 2.0.4 installed. This is the case if your Central Station® has already received an update by the Märklin® service and the so-called Sniffer module has built in.

If you are unsure whether your Central Station® 60212 is already on the software version 2.0.3. or 2.0.4., you can use them in the setup menu under “General Information” to read.

Your Central Station® has software 1.xxx version installed, so you need to send it to Märklin® service get it updated to version 2.0.4. Thereafter, the ESU software update to 3.0.0 can be applied.

How to install this update?

The update can be installed either by yourself or your dealer. You will need a PC (Windows, Linux or Mac®) with network and a network cable to the Central Station® connected to your PC.

The update will be performed - identical to the previous Software Updates - through the Web interface to the Central Station®. The update procedure is using your internet browser to copy the file to the Central Station®. The process is described in the manual for software updates.

A detailed, step-by-step instruction, we will be published before the availability of the updates.

How can I order the update for the Central Station®?

This Update 3.0.0. for the Central Station® 60212 is not free of charge, you must pay for it. You can order it at every ESU dealer. The order number is 59990.

You need the serial number of your Central Station® at the time of ordering. The serial number can be read from the label on the bottom of the Central Station®.

Unlike former updates or updates for the ESU ECoS command stations, every Central Station® needs an individual, on the basis of the serial number created update file. The attempt to use the update for other command stations with a different serial number will be cancelled with an error message.

You must exactly indicate the serial number when ordering. Without this number, the update cannot be shipped.

The serial number can be read from the label on the bottom of the Central Station®. It is an eight-digit figure combined with letters. (comp. photo).

When will the update be available and what will it cost?

The update will be available in the first quarter of 2009.

The non-binding recommended selling price in Germany is € 159.99.

Will there be further updates in the future?

Certainly. The development will be continued permanently. Any further updates will ESU provide to all registered users of the ESU Support Forum for free. You pay only once. Guaranteed.

Do my warranty claims against Märklin® expire after the update?

For all Central Station® 60212, which during the statutory warranty period ESU the 3.0.0 update is being installed, ESU legitimate right for all warranty claims occur. Details about the end we will announce in due time. The update is for you without risk as a customer.

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For any questions about the new features and capabilities of the Central Station you can apply directly to ESU. Our successful support forum is available after the update.

Will the Central Station® remain fully mfx®-compatible?

The Central Station® will be fully mfx® compatible after the update to version 2.0.0. All mfx® locomotives will proceed as usual running and programming, and will also automatically log on to the Central Station®.

Is the Central Station® really fully DCC compatible? What does this mean for me?

The Central Station® has the open, standardized DCC protocol fully implemented. The long experience of ESU in this area guarantees a smooth implementation of all major DCC decoder. This provides you for as a three rail user some key benefits: All leading manufacturers today offer trains for the three rail system in which (ESU) multi-protocol decoders are installed. These locomotives can immediately respond to DCC. Besides the driving with up to 20 functions as well as a range of addresses to 9999, you can comfortably program your decoder with the Central Station® in the future you have the choice between all makes locomotives.

How may ESU ensure the support?

The support for the Central Station is through your ESU dealer and especially through our unique ESU Support Forum ensured. All registered owners of a Central Station® 3.0.0 update can ask their questions here and receive either by other competent forums members or our support team immediately assistance. We show since 2006 that this works. Even the support forum is one of ESU introduced soon counterfeit ideas.

Further information

...you will find on our website www.esu.eu/centralstation. You will also come across a substantial list of all functionalities added as well as further steadily updated FAQ articles regarding this topic.

We look forward to your visit!