

SPORTident Basics - Master stations

Master stations have a cable for connecting them to laptops or other devices.

They can perform all the tasks of ordinary SI units, as if they had no cable.

There are three types in use in Scotland.
The one pictured is a **BSM7-USB** (it has a USB2 connection).



BSM7-RS232 have a 9 pin serial connection. They are used with radios or long cables for collecting data and transmitting it to a computer. With a serial-USB converter they can be connected to most laptops and used for all the same tasks as a BSM7-USB. There are advantages in buying the convertor direct from SIUK (even if there are cheaper ones available).

There is a special master station BSM7-P where P stands for Printer. This type of unit has special software in it so that it can also be used when it is connected directly to a suitable printer, ie with no laptop involved.

Before connecting a master station to a laptop download the “**USB-Driver**” from SI UK’s web site <http://www.sportident.co.uk/downloads/>. Also download the installation instructions which have not been copied here.

Master stations are commonly used to -

- Downloading data from SI-Cards - using event software, eg AutoDownload, OE2010, SIME
- Programming other SI units - using the software SPORTident Config
- Reading out data stored in other units - using the software SPORTident Config
- Setting the time in a TimeMaster unit to the time in the laptop (which should be accurately set first) - using the software SPORTident Config

More rarely they are also used to -

- Update the software in units - using the software SPORTident Boot
- Storing user’s names in their SI cards - using the software SPORTident Personal

There are separate notes about SPORTident Config, Personal and Boot.

Master stations are normally programmed in a mode “Read SI cards”. The display on the bottom should flash “RDO” followed by a number. As with other units, their memory should be cleared before each event.