

EthLinx, EthLinx Duo

Important Safety Precautions & Usage Warnings

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WARNING: Read this document carefully before connecting or operating the EthLinx device. Failure to observe these precautions may result in equipment damage, data loss, or personal injury.

This document provides supplementary safety information and is intended to be used in conjunction with the full User Guide.

1. Intended Use and Limitations

- **For Professional Use Only:** This device is intended for use by engineers, technicians, and experienced personnel familiar with serial communication protocols and industrial networking. It is not intended for general consumer use.
- **NOT for Life-Support or Critical Safety Systems: DO NOT** use this device in any application where a failure could lead to death, personal injury, or severe environmental damage. This includes, but is not limited to, medical life-support equipment, nuclear facility controls, or critical avionic systems.
- **NOT for Hazardous Environments: DO NOT** operate the device in explosive, flammable, or corrosive atmospheres unless it is housed within a suitable, certified enclosure for that specific environment.

2. Electrical and Connection Safety

- **Verify RS-485 Line Voltages: NEVER** connect the serial ports to a bus without first verifying that the common-mode and differential voltages are within the RS-485 standard. Connecting to lines with unknown or excessive voltages (e.g., power lines) will damage the device.
- **Use an Appropriate Power Source:** The device must be powered from a standard, compliant USB 2.0 or 3.0 port on a host computer or a powered hub. **DO NOT** use under-powered ports or non-compliant USB chargers, as this can lead to unstable operation or damage.
- **Disconnect During Electrical Storms:** Disconnect the device from both the USB host and the RS-485 lines during lightning or severe electrical storms to prevent damage from power surges.

3. Operational Safety

- **Confirm Settings Before Controlling Machinery:** If using the device to control industrial machinery or processes, **ALWAYS** double-check and test your serial configuration (baud rate, parity, etc.) in a safe, offline state first. Incorrect settings can lead to unexpected machine behavior.
- **Maintain Adequate Ventilation:** The aluminum enclosure acts as a heat sink. **DO NOT** cover the device or operate it in a confined space without airflow, as it may overheat under heavy load.
- **No User-Serviceable Parts Inside:** **DO NOT** attempt to open or modify the device's enclosure or circuitry. This will void the warranty and may create a safety hazard. There are no user-serviceable parts inside.
- **Firmware and Software:** Only use official firmware provided by NECOSIN Systems s.r.o. Using third-party or modified firmware can result in unpredictable behavior and voids all warranties.