

Overview:

The ChainMate Counter is an easy to install, accurate digital display / record of the anchor rode length released, to ensure the desired length to depth ratio is attained for secure anchoring.

If you are tired of painting links or tying ribbons every 10 feet to determine the length of rode released...the ChainMate counter provides an accurate method of monitoring rode deployment with electric windlasses.

Previous chain counters rely on a windlass mounted sensor that provide "link" counts to the counter display. This sensor is located in an extremely harsh environment, often resulting in an unreliable, inaccurate and evidentially troublesome operation.

The ChainMate Counter relies on the consistent rotation of the windlass electric drive to provide a signal to allow calculation of the length of chain deployed.

Features:

- Simple design and install; eliminates the troublesome windlass mounted sensor
- No boat-length wiring; wire only to windlass control buttons
- Bright LED display, visible in full sun but has night-vision protection
- Simple 4 wire installation
- Multi length unit display (feet / meters)
- Bulkhead (2.1 " (52 mm) dia.) or bracket mount
- Auto-on / off
- 5 mA sleep mode and only 30 mA current draw with full display
- Recovery countdown indicates when anchor approaches deck level.
- Multiple units can be added anywhere in the vessel

Operation:

The counter has 5 modes:

1. Run Mode
2. Re-set Mode (for zeroing the counter)
3. Length of Unit selection Mode
4. Calibration Mode
5. Sleep Mode

Run-Mode:

The ChainMate counter enters into “run mode” whenever a windlass control button or the counter button is pressed. In Run mode the 3 digit display will indicate the deployed rode length and LED indicates the units of length (Feet or Meters).

NB: The deployed length value will be lost if the counter is completely depowered.

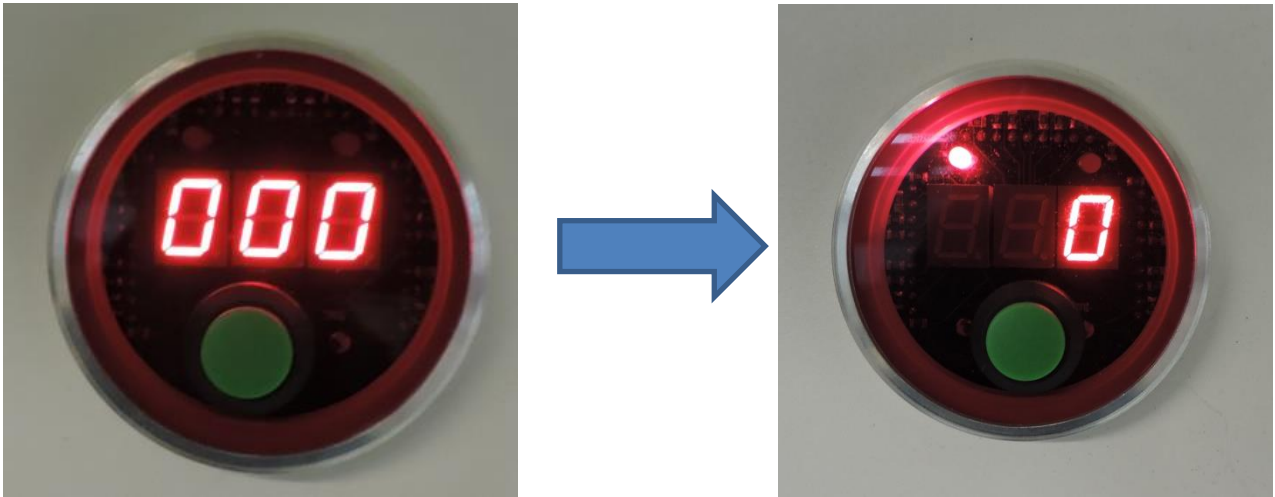
Pressing the windlass control buttons will cause the display to increase or decrease; depending which button was pressed.

The display remains lit for 2 seconds after a windlass control button is released, at that point the counter will enter “sleep mode”.



Re-set Mode:

The counter will enter “re-set mode” by pressing and holding the counter button for 8 seconds, the display will flash “000”, the button is then released and pressed again; the counter display will re-set to zero and show “0”.



Releasing and pressing the button when in Re-set mode results in the display showing a single "0"

Length of Unit selection mode:

The ChainMate Counter has 2 units of measurement; feet and meters. LED's above the display numbers indicate the selected units; Feet are indicated by the right-hand LED and Meters by the left-hand LED.

Holding the counter button of 8 seconds causes the display to flash "- - -", releasing the button and pressing the button again causes the units to change with a resulting LED change.



Feet selection shown

Calibration Mode:

- Pressing and holding the counter button for 12 seconds puts the unit in “Calibration mode” as indicated by the display showing a flashing “CAL”.
- Calibration is then accomplished by deploying 10 feet (3.05 meters) using the windlass down button, and then returning the same length by using the windlass “up” button; during this procedure the CAL will flash rapidly.
- At the conclusion of the procedure a successful calibration is indicated by the display showing a non-flashing (steady) “CAL” for 2 seconds
- The units of length are not affected by the calibration procedure; the unit calculates the correct unit value.
- The Counter may be re-calibrated at any time.

NB: The calibration value is maintained even if the counter is completely depowered.



Sleep Mode:

The counter enters sleep mode to reduce electrical consumption and turn off the display. Sleep mode is entered when there is no activity for 3 seconds. Any button activity; whether the windlass controls or the counter button will bring the counter into “Run Mode”.

Electrical Connections:



The rear panel clearly shows the brass connection posts. Ring terminals #6 (3mm) should be used.

The Counter has an auto re-settable internal fuse; therefore no external fuse is required. The Counter is polarity protected.

Summary:

The simplicity of installation and operation make the *ChainMate Counter* both a convenience and a safety feature, taking frustration and uncertainty out of the anchoring process.

A solo-sailor can now confidently set the vessel's rode length from the cockpit windlass controls.

Notice

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