

Proper use of the Prodigy Wireless DCC System and all related components of the Prodigy Advance DCC System line.

When adding the wireless conversion set, (item no. 0001412), and extra wireless throttles, (item no. 0001411) to your existing Prodigy Advance, Express, or Advance Squared DCC System, there are a few steps to take to insure the complete system works properly.

MRC throttles come with a factory default throttle address of number 1. No two throttles, wired or wireless, can have the same address or the system will not operate properly. Before plugging the wireless conversion receiver into your base unit and turning the power switch to “*on*”, you must change the address of your wired throttle[s]. **The wireless throttle must be address #1**, and all **wired** throttles must be given sequential addresses of 2 and above. If you have more than one wireless throttle, these throttles have to have addresses lower than all of your wired throttles. You must also skip every other address number for proper communication between the base unit and all throttles, wired and wireless. Changing the throttle addresses must be done first before establishing a radio link between the base unit and the wireless throttles.

Setting up your wireless throttle[s]:

- 1- Do not plug the receiver into the base unit. (This is the last step before operating your system). Set up only one wireless throttle at a time.
- 2- Using the supplied charging cord that comes with your wireless throttle, plug this into your base unit and your wireless throttle.
- 3- Turn the base unit “on”, turn the throttle power switch to “on”, check the battery voltage level and charge batteries to proper voltage.
- 4- Using the “SYS” button plus the # 6 button, check to make sure the wireless throttle is address number 1. If it is, press the “Enter” button, then press the “Save” button. If the throttle did not have address # 1 as its default address, press “1”, then “Enter”, then “Save”. Turn the power switch on the throttle to “off”. If you only have one wireless throttle, go to “**Setting up your wired throttles**”. If you have more than one wireless throttle proceed to the next step.
- 5- Repeat steps 1, 2, and 3 from above for the next wireless throttle.
- 6- Using the “SYS” button plus the # 6 button, change the wireless throttle address to # 3, [skipping address # 2], press “Enter”, press “Save”, then turn the throttle “off”
- 7- Repeat steps 1, 2, 3, and 6 for each additional wireless throttle, skipping every other address number. The next wireless address number will be # 5, followed by # 7, then # 9, etc., etc.

Setting up your wire throttle[s]:

- 1- Plug your wired throttle[s] in to your base unit
- 2- Using the “SYS” button plus the # 6 button change your first wired throttle address to the next highest address number after your last wireless throttle. For example if your last wireless throttle address is address # 3, your first wired

throttle address is number 4. Then your other wired throttle addresses will be # 5, # 6, # 7, etc.

3- Repeat step 2 above for all your wired throttles.

Note- If you have addresses assigned to each of your throttles, and the last throttle address is higher than “8”, even if you do not physically have 8 throttles, move the slide switch on the base unit to the “All Cabs” position.

Also check that all your system settings, using the “SYS” button with button numbers 7, 8, and 9 are equal to, or higher than your last throttle address, [see instruction manual that came with your DCC System].

Once all your throttles have been set up with individual throttle addresses, turn your base unit “off”. Insert the wireless receiver into any plug in port of your system and turn your system back “on”.

Now you are ready to operate your railroad.

It is important that once you have all your throttles set up, no one should change any of the throttle addresses or any of the system settings, or the system will not operate properly, [lag times in response of locomotives and their functions will occur]. If the throttle addresses are not set up properly there is a chance that the wireless receiver can also be damaged. If you notice any problems with your system, shut off your base unit power, remove the wireless receiver from the base unit, and then check all your throttle addresses and system settings using the above procedures.

Using wired and extra wireless throttles with the Prodigy Wireless System, (item no. 0001410).

The procedures outlined above for the wireless conversion set also must be followed for adding additional wireless throttles and wired throttles to your Prodigy Advance Wireless DCC System.

The trick here is not to establish a direct radio link between the base unit and all the throttles, wired and wireless, while assigning the individual addresses to all of your throttles.

Note- Make sure the throttle’s batteries have sufficient charge or use fully charged, or alkaline type batteries to set up the throttles.

- 1- With the base unit powered “off”, assign each wireless throttle its address one at a time by turning the power switch on the throttle to the “on” position.
- 2- Using the “SYS” button plus the # 6 button, give each wireless throttle an address, starting with # 1, then skipping every other address for each throttle. #1, # 3, # 5, etc., etc., [see above steps]. Turn off each throttle before proceeding to the next one.
- 3- Once you have all your wireless throttles set up, it is time to set up all your wired throttles.

- 4- **Make sure all your wireless throttles are turned off. This is very important as not to establish a direct radio link during throttle set up.**
- 5- Power up your base unit.
- 6- Plug each wired throttle into the base unit and assign an address to each one sequentially following the last wireless address. See above steps for “Setting up wired throttles”.
- 7- Once all your throttles have individual throttles addresses as outlined above, plug in all of your wired throttles, then turn on all your wireless throttles. Check your System Settings, using the “SYS” button and button numbers 7, 8, and 9, [see above, and check your systems operating instruction manual].
- 8- Operate your railroad.

If you experience any problems with operating your DCC System, shut the system down and re check the above steps.

Also note that if you experience some type of lag between commands from any handheld, wired or wireless, check the handheld against the “link light” on the base station. If you press any function button and the link light blinks almost immediately, but the locomotive does not respond to the function activated, there is most likely no problem with the components of your DCC System. First bring the loco to a stop and re check the function, you will see that at a standstill the function works better than at speed. At running speeds, with motor noise, dirty track or wheels, there is a possibility that the decoder inside that loco missed its DCC command signal. Check the locomotive for dirty wheels and clean your track.

Note- If your handheld shows a low battery voltage after charging, check your batteries. The batteries are 1.5 volt rechargeable batteries. Using a voltmeter, check each battery separately. You should read 1.5 volts for each on your meter. If one or more reads less than 1.5 volts after sufficient charging time, the battery is bad and must be replaced.

Note on the wireless systems- There is an upgrade available for the 0001410 wireless system, 0001411 wireless throttles, and 0001412 wireless conversion set. All components of the system need to be upgraded at the same time, [this means not only the throttles, but the base units and the plug-in receivers also].

The upgraded units will be marked with a sticker the states “V2”. This sticker will be placed inside the battery compartment of the throttles, around the board of the plug-in receiver, and inside the case of the wireless system base unit.

V2 upgraded units have new hardware components and new software. This makes V2 units incompatible with early versions, [V1], of the system. If you had your components upgraded to V2, and you add a new wireless throttle recently purchased from your LHS, and it does not work with the rest of your system, look for the V2 sticker. If it does not have it, send the throttle in with a copy of your purchase receipt for a V2 upgrade.