

**HOBO® U12 Temp/RH/Light/  
External Data Logger  
(Part # U12-012)**

Inside this package:

- HOBO U12 Temp/RH/Light/External Data Logger
- Mounting kit with magnet, hook and loop tape, tie-wrap mount, tie wrap, and two screws.

Doc # 7661-B, MAN-U12-012  
Onset Computer Corporation

Thank you for purchasing a HOBO data logger. With proper care, it will give you years of accurate and reliable measurements.

The HOBO U12 Temperature/Relative Humidity/Light/External Data Logger is a four-channel logger with 12-bit resolution and can record up to 43,000 measurements or events. The external channel accepts a variety of sensors, including temperature, and split-core AC current sensors as well as 4-20 mA and voltage input cables (sold separately). The logger uses a direct USB interface for launching and data readout by a computer.

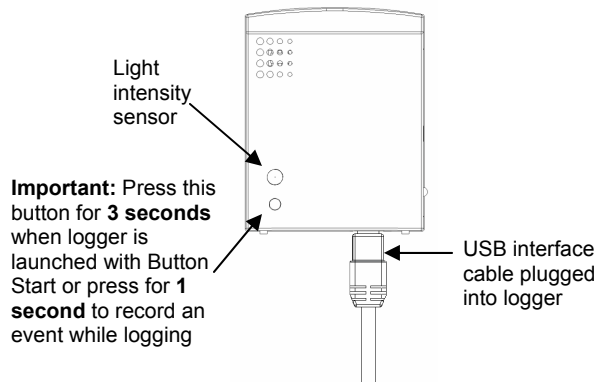
An Onset software starter kit is required for logger operation. Visit [www.onsetcomp.com](http://www.onsetcomp.com) for compatible software.



**Specifications**

Measurement range	Temperature: -20° to 70°C (-4° to 158°F) RH: 5% to 95% RH Light intensity: 1 to 3000 footcandles (lumens/ft <sup>2</sup> ) typical; maximum value varies from 1500 to 4500 footcandles (lumens/ft <sup>2</sup> ) External input channel (see sensor manual): 0 to 2.5 DC Volts
Accuracy	Temperature: ± 0.35°C from 0° to 50°C (± 0.63°F from 32° to 122°F), see Plot A RH: ± 2.5% from 10 to 90%, see Plot B; conditions above 80% RH and 60°C (140°F) may cause additional error Light intensity: Designed for indoor measurement of relative light levels, see Plot D for light wavelength response External input channel (see sensor manual): ± 2 mV ± 2.5% of absolute reading
Resolution	Temperature: 0.03°C at 25°C (0.05°F at 77°F), see Plot A RH: 0.03% RH
Drift	Temperature: 0.1°C/year (0.2°F/year) RH: <1% per year typical; RH hysteresis 1%
Response time in airflow of 1 m/s (2.2 mph)	Temperature: 6 minutes, typical to 90% RH: 1 minute, typical to 90%
Time accuracy	± 1 minute per month at 25°C (77°F), see Plot C
Operating temperature	Logging: -20° to 70°C (-4° to 158°F) Launch/readout: 0° to 50°C (32° to 122°F), per USB specification
Battery life	1 year typical use
Memory	64K bytes (43,000 12-bit measurements)
Weight	46 g (1.6 oz)
Dimensions	58 x 74 x 22 mm (2.3 x 2.9 x 0.9 inches)
CE	The CE Marking identifies this product as complying with all relevant directives in the European Union (EU).

2. Plug the small end of the USB interface cable into the bottom of the logger as shown in the following diagram.



If the logger has never been connected to the computer before, it may take a few seconds for the new hardware to be detected. Use the logger software to launch and read out the logger.

**Important: If you configure the logger to start with a button start, be sure to press and hold down the button on the front of the logger for at least three seconds when you want to begin logging.**

If using an external sensor, be sure to plug it into the side of the logger before logging begins. Also select the correct sensor and activate the external channel in the logger software when configuring the launch.

**Important: If you select an external channel, but do not plug the probe in, false data will be recorded for that channel.**

You can read out the logger while it continues to log, stop it manually with the software, or let it record data until the memory is full.

Refer to the software user's guide for complete details on launching, reading out, and viewing data from the logger.

**Sample and event logging**

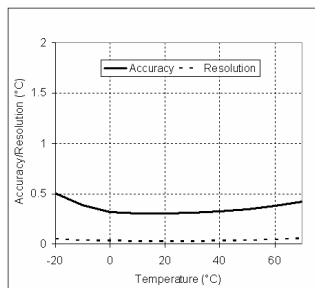
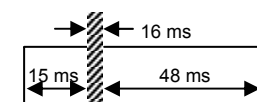
The logger can record two types of data: samples and events. Samples are the sensor measurements recorded at each logging interval (for example, the temperature every minute). Events are independent occurrences triggered by a logger activity. Examples of events recorded asynchronously during deployment include when the logger is connected to the host, when the battery is low, the end of a data file once the logger is stopped, and button pushes.

Press the button on the front of the logger for one second to record an event. Both a button up and down event will be recorded. This is useful if you want to mark the datafile at a particular point. For example, if the logger is located in an incubator, you might press the button each time the door is opened.

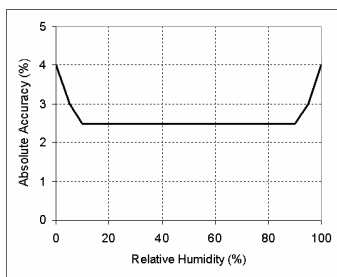
The logger stores 64K of data, and can record up to 43,000 samples and events combined.

**Using external sensors**

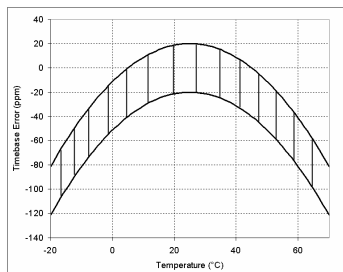
The external input channel has a switched 2.5 V output. This signal can be used to power a sensor directly or it can also be used to trigger an external circuit. An external sensor should draw no more than 4 mA total when powered. The switched 2.5 V output turns on about 15 ms before the external channel is measured and stays powered for 48 ms after it is measured, as shown in the following diagram. The striped bar shows the 16 ms period during which the logger samples the input signal.



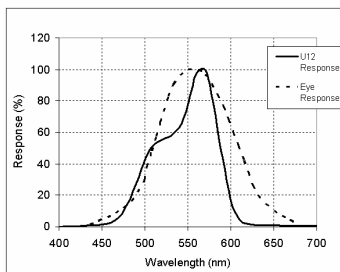
Plot A



Plot B



Plot C



Plot D

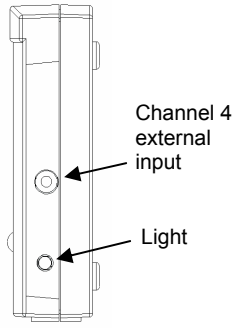
**Connecting the logger**

The U-Family logger requires an Onset-supplied USB interface cable to connect to the computer. If possible, avoid connecting at temperatures below 0°C (32°F) or above 50°C (122°F).

1. Plug the large end of the USB interface cable into a USB port on the computer.

**Operation**

A light (LED) on the side of the logger confirms logger operation.



The following table explains when the logger blinks during logger operation.

When:	The light:
The logger is logging	Blinks once every one to four seconds (the shorter the logging interval, the faster the light blinks); blinks when logging a sample
The logger is awaiting a start because it was launched in Start At Interval, Delayed Start, or Button Start mode	Blinks once every eight seconds until launch begins
The button on the logger is being pushed for a Button Start launch	Blinks once every second while pressing the button and then flashes rapidly once you release the button. The light then reverts to a blinking pattern based on the logging interval

**Using the RH sensor**

In order to take humidity measurements, the temperature sensor must be used in conjunction with the RH sensor.

Conditions outside the recommended range may offset the RH signal. Vapors may also affect the RH sensor. The diffusion of chemicals into the sensor may cause a shift in both offset and sensitivity. High levels of pollutants may cause permanent damage to the sensor.

Upon returning to normal conditions, the RH sensor will slowly return towards calibration state by itself. However, prolonged exposure to extreme conditions may accelerate aging and eventually lead to a permanent shift. To recondition the sensor, do the following:

1. Remove the battery
2. Warm 24 hours 80–90°C (176–194°F) at < 5% RH
3. Re-hydrate 48 hours 20–30°C (70–90°F) at 75–95% RH

**Protecting the logger**

The logger can be permanently damaged by corrosion if it gets wet. Protect it from condensation. If it gets wet, remove the battery immediately and dry the circuit board with a hair dryer before reinstalling the battery. Do not let the board get too hot. You should be able to comfortably hold the board in your hand while drying.

**Service and Support**

HOBO products are easy to use and reliable. In the unlikely event that you have a problem with this instrument, contact the company where you bought the logger: Onset or an Onset Authorized Dealer. Before calling, you can evaluate and often solve the problem if you write down the events that led to the problem (are you doing anything differently?) and if you visit the Technical Support section of the Onset web site at [www.onsetcomp.com/support.html](http://www.onsetcomp.com/support.html). When contacting Onset, ask for technical support and be prepared to provide the product number and serial number for the logger and software version in question. Also completely describe the problem or question. The more information you provide, the faster and more accurately we will be able to respond.

Onset Computer Corporation  
 470 MacArthur Blvd., Bourne, MA 02532  
 Mailing: PO Box 3450, Pocasset, MA 02559-3450  
 Phone: 1-800-LOGGERS (1-800-564-4377) or 508-759-9500  
 Fax: 508-759-9100  
 E-mail: [loggerhelp@onsetcomp.com](mailto:loggerhelp@onsetcomp.com)  
 Internet: [www.onsetcomp.com](http://www.onsetcomp.com)

**Returning Products to Onset**

Direct all warranty claims and repair requests to place of purchase. Before returning a failed unit, you must obtain a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) number from Onset. You must provide proof that you purchased the Onset product(s) directly from Onset (purchase order number or Onset invoice number). Onset will issue an RMA number that is valid for 30 days. You must ship the product(s), properly packaged to protect against further damage, to Onset (at your expense) with the RMA number marked clearly on the outside of the package. Onset is not responsible for any package that is returned without a valid RMA number or for the loss of the package by any shipping company. Products must be clean and free of any contaminants before they are sent back to Onset or they may be returned to you.

**Repair Policy**

Products that are returned after the warranty period or that are damaged by the customer as specified in the warranty provisions can be returned to Onset with a valid RMA number for evaluation.

**Optional Services**

Please contact Onset for more information and prices on:

- ASAP Repair. Onset will expedite the repair of a returned product.
- Data-back™ Service. HOBO data loggers store data in nonvolatile EEPROM memory. Onset will, if possible, recover your data to a disk.
- Tune Up Service. Onset will examine and retest any HOBO data logger.

**Warranty**

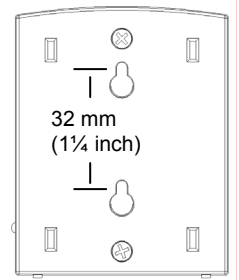
Onset Computer Corporation (“Onset”) warrants to the original end-user Purchaser for a period of one year from the date of original purchase that the HOBO product(s) purchased will be free from defect in material and workmanship. During the warranty period Onset will, at its option, either repair or replace products that prove to be defective in material or workmanship.

**Note! Static electricity may cause the logger to stop logging.** To avoid electrostatic discharge, transport the logger in an anti-static bag, and ground yourself by touching an unpainted metal surface before handling the logger. For more information about electrostatic discharge, visit <http://www.onsetcomp.com/Support/support.html>.

**Mounting**

There are four ways to mount the logger using the materials in the mounting kit included with the logger.

- Use the hook and loop tape to affix the logger to a surface.
- Attach the magnet and then place the logger on a magnetic surface.
- Use the tie wrap and tie wrap mount to tie the logger to an object.
- Fasten the logger to a surface with the two Phillips-head screws. The back of the logger has two inserts for the screws, 32 mm (1¼ inches) apart.



**Battery**

The logger requires one 3-Volt CR-2032 lithium battery. Expected battery life varies based on the temperature and the frequency at which the logger is recording data (the logging interval). A new battery will typically last one year with logging intervals greater than one minute. Deployments in extremely cold or hot temperatures or logging intervals faster than one minute may significantly reduce battery life.

To replace the battery:

1. Disconnect the logger from the computer.
2. Unscrew the logger case.
3. Lift the circuit board and carefully push the battery out with a small blunt instrument, or pull it out with your fingernail.
4. Insert a new battery, positive side facing up.
5. Carefully realign the logger case and re-fasten the screws.

**⚠ WARNING:** Do not cut open, incinerate, heat above 85°C (185°F), or recharge the lithium battery. The battery may explode if the logger is exposed to extreme heat or conditions that could damage or destroy the battery case. Do not dispose of the logger or battery in fire. Do not expose the contents of the battery to water. Dispose of the battery according to local regulations for lithium batteries.

This warranty is void if the product has been damaged by the Purchaser as a result of improper maintenance, abuse, misuse, mishandling, misapplication, error or negligence of Purchaser, or if there has been an unauthorized alteration, attachment or modification.

**THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES BEYOND THE EXPRESSED WARRANTY AS PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT. IN NO EVENT SHALL ONSET BE LIABLE FOR LOSS OF PROFITS OR INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL OR OTHER SIMILAR DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF ANY BREACH OF THIS CONTRACT OR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS CONTRACT, INCLUDING BREACH OF WARRANTY, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL THEORY.**

**LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.** The Purchaser’s sole remedy and the limit of Onset’s liability for any loss whatsoever shall not exceed the Purchaser’s price of the product(s). The determination of suitability of products to the specific needs of the Purchaser is solely the Purchaser’s responsibility. **THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES BEYOND THE EXPRESSED WARRANTY IN THIS DOCUMENT. EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT, THERE ARE NO OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. NO INFORMATION OR ADVICE GIVEN BY ONSET, ITS AGENTS OR EMPLOYEES SHALL CREATE A WARRANTY OR IN ANY WAY INCREASE THE SCOPE OF THE EXPRESSED WARRANTY OFFERED WITH THE SALE OF THIS PRODUCT.**

**INDEMNIFICATION.** Products supplied by Onset are not designed, intended, or authorized for use as components intended for surgical implant or ingestion into the body or other applications involving life-support, or for any application in which the failure of the Onset-supplied product could create or contribute to a situation where personal injury or death may occur. Products supplied by Onset are not designed, intended, or authorized for use in or with any nuclear installation or activity. Products supplied by Onset are not designed, intended, or authorized for use in any aeronautical or related application. Should any Onset-supplied product or equipment be used in any application involving surgical implant or ingestion, life-support, or where failure of the product could lead to personal injury or death, or should any Onset-supplied product or equipment be used in or with any nuclear installation or activity, or in or with any aeronautical or related application or activity, Purchaser will indemnify Onset and hold Onset harmless from any liability or damage whatsoever arising out of the use of the product and/or equipment in such manner.

**LEGAL REMEDIES.** This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary by jurisdiction. The remedies provided herein are in lieu of all other remedies, express or implied.

© 2003, 2004 Onset Computer Corporation. All rights reserved.  
 Part #: MAN-U12-012, Doc #: 7661-B

Onset and HOBO are registered trademarks of Onset Computer Corporation. Other products and brand names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners.