

HA9 Series Extended Range Programmable Optical Attenuators

Description

The HA9 Series programmable attenuators give extended attenuation range (100 dB) and high resolution (0.01 dB) for testing power meters and for general test and laboratory work.

The linear design of the HA9 attenuator, combined with built-in calibration and offset functions, allows the user to match the display of the HA9 attenuator to an optical power meter over a wide power range. This combination is very useful in tests requiring control of the absolute optical power into a test device. In addition, a built-in beam blocking switch allows fast access from any attenuation setting to infinite attenuation (blocking attenuation is >110 dB).

The standard operating wavelength range of the HA9 Series attenuators is 1200 to 1700 nm. An optional wavelength range of 750 to 1700 nm with reduced attenuation range is available.

Single-mode HA9 Series attenuators with an analog option are specifically designed for use in demanding applications, such as multichannel AM systems and high bit-rate digital pulse code modulation (PCM) systems. Discrete internal optical reflections are minimized to better than -60 dB, and etalon cavity effects are virtually eliminated.

Optional built-in couplers or switches are available to provide an output tap or to access two inputs or outputs.

Units with front-panel mounted PC or APC universal connector adapters (UCAs) are available. These models support FC/PC, SC/PC, and ST/PC, or FC/APC and SC/APC connector types.

The HA9 Series has a SCPI/HP 8156A compatible command set and can be controlled either from the front panel keypad or by parallel IEEE 488.2 or serial RS232C interfaces and LabVIEW drivers are supplied to facilitate remote control. Software compatibility is maintained with the HP 8157A attenuator. A rear panel 5 V output is available to act as a driver for an external 1x1 (on/off), or 1x2 fiberoptic switch.

The HA9 Series conforms to the European Community directives 89/336/EEC and 73/23/EEC for electromagnetic compatibility and safety.



Key Features

- 0 to 100 dB range
- 0.01 dB resolution and repeatability
- 1200 to 1700 nm or 750 to 1700 nm wavelength ranges
- Single-mode or multimode fiber
- Built-in beam blocking switch
- IEEE 488.2 and RS232C interfaces
- SCPI compatible command set
- UCA option
- Optional couplers or switches
- LabVIEW drivers

Applications

- Testing erbium doped fiber amplifiers (EDFAs)
- Testing and/or calibrating the linearity of power meters
- Measuring bit error rate curves
- Measuring the dynamic range of receivers
- Simulating loss

