01 System requirements

User interface

To open the web-based user interface of the System Access Point you require a computer with a LAN or WLAN network adaptor and an installed Internet browser.

The recommended browsers are:

- Firefox (from version 9)
- Internet Explorer (from version 11)
- Google Chrome
- Safari

free@home app

For the installation of the free@home app you require a smartphone or tablet with an Android (from 4.0) or iOS (from iOS 7) operating system.

Home network

To be able to access the free@home APP and Internet services (e.g. e-mail) at the same time during standard operation, the System Access Point must be integrated into the existing home network after commissioning. For this, a router with Ethernet or WLAN interface is required.

02 Performance Features

The free@home system is a twisted-pair-based bus system for home automation. It enables the control and automation of lighting, heating, and blinds and also provides integration of the ABB-Welcome door communication system.

Control takes place on site using permanently installed control elements or mobile using a smartphone or tablet.

Functions are allocated only by software; i.e., if the use of a room changes in future, the function of the light switch can be easily changed, as well.

No special software is required for commissioning. Configuration takes place using the available Internet browser of the computer, or the free free@home app for smartphones or tablets (Android/iOS).

A free@home system is made up of the following devices:

- a System Access Point,
- a power supply,
- sensors for local operation,
- actuators for switching loads.

Performance features

Up to 64 devices can be installed in a system (power supply is not included).

The following versions of devices are available:

System devices

- System Access Point
- Power supply

Sensors

- Control elements
- Panels
- Binary inputs
- Room temperature controller
- Movement detector

Actuators

- Switch actuators
- Dimming actuators
- Blind actuators
- Heating actuators

Sensors and actuators are each available in construction types **flush-mounted**, **flush mounted pill** and **rail-mounting (MDRC)** and can be combined as required according to application.

The web-based user interface of the System Access Point can be called up and operated simultaneously by several participants (computers and/or mobile devices with the free@home app). This can, depending on the changes made, lead to losses in performance (the changes take longer to implement). That is why it is recommended to operate the user interface with only 4 participants at the same time.

03 Planning and Installation

System Access Point and power supply (Fig. 1)

The System Access Point offers the opportunity for accessing the free@home system with the PC or mobile terminal devices. This allows the functions of the system to be programmed and remote controlled.

Each system requires a power supply. It uses the voltage required by the bus subscribers for supplying the bus communication part of the devices.

Decentralized or central installation of the actuators (Fig. 2)

The free@home system offers both rail-mounting actuators for central installation in the switch cabinet as well as sensor/actuator units for decentralized flush-mounted installation.

Both types of installation can be mixed within the system as desired.

Advantages of the decentralized installation

- "All-in-one": Sensor and actuator are located in the one device.
- Function does not need programming since sensor and actuator have been pre-configured.
- Usual manner of wiring of the 230 V line.

Advantages of the central installation

- Inexpensive channel price due to multiple actuators.
- Easy installation of the sensor technology since only the bus line is installed in the flush-mounted box.