

# ALS-2 Ambient Light Sensor Datasheet



Measures Background Luminance in accordance with FAA and ICAO guidelines for use in Runway Visual Range (RVR) applications

... direct connection to Biral visibility and present weather sensors and field calibration simplify system design and reduce maintenance costs

#### **KEY FEATURES & BENEFITS**

- Designed to FAA and ICAO requirements
- 2 to 40,000 Cdm-2 measurement range
- Choice of serial digital or analogue outputs
- Simple and quick in field calibration
- Direct connection to Biral visibility and PW sensors
- Extensive self-test capabilities
- -60°C to 70°C operating range
- 2 Years Warranty

The ALS-2 Ambient Light Sensor is designed to measure background luminance as part of a of Runway Visual Range system. Mounted alongside the runway the ambient light sensor is often deployed with a visibility meter to provide the data necessary for calculation of RVR.

Designed to comply with specifications and guidelines produced by ICAO, WMO and the Federal Aviation Authority in the USA, the ALS-2 meets all the requirements for use in typical RVR systems. The ability to connect the sensor directly to a Biral visibility or present weather sensor and have the background luminance data incorporated into the visibility sensors data string simplifies system design and construction.

Available with a choice of serial data or analogue outputs the ALS-2 can be used to replace a wide range of background luminance meters in both legacy and new installations. The

simple pole mounting system even incorporates an angular scale to ease installation.

A unique feature of the ALS-2 is its ability to be calibrated in the field without the need to disconnect the cable or send commands via the software interface. The ALS-2 Field



Optional heated hood prevents snow accumulating around the optical window.

Calibrator accessory simply fits over the hood and communicates with the sensor using an IR link through the optical window. The calibration can be checked and adjusted in a matter of minutes without the need for specialist staff or laboratory equipment.

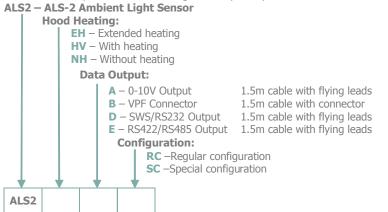
Designed to operate in the harshest of weather the ALS-2 has window heating and window contamination adjustment as standard. Extensive self-test capabilities and optional heating complete the package.



ALS-2 Calibrator connected to the ALS-2 for in situ calibration

#### **Sensor Configuration Information**

For a detailed explanation of the configuration options please refer to the table below.



**Example:** ALS2.HV.D.RC (Please use this code when ordering your sensor).

**Configuration Options Explained** 

Option	Description	1
Heating	A heated hood	is available to stop snow from accumulating around the optical window. The hood heating option is only
Options	required in reg	ions where snow is experienced. Extended sensor heating allowing operation at -60°C is available; hood
	heating is inclu	ded in this option.
	Option EH:	Extended heating
	Option HV:	Hood heating included
	Option NH:	No hood heating
Data Output	There are four output options for the ALS-2.	
	Option A:	Two 0-10V analogue outputs of brightness. 2-4,000 cd m <sup>-2</sup> and 2-40,000 cd m <sup>-2</sup> . Supplied with an
		unterminated 1.5m combined power and data cable.
	Option B:	For direct connection to a VPF or SWS-LW sensor with ALS-2 option. 1.5m cable terminated with a
		circular connector.
	Option D:	For either direct connection to a SWS sensor with ALS-2 option, or Serial RS232 output to a host
		system. Supplied with an unterminated 1.5m combined power and data cable.
	Option E:	Serial RS422/RS485 output to a host system. Supplied with an unterminated 1.5m combined power and
		data cable.
Configuration	Reserved for cu	ustomer specific configurations.
	Option RC:	No customer specific configuration.
	Option SC:	Special customer specific configuration.

### ALS-2

## Ambient Light Sensor Specifications



#### **Ambient Light Measurement**

Ambient Light Measurement		
Measures	Luminance (ambient light)	
Output	Serial data. Optional analogue outputs	
Measurement range:		
Serial Data	2-40,000Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	(0.5-11,700 fL)
Analogue outputs	2-4,000 Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	Low output
	20-40,000 Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	High output
Resolution:		
Serial Data	2 Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	
Analogue outputs	2 Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	Low output
	10 Cdm <sup>-2</sup>	High output
Measurement error	≤ 10%	
Spectral response	Wavelength sensitivity range 420-675 nm,	
	peak 565 nm.	
	Analogous to CIE lu	uminous spectral
	efficiency.	
Field of view	6°	
Averaging period	60 s	

#### **Outputs**

Serial data outputs	RS232, RS422 or RS485
Analogue outputs	2 voltage outputs, high and low range
(Option)	0-10 Vdc

#### **Power Requirements**

Sensor power		9-36 Vdc
	Hood heating power	24 V ac or dc
	Sensor & window heater	2 W
	Hood heater	12 W
	Extended heating	18 W (includes hood heater)

#### **Additional Features**

Window Heater	Fitted as standard
Window contamination	Fitted as standard
Monitoring and	
compensation	

#### **Environmental**

Operating temperature With extended heating	+40°C to +70°C -60°C to +70°C
Operating humidity	0 - 100%
Protection rating	IP66

#### **Certification & Compliance**

CE certified
EMC compliance with EN61326-1997, 1998, 2001
RoHS and WEEE compliant

#### **Physical**

1 Hysical	
Material	Powder paint coated
	aluminium
Weight	1.5kg
Elevation angle range from	0° to 45°
horizontal	
Warranty	2 Years
Lifetime	>10 Years

#### **Maintenance**

Self-test capability	As standard
User confidence check	6 months recommended
	Automatic compensation and warnings
Field calibration	With optional calibration kit

#### **Included with sensor**

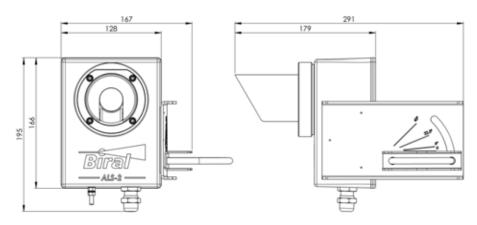
The ALS-2 sensor is delivered in sturdy recyclable foam filled packaging with:

- Pole mounting kit (1 x U-bolt and saddle)
- User manual and calibration certificates

#### **Accessories – Optional**

ALS-2.CAL	Ambient Light Sensor Calibrator
ALS2.WTY	1 Year Extended Warranty

Specifications are subject to review and change without notice. E&OE.



Dimensions in mm