



300 Series Frequently Asked Questions

Q. The 300 Series looks a lot like the Model 270 – what’s the difference?

- A. The 300 Series introduces “next generation” technology to in-process testing and signature analysis. The 300 Series has all the functionality of a 270 plus the following additional features;
- Hardware selectable excitation with more ranges; ± 5 , ± 10 , ± 12 , ± 15 VDC. Provides better current protection and pre-set excitation on boot-up.
 - Analog connectors now provide external Shunt calibration and bi-polar excitation.
 - New motherboard has 1 free ISA and 1 free PCI slot available for expansion.
 - Factory upgradeable from 2 to 4 channels and from 4 to 8 channels.

Q. I don’t need redundant power supplies and hard drives – can I purchase a system without these and save money?

- A. Yes. Model 315 provides the option of purchasing a system without redundant power supplies and hard drives. However, our experience in the in-process test market has shown that the two most common components to fail on test systems are the hard disk drive and power supply. This is why most of the systems in the 300 Series have these features. This is what makes the 300 Series the most reliable test and measurement systems on the market.

Q. What is the difference between the 320 Series and the 330 Series?

- A. The 320 models offer a fixed channel count, off-the-shelf solution for 2, 4 or 8 analog channel applications. The 330 models offers expandability and flexibility in that additional hardware cards can be added to provide additional I/O, analog inputs, additional encoder support, etc..

Q. Can I upgrade from one model to another as my needs change?

- A. Yes. You can upgrade from any 320 model to a higher channel count 320 model. A qualified Sciometric applications engineer can do this upgrade on-site. If you want to upgrade from a 320 model to a 330 model you must return the unit to the factory.

Q. I already own a Model 270 or 280 – can I run my existing application on a 300 Series system?

- A. This depends on the application. The 300 Series has been designed to bring the benefits of next generation in-process-test (IPT) technology to the marketplace while providing backward compatibility to our existing users. There are certain instances where some minor modifications may be required to allow an application running on a 270 or 280 System to function on a 300 Series;
- The 270 Systems provided software selectable excitation while the 300 Series provides hardware selectable excitation. If the excitation on your 270 System is set through the

application this will need to be modified in order for the application to run properly on a 300 Series.

- The analog input and the digital input and output connectors are different on the 270 and 280 Systems as compared to the 300 Series. Therefore the cable sets are different between these controllers.
- For more than eight inputs the addressing continues at '16' on a 270 or 280 System. Continuous addressing starts at address '8' for the 9th input on a 300 Series. Your application may need to be modified to take this into account.
- Bus interface cards are different for each of the controllers. The 280 Systems use an 806 card with non-Windows NT systems. The 300 Series uses an 808 card with new Windows NT systems.

Please contact your local Sciometric sales office or representative if you require more information.

Q. What are the dimensional differences between the Model 315-4 and the Model 270?

A. The Model 315-4 is 0.6" deeper than the Model 270. All other dimensions are the same.