

The Application Note is pertinent to the Mentor II/Quantum III Family

## Mentor II/ Quantum III Security Code

For some new User's of Mentor II and Quantum III Drives, the parameter security system is sometimes found to be a rather mysterious subject. This article will attempt to unveil those mysteries.


### Security Basics

Read/Write Drive parameters that cannot be changed ( indicated by that parameter not flashing when the MODE key is depressed), are being protected by a security code. The security code can be the "as shipped factory default code" or a User assigned code, referred to as a Level 3 Security Code.

The "as shipped" security codes for these drives are :

Level 1 xx.00 = 149 Partial Access ( xx means "any menu" )  
Level 2 xx.00 = 200 Full Access

The Level 3 Security Code parameter is #11.17. The "as shipped" value in this parameter is 149. After a security code is entered, it will remain in effect until power is removed from the drive. If you wish to re-establish this security, you can place a number other than 149 or 200 into xx.00<sup>1</sup> before walking away from the drive.

You can click on this link to see how to do this---→[CTVI123](#) 

### User Security Code Assignment

A User can assign their own 3 digit security code within the range of 0-255 by placing it into #11.17 ( writing over the 149 ) and performing a STORE.<sup>2</sup> Note that this does not eliminate or change the Level 1 security code number – 149.

**NOTE: Avoid using 233 and 255 as user security codes, these codes are used to reset the drive to "regen" or "non-regen" defaults. If this code is entered in parameter X.00 and the reset button is pushed, the drive will reset to defaults.**

*In summary, you should avoid 0, 1, 149, 200,233 and 255 as User security codes.*

From this point forth, access to parameters will require that code to be placed into xx.00. After this code is entered, you must still enter the Level 1 access code to obtain Level 1 parameter change access or the Level 2 access code to gain access beyond Level 1 parameters ( full access).

<sup>1</sup> xx.00 refers to - any menu location zero i.e. 00.00 through 16.00

<sup>2</sup> Placing a 001 into xx.00 following by a RESET will perform a parameter store of all R/W parameters

## **Forgotten Security Codes**

People often forget their security codes. You can always see the assigned security code parameter (#11.17) via the serial port with CTFFile, DriveCom, Mentor II View or MentorSoft. However, from the Drive, you must go in through the “*back door*” .

### **“The Back Door”**

To obtain the forgotten security code, you can DEPRESS and **HOLD** both the **MODE** key and the **LEFT ARROW** key and then APPLY POWER to the drive. The Level 3 security code number should immediately appear on the data display, which normally displays the contents of parameter #0.00 upon application of power.

If the power-on or “boot-up” parameter ( see parameter #11.18 ) was changed from the default of #0.00, the Level 3 security code will not immediately appear. You must up or down arrow to any menu xx.00 to see the forgotten security code.

### **Security Bypass**

During initial start-up of the drive, having to enter the security code after each power-up can become a nuisance and slow down the start-up process. To bypass or eliminate the need to enter a security code, one can accomplish this by placing a 0 into parameter #11.17 and performing a Store.

If this bypass is done to speed up the start-up process, you should remember to re-assign the 149 default to #11.17 ( and Store ) before leaving the job site. Otherwise, the drive will have no parameter access security.

**Note:** Defaulting the drive parameters ( using 233 or 255 ) does not reset the Level 3 security code. A previously assigned code by the User will remain even after defaulting parameters.

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