TECHNICAL INFORMATION MANUAL

Revision 0.0 - 22 February 2021

skID R1280I

Mini Sled RAIN RFID Reader





Visit the <u>skID R1280I</u> web page, you will find the latest revision of data sheets, manuals, certifications, technical drawings, software and firmware.

All you need to start using your reader in a few clicks!

Scope of Manual

The goal of this manual is to provide the basic information to work with the skID R1280I Mini Sled RAIN RFID Reader.

Change Document Record

Date	Revision	Changes	Pages
18 Jan 21	0.0	Preliminary release	-
22 Feb 21	0.1	Clarified RFID, USB and Bluetooth® interfaces mutual operation	6

Reference Document

[RD1] EPCglobal: EPC Radio-Frequency Identity Protocols Class-1 Generation-2 UHF RFID Protocol for Communications at 860 MHz – 960 MHz, Version 2.0.1 (April, 2015).

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Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Notice (Preliminary)

This device was tested and found to comply with the limits set forth in Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received including interference that may cause undesired operation. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment.

This device generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy. If not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, the product may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this product in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference, in which case, the user is required to correct the interference at their own expense. The authority to operate this product is conditioned by the requirements that no modifications be made to the equipment unless the changes or modifications are expressly approved by CAEN RFID.

Disposal of the product

Do not dispose the product in municipal or household waste. Please check your local regulations for disposal/recycle of electronic products.



Index

	Scope of Manual	
	Change Document Record	
Inde	Reference Document	Z
	of Figures	_
	of Tables	
1	INTRODUCTION	
	Product Description	
	Front panel	
	Bottom panel	
	Back panel	
	Charging	9
	USB connector	9
	Accessories	10
	Ordering Options	11
2	CONFIGURATION MENU	12
	Introduction	12
	RFID	14
	Profile	14
	RF Power Up (mW)	15
	EPCC1G2 Parameters	
	EASY2READ Parameters	
	HID Parameters	
	EPC code parameters	
	SYSTEM	
	Bluetooth and USB communication	
	Bluetooth Low Energy Options	
	Buzzer	
	Vibration	
3	EASY2READ PROFILE	
3	Introduction	
	Set the EASY2READ profile	
	EASY2READ profile options	
	Android devices	
	Bluetooth Communication Setup using the Easy Controller for Android	
	Windows PCs	
	Bluetooth Communication Setup	
	Easy Controller for Windows via Bluetooth connection	
	USB Communication Setup	
	Easy Controller for Windows via USB connection	
	iOS devices	
	Bluetooth BLE Communication Setup	46
4	HID PROFILE	54
	Introduction	_
	Set the HID profile	54
	HID profile options	58
	Android devices	59
	Bluetooth Communication Setup	59
	Windows PCs	63
	Bluetooth Communication Setup	63
	iOS devices	67
	Bluetooth BLE Communication Setup	67
5	BT-BLE SWITCHING	
	Switching the reader from BT to BLE	73
	Switching the reader from BLE to BT	
6	RESET THE READER	
7	FIRMWARE UPGRADE	
8	TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	
•	Technical Specifications Table	
	Technical Drawings	
	100mmout Drummigo	/ 3

_	Battery Life	
9	REGULATORY COMPLIANCE	
	FCC Compliance	83
Li	ist of Figures	
Fig.	1.1: skID R1280I Reader	6
•	1.2: skID R1280I Reader	
•	1.3: Front Panel	
•	1.4: Bottom Panel	
_	1.5: Back Panel	
_	1.6: Supplied Accessories	
	1.7: Optional Accessories	
_	8.1: skID R1280I Technical Drawings	
	8.2: skID R1280I Technical Drawings – Front panel view	
	8.3: skID R1280I Technical Drawings – Back panel view	
Fig.	8.4: skID R1280I Technical Drawings – Bottom panel view	80
	ist of Tables	_
	v. 1.1: Front Panel Buttons	
	1. 1.2. Profit Farier LEDs and Confidential	
	. 1.4: Bluetooth and USB/charger LED status table	
	. 1.5: Back Panel	
Tah	. I.J. Dack Fallet	
	2.1: FPC Code parameters	9
Tab.	2.1: EPC Code parameters	
Tab.	. 2.2: Escape Sequences supported	
Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Specifications Table	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.3: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Specifications Table 8.2: skID R1280I Battery Life 8.3: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario A 8.4: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario B	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Specifications Table 8.2: skID R1280I Battery Life 8.3: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario A 8.4: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario B 8.5: skID R1280I Battery Life – Moderate Use – Scenario C	99 18 18 23 54 72 78 81 81 81 82 82
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 6.1: SkID R1280I Technical Specifications Table 6.2: skID R1280I Battery Life 6.3: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario A 6.4: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario B 6.5: skID R1280I Battery Life – Moderate Use – Scenario C 6.6: skID R1280I Battery Life – Moderate Use – Scenario D	
Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab. Tab.	2.2: Escape Sequences supported 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Specifications Table 8.2: skID R1280I Battery Life 8.3: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario A 8.4: skID R1280I Battery Life – Intensive Use – Scenario B 8.5: skID R1280I Battery Life – Moderate Use – Scenario C	99 18 18 18 23 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54 54

1 INTRODUCTION

Product Description



The **skID** (Model R1280IE, R1280IU) is a portable RAIN RFID reader of the easy2read© product line with integrated antenna for medium range applications.

The reader hosts an internal rechargeable battery and can retrieve data from tags read by RFID interface both in wired mode, using a USB cable, or in wireless mode through the embedded Bluetooth® module.

USB and Bluetooth® interfaces are mutually exclusive, when the USB is enabled the Bluetooth module is in power down mode.

Thanks to the Bluetooth® communication interface, the **skID** is a perfect add-on for any Bluetooth® enabled host such as a PC, a smartphone, a PDA or a tablet for RAIN RFID readings. The reader is compatible with Windows 8/10, Windows CE/Mobile, Android and iOS operating systems. The device supports both Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) and Bluetooth classic communication to provide the maximum usage flexibility, including the HID profile for keyboard emulation.

The **skID** can be easily fixed to the smartphone using 3 different methods: magnets, 3M Dual Lock, or SP-Connect.

Designed for mobile operators, the \mathbf{skID} is ideal for inventory management, mobile workers, service and maintenance applications.

Fig. 1.1: skID R1280I Reader



Fig. 1.2: skID R1280I Reader





Front panel

The skID R1280I front panel houses the following buttons (see figure below):



Fig. 1.3: Front Panel

No.	Name	Description
1	Trigger button	Inventory mode: press to perform an inventory cycle (hold down the button to repeat inventory cycles)
2	Power button	Press the button to switch on the reader, press for at least 2 seconds to switch it off
3	Antenna	Antenna Position, do not cover with your hand!

Tab. 1.1: Front Panel Buttons



Bottom panel



Fig. 1.4: Bottom Panel

	No.	Name	Description
ı	1	USB	USB port type C
	2	Power LED	Indicates the reader status and battery level (see § Tab. 1.3: Power LED Status Table page 8)
	3	Link LED	Indicates the Bluetooth and USB/charger connection (see § Tab. 1.4: Bluetooth and USB/charger LED status table page 8)

Tab. 1.2: Front Panel LEDs and Connection

Status	Description
Green	Reader is active and the battery charge is in the range 35÷100%
Orange	Reader is active and the battery charge is in the range 15÷35%
Red	Reader is active and the battery charge is in the range 0÷15%

Tab. 1.3: Power LED Status Table

Status	Description
OFF	No connection established
Orange	USB cable connected (both to a PC or to the AC power adapter)
Blue	Bluetooth connected

Tab. 1.4: Bluetooth and USB/charger LED status table

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Back panel

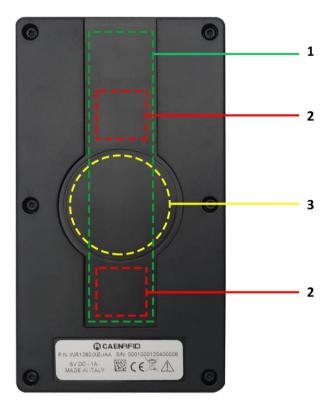


Fig. 1.5: Back Panel

No.	Description						
1	Area where to apply the 3M Dual Lock ™						
2	Position of the internal magnets that couple with those supplied for direct application on the phone cover						
3	Area where to apply the SP						

Tab. 1.5: Back Panel

Charging

The skID R1280I is supplied with an USB cable while the power supply for charging is an optional accessory (see § Accessories page 11).

When you charge the reader, the link LED (see § Tab. 1.2: Front Panel LEDs and Connection page 8) lights up orange. When the LED goes out it means that the reader is fully charged. Disconnect the usb cable.

When the reader is on, the power LED (see § *Tab. 1.2: Front Panel LEDs and Connection* page 8) indicates the battery level according to table Tab. 1.3: Power LED Status Table page 8.



Warning: EMPTY BATTERY CONDITION: When the reader is completely discharged, it is recommended to fully charge it, until the link LED is off (see § Charging page 11) with the USB cable connected.

USB connector

A micro USB Type C socket connector is located in the bottom side of the skid R1280I and can be used to connect the reader to an USB host port or to an AC/DC battery charger.

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Accessories

The following accessories are supplied with the skID R1280I reader:

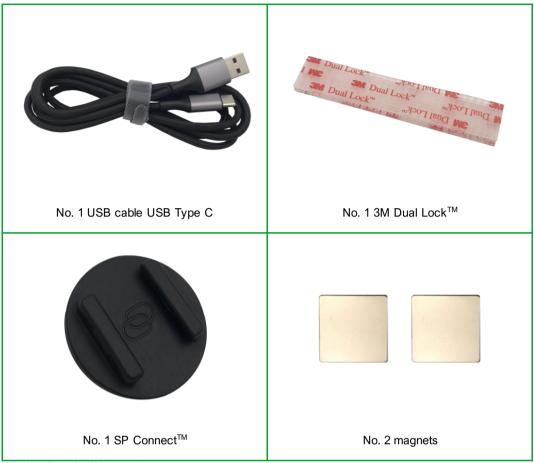


Fig. 1.6: Supplied Accessories

For the skID R1280I optional accessories see § Ordering Options page 11:



Fig. 1.7: Optional Accessories



Ordering Options

The reader is available in **ETSI or FCC** version:

	Code	Description
Reader	WR1280IXUSAA	R1280I - skID - RAIN RFID Mini Sled Reader FCC
Neauei	WR1280IXEUAA	R1280I - skID - RAIN RFID Mini Sled Reader ETSI
Accessories	WALIM0000004	AC-DC power supply 5V 1A

2 CONFIGURATION MENU

Introduction

The skID R1280I configuration can be performed via USB using the R1280I Configuration Tool.

In order to access the configuration menu follow the steps described below:

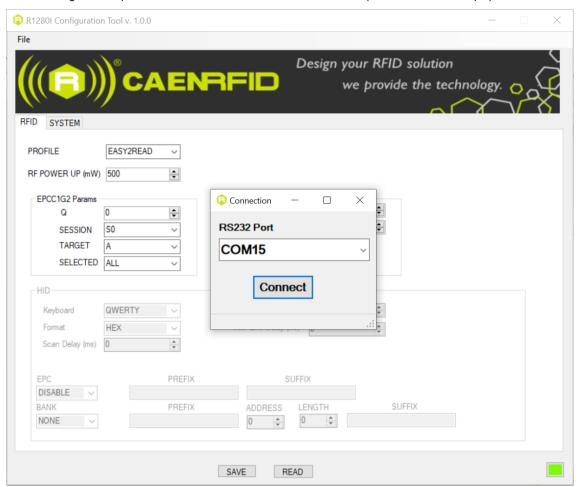
- 1. Download from the skID R1280I web page the latest version of the skID R1280I Configuration Tool.
- 2. With the reader switched off, connect the R1280I skID reader to a PC using the provided USB cable.
- 3. Press simultaneously the *trigger* and the *power* button for about two seconds, until you hear a beep. The communication LED is green.
- 4. Open the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:



5. On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Connect$; the connection dialog box will appear.



6. Select the right COM port number from the RS232 Port combo box (COM15 in the example):



7. Click on Connect. If the connection is not successful, the message "connection error" appears.

The skID R1280I menu options are the following:

- RFID
- SYSTEM



RFID

Access the configuration menu as explained in the Introduction paragraph page 12.

Use this section in order to set the desired profile and then the related configuration options.



Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.

Profile

You can change the profile value using the drop-down menu:



The available profiles are:

• EASY2READ (factory default) is the CAEN RFID easy2read communication protocol that permits to control the reader using the CAEN RFID Easy Controller Application or the SDK (Software Development Kit) library. For details on the use of the EASY2READ profile please refer to § EASY2READ PROFILE chapter page 23.

For details on the EASY2READ configuration options, refer to § EASY2READ Parameters page 16.

• HID: choosing this option you select the keyboard emulation protocol.

For details on the use of the HID profile please refer to § HID PROFILE chapter page 54.

For details on the HID configuration options, refer to § HID Parameters page 17.



RF Power Up (mW)

Through the RF Power Up you can set the power level emitted by the reader. The RF Power Up is an editable field and the default value is 500 mW. Accepted values are included in the range $0 \div 500$. The RF Power Up is expressed in mW

Note that, when the reader is configured in the EASY2READ profile, to set the *RF Power Up* you can also use the CAEN RFID Easy Controller Application or the *SetPower* function of the SDK (Software Development Kit) library.

EPCC1G2 Parameters



- **Q**: *Q* parameter is useful for the optimization of the inventory efficiency. As a rule of thumb, if you have to read a huge population of tags you need to select a high value for the Q parameter, otherwise you can select a lower value. For more information on Q parameter see EPC Class1 Gen2 protocol specification [RD1]. The default value is 6, accepted values are included in the range 0÷15. Q parameter is an editable field.
- Session: the Session used by the anticollision algorithm. The reader chooses one of four sessions available (S0, S1, S2 and S3) and inventories tags within that session. For more information on session see EPC Class1 Gen2 protocol specification [RD1]. Default value is EPC C1G2 Session = S0. You can change the default value using the drop-down menu.
- Target A or B. For more information on *target* see EPC Class1 Gen2 protocol specification [RD1]. Default value is *target* = A. You can change the default value using the drop-down menu.
- **Selected:** ALL, NOT selected, selected. For more information on *Selected* see EPC Class1 Gen2 protocol specification [RD1]. Default value is *selected* = ALL. You can change the default value using the drop-down menu



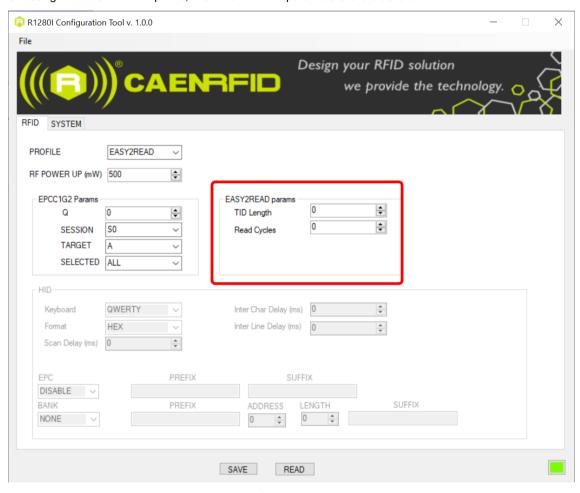
Note that, when the reader is configured in the EASY2READ profile, to set the *EPCC1G2 Parameters* you can also use the CAEN RFID Easy Controller Application or the SDK (Software Development Kit) library.



Warning: To save the changes click on the SAVE button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.

EASY2READ Parameters

Choosing the EASY2READ profile, the EASY2READ parameters available are:



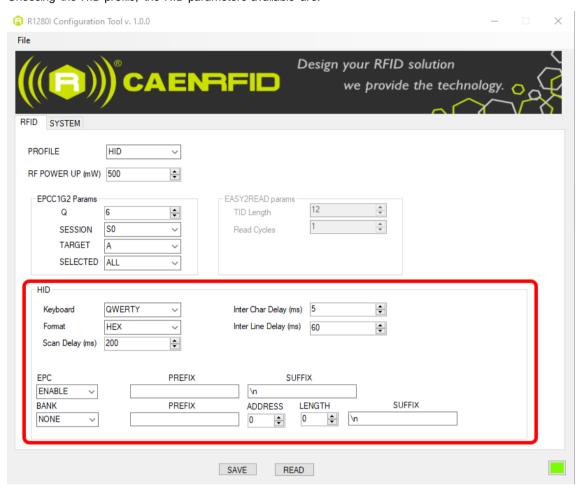
- **TID Length:** *TID Length* is an editable field and represents the length of the TID memory to be read during the inventory, expressed in bytes. The default value is 0, accepted values are included in the range 0÷64.
- Read Cycles: Read cycles is an editable field and represents the number of read cycles performed by the logical source during the inventory algorithm execution. The default value is 0 that means no stop in the continuous inventory mode. Note that Read Cycles affects only inventory performed with continuous mode.





HID Parameters

Choosing the HID profile, the HID parameters available are:



- Keyboard: The Keyboard options are the following:
 - o QWERTY: standard keyboard.
 - o AZERTY: French keyboard

By default the Keyboard is set to "QWERTY".

You can change the default value using the drop-down menu.

- FORMAT: In the HID profile you can set different EPC formats:
 - HEX: The EPC code is represented as a hexadecimal number. For example, an EPC Code of 96 bits long corresponds to 24 hexadecimal digits (96/4=24).
 - ASCII: The EPC code is interpreted as 8 bits at a time, each byte being represented as ASCII character. For example, an EPC Code of 96 bits corresponds to a string of 12 ASCII characters (96/8 = 12).

By default the EPC HID format is set to "HEX". You can change the default value using the drop-down menu.

- Scan Delay (ms): Scan Delay is an editable field and the value is expressed in ms. By default, the scan delay is 0 ms. The scan delay is the time between two inventories (in case of continuous inventory mode with no triggers enabled).
- Inter Char Delay (ms): The Inter Char Delay is the delay between printing one character and the next. It is expressed in ms. The default value is 0. If set to 0, the reader does not introduce delay: the only delay is that of the BT of the device in use. The use of the Inter Char Delay is recommended to slow down the sending of characters from the reader to mobile devices, as these are not performing enough to keep up with the Bluetooth transmission, with the risk of losing characters.



• Inter Line Delay (ms): The Inter Line Delay is the delay between printing one last character of a line and the first character of the next line. It is expressed in ms. The default value is 0. If set to 0, the reader does not introduce delay: the only delay is that of the BT of the device in use. The use of the Inter Line Delay is recommended to slow down the sending of characters from the reader to mobile devices, as these are not performing enough to keep up with the Bluetooth transmission, with the risk of losing characters.

EPC code parameters

Using the table below you can customize the text of the code displayed on the screen:



Tab. 2.1: EPC Code parameters

- **EPC Code:** enable or disable. By default, the *EPC Code* is enabled and the EPC code is displayed on the screen. You can change the default value using the drop-down menu.
- PREFIX: The PREFIX option permits to specify a string to add before the EPC when a tag is read.

The following list shows the accepted characters for the prefix:

'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n', 'o', 'p', 'q', 'r', 's', 't', 'u', 'v', 'w', 'x', 'y', 'z', 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F', 'G', 'H', 'l', 'J', 'K', 'L', 'M', 'N', 'O', 'P', 'Q', 'R', 'S', 'T', 'U', 'V', 'W', 'X', 'Y', 'Z', '0', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '6', '7', '8', '9', '{', '}, '!', ""', '#', '\$', '(', ')', '*', '+', ',', ',', ',', ';', '=', '?', '@', '[', ']', 'v', '__', '-'

By default the prefix string is empty.



Warning: if you are using a qwerty keyboard, pay attention that it is a **standard** qwerty keyboard because if not the conversion of symbols could create display problems.

• SUFFIX: The SUFFIX option permits to specify a string to add after the EPC when a tag is read.

The following list shows the accepted characters for the postfix:

'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j', 'k', 'l', 'm', 'n', 'o', 'p', 'q', 'r', 's', 't', 'u', 'v', 'w', 'x', 'y', 'z', 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D', 'E', 'F', 'G', 'H', 'l', 'J', 'K', 'L', 'M', 'N', 'O', 'P', 'Q', 'R', 'S', 'T', 'U', 'V', 'W', 'X', 'Y', 'Z', '0', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '6', '7', '8', '9', '{', 'l', '}', '!', 'l', 'l', 'l', 'l', 'l', 'l', 'g', '@', '[',]', '^', '_', '-'

By default the suffix string is \r\n\ (see the following table Tab. 2.2: Escape Sequences supported page 18).



Warning: if you are using a qwerty keyboard, pay attention that it is a **standard** qwerty keyboard because if not the conversion of symbols could create display problems.

Escape Sequences	Description	
\n	Newline (Line Feed)	
\r	Carriage Return	
\t	Horizontal Tab	
\v	Vertical Tab	
//	Backslash	

Tab. 2.2: Escape Sequences supported



Using the second part of the *Tab. 2.1: EPC Code parameters* page 18, the same parameters (Prefix, Suffix) can be set for individual memory banks (RESERVED, EPC, TID and USER). Addition parameters are:

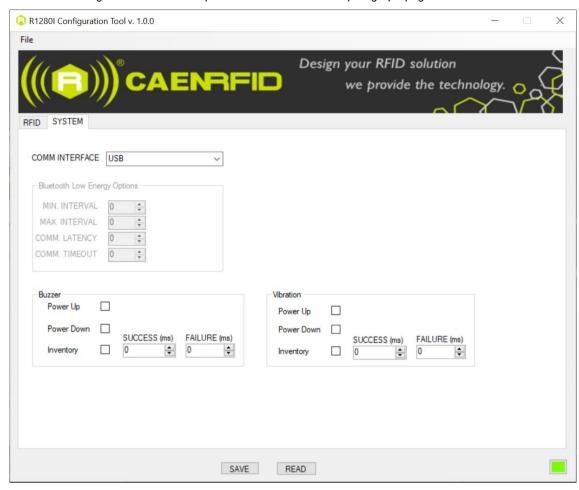
- ADDRESS: The address to start counting the "length" value. By default the address string is empty.
- **LENGTH:** number of characters of the EPC code to be displayed counting from the "address". If not set, all the EPC code is displayed. By default the length string is empty.



SYSTEM

Bluetooth and USB communication

Access the configuration menu as explained in the Introduction paragraph page 12.



Use this section in order to set the communication interface:

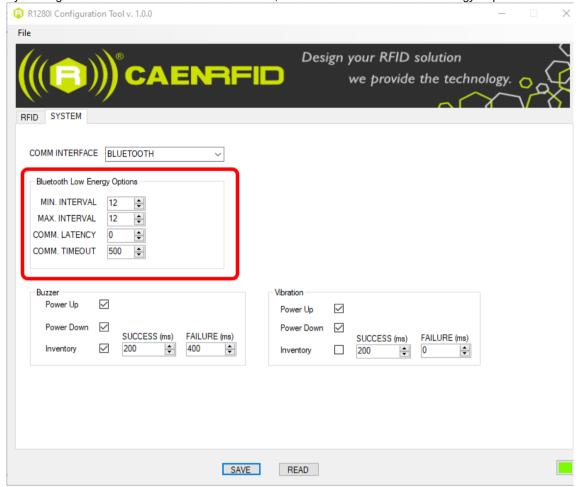
- **COMM INTERFACE**: in the *COMM INTERFACE* box you can set two different communication interface:
 - o USB
 - o **Bluetooth** (BT or BLE, depending on the firmware uploaded into the reader's Bluetooth module)





Bluetooth Low Energy Options

By setting the COMM INTERFACE to Bluetooth, the window Bluetooth Low Energy Options is enabled.





Warning: To enable the Bluetooth Low Energy it is necessary to set the *Bluetooth* option in the *COMM INTERFACE* and to upload the BLE firmware into the reader's Bluetooth module (see § *BT-BLE switching page* 72)

In this section you can set the BLE communication parameters for iOS devices.

This operation is necessary to optimally configure the communication between the Bluetooth module and the iOS operating system. These parameters are important, since they affect power consumption for both the reader and iOS device, data transfer speed of the connection, and, in some cases, the stability of the connection.

- MIN INTERVAL:
- MAX INTERVAL:
- COMM LATENCY:
- COMM TIMEOUT:....





Buzzer

Use this section in order to set the buzzer parameters:

- Power Up: beep at the power on of the reader
- Power Down: beep at the power off of the reader
- Inventory: beep at the identification of a tag
 - o Success (ms): length of tone expressed in ms in case of success
 - o Failure (ms): length of tone expressed in ms in case of failure

By default, all the Buzzer options are disabled.

Note that you can enable or disable the buzzer for any option independently so that the buzzer can be active on more than one option simultaneously.



Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.

Vibration

Use this section in order to set the vibration parameters:

- Power Up: vibration at the power on of the reader
- Power Down: vibration at the power off of the reader
- Inventory: vibration at the identification of a tag
 - o Success (ms): length of vibration expressed in ms in case of success
 - o Failure (ms): length of vibration expressed in ms in case of failure

By default, all the Vibration options are disabled.

Note that you can enable or disable the vibration for any option independently so that the vibration can be active on more than one option simultaneously.



3 EASY2READ PROFILE

Introduction

By default, the reader profile is set to EASY2READ.

With the EASY2READ profile active you will use the CAEN RFID easy2read communication protocol and the reader can be controlled using the <u>CAEN RFID Easy Controller Application</u> or the <u>SDK (Software Development Kit)</u> library.

The connection to the skID reader using the EASY2READ profile is possible via Bluetooth or USB port.

In the following table it is shown the compatibility between the EASY2READ profile and BT/BLE/USB connection for different Operating Systems (Android, PC and iOS):

	ANDROID devices		WINDOWS PC			iOS devices			
	ВТ	BLE	USB	ВТ	BLE	USB	ВТ	BLE	USB
EASY2READ	٧			٧		٧		٧	

Tab. 3.1: Compatibility table EASY2READ-BT/BLE/USB for different OS

Follow the instructions in chapter § BT-BLE switching page 72 to switch the reader from BT (Bluetooth Classic) to BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy) or vice-versa.

If your reader is in HID profile active, in order to set the EASY2READ profile please refer to the next paragraph § Set the EASY2READ profile page 23.

Set the EASY2READ profile

If your reader is in HID profile active, in order to set the EASY2READ profile, access the skID R1280l configuration menu via USB connection:

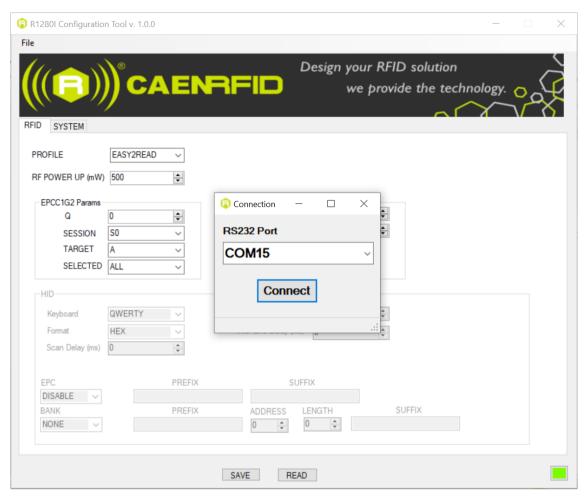
- 1. Download from the skID R1280I web page the latest version of the skID R1280I Configuration Tool.
- 2. With the reader turned off, connect the R1280I skID reader to a PC using the provided USB cable.
- 3. Press simultaneously the trigger and the power button for about two seconds, until you hear a beep.
- 4. Open the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:





- 5. On the main application window click on File -> Connect; the connection dialog box will appear.
- 6. Select the right COM port number from the RS232 Port combo box (COM15 in the example):

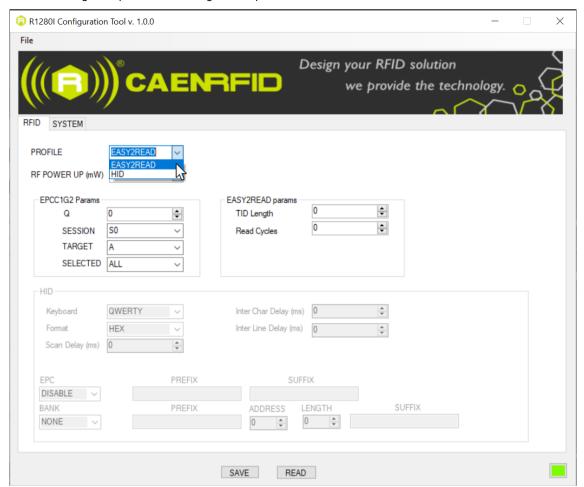




7. Click on Connect. If the connection is not successful, the message "connection error" appears.



8. You can change the profile value using the drop-down menu:







EASY2READ profile options

It is possible to configure various options using the EASY2READ profile:



For details on the EASY2READ configuration options, refer to § EASY2READ paragraph page 16.



Android devices

Bluetooth Communication Setup using the Easy Controller for Android

Follow the steps below to connect your Android device to the skID reader using the BT connection and the Easy Controller App. All the images below were generated using a Samsung S7 model device.

1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:

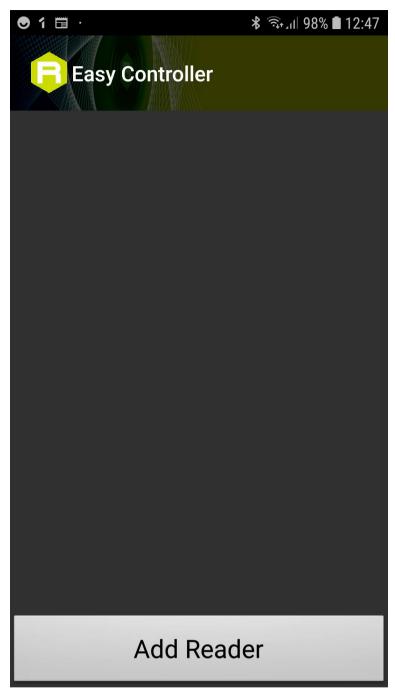




- 2. Download on your Android device the CAEN RFID Easy Controller for Android App (available link at the skID R1280 web page, by clicking on the Android App on Google Play icon).
- 3. Launch the CAEN RFID Easy Controller for Android App.

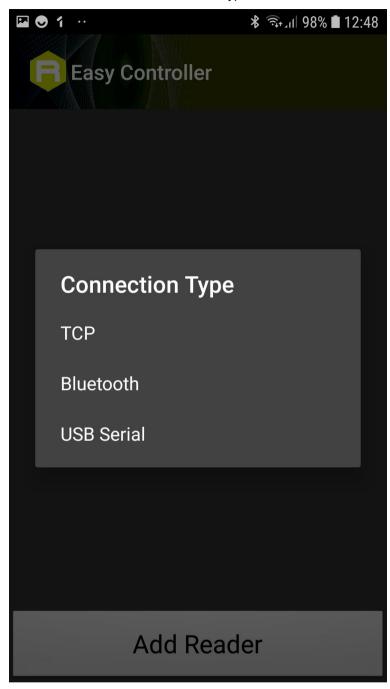


4. Click on "Add reader":



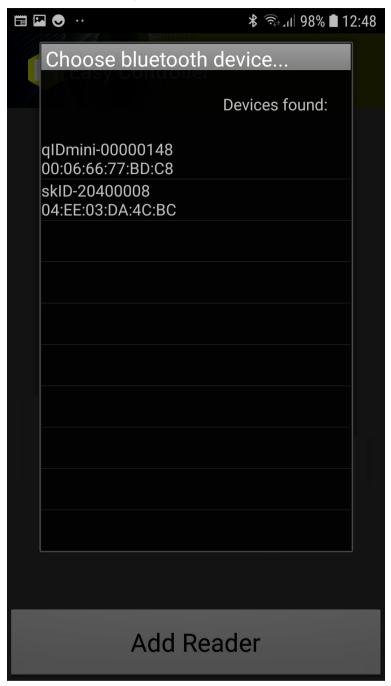


5. Click on "Bluetooth" in the "Connection Type" window:





6. Select the skID R1280I reader from the list of Bluetooth devices available (in this example the skID with serial number 20400008):



7. Once the connection is established the Bluetooth blue light turns on.



8. To start using your skID R1280I, click on the reader line:



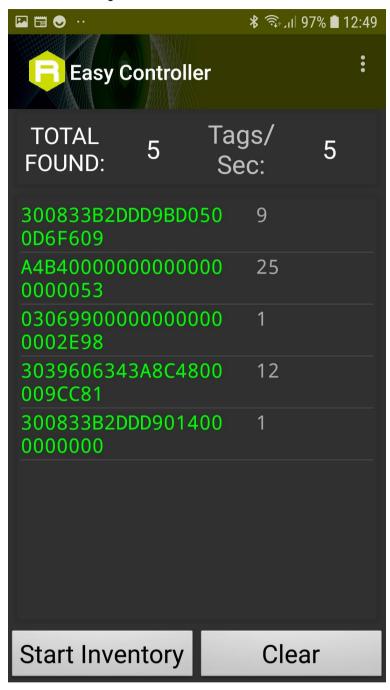


9. Click on "Start Inventory":





10. A list of the read tags is shown:



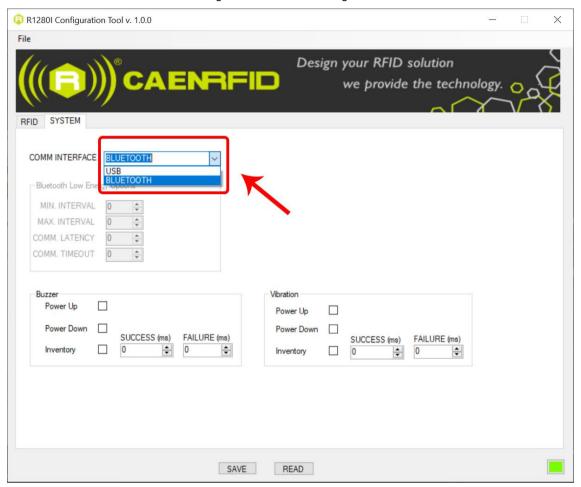


Windows PCs

Bluetooth Communication Setup

Follow the steps below to connect your Windows PC to the skID reader using the BT connection and the Easy Controller Application. All the images below were generated using the Windows 10 Operating System.

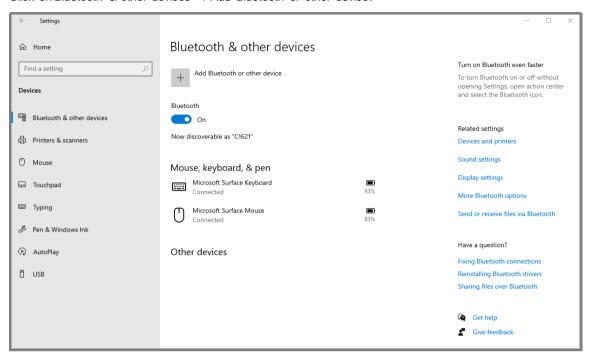
1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:



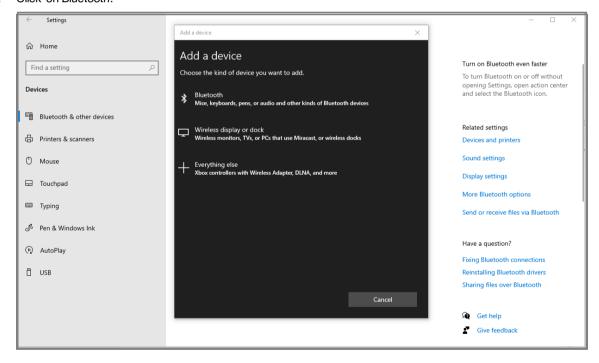




- 2. In your Windows Pc go to Settings \rightarrow Devices.
- 3. Click on Bluetooth & other devices → Add Bluetooth or other device:

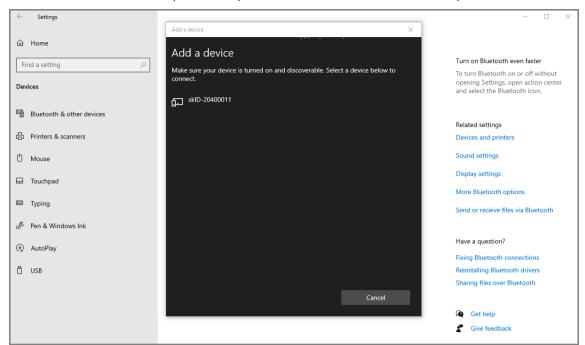


4. Click on Bluetooth:

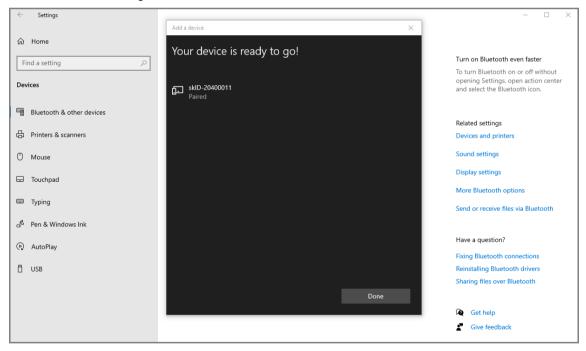




5. Select the skID R1280I reader (in this example the skID with serial number 20400011):



6. The message on the screen "Your device is ready to go!" informs you that the connection is established and the Bluetooth blue light of the reader turns on.





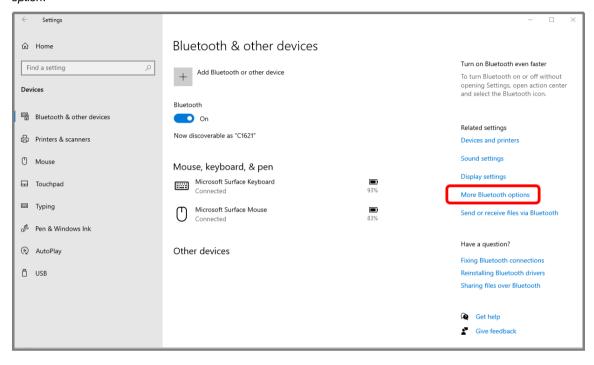
Easy Controller for Windows via Bluetooth connection

Once the Bluetooth connection is established, a virtual COM port is created on the host PC.

This COM port is used to connect to the reader with the CAEN RFID Easy Controller application.

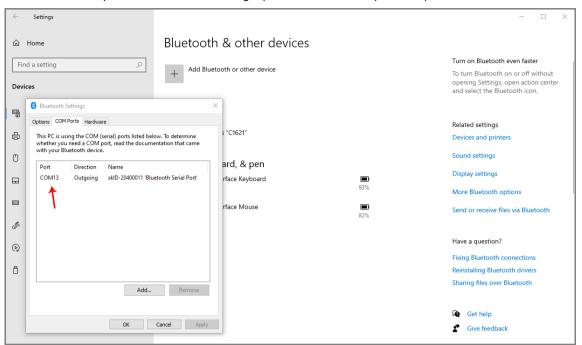
Follow the steps below to connect the skID reader using the Easy Controller for Windows via Bluetooth:

- 1. Connect the skID reader to your PC using the Bluetooth connection as explained in previous paragraph (§ Bluetooth Communication Setup page 35).
- 2. Download from the CAEN RFID web site the latest version of the CAEN RFID <u>Easy Controller for Windows</u> software and install it.
- 3. In your Windows Pc go to Settings → Devices. Click on Bluetooth & other devices → More Bluetooth option:

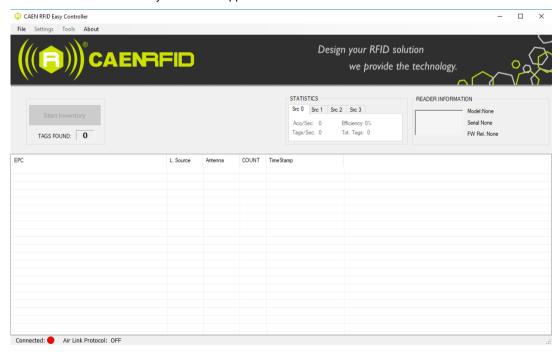




4. Look for the COM port in the Bluetooth Settings (COM 13 in the example below):



5. Launch the CAEN RFID Easy Controller application.

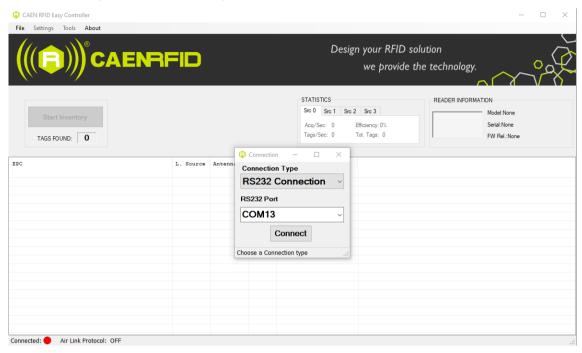


6. On the main application window click on $\emph{File} \rightarrow \emph{Connect}$; the connection dialog box will appear.

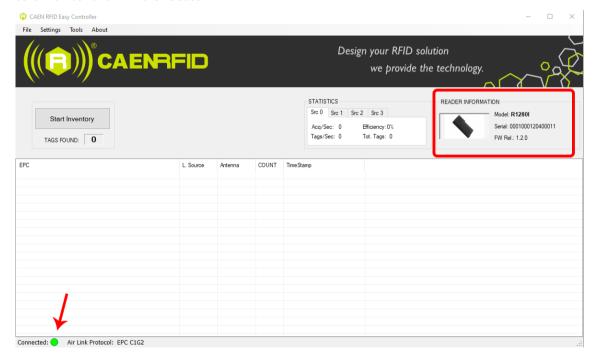
39



7. Select RS232 from the Connection Type combo box and the right COM port number from the RS232 Port combo box (COM13 in this example):

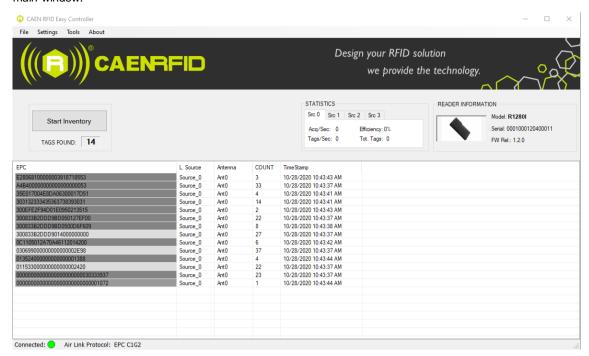


- 8. Click on Connect.
- 9. To verify if the connection with the reader has been established, check the green dot on the bottom left side of the sidebar. Into the *READER INFORMATION* box you can find information on reader model, serial number and firmware release:





10. Place tags in front of the reader and click on *Start Inventory* to see the tag information displayed on the main window:



For more information on the CAEN RFID Easy Controller for Windows application usage, please refer to the relevant user manual: you can download it from the skID R12801 web page, Downloads section or in the Manual and Documents web area.



Warning: Note that in the EASY2READ profile holding down the *trigger* button activates the tag inventory only if the continuous mode is active (see the function *EventInventoryTag Method* in the *CAEN RFID API Reference Manual* that can be download from skID R12801 web page, Documents section).



USB Communication Setup

The skID R1280I reader can be connected to a PC using the provided USB cable and it is detected by the PC as an emulated serial port.

Follow the steps below to connect your Windows PC to the skID reader using the USB connection and the Easy Controller Application. All the images below were generated using the Windows 10 Operating System.

1. Follow the instructions in § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the USB communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:



Y

Warning: To save the changes click on the SAVE button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable.

2. Connect the skID R1280I reader to the PC using the provided USB cable and then power ON the reader again.

The USB interface creates virtual COM port on the host PC that can be used to connect to the reader with the CAEN RFID Easy Controller application.



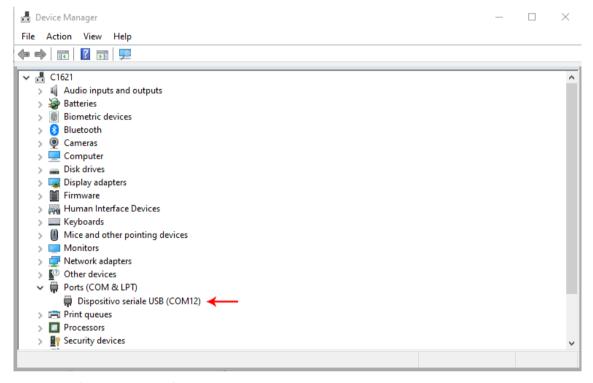
Easy Controller for Windows via USB connection

Once the USB connection is established, a virtual COM port is created on the host PC.

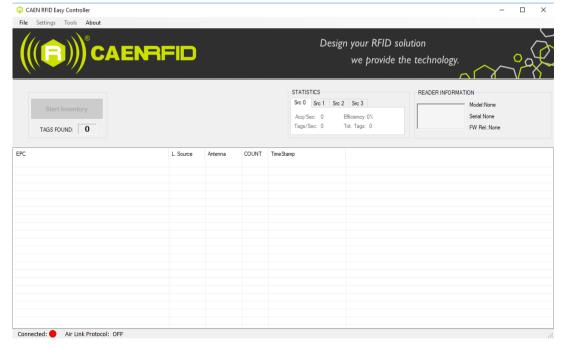
This COM port is used to connect to the reader with the CAEN RFID Easy Controller application.

Follow the steps below to connect the skID reader using the Easy Controller for Windows via USB:

- Download from the CAEN RFID web site the latest version of the CAEN RFID <u>Easy Controller for Windows</u> software and install it.
- In your Windows Pc go to Settings → System. Open the System properties and click on Device Manager.
- 3. Look for the COM port in the Device Manager window (COM 12 in the example below):



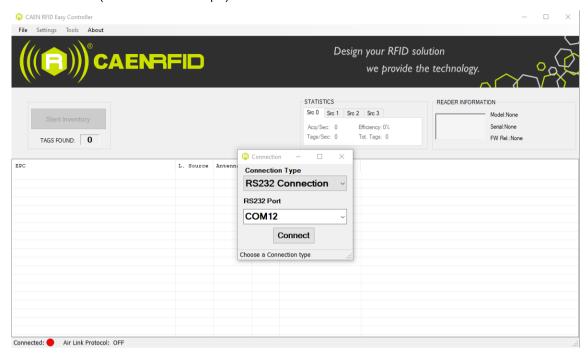
4. Launch the CAEN RFID Easy Controller application.



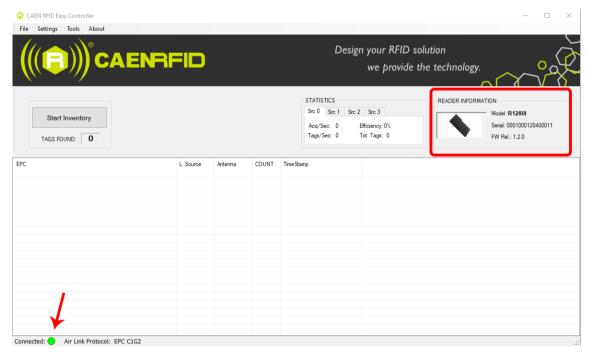
5. On the main application window click on File → Connect; the connection dialog box will appear.



6. Select RS232 from the Connection Type combo box and the right COM port number from the RS232 Port combo box (COM12 in this example):



- 7. Click on Connect.
- 8. To verify if the connection with the reader has been established, check the green dot on the bottom left side of the sidebar. Into the *READER INFORMATION* box you can find information on reader model, serial number and firmware release:





9. Place tags in front of the reader and click on *Start Inventory* to see the tag information displayed on the main window:



For more information on the CAEN RFID *Easy Controller for Windows* application usage, please refer to the relevant user manual: you can download it from the skID R12801 web page, *Downloads* section or in the Manual and Documents web area.



Warning: Note that in the EASY2READ profile holding down the *trigger* button activates the tag inventory only if the continuous mode is active (see the function *EventInventoryTag Method* in the *CAEN RFID API Reference Manual* that can be download from skID R12801 web page, Documents section).



iOS devices

Bluetooth BLE Communication Setup



Warning: Note that in the EASY2READ profile, the BLE connection between your iOS device and the skID reader is made directly through the Easy Controller app.

Follow the steps below to connect your iOS device to the skID reader using the BLE connection and the Easy Controller App. All the images below were generated using an Apple iphone XR model.

1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:





Warning: To save the changes click on the SAVE button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.

2. Download on your iOS device the CAEN RFID Easy Controller for iOS App (available link at the <u>skID</u> R12801 web page, by clicking on the App Store icon).

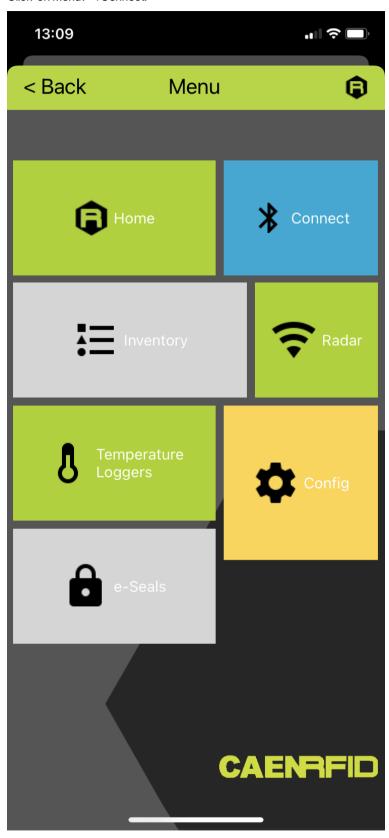


3. Launch the CAEN RFID Easy Controller for iOS App:



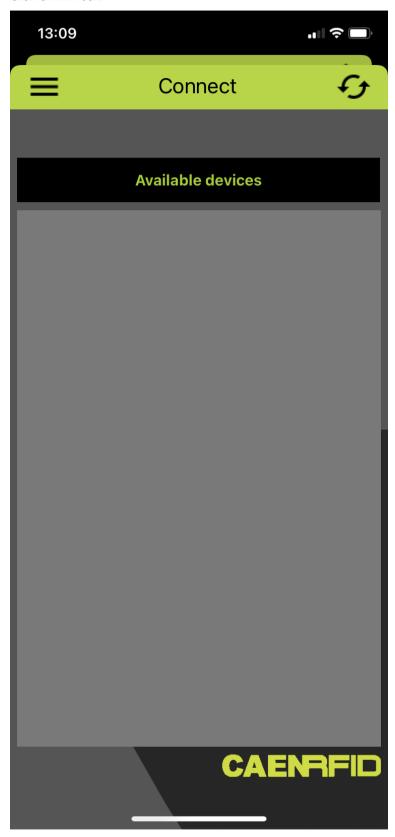
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4. Click on Menu: →Connect.



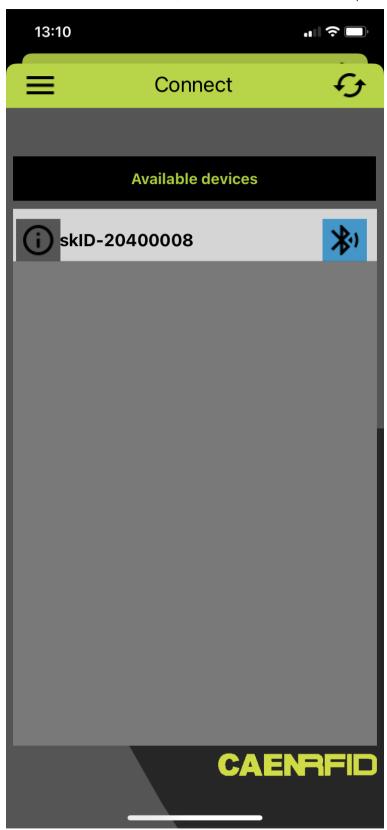
CAENRFID

5. Click on 5 icon:





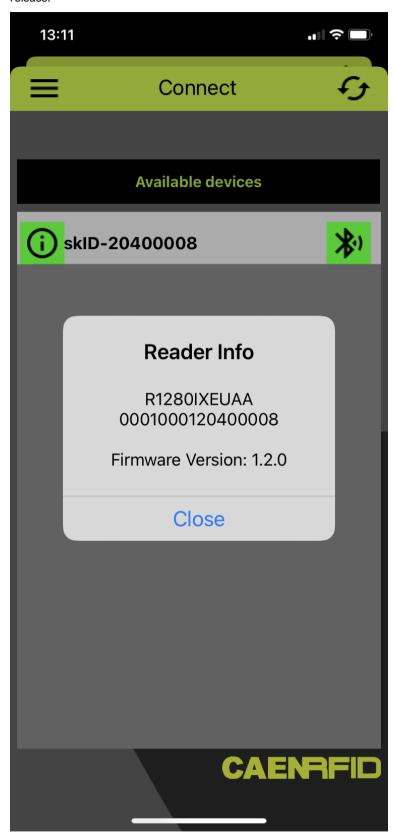
6. The available devices are shown, click on the skID R1280I reader (in this example skID s.n. 20400008):



50



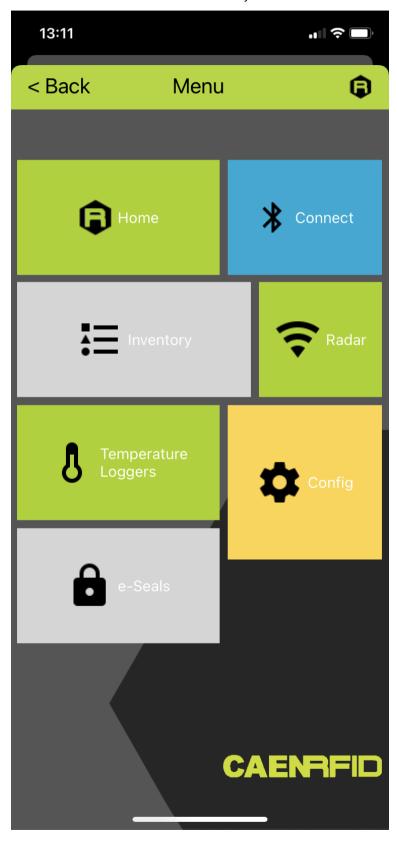
7. Into the *Reader Information* box you can find information on reader model, serial number and firmware release:



51

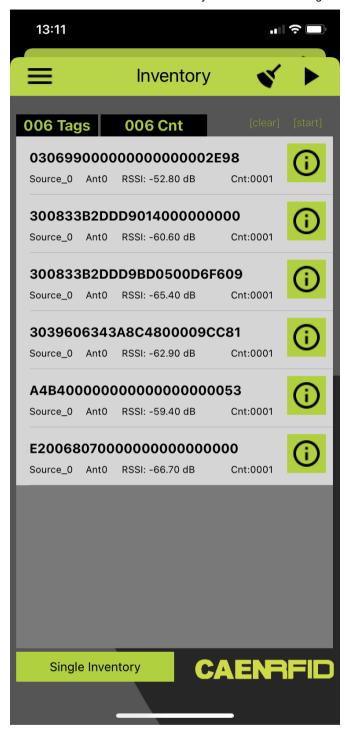


- 8. Once the connection is established, the Bluetooth blue light on the skID R1280I reader turns on and you can start using your reader.
- 9. Come back and click on the *Menu→Inventory*:





10. Click on icon to start the inventory. A list of the read tags is shown:



4 HID PROFILE

Introduction

Choosing the HID profile option you select the keyboard emulation protocol.

The connection to the skID Reader using the HID profile is possible via Bluetooth or USB port.

In the following table it is shown the compatibility between the HID profile and BT/BLE/USB connection for different Operating Systems (Android, PC and iOS):

	ANDROID devices			WI	WINDOWS PC			iOS devices		
	ВТ	BLE	USB	ВТ	BLE	USB	ВТ	BLE	USB	
HID	٧	٧		٧				٧		

Tab. 4.1: Compatibility table HID-BT/BLE/USB for different OS

Follow the instructions in chapter § BT-BLE switching page 72 to switch the reader from BT (Bluetooth Classic) to BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy) or vice-versa.

If your reader is in EASY2READ profile active, in order to set the HID profile please refer to the next paragraph § Set the HID profile page 54.

Set the HID profile

If your reader is in EASY2READ profile active, in order to set the HID profile, access the skID R1280I configuration menu via USB connection:

- 1. Download from the skID R1280I web page the latest version of the skID R1280I Configuration Tool.
- 2. With the reader turned off, connect the skID R1280I reader to a PC using the provided USB cable.
- 3. Press simultaneously the trigger and the power button for about two seconds, until you hear a beep.
- 4. Open the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:

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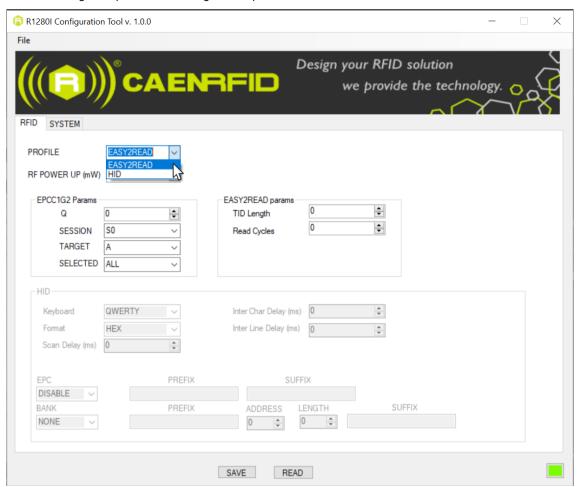
- 5. On the main application window click on File -> Connect; the connection dialog box will appear.
- 6. Select the right COM port number from the RS232 Port combo box (COM15 in the example):



7. Click on Connect. If the connection is not successful, the message "connection error" appears.



8. You can change the profile value using the drop-down menu:



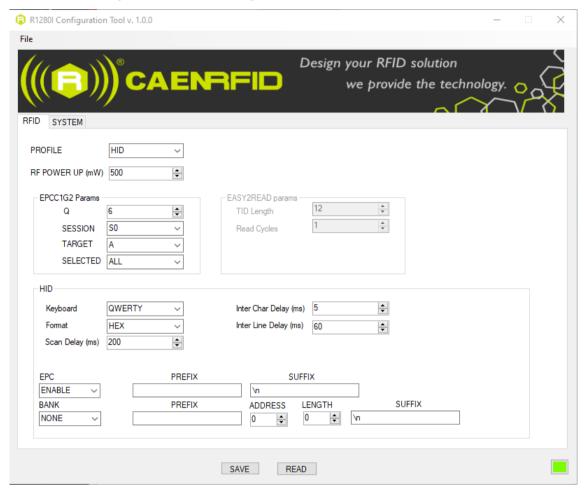


Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.



HID profile options

It is possible to configure various options using the HID profile:



For details on the EASY2READ configuration options, refer to § HID Parameters paragraph page 17.

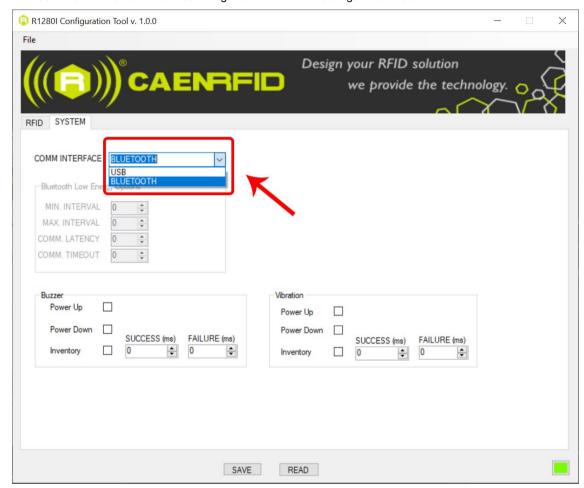


Android devices

Bluetooth Communication Setup

Follow the steps below to connect your Android device to the skID reader using the BT or BLE connection. All the images below were generated using a Samsung S7 model device.

1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:

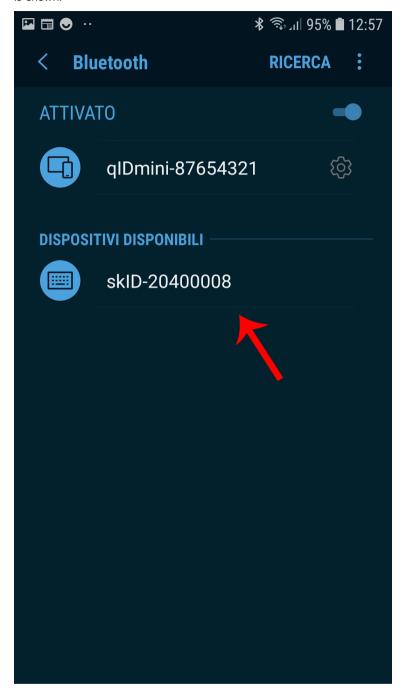


Y

Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.

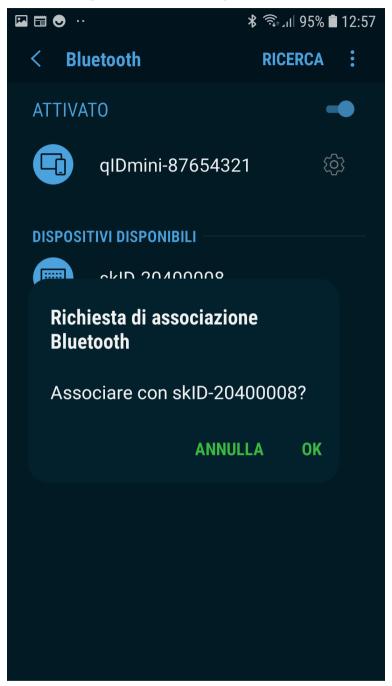


2. On your Android device, go to Setting and enable the Bluetooth. A list of the Bluetooth available devices is shown:





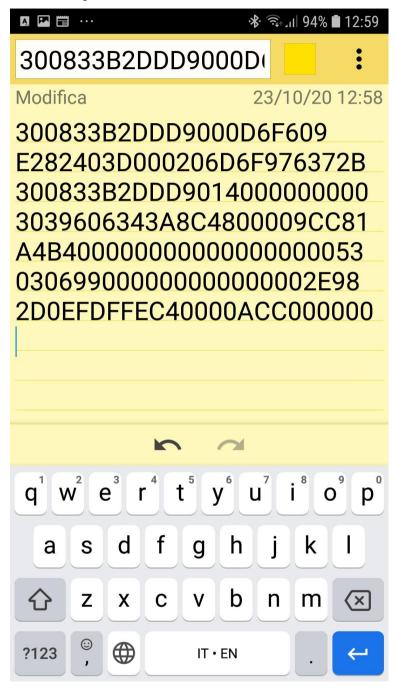
3. Click on the *skID R1280I* reader(in this example the skID with serial number 20400008), confirm the Bluetooth pairing and wait until the pairing is complete:



4. Once the connection is established the Bluetooth blue light on the skID R1280I reader turns on.



- 5. Launch a text editing App (or any other App accepting keyboard input).
- 6. Start an inventory cycle by pressing the *trigger* button. On the text editing App window you will see the EPCs of the tags:



Note that, when configured in HID profile and paired to a device, the skID R1280I reader will automatically reconnect to the same device every time the Bluetooth link is active (skID R1280I switched ON and Bluetooth activated on the host). You can verify this behaviour looking at the blue LED that, in this case, turns ON automatically as soon as you switch on the skID R1280I reader.



Windows PCs

Bluetooth Communication Setup

Follow the steps below to connect your Windows PC to the skID reader using the BT connection. All the images below were generated using the Windows 10 Operating System.

1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:

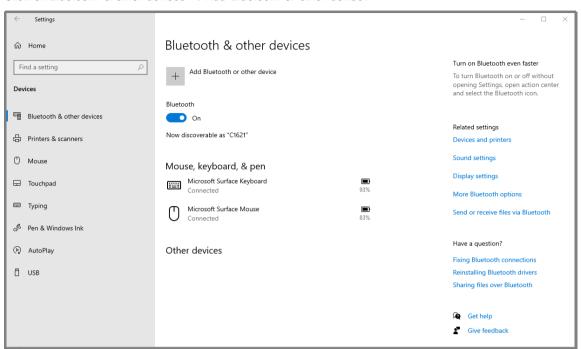


Y

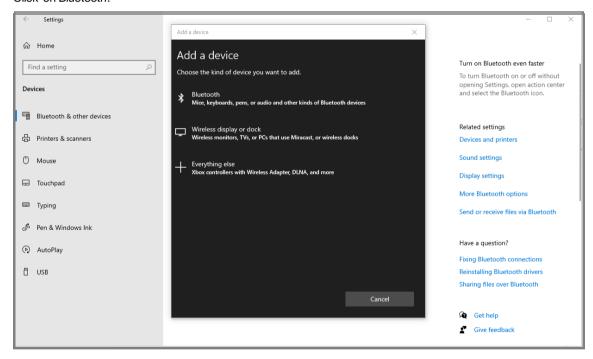
Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.



- 2. In your Windows Pc go to Settings \rightarrow Devices.
- 3. Click on Bluetooth & other devices → Add Bluetooth or other device:

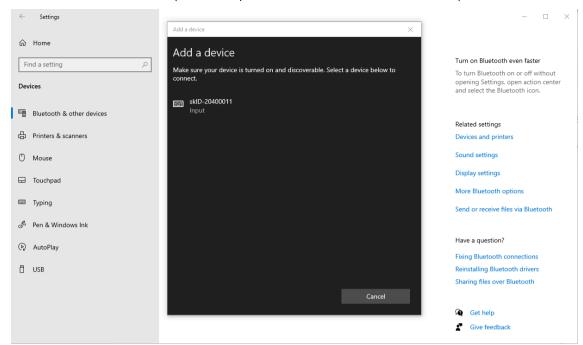


1. Click on Bluetooth:

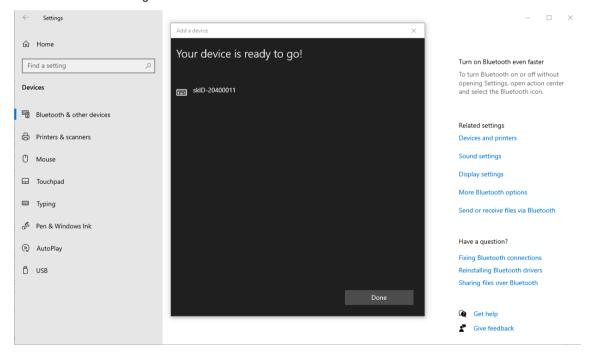




2. Select the skID R1280I reader (in this example the skID with serial number 20400011):

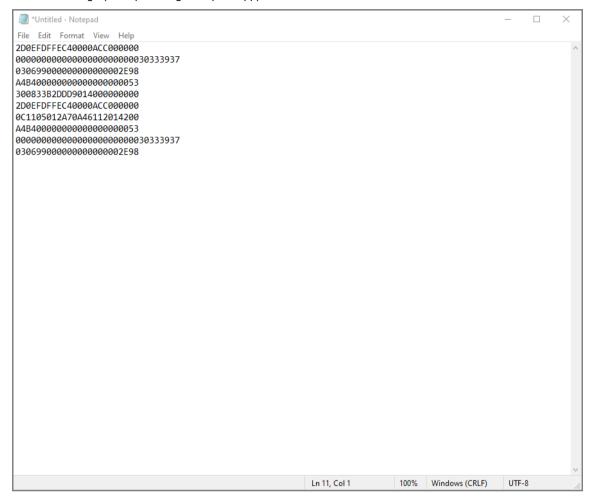


3. The message on the screen "Your device is ready to go!" informs you that the connection is established and the Bluetooth blue light of the reader turns on.





- 4. Once the connection is established, the Bluetooth blue light on the skID R1280I reader turns on.
- 5. Launch a text editing App (or any other App accepting keyboard input).
- 7. Start an inventory cycle by pressing the *trigger* button. On the text editing App window you will see the EPCs of the tags (example using Notepad App):



Note that, when configured in HID profile and paired to a device, the skID R1280I reader will automatically reconnect to the same device every time the Bluetooth link is active (skID R1280I switched ON and Bluetooth activated on the host). You can verify this behaviour looking at the blue LED that, in this case, turns ON automatically as soon as you switch on the skID R1280I reader.



iOS devices

Bluetooth BLE Communication Setup

Follow the steps below to connect your iOS device to the skID reader using the BLE connection. All the images below were generated using an Apple iphone XR model.

1. Follow the instructions given in paragraph § Bluetooth and USB communication page 20 to select the Bluetooth communication interface using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool:

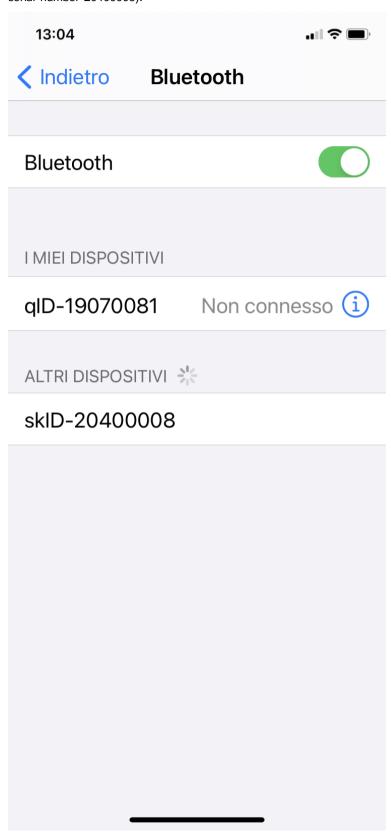


Y

Warning: To save the changes click on the *SAVE* button (check the green dot on the bottom right side of the sidebar). On the main application window click on $File \rightarrow Disconnect$. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader, the new settings are active.



- 2. On your iOS device, go to Setting and enable the Bluetooth.
- 3. Select the skID R1280I reader from the list of Bluetooth devices available (in this example the skID with serial number 20400008):



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4. Confirm the Bluetooth pairing and wait until the pairing is complete:



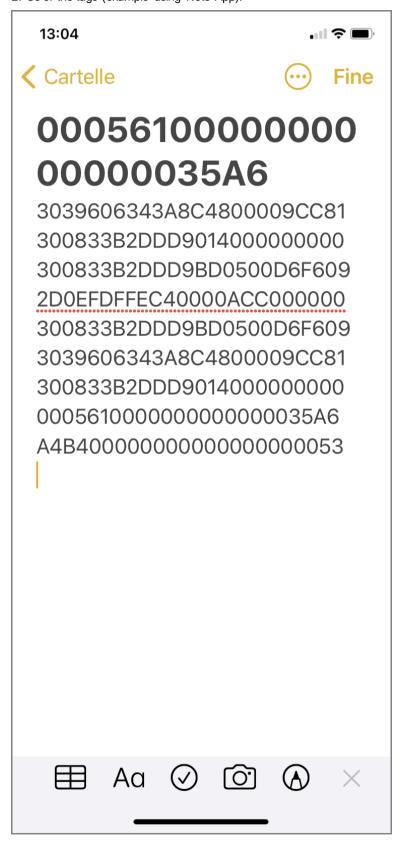
CAENRFID



- 5. Once the connection is established, the Bluetooth blue light on the skID R1280I reader turns on.
- 6. Launch a text editing App (or any other App accepting keyboard input).



7. Start an inventory cycle by pressing the *trigger* button. On the text editing App window you will see the EPCs of the tags (example using Note App):



5 BT-BLE SWITCHING

In the following table it is shown the compatibility between the skID R1280I reader profiles and BT/BLE/USB connection for different Operating Systems (Android, PC and iOS):

		ANDROID devices		WINDOWS PC		iOS devices				
		ВТ	BLE	USB	ВТ	BLE	USB	BT	BLE	USB
file	EASY2READ	٧			٧		٧		٧	
Profile	HID	٧	٧		٧				٧	

Tab. 5.1: Compatibility table profiles-BT/BLE/USB for different OS

Follow the instructions in the next paragraph to switch the reader from BT (Bluetooth Classic) to BLE (Bluetooth Low Energy) and vice-versa.

Otherwise, to configure the reader to communicate via the USB cable instead of Bluetooth, follow the instructions in § *Bluetooth and USB communication* page 20 using the skID R1280I Configuration Tool.



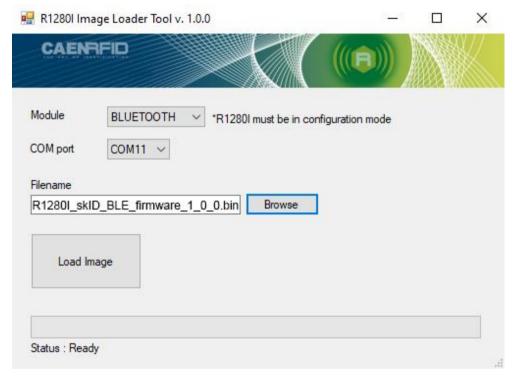
Switching the reader from BT to BLE

Follow the instructions below to load the Bluetooth BLE firmware into the Bluetooth module

This step is required for the communication with iOS devices.

Note that when BLE is available, Bluetooth Classic profile is not available and vice-versa.

- 1. Power off the skID R1280I reader
- 2. Attach an USB cable to the reader and connect it to a Windows PC
- 3. Hold down the *trigger* button, power on the reader and release both *power* and *trigger* buttons when the reader beeps. The communication LED should turn green.
- 4. Run the skID R1280I Image Loader Tool available at the skID R1280I web page
- 5. In the *Module* ComboBox select the *BLUETOOTH* option, in the *COM Port* the reader's COM Port and in the Filename TextBox the *R1280I_skID_BLE_firmware.bin* file:



- 6. Press the Load Image button
- 7. When requested by the tool, power off the reader then press the OK button

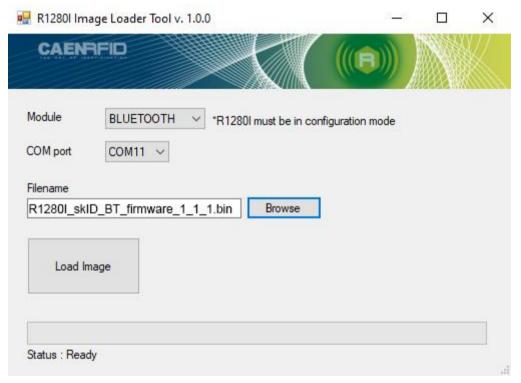


Switching the reader from BLE to BT

Follow the instructions below to load the Bluetooth BT firmware into the Bluetooth module

Note that when Bluetooth Classic is available, BLE profile is not available and vice-versa.

- 8. Power off the skID R1280I reader
- 9. Attach an USB cable to the reader and connect it to a Windows PC
- 10. Hold down the *trigger* button, power on the reader and release both *power* and *trigger* buttons when the reader beeps. The communication LED should turn green.
- 11. Run the skID R1280I Image Loader Tool available at the skID R1280I web page
- 12. In the *Module* ComboBox select the *BLUETOOTH* option, in the *COM Port* the reader's COM Port and in the Filename TextBox the *R1280I_skID_BT_firmware.bin* file:



- 13. Press the Load Image button
- 14. When requested by the tool, power off the reader then press the OK button

6 RESET THE READER

To reset the reader, press the *power* and the *trigger* buttons (see § *Fig. 1.4: Bottom Panel* page 8) simultaneously for about five seconds and then release the buttons. The reader restarts by itself.



Warning: Note that the reader SHALL NOT be connected to the USB port or to the battery charger during the reset, otherwise the reader enters in the firmware upgrade state. If, by mistake, you entered in the firmware upgrade state, in order to restore the normal reader operation, disconnect the USB cable and repeat the reset procedure.

7 FIRMWARE UPGRADE

The skID R1280I firmware upgrade can be performed via USB using the skID R1280I Firmware Upgrade Tool, available for free at the <a href="https://skid.nih.gov/sk

In order to upgrade the firmware follow the steps described below:

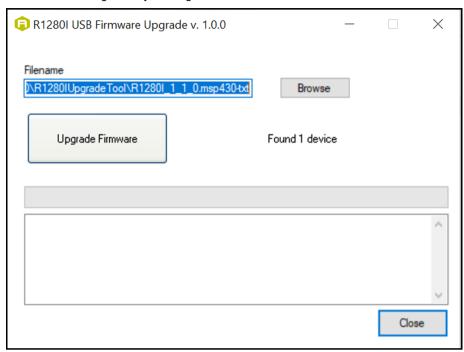
- 1. With the reader switched off, connect the R1280I skID reader to a PC using the provided USB cable.
- 2. Press simultaneously the *trigger* and the *power* button for at least 10 seconds and then release them.
- 3. Open the skID R1280I Firmware Upgrade Tool.
- 4. Click on Next button:



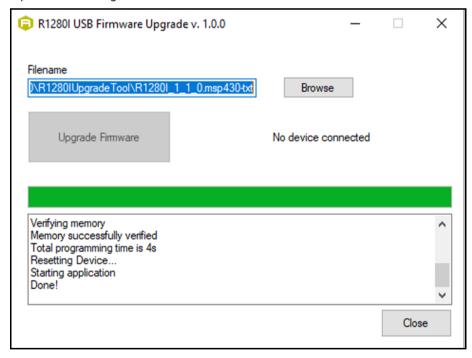
5. In the window you will see the message "Found 1 device" (if the message is "No device connected" repeat the points 2,3, 4 and 5).



6. Select the FW image file by clicking on the "Browse" button:



- 7. Click on the "Upgrade Firmware" button and wait for the upgrade process to be completed.
- 8. At the end of procedure, if the upgrade has been successfully performed, you will see the messages reported in the image below:



9. Power off the reader, disconnect the USB cable and then power on the reader again: the reader is ready for normal operation.

8 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Technical Specifications Table

Frequency Range	865.600÷867.600 MHz (ETSI EN 302 208 V3.1.1) (Mod. WR1280IXEUAA) 902÷928 MHz (FCC part 15.247) (Mod. WR1280IXUSAA)				
DE D	Configurable from 1dBm ERP to 28dBm ERP (Mod. WR1280IXEUAA)				
RF Power	Configurable from 3dBm EIRP to 30dBm EIRP (Mod. WR1280IXUSAA)				
	4 channels (compliant to ETSI EN 302 208 V3.1.1) (Mod. WR1280IXEUAA)				
Number of Channels	50 hopping channels (compliant to FCC part 15.247) (Mod. WR1280IXUSAA)				
24 1 12 11					
Standard Compliance	ISO 18000-63/EPC C1G2				
Antenna Gain	3dBi				
Antenna Polarization	Integrated Circular Polarized Antenna				
Read Range	up to 2.0 m (typical)				
USB Interface	USB 2.0 Full Speed (12 Mbit/s) via USB Type-C connector				
	- Bluetooth 4.1 Smart Ready compliant				
	- 12dBm EIRP output power BR/EDR				
Bluetooth Interface	- 8dBm EIRP output power BLE				
	- HID and Serial over GATT (BLE)				
	- HID and SPP profiles (Bluetooth classic)				
	Power and Trigger buttons				
	Power and battery status LED				
User Interface					
	- Communication and operation result LED				
	Bi-tonal buzzer and vibration element for event signalling				
Battery Type	Li-ion 3.7V, 1200mAh				
Battery Life	Operating: > 12h (with 40,000 tag readings)				
Duttory Ene	Standby: > 15 days (powered off, no LED blinking)				
Pottory Charging Time	- 3h connected to a PC USB port				
Battery Charging Time	- 1h 30min with 1A AC/DC power supply				
IP Rating	IP54				
Dimensions	112 x 62 x 16 mm ³				
Dimensions	4.4 x 2.4 x 63 inches ³				
Length of USB cable	1.5 m				
Operating					
Temperature	-10 °C to +55 °C				
Weight	110 g				
Table 0.4 at 10.0440001 Table 2					

Tab. 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Specifications Table



Warning: The RF settings must match the operating country/region to comply with local laws and regulations.

The usage of the reader in different countries/regions from the one in which the device has been sold is not allowed.



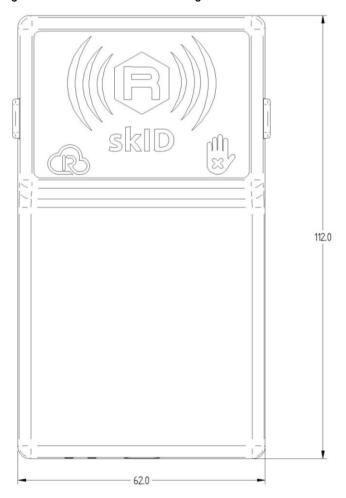
Technical Drawings

The following drawings show the R1280I skID from different points of view.

All dimensions are in millimeters.



Fig. 8.1: skID R1280I Technical Drawings



CAENRFID

Fig. 8.2: skID R1280I Technical Drawings - Front panel view

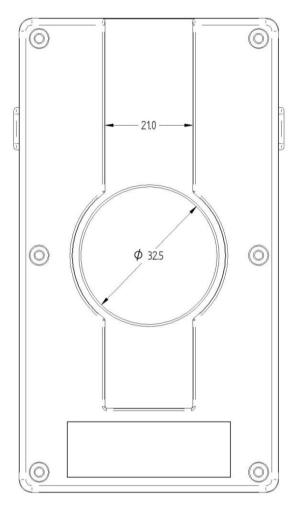


Fig. 8.3: skID R1280I Technical Drawings - Back panel view



Fig. 8.4: skID R1280I Technical Drawings – Bottom panel view



Battery Life

The following tables show the values of the battery life of the SKID R1280I reader in three operating states:

No.	Status	Property	Battery Life
1 Power down		Not discoverable by BT	50 days
		Not indication status battery	30 days
2	Stand by	Stand by Discoverable by BT	
4	Startu by	Indication status battery	3,5 days
3 Connected		Connected BT	24 hours
3	Connected	Indication status battery	24 HOUIS

Tab. 8.2: skID R1280I Battery Life

When the reader is completely discharged, it is recommended to fully charge it, until the link LED is off (see § *Charging* page 9) with the USB cable connected.

If you do not fully charge, the battery level indicated by the power LED according to table *Tab. 1.3: Power LED Status Table* page 8 may not be accurate.

By default, if the reader is turned on, it stays on all the time, until the power button is long pressed.

There is currently no automatic shutdown mode.

Some typical usage scenarios of the reader have been described below to show battery life for different applications. 3 modes of use are described: intensive, moderate, light. The reading mode has been calibrated to cover an 8 hour working day.

1. Intensive Use

Scenario A: Incoming goods in stock

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
_	BT Always	Continuous	Box of 100	9600	90,00%
	Connected	inventory of 30	tags		
-	Power 500mW	seconds every 5			
_	Q default	minutes			
_	No vibration	for 8 hours			
_	No sound				

Tab. 8.3: skID R1280I Battery Life - Intensive Use - Scenario A

Scenario B: Access Control (e.g. stadium, show...)

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
-	BT Always	Inventory on	Ticket with	2880	80,00%
	Connected	button press	single tag		
_	Power 200mW	every 10			
_	Q default	seconds for 8			
-	Vibration	hours			
-	Sound				

Tab. 8.4: skID R1280I Battery Life - Intensive Use - Scenario B



2. Moderate Use

Scenario C: Incoming goods in stock

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
-	BT Always	Continuous	Box of 30	4800	65,00%
	Connected	inventory of 10	tags		
_	Power 500mW	seconds every 3			
-	Q default	minutes			
-	No vibration	for 8 hours			
_	No sound				

Tab. 8.5: skID R1280I Battery Life - Moderate Use - Scenario C

Scenario D: Clothing store inventory

In this scenario the reader is switch off between one inventory and another:

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
_	Power down	Continuous	Shop with	2000	50,00%
	after inventory	inventory of 20	1000 tags		
-	Power 500mW	minutes twice in			
-	Q default	8 hours			
-	No vibration				
_	No sound				

Tab. 8.6: skID R1280I Battery Life - Moderate Use - Scenario D

3. Light Use

Scenario E: Car parking ticket check

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
-	BT Always	Inventory on	Ticket with	480	45,00%
	Connected	button press	single tag		
_	Power 500mW	every 1 minute			
_	Q default	for 8 hours			
_	Vibration				
_	Sound				

Tab. 8.7: skID R1280I Battery Life - Light Use - Scenario E

Scenario F: Separate waste collection operator

	Configuration	Reading mode	Target	Approx tag reads	Battery consumption
-	BT Always	Inventory on	Bin with	480	40,00%
	Connected	button press	single tag		
_	Power 200mW	every 1 minute			
_	Q default	for 8 hours			
_	Vibration				
_	Sound				

Tab. 8.8: skID R1280I Battery Life - Light Use - Scenario F

9 REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

FCC Compliance

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one of the following measures:

- a. Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- b. Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- c. Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- d. Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Any changes or modification not approved by CAEN RFID could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.