

Software Features

- 4 channels of temperature monitoring and control
- each channel has option to control, or monitor only
- 2 control modes: heating and cooling
- configure setpoint and dropout (hysteresis) for each channel
- ability to manually operate relays
- selectable COM port and baud rate
- logging function
 - option to disable
 - record temperatures once per minute
 - relay actions are recorded as they happen
 - temperatures and relay actions are recorded with a timestamp
 - log is saved to file *automatically* every 24hr
 - save log to file manually
 - log file is created in tab-delimited format, for easy loading into a spreadsheet
- the [Tab] key can be used to step through all buttons and config items.
- some countries use a comma (,) to mark a decimal point, rather than a period (.). The program will detect what the local Decimal Separator is, and use that for temperature display and logging.

System Requirements

- Win98SE to WinVista32
(not tested in Win95, or XP64 or Vista64)
- 1.2 MB of disk space.

Installation

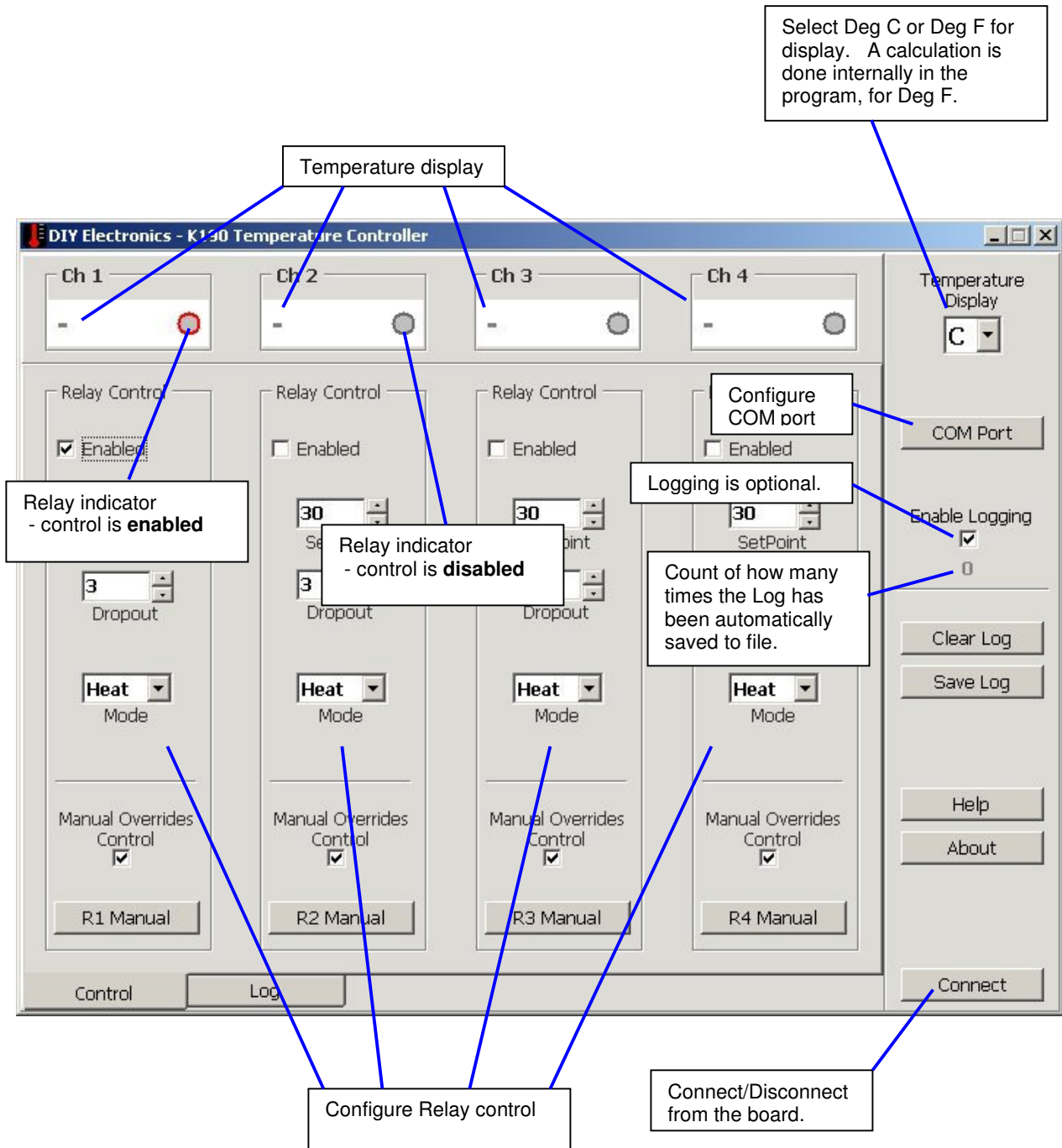
The zip file includes the program exe and this pdf help file. Unzip to convenient location on your hard drive, then create a desktop shortcut to the exe file.

Software License

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www.kitsrus.com

Written for DIY by John Gray,
www.108relays.ca

Control page, disconnected



Control page, connected

Showing sensors connected to Ch1, Ch2, and Ch4.

Channel displays are updated on a once-per-second rotation. At the same time, control settings are checked, and relays are activated or released, as needed.

Relay indicator - control is enabled - relay is ON

Relay indicator - control is enabled - relay is OFF

Operate a Relay manually.

The screenshot shows the 'DIY Electronics - K190 Temperature Controller' window. It features four columns for Channel 1 through Channel 4. Each channel has a temperature display at the top, a 'Relay Control' section with an 'Enabled' checkbox, a 'SetPoint' and 'Dropout' input, a 'Mode' dropdown (Heat or Cool), and a 'Manual Overrides Control' section with a 'Manual' button. Channel 1 shows a temperature of 20, a red indicator light, and a relay that is ON. Channel 2 shows a temperature of 20 and a relay that is OFF. Channel 3 shows a temperature of - and a relay that is OFF. Channel 4 shows a temperature of 21, a red indicator light, and a relay that is OFF. On the right side, there is a 'Temperature Display' dropdown set to 'C', a 'COM Port' field, an 'Enable Logging' checkbox, and buttons for 'Clear Log', 'Save Log', 'Help', and 'About'. At the bottom, there are 'Control' and 'Log' buttons, and a 'Disconnect' button.

Log page

A timestamp is added for each record.
Date and time are displayed according to local settings in the User's computer.

Temperature readings are logged at a rate of once per minute.

A heating cycle. (SetPoint is 24, Dropout is 3)

Time	Temp 1	Temp 2	Temp 3	Temp 4
9/22/2008 2:47:39 PM				
9/22/2008 2:47:48 PM				
9/22/2008 2:47:48 PM				
9/22/2008 2:47:48 PM				
9/22/2008 2:47:49 PM	22			
9/22/2008 2:48:48 PM	24	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:49:48 PM	24	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:50:48 PM	25	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:51:48 PM	25	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:52:48 PM	26	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:53:26 PM				
9/22/2008 2:53:48 PM	27	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:54:48 PM	27	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:55:48 PM	27	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:56:48 PM	26	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:57:38 PM				
9/22/2008 2:57:48 PM	25	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:58:11 PM				
9/22/2008 2:58:30 PM				
9/22/2008 2:58:48 PM	24	20	-	21
9/22/2008 2:59:48 PM	24	20	-	21

Start a fresh Log at any time.

Ch1: heat ON (22)

Ch1: heat OFF (27)

Manual - R2 - ON

Manual - R2 - OFF

Ch1: heat ON (24)

Manual Relay action is also recorded.

The Log text uses tabs rather than commas for spacing, for improved readability.

Save the Log to file
The Log runs in memory, until saved to file. The Log is saved as a tab-delimited text file, for easy loading into a spreadsheet.

Autosave
The Log contents are saved automatically to file (if logging is enabled), once approximately every 24 hours. The 24hr period starts from when first connected to the K190 board. Files are saved to the User's ..\MyDocuments\K190 folder.

The log filename includes a date-time stamp in iso format. (YYYY-MM-DD hh-mm-ss)

Configuration

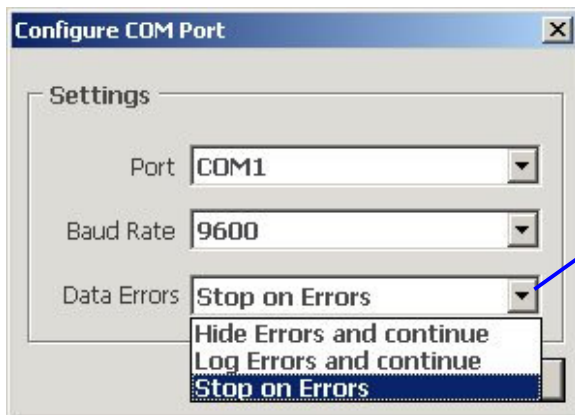
The image shows a software configuration window titled "Relay Control". It contains several settings:

- An "Enabled" checkbox which is checked.
- A "SetPoint" field with a numeric value of 26.
- A "Dropout" field with a numeric value of 3.
- A "Mode" dropdown menu currently set to "Heat".
- A "Manual Overrides Control" checkbox which is checked.
- An "R1 Manual" button.

 Six callout boxes provide detailed explanations:

- Top box: "Enable/Disable relay control for this channel. If disabled, then this channel will monitor only." (points to the Enabled checkbox).
- Right box 1: "Temperature at which the Relay will turn ON." (points to the SetPoint field).
- Right box 2: "Difference from SetPoint value, at which the Relay will turn OFF." (points to the Dropout field).
- Right box 3: "Heat mode - the relay will turn ON when temperature goes below the SetPoint value. The relay will turn OFF when temperature rises above the SetPoint by the Dropout (hysteresis) amount." (points to the Mode dropdown).
- Right box 4: "Cool mode - the relay will turn ON when temperature goes above the SetPoint value. The relay will turn OFF when temperature drops below the SetPoint by the Dropout amount." (points to the Mode dropdown).
- Left box: "If enabled... When the Manual button is clicked, this channel's thermostatic relay control is disabled (this is 'override'). If disabled... Manual relay action is only temporary, when control is enabled." (points to the Manual Overrides Control checkbox).
- Bottom box: "This will toggle the Relay state." (points to the R1 Manual button).

COM Port

**Data Errors**

Assuming a decent serial cable and newer hardware, there normally shouldn't be any data errors.

If the program is running on older equipment with flaky hardware, data errors are a possibility. The program can be configured to hide these errors, which may help to provide increased stability.

Again, if running on older equipment, consider disabling all power management settings.

Shortcut Keys

[Ctrl] + [Q]	Close the program
[Ctrl] + [N]	Connect/Disconnect from the board
[Ctrl] + [E]	Enable/Disable logging
[Ctrl] + [P]	Opens COM Port configuration
[Ctrl] + [R]	Clear the current log
[Ctrl] + [S]	Save the current log to file
[Ctrl] + [L]	View Log page
[Ctrl] + [T]	View Control page
[Ctrl] + [1]	Operate Relay 1 (if connected)
[Ctrl] + [2]	Operate Relay 2 (if connected)
[Ctrl] + [3]	Operate Relay 3 (if connected)
[Ctrl] + [4]	Operate Relay 4 (if connected)
[Ctrl] + [B]	Opens About box
F1	Help

Some of the standard text editor keys can be used in the **Log screen**, eg:

- Home/End
- Page Up/Down
- Select All
- Copy

Be sure to mouse-click in the Log screen first.