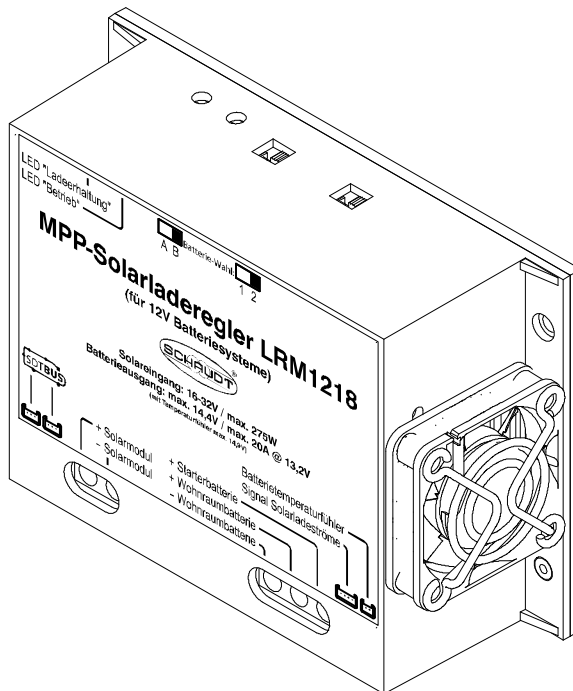


# Operating Instructions



## LRM 1218 Solar Charge Regulator

### Table of contents

1	Safety information .....	2
1.1	Meaning of safety symbols .....	2
1.2	General safety information .....	2
2	Introduction .....	3
2.1	Purpose .....	3
2.2	Function of the LRM 1218 solar charge regulator .....	3
3	Operation .....	4
4	Operating faults .....	5
5	Technical details .....	6
5.1	Mechanical details .....	6
5.2	Electrical details .....	6
5.3	Environmental parameters .....	7
6	Maintenance .....	7
	Appendix .....	8

## 1 Safety information

### 1.1 Meaning of the safety symbols



**▲ DANGER!**

Failure to comply with this sign may result in danger to life or physical condition.



**▲ WARNING!**

Failure to comply with this sign may result in injury.



**▲ ATTENTION!**

Failure to comply with the sign may result in damage to equipment or other connected loads.

### 1.2 General safety instructions

The design of the device is state-of-the-art and complies with approved safety regulations. Failure to observe the safety instructions may nonetheless lead to injury or damage to the device.

Only use the device when it is in perfect technical condition.

Any faults affecting the safety of persons or the proper functioning of the device must be repaired immediately by specialists.



**▲ DANGER!**

230V units carrying mains voltage.

Risk of fatal injury due to electric shock or fire:

- Do not carry out maintenance or repair work on the device
- If cables or the device housing are damaged, no longer use the device and isolate it from the power supply
- Ensure that no liquids enter the device



**▲ WARNING!**

Hot components!

Burns:

- Only change blown fuses when the device is fully de-energised.
- Blown fuses may only be replaced once the cause of the fault is known and has been rectified.
- Never bypass or repair fuses.
- Only use original fuses rated as specified on the device.
- Device parts can become hot during operation. Do not touch them.
- Never store heat sensitive objects close to the device (e.g. temperature sensitive clothes if the device has been installed in a wardrobe).

## 2 Introduction

This instruction manual contains important information on safe operation of the device. Make sure you read and follow the safety instructions provided.

The instruction manual should always be kept in the vehicle. All safety information must be passed on to other users.

### 2.1 Purpose

The MPP LRM 1218 solar charge regulator is for charging the batteries of the motorhome by means of the solar modules connected.

#### Electroblocks

The solar charge regulator limits and controls the charging voltage of the batteries. The LRM 1218 solar charge regulator can be connected to:

- a Schaudt electroblock with an STDBUS connection and a separate connection for solar current
- a Schaudt electroblock with a separate connection for solar current
- a Schaudt electroblock with a retrofit adapter for charging the starter battery

#### Batteries

- directly to the batteries



- ▲ To use the solar charge regulator with an electroblock, refer to the instruction manual for the electroblock.

#### Solar current display

For vehicles with SDTBUS, or when a digital control panel with solar current display is available, the charging current is read by the shunt fitted in the solar charge regulator, and displayed on the panel as solar current.

#### LT 320 (accessory)

When used on systems without an integrated solar current display, the separately available LT 320 control panel can be used as an accessory. It enables the display of the solar charging current for the leisure and starter batteries.

### 2.2 Function of the LRM 1218 solar charge regulator

#### Function of solar cell

The power output of a solar cell is dependent on its load and temperature, as well as other factors such as lighting intensity. A certain off-load voltage is applied to a non-loaded solar cell under light irradiation.

#### Maximum Power Point MPP

The maximum power can be taken in the Maximum Power Point (MPP) of a solar module. Because the solar module **only** delivers its highest yield in this point, a regulator connected must be able to find this point, and keep it continually even under changing conditions.

#### Functional principle of the LRM 1218

The LRM1218 solar regulator is used to charge 6-cell, 12V lead batteries (lead-acid, lead-gel and AGM batteries).

The solar regulator is a clocked converter featuring a very high efficiency level. A microcontroller controls it such that the solar modules connected always operate within the point of maximum power (the MPP) independently of sun exposure, battery voltage and module temperature, whilst the battery is in the main charging phase.

The charge voltages provided are aligned perfectly to the leisure battery by means of a temperature sensor and the ability to set three battery types.

The starter battery is also charged – as soon as the leisure battery has finished the main charging phase.

The solar regulator has an SDTBUS connector and so can be integrated perfectly into bus systems from Schaudt. For the upgrading of older systems (such as the DT 201 and DT 220 control panels in conjunction with EBL 101 and EBL 220), a connector with an appropriate analogue signal to display the solar currents in the leisure and starter batteries is provided.

Two LEDs for "Operation" and "Charge retention" provide information on function and broadly full battery. The device has a very compact and light-weight design. The fan fitted is very quiet and runs only when the performance is high.

Its function means the MPP LRM 1218 solar regulator is able to deliver (depending on conditions such as outside temperature and level of sunshine) a 5 ... 30% higher solar current than conventional series regulators (a low outside temperature and high level of sunshine would be ideal).

**Leisure battery** Three different charging curves ("Lead-acid", "Lead-Gel/AGM I" and "AGM II"), or supply with a fixed voltage, can be set from two slide switches.

The charge curve however is dependent not only on the setting of the battery type switch, but also on the battery temperature determined (when an optionally available battery temperature sensor is connected or when the LRM 1218 is connected to an SDTBUS system having a battery temperature sensor).

**Starter battery** The preference is to load the leisure battery. As soon as the LRM 1218 restricts the loading voltage of the leisure battery, it indicates the broad charging of the leisure battery. Charging of the starter battery is activated at this moment.

### 3 Operation

The solar charge regulator has no controls.

The LRM 1218 solar regulator may have to be readjusted when the battery type is changed:

Battery type set	Switch settings	
	Switch S1	Switch S2
Supply mode	1	A
AGM2	1	B
Lead-gel / AGM1	2	A
Lead-acid	2	B



▲ The charge regulator supplies a constant output voltage in supply mode.



▲ The two switches are well recessed to stop them being used incorrectly. A small screwdriver may have to be used to change the switches.

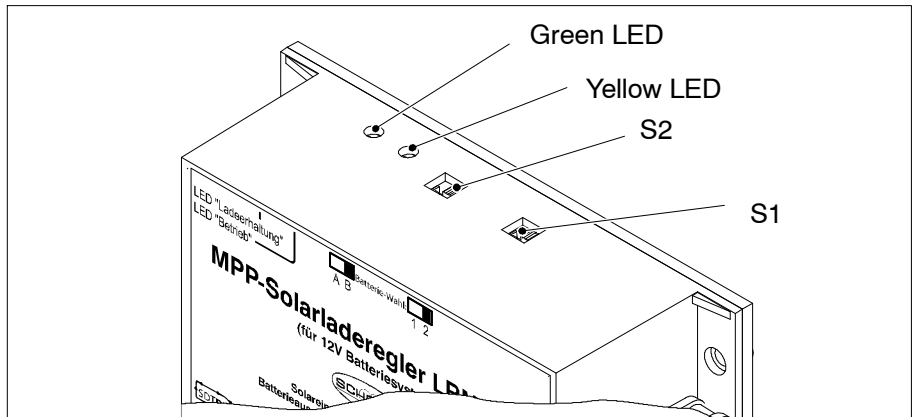


Fig. 1 Battery setting switches and LEDs

Two LEDs show the current status of the regulator:

- Yellow LED: Device in charge mode (leisure and/or starter battery)
- Green LED: Charge retention active (leisure battery full)
- The two LEDs flash alternately: Supply mode

The solar currents are displayed on a control panel connected (such as an LT 320) – refer to the separate operating instructions.

### Retrofitting a TF ... battery temperature sensor

Proceed as follows if a battery temperature sensor is to be retrofitted:

- ▶ Switch off the system from the main switch (control panel)
- ▶ Remove the "Solar modules" connector on the LRM 1218
- ▶ Remove the "Leisure and starter battery" connectors on the LRM 1218
- ▶ Plug the battery temperature sensor into the LRM 1218
- ▶ Plug the "Leisure and starter battery" connectors into the LRM 1218
  - The LRM 1218 solar regulator reconfigures itself automatically – changed battery charge curves are now used.
- ▶ Plug the "Solar modules" connector into the LRM 1218
- ▲ A battery temperature sensor connected directly to the solar regulator has the benefit that charging is temperature-controlled even when the bus is not active (such as when not in use in the winter break).



## 4 Faults

Please contact our customer service team if you cannot rectify the fault using the following table.

If this is not possible, such as when you are abroad, the solar regulator can continue to be used. For faults E271 and E272 (display of only SDT ... bus systems possible), standard curves are used for charging. Charging is then no longer temperature-controller.

Fault	Possible cause	Remedy
No display of the solar current on the control panel (if available)	Defective wiring	Have the wiring checked
	Solar charge regulator defective	Contact customer service
	Defective electroblock	Contact customer service

Fault	Possible cause	Remedy
Batteries are not being charged	Defective batteries	Have the batteries checked
	If batteries are in perfect working order: Solar charge regulator defective	Contact customer service
	Defective electroblock	Contact customer service
	Defective wiring	Have the wiring checked
Yellow LED flashing	Output stage disabled (regulator not being used) due to overcurrent or overvoltage	Incorrect solar module (or too many solar modules) connected (input power too high) – contact customer service
SDT ... bus system fault messages:		
E270	No LRM 1218 on bus	Check bus wiring Contact customer service
E271	Battery temperature sensor short-circuit*	Check wiring/ connector Contact customer service
E272	Battery temperature sensor cable break or defective sensor*	Check wiring Replace sensor
E273	Overload/overcurrent and/or overtemperature	Incorrect solar module (or too many solar modules) connected (input power too high) – contact customer service
*The temperature value available on the bus is used as an alternative for bus systems with another battery temperature sensor (such as a HELLA battery sensor).		

## 5 Technical details

### 5.1 Mechanical details

**Dimensions** 135 x 48 x 90 (W x H x D in mm)

**Weight** 360 g

**Casing** Plastic, blue (RAL 5010)

### 5.2 Electrical details

**Nominal voltage** 12 V DC

**Charging current** Up to 20 A for leisure and starter battery together; leisure battery has priority; e.g. only leisure battery for solar power 275 W:

- 20 A @ 13.2 V leisure battery voltage
- 18 A @ 14.4 V leisure battery voltage

**Suitable batteries** 6-cell lead batteries, 55 Ah and above (lead-acid, lead-gel, AGM)

**Suitable solar modules**

- 36-cell modules as a minimum
- Off-load voltage 20 ... 32 V
- Maximum total capacity of solar modules 275 Wp

**Calculation example** For example, five solar modules each rated at 55 Wp can be connected in parallel:

Per solar module e.g.  $U_{\text{offload}} = 22 \text{ V}$ ,  $U_{\text{MPP}} = 17.2 \text{ V}$   
 $I_{\text{MPP}} = 3.2 \text{ A}$   
 Total nominal current  $I_{\text{MPP}} = 16 \text{ A}$

**End-of-charge-voltages**

Battery type set	Charging-voltage	Charge retention voltage	At reference temperature	Time phase
Supply mode	Fixed voltage 13.4 V			
AGM2	14.7 V	13.7 V	25° C	4 h
Lead-gel/AGM1	14.4 V	13.8 V	25° C	12 h
Lead-acid	14.4 V	13.4 V	25° C	4 h

The temperature correction of end-of-charge voltages is  $-20 \text{ mV}$  per degree of temperature increase (in relation to  $25^\circ \text{ C}$ ) or  $+20 \text{ mV}$  per degree of temperature reduction (voltage limits:  $U_{\text{min}} 13.4 \text{ V}$ ;  $U_{\text{max}} 14.9 \text{ V}$ ; the top voltage limit at  $14.9 \text{ V}$  is in consideration of the maximum input voltage of the consumers connected).

**Suitable EBL ... electroblocks and other connection options**

- Schaudt electroblocks with SDTBUS (they have a separate input for the solar currents of leisure and starter batteries, and a connector for the SDTBUS)
- Schaudt electroblocks with a separate connector for the solar currents of leisure and starter batteries; possibly also a connection for current display (relayed to the DT .../LT ... control panel connected to the EBL ...)
- Schaudt electroblocks with a retrofit adapter for charging the starter battery
- Direct connection to leisure and starter batteries for external systems; solar current display by LT 320 (available optionally) possible

### 5.3 Environmental parameters

**Operating temperature**  $-10 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  to  $+50 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$   
**Storage temperature**  $-20 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  to  $+70 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$   
**Humidity** Operation in dry environment only  
**CE** CE marked

## 6 Maintenance

The device requires no maintenance.

**Cleaning** Clean the device with a soft, slightly damp cloth and mild detergent. Never use spirit, thinners or similar substances. Do not allow liquids to enter the device.

© No part of this manual may be reproduced, translated or copied without express written permission.

## Appendix

### A EC Declaration of Conformity

Schaudt GmbH hereby confirms that the design of the LRM 1218 solar charger regulator complies with the following relevant regulations:

The original CE declaration of conformity is available for reference at any time.

**Manufacturer** Schaudt GmbH, Elektrotechnik & Apparatebau

**Address** Daimlerstraße 5  
88677 Markdorf  
Germany

### B Special fittings/accessories

**Panel** LT 320 instrument panel for connection to systems without a direct solar current display by the control panel

**Battery temperature sensor** TF 50 A battery sensor to read the battery temperature – is read automatically and has a bearing on the charging characteristics

### C Fault report

In the event of damage, please fill in the fault report and send it with the faulty device to the manufacturer.

Device type: \_\_\_\_\_  
Item no.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vehicle: \_\_\_\_\_  
Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Model: \_\_\_\_\_  
Own installation? Yes  No   
Upgrade? Yes  No

Following fault has occurred (please tick):

- Battery is not charged when solar modules are connected
- Persistent fault
- Intermittent fault/loose contact

Other comments:

---

---

---

---

---

---



### D Customer service

**Customer service address**

Schaudt GmbH, Elektrotechnik & Apparatebau  
Planckstraße 8  
88677 Markdorf, Germany

Phone: +49 7544 9577-16 Email: kundendienst@schaudt-gmbh.de

Office hours Mon to Thurs 08.00 – 12.00, 13.00 – 16.00  
Fri 08.00 – 12.00

**Send in device**

Returning a faulty device:

- ▶ Complete and enclose the fault report, see Appendix C.
- ▶ Send it to the addressee (free delivery).

### E Mechanical layout

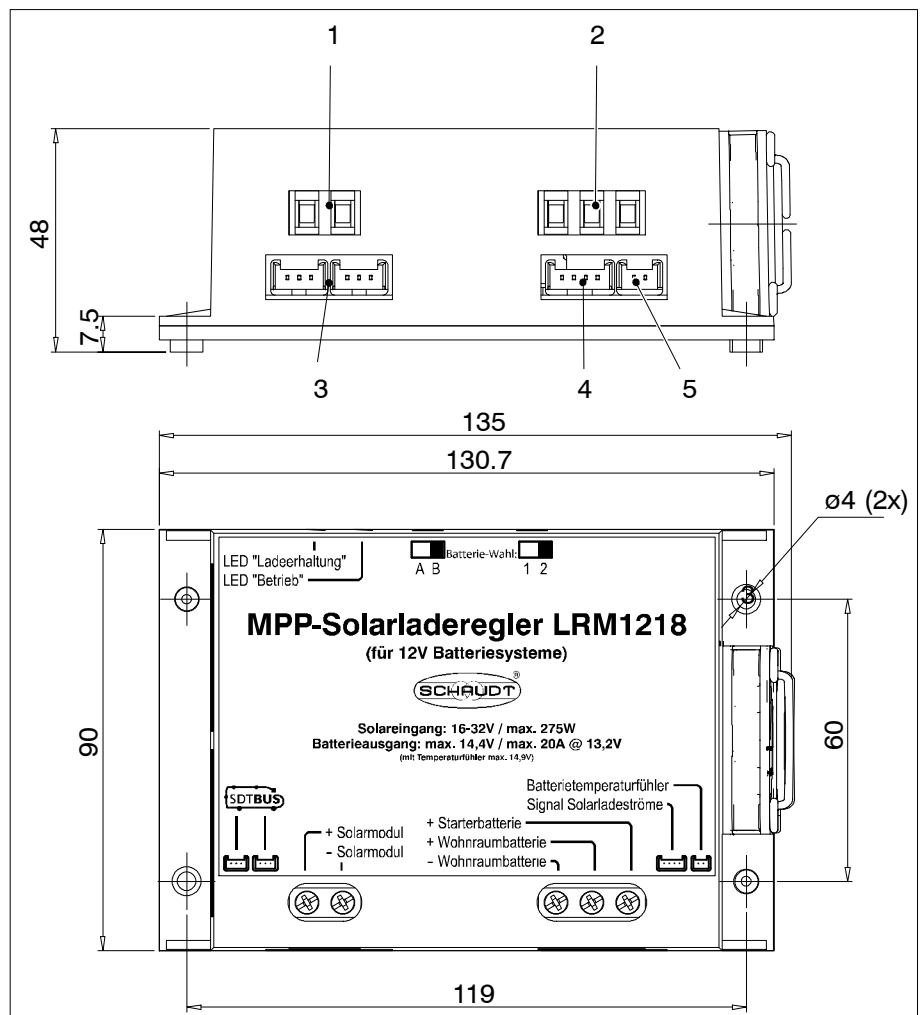


Fig. 2 Dimensions and connectors for the LRM 1218 solar charge regulator

- 1 Solar module connection
- 2 Leisure and starter battery connections, via electroblock as required
- 3 STDBUS connector
- 4 Control panel connector, via electroblock as required
- 5 Battery temperature sensor connector

(blank page)