

# **EBS-50**

## **Smart Base station**

ESL base station with built-in server

# **Specifications manual**



The information in this document is subject to change without notice.

## © 2020 Opticon. All rights reserved.

This manual may not, in whole or in part, be copied, photocopied, reproduced, translated, or converted to any electronic or machine-readable form without prior written consent from Opticon.

## Limited Warranty and Disclaimers

Please read this manual carefully before installing or using the product.

## Serial Number

A serial number appears on all Opticon products. This official registration number is directly related to the device purchased. Do not remove the serial number from your Opticon device. Removing the serial number voids the warranty.

## Warranty

Unless otherwise agreed in a written contract, all Opticon products are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for two years after purchase excluding batteries. Opticon will repair or, at its option, replace products that are defective in materials or workmanship with proper use during the warranty period. Opticon is not liable for damages caused by modifications made by a customer. In such cases, standard repair charges will apply. If a product is returned under warranty and no defect is found, standard repair charges will apply. Opticon assumes no liability for any direct, indirect, consequential or incidental damages arising out of use or inability to use both the hardware and software, even if Opticon has been informed about the possibility of such damages.

## Packaging

The packing materials are recyclable. Damage caused by improper packaging during shipment is not covered by the warranty.

## Trademarks

Trademarks used are the property of their respective owners.

Opticon Inc. and Opticon Sensors Europe B.V. are wholly owned subsidiaries of OPTOELECTRONICS Co., Ltd., 12-17, Tsukagoshi 4-chome, Warabi-shi, Saitama, Japan 335-0002. TEL +81-(0) 48-446-1183; FAX +81-(0) 48-446-1184

## Support

### USA

Phone: 800-636-0090  
Email: [support@opticonusa.com](mailto:support@opticonusa.com)  
Web: [www.opticonusa.com](http://www.opticonusa.com)

### Europe

Phone: +31235692728  
Email: [support@opticon.com](mailto:support@opticon.com)  
Web: [www.opticon.com](http://www.opticon.com)

## Revision History

EBS-50 Specifications Manual

Edition	Date	Page	Section	Description of Changes
1 <sup>st</sup>	October 21, 2020	-	-	Initial release.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Feb 22, 2021			Description of reset button
3 <sup>rd</sup>	June 9, 2021	12		Note that port 2 cannot be used when POE is used.
4 <sup>th</sup>	August 4,2023	13		Update radio spec

## Contents

1	Overview .....	7
2	About the EBS-50 Smart base station .....	8
3	Physical Features.....	9
3.1	Weight .....	9
3.2	Dimensions.....	9
3.3	Maximum total height.....	9
3.4	Mounting.....	10
4	Environmental Specifications .....	11
4.1	Operating Temperature and Humidity .....	11
4.2	Storage Temperature and Humidity .....	11
4.3	Static Electricity .....	11
4.4	Drop resistance. ....	12
4.5	Dust and Drip Proof .....	12
5	Electrical specifications .....	13
5.1	Computer.....	13
5.2	Radio .....	13
5.3	Electrical Characteristics TBD .....	13
6	Interfaces .....	14
6.1	USB-Host .....	14
6.2	Reset switch (Firmware update mode) .....	15
6.2.1	Firmware installation .....	15
6.2.2	Failed firmware download .....	17
6.3	USB-OTG .....	18
6.4	Ethernet ports.....	18
6.5	DC input connector .....	18
7	Indicators .....	19
8	Labels .....	20
8.1	Product label .....	20
8.2	Anatel label.....	20
8.3	Label positions.....	21
8.4	White box label .....	21
8.5	Shipment box label .....	22

9    Packing .....23

    9.1    Individual packing .....23

    9.2    Shipment packing .....24

## Table of Figures

Figure 1: EBS-50 Dimensions.....	9
Figure 2: EBS-50 Maximum height.....	9
Figure 3: Mounting plate .....	10
Figure 4: Attaching and detaching the EBS-50 to the mounting plate.....	11
Figure 5: Drop test .....	12
Figure 6: Interfaces .....	14
Figure 7: Wi-Fi Dongle .....	14
Figure 8: DC plug dimensions.....	18
Figure 9: LED Indicators .....	19
Figure 10: Product label.....	20
Figure 11: Anatel label .....	20
Figure 12: Label position.....	21
Figure 13: White box label .....	21
Figure 14: Shipment box label .....	22
Figure 15: Individual packing .....	24
Figure 16: Shipment packing .....	24

## 1 Overview

The EBS-50 is a base station, equipped with two 2.4GHz radios for data communication with Opticon's electronic shelf labels (ESLs) plus a built-in computer that runs the Opticon ESL server. The EBS-50 allows for a very compact ESL system. Everything needed for a running system is the EBS-50 itself, a power supply, and an Ethernet connection (Wi-Fi is optional) plus of course the ESLs themselves.

The product uses Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum RF technology that allows for an ultra-low power consumption combined with a reduced sensitivity to background noise. That means less interference by other radios that operate in the 2.4GHz band. The radio protocol that is used is based on the IEEE 802.15.4 standard that specifies the physical layer and media access control for low-rate wireless personal area networks.

The base station can run a local price/article database on its own flash disk that can be updated remotely, either manually or automatically with database triggers, or it can be configured to use an external database. With the information from the database, the EBS-50 can create images for the ESLs that are connected to it and send those to the corresponding ESLs. Having the option to run the database either locally or externally allows for a very flexible setup of the ESL system, from a very small stand-alone system to very large cloud-based system where the EBS-50 is then the gateway in the shop to the Internet. In that case, a central dashboard server is required where the EBS-50 can upload status information.

The EBS-50 can be controlled via a web browser on any device that connects to the same network. There is no need to connect a keyboard and/or monitor to it, which makes it easier to install the EBS-50 in the most convenient location. Maintenance and configuration to the EBS-50 can then be done from any location provided that that location is connected to the same network as the EBS-50. It is even possible to do that from a remote location but in that case, a VPN tunnel is required because of safety concerns. The EBS-50 can setup that VPN tunnel by itself, provided that the remote location already has a VPN server running but this is usually not needed. The EBS-50s can download configuration and maintenance files from a central server and will store its status information there.

## 2 About the EBS-50 Smart base station

The most important features of the EBS-50 are listed below.

- **Small and compact:** The EBS-50 is not bigger than a regular base station but is powerful enough to handle all basic tasks of a separate ESL server.
- **Built-in computer:** The built-in computer runs a Linux operating system plus Opticon's ESL server, and both are optimized for each other. A separate computer will always have a hassle with libraries and other parts of the operating system that may not be fully compatible or not installed, whereas the EBS-50 comes pre-configured with the correct software.
- **No separate computer needed:** Shop owners usually do not like a separate computer that requires maintenance and updates, especially when this is a Windows computer. The EBS-50 removes the need for this since it has a built-in computer and updates are much easier to do than with a normal computer. The EBS-50 can update itself automatically from a remote server, but updates can also be done with a USB-stick. The frequency of updates is much lower than with a full blown (Linux or Windows) computer since the EBS-50 only contains the software that is really needed to run the server.
- **Power over Ethernet (PoE):** PoE is supported on one of the Ethernet ports to make installation even more simple. When a location has PoE switches, the EBS-50 does not need a separate power supply and so no wall socket is needed.
- **Two Ethernet ports:** The EBS-50 comes with two gigabit Ethernet ports, and a built-in switch and router. This makes larger setups, where more than one base station is required, much easier as it is possible to daisy-chain the base stations via the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ethernet port while the first port is used for the connection with the LAN.
- **USB ports:** Two USB ports are available. One is a USB-host port, with a USB-A style connector and the other is a USB-OTG port, with a micro USB style connector. The main use of the host port is for a Wi-Fi dongle and Opticon will come with a list of approved dongles for which the driver is already installed. This port however can also be used for software updates that come on a USB-stick for those situations where the EBS-50 cannot connect to the Internet.



## 3 Physical Features

### 3.1 Weight

The weight of the EBS-50 is approx. 250g (TBD)

### 3.2 Dimensions

The dimensions of the EBS-50 base station: 145 x 110 x 27.1 mm (179.6x158.3x27.1 mm with the antennas mounted alongside the main housing).

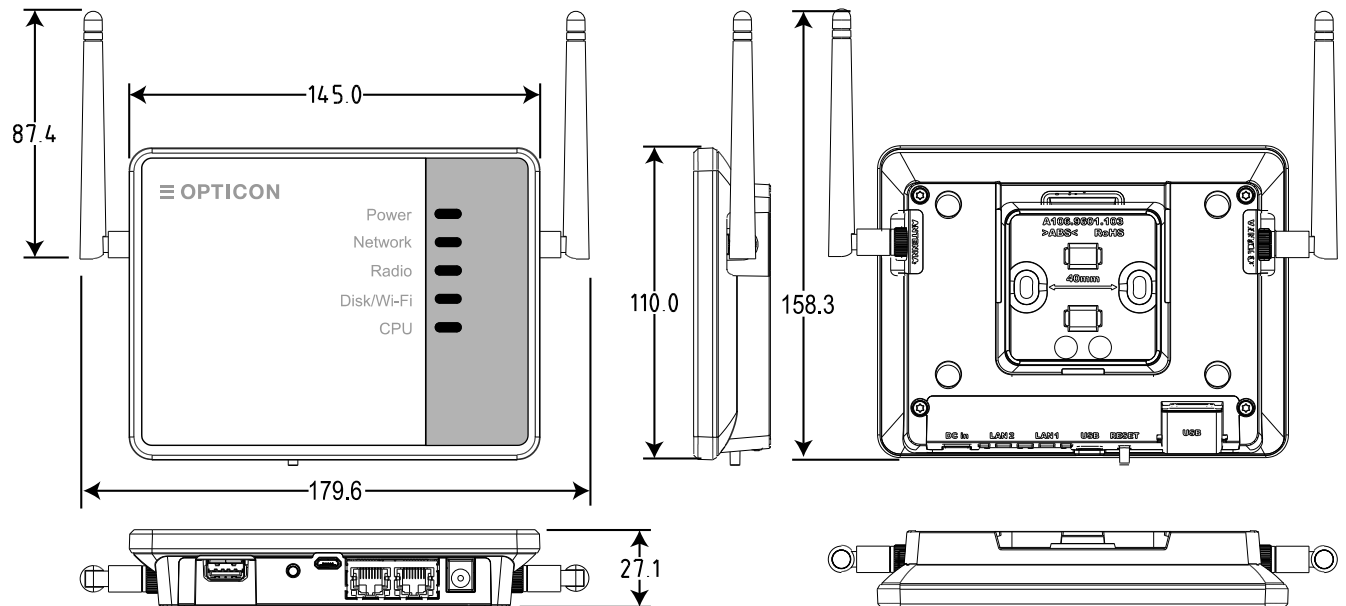


Figure 1: EBS-50 Dimensions

### 3.3 Maximum total height

The antennas can be rotated, but the most common position is vertical. The height with both antennas in this position and with the base station horizontal, mounted on the mounting plate is 95.3mm.

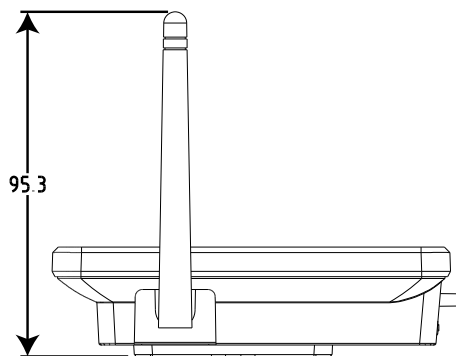


Figure 2: EBS-50 Maximum height

## 3.4 Mounting

The EBS-50 comes with a mounting plate for easy mounting to e.g. a wall or the ceiling. The EBS-50 can slide over the mounting plate to click and lock it into place. To unlock it, use a flat screwdriver to push the locking tap down and then slide the EBS-50 away from the screwdriver.

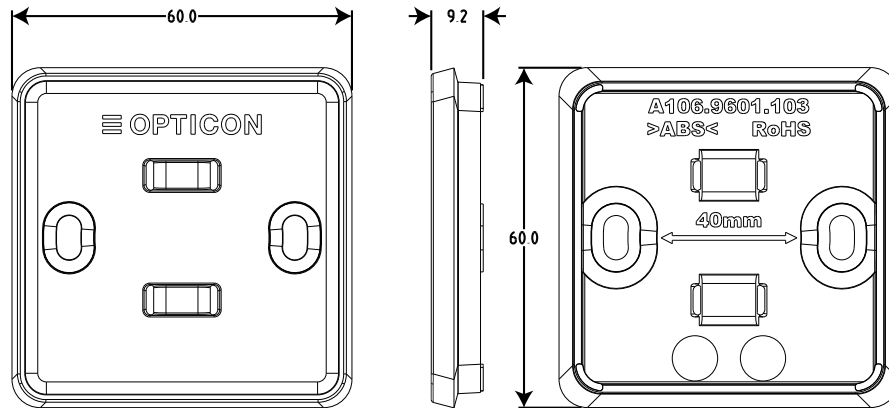


Figure 3: Mounting plate

The mounting plate can be attached to a wall with two screws, spaced 40mm apart. The top of the mounting plate, where the Opticon logo is visible, should face forward, away from the wall. Once the mounting plate is attached, the EBS-50 can slide over the mounting plate until it locks into position.

Use a flat screwdriver and push  
here to unlock the EBS-50

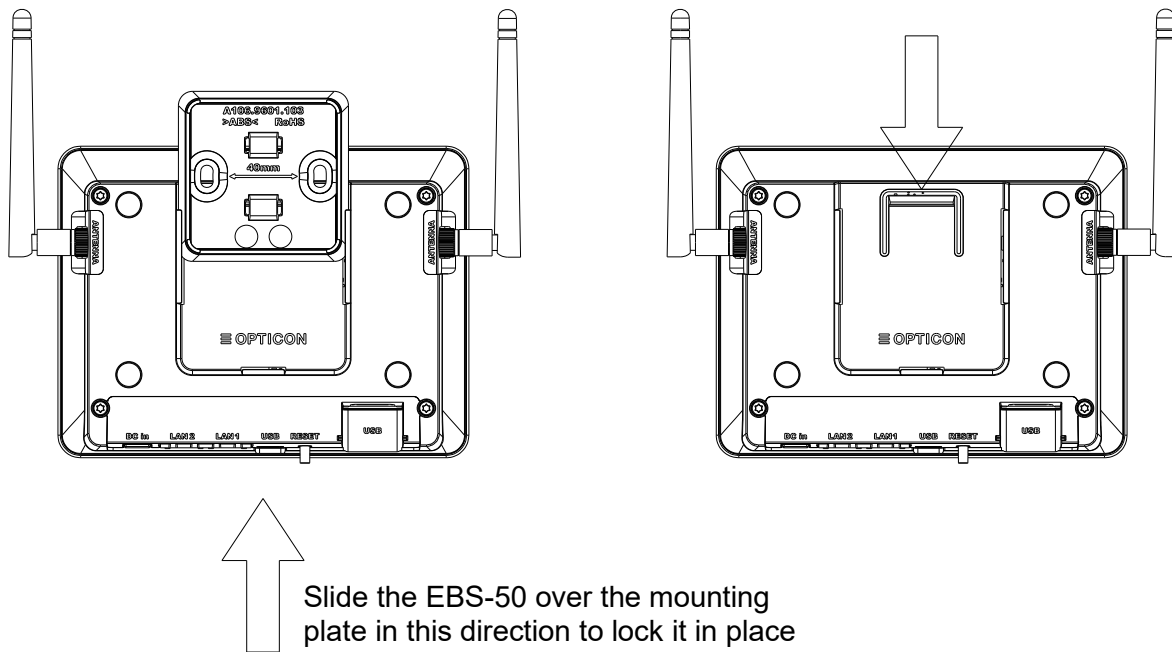


Figure 4: Attaching and detaching the EBS-50 to the mounting plate

## 4 Environmental Specifications

### 4.1 Operating Temperature and Humidity

Temperature: 0 to 70° C

Humidity: 20% to 85% RH

### 4.2 Storage Temperature and Humidity

Temperature: -20 to 70° C

Humidity: 20% to 85% RH

### 4.3 Static Electricity

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Air discharge:     | ± 8 kV (No malfunction / Automatic recovery)                 |
|                    | ± 15 kV (No damage but operator involvement may be required) |
| Contact discharge: | ± 4 kV (No malfunction / Automatic recovery)                 |
|                    | ± 8 kV (No damage but operator involvement may be required)  |

## 4.4 Drop resistance.

The EBS-50 has withstood the following drop test:

Drop the base station 12 times (3 times at each of 4 orientations), from a height of 1m onto a concrete floor as shown below. Note the position of the antennas.

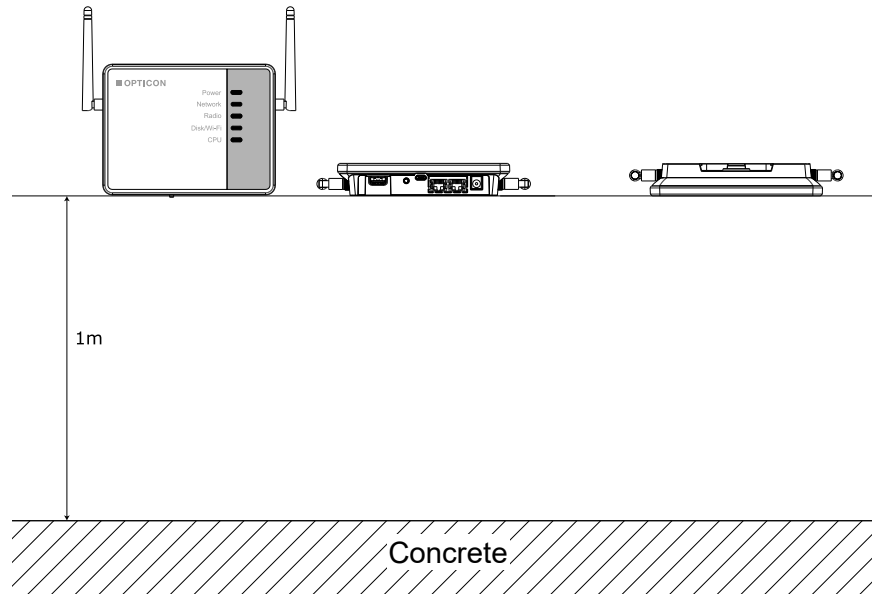


Figure 5: Drop test

## 4.5 Dust and Drip Proof

This product has not undergone any IP tests. The intended use is indoor only.

## 5 Electrical specifications

### 5.1 Computer

Item	Specifications		Remarks
CPU	Type	Dual core ARM Cortex A7	1.2GHz clock speed
		Single core ARM Cortex M4	200MHz clock speed
Memory	Storage	64GByte eMMC	eMMC flash disk
	RAM	512Mbyte	DDR3 memory
Interfaces	2 x Ethernet	10/100/1000 gigabit	Port 1 supports PoE Class 3.
	1 x USB Host	USB-A type dongles supported	
	1 x USB-OTG	Micro USB type connector	

### 5.2 Radio

Items	Specifications		Remarks
Radio	Modulation	DSSS	
	Frequency	2405 + 5(C-11) MHz Channel 11-26	Channels 27~28 are available on request. <sup>2</sup>
	Baud rate	250 Kbits / second	
	Number of independent radios	2	

<sup>1</sup>Channels 1~10 are reserved for sub-GHz frequencies, which are not supported by the EBS-50.

<sup>2</sup>Local regulations may not allow the use of these channels.

Parameter	Min	Typ	Max	Unit	Remarks
Receiver sensitivity		-100.3		dBm	1% PER
Output power	4.26		6.22	dBm	Configurable
Frequency	2405		2405 + 5(C-11)	MHz	

### 5.3 Electrical Characteristics TBD

Parameter		Min	Typ	Max	Remarks
Operating voltage	DC Input	9 V	12V	16V	
	PoE Powered			57V	As per PoE standard
Operating power			7W	10W	Either DC powered or PoE powered

## 6 Interfaces

The drawing below shows the position of the various interfaces on the EBS-50

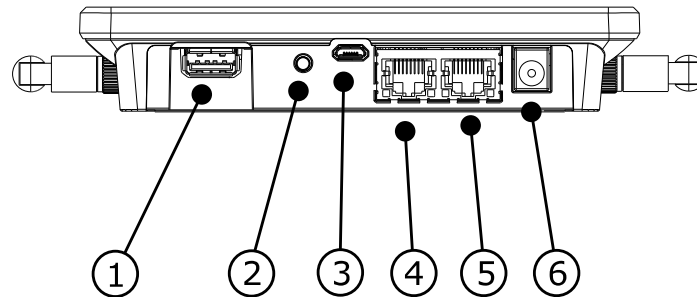


Figure 6: Interfaces

Item	Interface	Connector type	Description
1	USB-Host	Female USB type A	For USB gadgets such as a Wi-Fi dongle
2	Reset switch		
3	USB-OTG	Female USB micro	
4	Ethernet port 1	RJ-45	10/100/1000 Mbps Ethernet with PoE
5	Ethernet port 2*	RJ-45	Same as port 1 but without PoE
6	DC Jack		12V DC input

\*Important note: When the EBS-50 is powered via POE (and so not via the DC Jack), then Ethernet port 2 should not be used.

### 6.1 USB-Host

This interface is meant for a USB dongle such as a USB stick or a Wi-Fi dongle. To protect the dongle and make it a bit harder for people to take it away, it is in a recessed area. Therefore, the dongle cannot be too wide. The available size is 18.5x8mm and most small, modern Wi-Fi dongles will fit in.

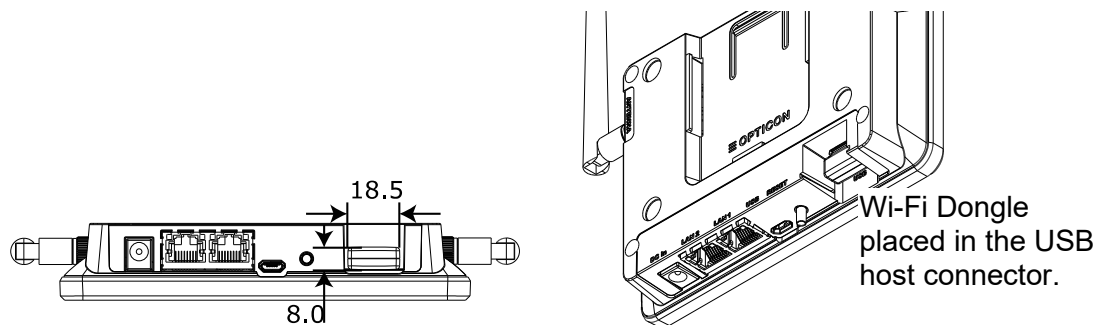


Figure 7: Wi-Fi Dongle

## 6.2 Reset switch (Firmware update mode)

The reset switch can be used as a last resource to install new firmware to the EBS-50. This may be needed when the operator has made a mistake and has accidentally locked the EBS-50 out from the network. Since the EBS-50 must be controlled via a web-browser, a working Ethernet connection is required to change the setup, so when that is not working the reset switch is the only thing that can bring the EBS-50 back online.

### 6.2.1 Firmware installation

**Step 1:** Copy and extract the software:

Make a directory on the computer and name it for instance EBS50. In the example below this is: "Documents\products\EBS50"

Copy the following files to there (Contact Opticon support for a copy of this software.)

- uuu.exe
- tar.exe Not needed for Windows 10
- zadig-2.5.exe
- ebs-50xxxx.tar.gz The xxxx here is the version number.

The EBS-50xxxx.tar.gz file is a compressed archive and needs to be extracted. To extract that archive, open a command window (run CMD) and go to the directory where the software is installed:

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19041.804]
(c) 2020 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Kees>cd Documents\Products\EBS50

C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>
```

Extract the archive with the tar.exe utility by typing "tar xvzf EBS-50xxxx.tar.gz" and press enter:

```
C:\Users\Kees Stoop\Documents\Products\EBS50>tar xvzf ebs-50.tar.gz
ebs-50/
ebs-50/ebs-50.uuu
ebs-50/files/SPL
ebs-50/files/core-image-base.ext4
ebs-50/files/u-boot.img
ebs-50/files/core-image-base.dataimg
ebs-50/files/
ebs-50/files/boot.img

C:\Users\Kees Stoop\Documents\Products\EBS50>
```

## Step 2: Install the firmware in the EBS-50

Follow the steps below to install the firmware and, by doing that, erase all the settings.

- Take the EBS-50 and connect it to the computer via a micro-USB cable, but do not yet apply power to it.
- Press and hold the reset switch and while keeping it pressed, insert the power plug.
- The computer should now recognize the EBS-50 either as a “SE Blank ULT1” or “USB Download gadget” and after a minute or so, it should give a message that the device is ready to be used. When the computer doesn’t give a message but does play the USB connect tune, it means that the driver is already installed.
- The command window should still be open, if not, open it again (run CMD) and go to the directory where the software is installed.
- To start programming type in “uuu ebs-50xxxx\ebs50.uuu”. Note that in this example, the version is blank so the xxxx here is blank too.

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.19041.804]
(c) 2020 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\Kees>cd Documents\Products\EBS50

C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>uuu ebs-50\ebs-50.uuu
```

- The program will then perform the steps that are needed to program the software and shows a progress bar for each step. Steps 8 and 9 take the most time:

```
2:5      8/11 [===>                11%                ] FB: flash -raw2sparse roo
```

```
2:5      8/11 [=====78%=====>                ] FB: flash -raw2sparse roo
```

```
2:5      9/11 [=====>                33%                ] FB: flash -raw2sparse roo
```

```
C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>uuu ebs-50\ebs-50.uuu
uuu (Universal Update Utility) for nxp imx chips -- libuuu_1.4.72-0-g8e9e189

Success 1    Failure 0

2:5      11/11 [Done                ] FB: done

C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>
```

The new firmware is now installed and all settings in the EBS-50 are deleted and so the unit is set to factory default.



## 6.2.2 Failed firmware download

When programming fails, it most likely means that a USB driver is missing. At that moment, the screen shows the error, but the EBS-50 is still in download mode and only then it is possible to install the correct driver. When downloading has failed, the screen looks like this:

```
C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>uuu ebs-50\ebs-50.uuu
uuu (Universal Update Utility) for nxp imx chips -- libuuu_1.4.72-0-g8e9e189

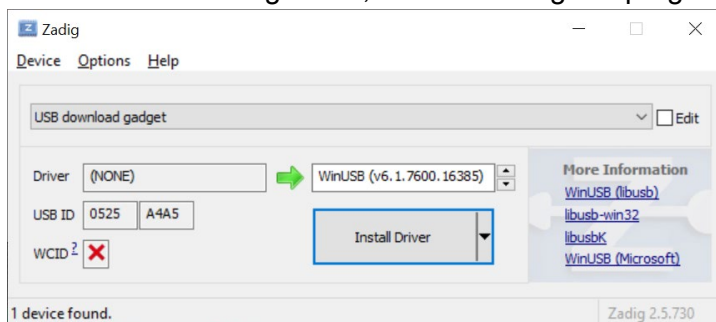
Success 0      Failure 1

2:5          1/ 0 [Failure open usb device          ]

C:\Users\Kees\Documents\Products\EBS50>
```

When this happens, keep the EBS-50 powered and connected at this point. Resetting now, will set it in a different mode and then it is not possible to install the driver.

To install the missing driver, start the Zadig-2.5 program. The screen should look like this:



Important to check are the following:

Check the USB IDs. These should be identical as on the image below. If the IDs are not correct, the EBS50 is not in download mode. So, exit the program and try again.	Check that the driver is not yet installed and is still set to "None". If the current driver is already set to WinUSB, exit the program since no driver is needed.	Check that the new driver is set to WinUSB. If not, use the up/down keys to adjust it.

When the above is all correct, press the "Install Driver" button to install the driver, which will take a minute or two to complete. After this, close the program and disconnect the EBS-50 and repeat the steps above to install the new firmware.

## 6.3 USB-OTG

This port can be used for various other USB gadgets, but its main purpose is for testing, debugging and firmware download during the production in the factory.

## 6.4 Ethernet ports

The EBS-50 has two 10/100/1000 MBits/s Ethernet ports. Port 1 can be used to power the EBS-50 via Power Over Ethernet (PoE) but can work with non-PoE Ethernet as well. The other port has no PoE capabilities but is the same otherwise. Both ports are configured as a switch so one port can be used for instance to connect to the local network, while the other can be used to daisy-chain other base stations.

## 6.5 DC input connector

This connector has a center pin with a diameter of 2.1mm and a hole diameter of 6.5mm. The mating plug should therefore have a center hole of 2.1mm and an outer diameter of 5.5mm as shown. The center pin is +12V.

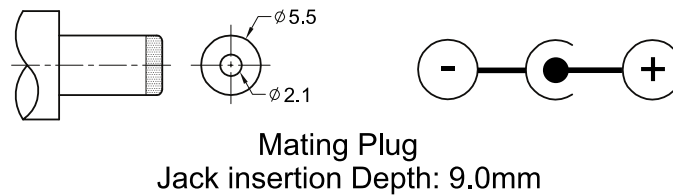


Figure 8: DC plug dimensions

## 7 Indicators

The EBS-50 has 5 LED indicators that are visible from the top of the device.

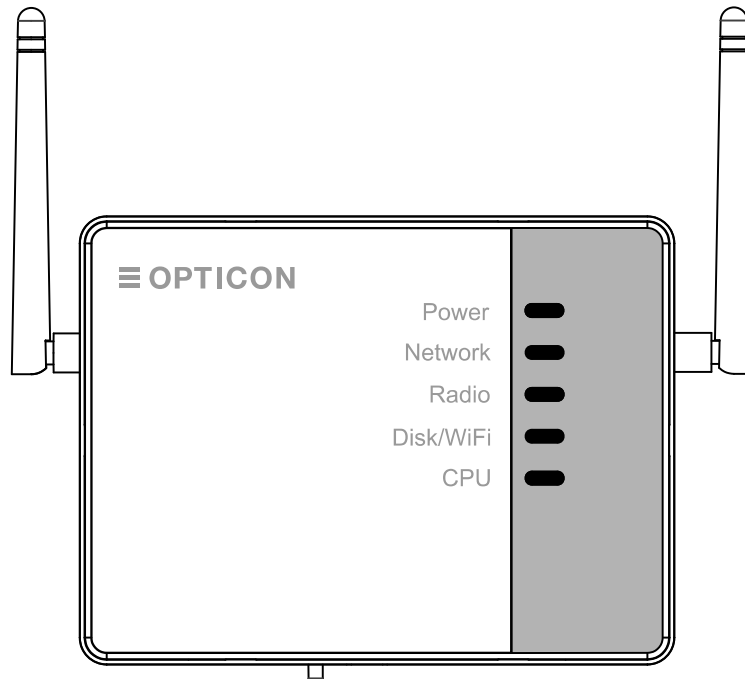


Figure 9: LED Indicators

**Power.** This LED turns red right after the power is applied. The internal computer will then start running and when it is done with the boot process, the led will turn green. If the LED stays red for several minutes, a severe problem has occurred. In that case, it may be required install a fresh operating system via the USB port.

**Network.** This LED turns green when an Ethernet link is established on LAN port 1 and starts flashing green when data is received or sent out. This LED turns red when an Ethernet link is established on LAN port 2 and starts flashing red when data is received or sent out.

**Radio.** This LED flashes green when radio 1 is active and flashes red when radio 2 is active.

**Disk/Wi-Fi.** This LED flashes green when the internal disk is accessed, and it flashes red when the Wi-Fi interface is used (provided that a suitable Wi-Fi dongle is installed)

**CPU.** This LED flashes green when CPU0 is busy and flashes red when CPU1 is busy.

Apart from these LED indicators, the two Ethernet ports have a link (on the left side) and an activity LED (on the right side).

## 8 Labels

### 8.1 Product label

The product label shown below is placed on the back side of the base station.

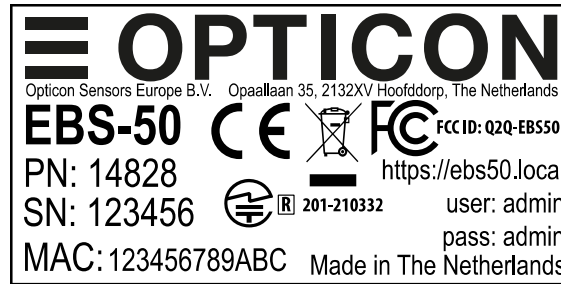


Figure 10: Product label

The label shows product name, article code and the various regulatory logos plus the product's Ethernet MAC address. The addresses for the two 802.15.4 radios are derived from this address. These addresses (both are the same) are essentially the same as the Ethernet address, but with two bytes extra. Below is a description of those addresses:

Ethernet MAC address: M1M2M3-S1S2S3

802.15.4 MAC address: M1M2M3-SaSbS1S2S3

M1M2M3 defines the manufacturer ID, which is 00126A for Opticon and is the same for both address types. The bytes that follow the manufacturer ID, define the product number which is three bytes long for an Ethernet address and 5 bytes for an 802.15.4 address. To convert the two, we have set SaSb both to zero. So e.g. an Ethernet MAC address of 00126A-45AB23 results in an 802.15.4 address of 00126A-000045AB23.

Material: Base + laminate protection against wear.

Base: PP film, thickness 80µm, backing with glue.

Laminate: PET film, clear, thickness 25µm.

Colors: Black & White

The dimensions of the product label are 50 x 25 mm.

### 8.2 Anatel label

The Anatel label is a regulatory label required for the Brazilian market. The size and material specs are the same as those for the product label.



Figure 11: Anatel label

## 8.3 Label positions

The labels are placed as shown below

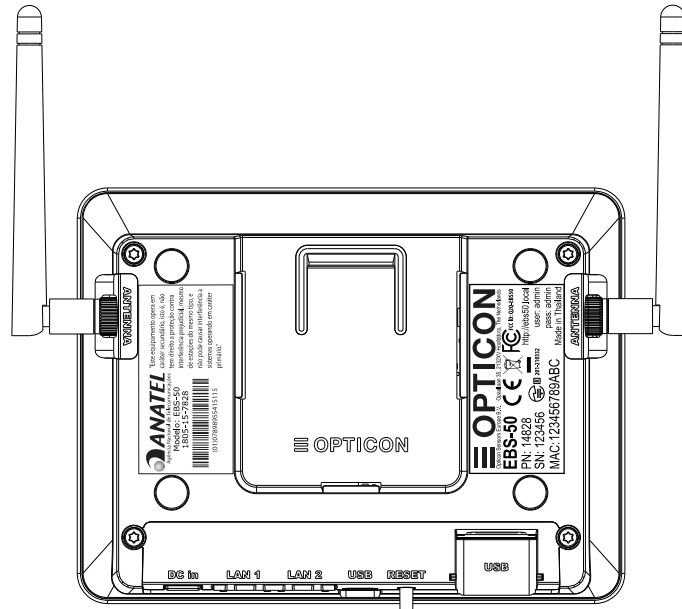


Figure 12: Label position

## 8.4 White box label

The white box label is made from plain paper and is meant to show the product number and serial number. The label size is 60x25mm and the design is shown below.



Figure 13: White box label

The white box label lists the item number and serial number just as on the product label. It also shows a GTIN barcode that has the Opticon manufacturer number and the article code encoded.

## 8.5 Shipment box label

The shipment box label is Opticon's standard shipment box label and contains information about the order number, box quantity, manufacturing spec. number, software versions etc. The label also contains a GTIN barcode. The label is according to Opticon's shipment box standard rev 9 and the size is 160x105mm.

		C/No 001
Opticon Sensors Europe B.V. Opaallaan 35, 2132 XV Hoofddorp, The Netherlands		Made in Thailand
Product: <b>EBS-50</b>		
PO:	 <small>*XXXXXX*</small>	QTY:  <small>*30*</small>
Spec#:	 <small>*OF1EBS50.XX*</small>	
Article EU:	 <small>*14828*</small>	US:
code		
SN From:	 <small>*XXXXXX*</small>	To:  <small>*XXXXXX*</small>
Missing Serial Numbers		QTY: 0
1 2		
Shipping date: XX-XX-XXXX		
Software:		
AP: XXXXXXXXX		
OS: XXXXXXXXX		
Boot: XXXXXXXXX		
		
 1 87 19982 14828 4		

Figure 14: Shipment box label

## 9 Packing

### 9.1 Individual packing

After putting the base station in a foam bag, it is packed in a white box with the following accessories:

- Two antennas
- One quick start guide
- The safety instructions
- One mounting plate

The white box size is 19x5.5x15.5cm.

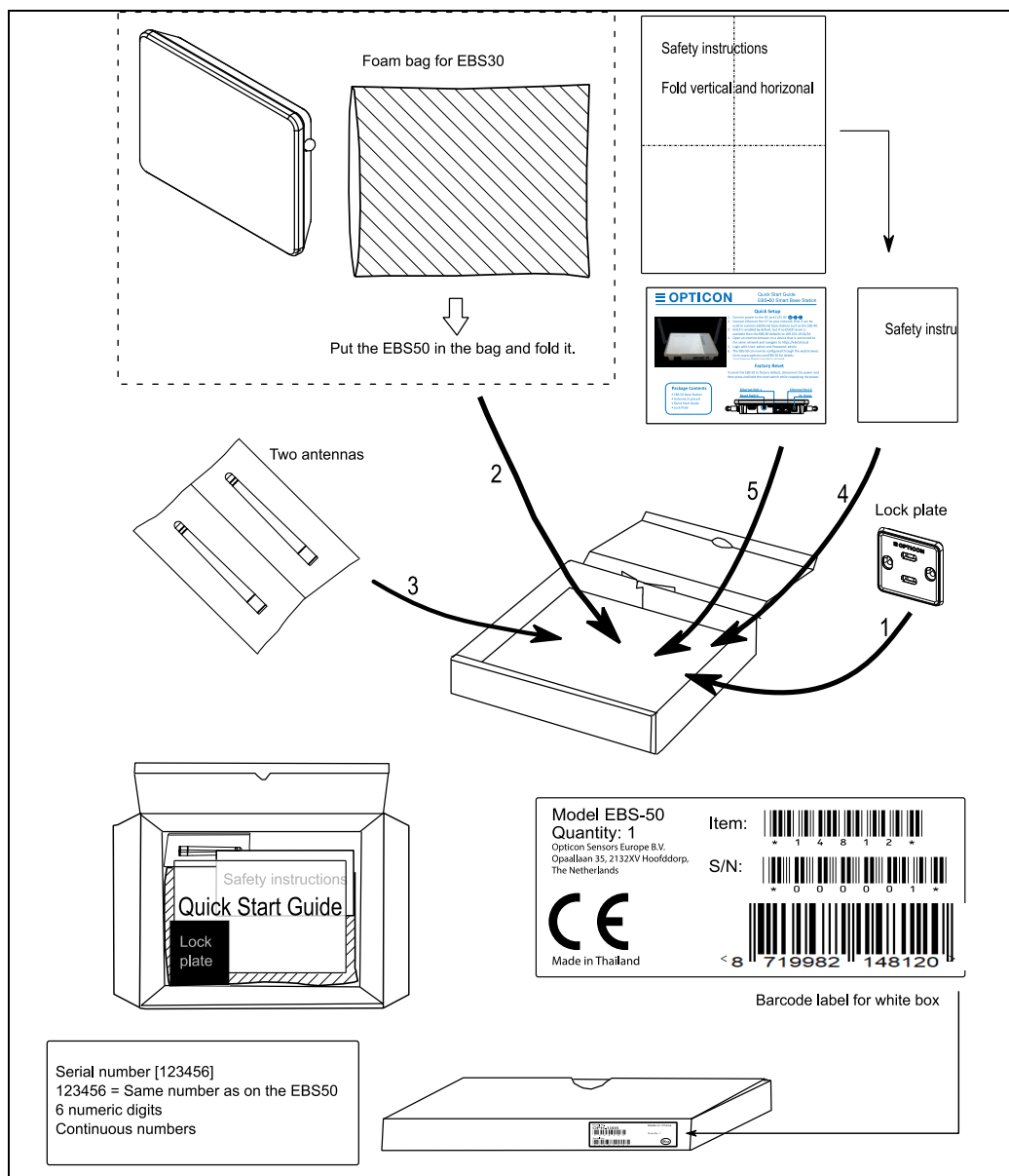


Figure 15: Individual packing

## 9.2 Shipment packing

30 individual EBS-50 boxes are packed into one shipment box.

The weight of the shipment box is 10kg TBD

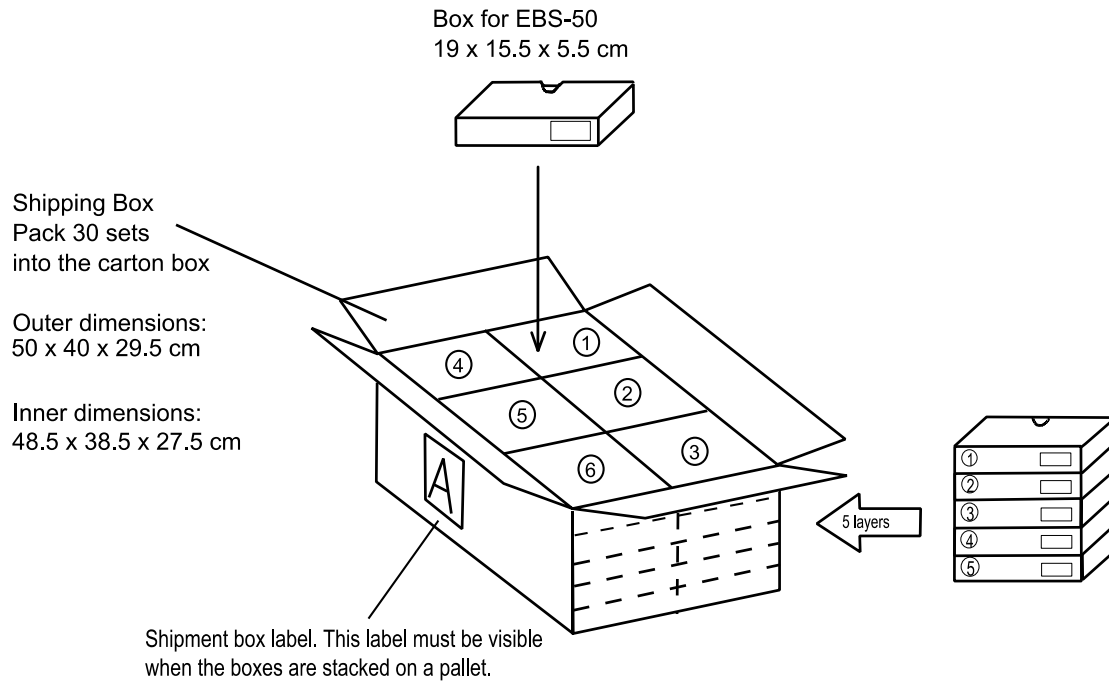


Figure 16: Shipment packing