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# Doc Specs: Sample

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Our engineering team plans to roll out the Carambola 3000 Weather Station in May. This doc spec describes a manual entitled *Installing the Carambola 3000 Weather Station*.

## Target Audience

We are aiming the 3000 at the high-end amateur market. This market is split as follows:

- About 80% of this market consists of hobbyists who are serious enough to spend about \$200 on a high-quality weather station.
- About 20% of the audience consist of community organizations such as schools that need a weather station but do not have the budget for a professional model.

The hobbyists know what they are doing mechanically; most of them will look at the schematic diagram and skip the text. The community organizations will require the detailed text.

The reader must also install and configure the software. We assume that all readers are comfortable installing software from a CD onto Microsoft Windows; however, we do not assume any knowledge of computers beyond that. So, the guide must patiently explain configuration.

## Nongoals

Our target audience already understands meteorological concepts, so the book will make no attempt to explain weather terms or weather forecasting.

## What Readers Will Know after Reading the Manual

After reading this manual, readers will know how to do the following:

- Install the tangible parts of the weather station.
- Install and configure the accompanying software.
- Troubleshoot a malfunctioning weather station.

## Length

The book will consume approximately 40 pages, including the front and back matter.

## Tools and Output Media

We will write the book with Adobe FrameMaker 7.1 and produce diagrams with Microsoft Visio Professional 2000. After finishing, we will generate a PDF, which we will FTP to our



print vendor. Our print vendor will produce an initial run of 3,000 copies on a  $6.5 \times 9$  trim with a wire-o binding. We will kit the manuals with the product on the assembly floor.

## Outline

The following is the preliminary outline (subject to change):

- Front matter (title page, copyright page, table of contents, preface)
- Chapter 1: Overview
  - Capabilities
  - List of Parts
  - Schematic Diagram
- Chapter 2: The Weather Station
  - Control Box and Power
  - Anemometer Unit
  - Hygrometer/Termometer/Barometer Unit
  - Rain Gauge
- Chapter 3: Software
  - Installation
  - Basic Configuration
  - Connecting to the Internet
- Appendix A: Troubleshooting
- Back matter (index, tear-out warranty card)

## Reviewers

The following people have been graciously volunteered to review the manual:

- Eswar will review Chapter 1 and 2.
- Andy will review Chapter 3 and Appendix A.
- Martina will perform a literary edit.

## Outstanding Issues

We cannot write Chapter 3 until the software has been developed. Given the software development schedule, we will have limited time to write Chapter 3.

Marketing must finalize the new tear-out warranty card and terms prior to October 15.

