

FX3U FAQ's

Q) What are the main advantages of FX3U over FX2N?

A) More memory, faster processor, and new modules, which are higher specification and easier to use. In fact every aspect of the PLC has an improved specification over FX2N.

Q) What do I need to program an FX3U?

A) GX Developer version 8.23Z and GX Developer FX V 8.25B or later,
Or GX IEC Developer V7 using any of the following connections:

- SC09 Programming cable
- FX3U-USB-BD with USB cable
- FX-USB-AW interface cable
- FX3U-ENET with Ethernet cable

Q) What type of customers should I be targeting with this product range?

A) Customers who have more technically demanding applications or who are struggling to meet their needs with our current product (e.g. running out of memory capacity). Also it goes without saying that we should be targeting our competitors' customers with such an attractive new product.

Q) Should I try to convert all existing FX2N customers immediately?

A) No, not immediately - it is far more important that we concentrate on using FX3U with its high specification to win over new customers first. Of course we must keep existing customers updated, but simply switching them from FX2N to FX3U in the short term is not an efficient use of our time and effort.

Q) Can I convert an existing FX2N project for use in an FX3U?

A) Yes - an FX3U will accept an FX2N project without any changes, but this will only allow FX2N functionality.

B) Or, simply open your FX2N project within GX Developer and use the "Change PLC Type" in the "Project" menu change it to FX3U(C).

Q) Can I use an FX3U to replace an existing FX2N application?

A) Yes the project can be converted as detailed above, and the physical dimensions are identical.

Q) How long will FX2N PLC's be available?

A) Although in the UK we see the FX3U as a replacement for FX2N, other markets will continue to sell both PLC's for the foreseeable future. Therefore we anticipate that FX2N will be available for at least the next 18 months to 2 years.

Q) What modules can I connect to an FX3U PLC?

A) Any of the current the FX2N I/O units and all of FX0N/2N Special Function Blocks, except the FX2NC-ENET-ADP.

Q) What are the benefits of the ADP Bus and its modules?

A) The modules are slim and compact, easier to use (direct addressing), the high-speed I/O modules are faster, and in combination with the BD modules you can now have up to 3 serial ports connected to the CPU.

Q) The literature says we can use 384 I/O on FX3U – how does this work?

A) You are allowed up to a maximum of 256 I/O on the base unit or networked I/O (e.g. CCLink), however the total number of each of these I/O types must not exceed 384.