

### What is it?

**FLOCKMAN** has been designed for Integrators and individual broiler growers to improve Feed Conversion, liveweight and bird welfare. It gives better results and profits than old **FLOCKMAN** did, for a fraction of the cost. It controls lighting programs (with dawn/dusk dimming) and automatic meal-time feeding for each day, but needs no computers or automatic feed or bird weighers. Once started at the beginning of the crop, it needs no further input from the grower until the house is empty, when it is stopped! **Old FLOCKMAN has now been discontinued.**

### What are the benefits?

Benefits are cleaner, healthier more active birds, which have stronger legs, less hock and foot lesions and lower mortality. Ammonia and odour levels are reduced, which is better for workers as well as birds. Growth levels are normal or better, feed costs are lower and feed conversion efficiency and mortality is better. Variability in the flock is reduced with fewer small birds as well as fewer of the very heavy obese birds that often result in high mortality from Sudden Death Syndrome, Ascites, and heart attacks. **Grower profits are higher with payback in 2-3 crops!**

### What does it do?

#### 1) Meal-Time Feeding

Before meat poultry were kept intensively, birds were typically fed twice a day. Birds ate quickly to fill their crops where the feed soaked, swelled and softened and was pre-conditioned for several hours before the bulk of it entered the gizzard and the rest of the digestive system. This is the natural way that wild birds eat.

Normal ad-lib feeding, with feed in front of the birds all the time, is not natural and results in inactive crops, incomplete digestion and poorer feed efficiency. **FLOCKMAN** restores crop function and results in improved feed efficiency in birds fed using modern pan feeders. Feed is fed in several distinct feeds a day, with the pans becoming empty for several hours before the next feed is due. This sharpens up the birds' appetites and maintains good feed intake particularly in the last week of life. It also ensures that stale feed is never fed. With ad-lib feeding, birds often grow 5%-10% above breed targets in the first weeks, then often lose appetite in the last week resulting in a fall off in % breed target. With **FLOCKMAN**, birds grow nearer to their breed target throughout life with acceleration towards the end.

#### 2) Number of feeds/day

We recommend pre-set Profiles, but the grower can select ad-lib feeding, 1, 2, 3 4 5 or 6 feeds a day. He can try different ideas, before deciding on which suits him & his birds best.

#### 3) Lighting Programmes

The system controls lights via a Dawn/Dusk dimmer and can change the daily light programme to give the required dark periods necessary to develop the birds' immune defence system

#### 4) Types of Lights in the house

**FLOCKMAN** can handle dimmable (tungsten and dimmable fluorescent) lights as well as non-dimmable (SL and non-dimmable fluorescents). It can handle one or the other or both combined. It can interface with high frequency dimmers if these are already present.

The grower can select the dimming time (how long it takes from lights out to lights fully on). He can also adjust the maximum brightness in the house when the lights dim up to be fully on. This can be changed during the life of the flock if required. The **FLOCKMAN** Dawn/Dusk Dimmer will cope with up to **16 Amps**.

#### 5) Feed/Light Profiles

16 different Feed/Light profiles have been set up for growers to choose from. These vary in the number of feeds to be fed per day and the length of the dark periods. All profiles comply with the recommendation of FAWC in the UK, (Farm Animal Welfare Council). **Nine also fully comply with UK ACP (Assured Chicken Production) standards.** However, the grower can set up his own Custom profiles if he wants to. 10 Custom Profiles can be set up and stored.

#### 6) Feed used

**FLOCKMAN** works with the standard feed in use. This can be compound feed, with or without whole cereals mixed with it. If feed and whole cereal are in separate silos and are mixed at the poultry house, it can control the % whole cereal fed on a daily changing basis.

## 7) The FLOCKMAN box

Working – Green Light ON



Not Working – Red Light ON



**FLOCKMAN** incorporates 5 ON/OFF/AUTO switches, so that augers and lights can be controlled directly from the box (ON or OFF position) or by the **FLOCKMAN** program (AUTO position). For **FLOCKMAN** Control, ALL must be in the AUTO position. If so, a Green light is illuminated. If they are not ALL in the AUTO position, a Red light comes on. So weekend workers need only be told **FLOCKMAN** won't work unless the green light is ON!

The installer needs to connect **FLOCKMAN** to the now legally required Safety Switch, which we provide, which in turn is connected to contactors to the augers and lights as below:

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| i) Compound Feed Auger  | via an <b>existing</b> external contactor (not supplied)     |
| ii) Cereal Auger        | via an external contactor (If blending at the chicken house) |
| iii) Feed Pan Augers    | via an <b>existing</b> external contactor (not supplied)     |
| iv) Non-Dimmable Lights | via an <b>existing</b> external contactor (not supplied)     |
| v) Dimmable Lights      | direct to the Dawn/Dusk/Dimmer (supplied)                    |

## 8) Information Displayed

A backlit green display provides information on what is happening in the poultry house.

- Displays current time, Day Number and Target % cereal for the day.
- Shows the Profile in use and the actual % of cereal being dispensed that day.
- Shows if Lights are on or off and whether Feed Pans are enabled or disabled

The six Green Indicator Lights show the status of all items controlled by **FLOCKMAN**. If a green light is lit, it shows that the respective auger or light is enabled. If it is not lit, that item is off.

## 9) Commercial

**FLOCKMAN** is designed to work world-wide with a range of AC inputs from 90 to 250 volts, as well as 12 volt DC supply for Free Range birds using 12 volt batteries.

The equipment carries a 12-month guarantee, a European CE Mark and is RoHS compliant. It has a certificate of compliance with recent EMC legislation. Field trials show an average payback in 2 crops. **There is a 95% certainty of payback in 3 crops.**

The customer is responsible for installation and is provided with an Installers Guide and Commissioning Instructions. The customer also receives a User Guide and support is included for the first 2 crops via e-mail or telephone. A support contract is offered at £ 30 per quarter per **FLOCKMAN**. This entitles you to Profile updates as well as to return-to-base maintenance.

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