

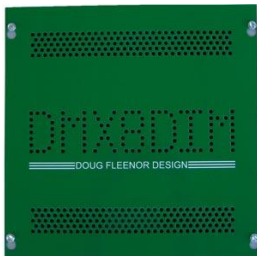
I Didn't Know Fleenor Did That.

At trade shows we frequently hear "I didn't know you did that". We are best known for our DMX512 distribution products (opto-splitters, A/B switches, Terminators) but we also make a wide variety of DMX solutions. So, once a month, we are featuring a product in an e-newsletter titled *I Didn't Know Fleenor Did That*.

Every product has a story; some more interesting than others. This story is about how Doug saved Christmas.

It was early fall, in 2008, when Doug got the call from one of his theme park clients. The park had just finished installing thousands of the then-new LED Christmas tree lights on the magnificently decorated pine tree replica. The main switch was thrown and the lights came on. The problem was, the lights were not supposed to come on; the controls were at zero. The control system, which had worked fabulously for decades, didn't appear to like the new LED lamps! A smattering of lamp strings, control cards, and a bit of pixey dust were quickly dispatched to Doug Fleenor Design's Christmas Facility at the North Pole. Doug's Elves worked tirelessly and, with the help of some theme park technicians, a radically new (not really) circuit was developed which dimmed the low wattage, capacitive load of the LED strings without ghosting (except on Halloween when ghosting is inevitable). The circuitry was laid out on a circuit card that exactly fit the existing enclosure. Over 400 channels of dimming were assembled, tested, and delivered to the park in time for the public unveiling of the new tree. Christmas was saved!

The radically new (not really) design sat on the shelf for many many many minutes. Then, Mr. Fleenor himself had a need. Mr. Fleenor was building a house and wanted DMX512 control of virtually every luminaire (imagine that). Mr. Fleenor is also very green (he gets motion sick easily) and specified LED lighting throughout. Now, where could he find a DMX512 dimmer, designed for architectural use, that was specifically engineered for low power somewhat reactive loads? Hmm.



DMX8DIM

With some layout changes to make it contractor friendly, and a bit of money for NRTL testing, the model DMX8DIM was born. An eight channel, 200W per channel dimmer (with no minimum load requirement), that easily handles resistive (incandescent), inductive (magnetic low voltage) and capacitive (LED) loads. Dimmers? *I didn't know Fleenor did that.*

Although designed for permanent install, some of Doug's devotees started putting line cords on the units and using them as portable dimmer packs for practicals, set pieces, and (who would have thought) Christmas lights. At the same time, clients were asking for more channels and a smaller enclosure. Cue the fanfare for the DMX24DIM. A twenty-four channel, 100W per channel dimmer featuring that same innovative circuit which has no ghosting, no minimum load requirement, and handles both real, and somewhat reactive loads (inductive and capacitive loads are both reactive).



DMX24DIM front



DIM24DIM rear

Twenty-four channels of dimming in a single rack space enclosure makes the DMX24DIM the highest density DMX512 dimmer on the market, but has one drawback: ungrounded outputs. Christmas lights do not carry a ground. When used in rack-mounted systems, the grounds can be bussed together on a grounding bar. But even for Christmas displays, extension cords often carry a ground as do many of the fixtures used in elaborate presentations. Our first "grounded outlet" dimmer was DMX12DIM featuring twelve 200W channels in a single rack space. This was followed by DMX24DIM-2U which boasts twenty-four 100W channels in two rack spaces.



DMX12DIM



DMX24DIM-2U



To complete the circle of life, Fleenor now makes a 24 channel dimmer in an architectural enclosure. All of our dimmers are ETL listed to UL 508.

Doug Fleenor Design also customizes software to add specific features such as built in chase routines. *I didn't know Fleenor did that!*



DMX24DIM-A

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