



TECHNOTE NUMBER: TN-MOD-0003

SUBJECT: Faceplate Communication Error and no keyboard response in MOD 30ML

APPLIES TO: MOD 30ML Controllers

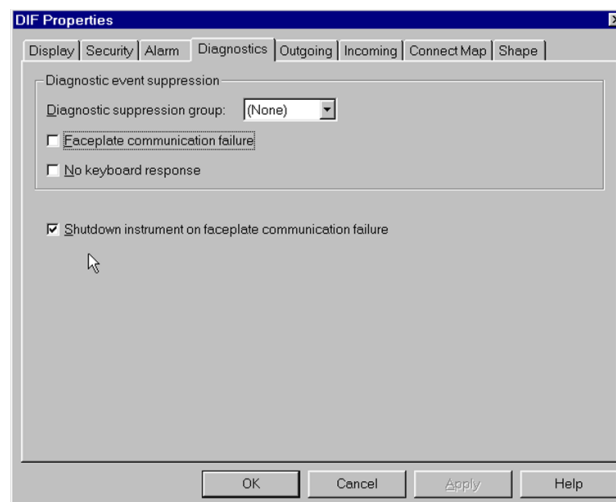
DATE: August 2001

This TechNote describes what to do if the MOD 30ML front panel display indicates diagnostic errors DIF 4 and 5. The keyboard sometimes locks up. The instrument eventually goes into a shutdown.

This problem is normally due to noise or static discharges on the analog inputs. The built-in analog inputs use the same communication channel on the processor as the display, which explains the faceplate communication errors.

Solution:

1. Check whether the analog inputs are currently floating. To reduce electrical noise and eliminate static build-up, MicroMod strongly recommends grounding these inputs.
2. The configuration default for a faceplate communication error is to force a shutdown. This default can be changed, so that the controller will continue to operate, as long as there are no other critical errors. The faceplate communication error would still be reported, allowing you to determine whether the added grounding corrected the problem. This is done in the DIF (Display Interface block) block's configuration as shown in the next figure:



3. Check the grounds on all the inputs and make sure they are properly grounded.

Reference: For more detailed information on proper grounding and wiring see Technote TN-MOD-0004.

