DMX REFERENCE

Beam 230

Polarlights

Manufacturer	Polarlights
GDTF file	Polarlights_Beam_230_75705.gdtf
GDTF revision	version3 · 2024-10-11
Generated	2026-11-24

Contents

1 About this manual 2
2 Quick reference 2
3 Safety instructions 3
4 Product description 4
5 Installation 4
6 Connections 5
7 Operation 5
8 Functions at a glance 6
9 DMX channels 7
Mode 1 8
10 Technical specifications 10
11 Maintenance and cleaning 11
12 Troubleshooting 11
13 Disposal 12

1 About this manual

This document describes the Beam 230 by Polarlights. It was compiled from the GDTF file Polarlights_Beam_230_75705.gdtf from the GDTF-Share library.

File revision: “version3”.

The DMX modes, the channel functions and the technical data are given as the GDTF file states them. Installation, operation from the device's control panel, service and safety instructions are described in the manufacturer's original user manual, which takes precedence over this document.

This document was not issued or endorsed by Polarlights; product names and trademarks belong to their owners.

Safety notices are marked with signal words according to the severity of the hazard: DANGER – an imminent hazard that will result in death or serious injury; WARNING – a potential hazard that could result in death or serious injury; CAUTION – a potential hazard that could result in minor injury or property damage; NOTE – additional information for correct and safe use.

> **NOTE** This product is designed for stage and effect lighting. It is not suitable for household room illumination.

2 Quick reference

Parameter	Value
Power consumption	850 W

DMX modes

Mode	Channels	Units in one universe	First start addresses
Mode 1	17	30	1, 18, 35, 52, ...

No light? Check these channels

- Mode 1: CH 7 Strobe at 104–107, 208–212, 252–254 “Open” or 255; CH 8 Dimmer above 1


Read the manual before use


Risk of electric shock


Do not stare into the light


Indoor use only

3 Safety instructions


Read the manual before use


Risk of electric shock


Do not stare into the light


Indoor use only

⚠ WARNING

- This device is intended for professional use. Installation, connection, setup and maintenance must be carried out only by suitably qualified persons who have read this manual.
- Use the device only for its intended purpose and as described in this manual.
- Do not open the housing and do not modify or tamper with the device. Refer all repairs to an authorized service center.
- Do not use the device if its housing, power or data cable, or a connector is damaged, if the device has been dropped, or if liquid or a foreign object has entered it. In such a case, have it checked by a service center.
- Disconnect the device from the power supply before cleaning, maintenance or any work on the connections.
- After moving the device from a cold to a warm environment, let it reach room temperature before switching it on to prevent condensation inside.
- The device is not a toy; keep it out of the reach of children.

⚠ WARNING

- Connect the device only to a properly installed mains outlet with a protective earth (ground) contact. The outlet or other means of disconnection must remain easily accessible.
- Power supply: 100–240 V, 50/60 Hz. Before connecting, make sure that the mains voltage matches this value and the value on the rating plate of the device.
- Do not connect the device to a dimmer or to a dimmed circuit.
- Use only the original power cable or a cable with identical ratings. Protect the cable from damage, do not run it over sharp edges, and never unplug it by pulling on the cable.
- When connecting several devices to one circuit, do not exceed its permitted load.
- Do not touch the device with wet hands.

⚠ WARNING

- This device is designed for indoor use only. Protect it from rain, splashing water, moisture and dust, and do not place containers with liquids on it.
- Do not operate the device in high humidity, near water, or where condensation can form on it.

⚠ CAUTION

- This device emits intense light. Do not look directly into the light source or the beam at close range; doing so may damage your eyes.
- Do not aim the beam at the eyes of people or animals at close range, and do not view the light source through optical instruments (binoculars, camera lenses).
- Do not aim the beam at flammable or heat-sensitive materials at close range.

⚠ CAUTION

- Strobe and fast flashing light effects can trigger epileptic seizures in susceptible people (photosensitive epilepsy) and can cause nausea or disorientation.
- Inform the audience and performers in advance that strobe effects will be used, for example with a notice at the entrance, and do not use them longer than necessary.

⚠ WARNING

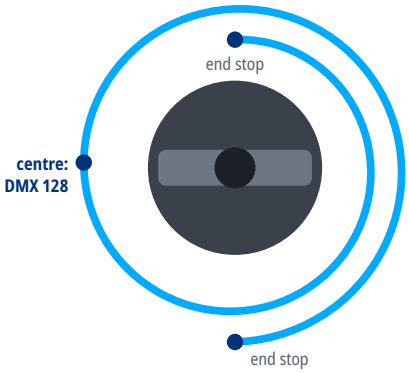
- The moving parts of the device (for example the head or arms) can move quickly and unexpectedly at any time – after power-on, during a reset, or on a command from the controller.
- Keep yourself and any objects out of the range of movement. While the device is switched on, do not touch the moving parts, move them by hand, or obstruct their movement; this can cause injury (pinching) and damage the drive.
- Do not carry the device by its moving parts. If the device has a transport lock, engage it before transport and release it before switching on.

4 Product description

Range of movement

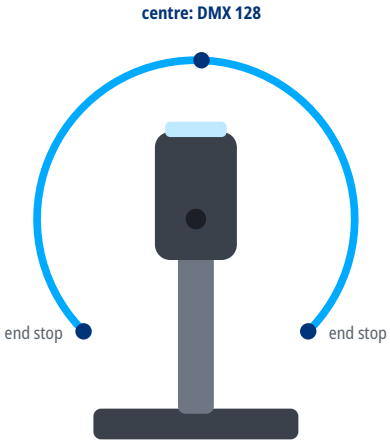
Pan 540°

top view



Tilt 270°

side view



5 Installation

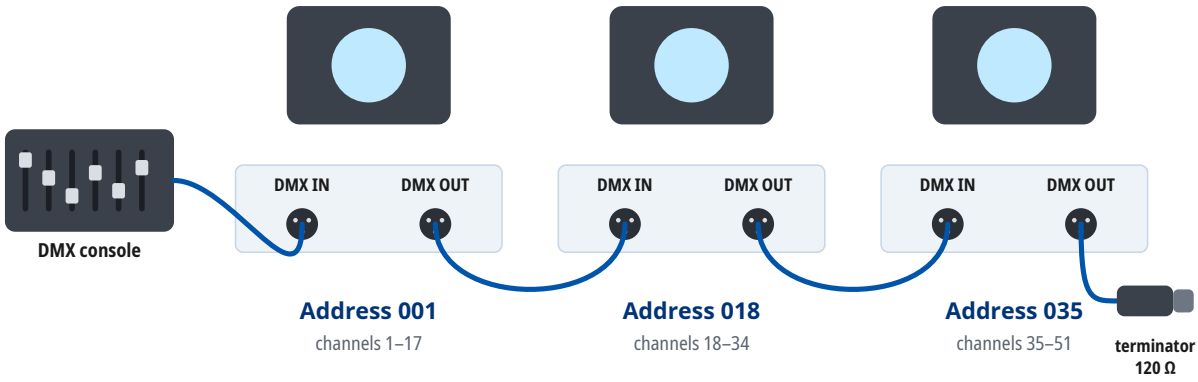
⚠ WARNING

- Rigging must be carried out only by qualified persons in accordance with applicable regulations, in particular those for work at height.
- The supporting structure and fixings must safely carry the weight of all suspended devices; verify their load capacity in advance.
- Use suitable mounting hardware (for example truss clamps) and tighten all screw connections properly.
- Always secure the suspended device against falling with a safety cable of adequate load capacity, routed through a fixed point of the device and around the supporting structure.
- During installation and removal, keep people out of the area below the work position.
- Regularly inspect the fixings and the safety cable for damage, corrosion and loosening.

6 Connections

- Use shielded cable designed for DMX512 with an impedance of 110 Ω. Ordinary microphone cable is not suitable for DMX, especially over longer distances.
- Connect the devices in a daisy chain: connect the DMX OUT of one device to the DMX IN of the next. Do not split the line with Y-cables or wire it in a star; the line may be split only with a DMX splitter.
- Connect the shield to pin 1 only. Do not connect the shield (ground) to the metal shell of the connector; this can cause short circuits or erratic behavior.
- XLR pin assignment: pin 1 – shield (ground), pin 2 – Data- (Data Complement), pin 3 – Data+ (Data True). On 5-pin connectors, pins 4 and 5 are not connected; a 5-pin connector can be connected to a 3-pin one with a cable adapter.
- Terminate the end of the line (for impedance matching): plug an XLR connector with a 120 Ω, ¼ W resistor between pins 2 and 3 into the DMX OUT of the last device. This reduces the risk of erratic behavior.
- Connect no more than 32 devices to one DMX line. For more devices or longer runs, use a DMX splitter or booster.

DMX line



Mode 1: every unit occupies 17 channels from its address. At most 32 units on one line; for more units or longer runs use a DMX splitter. A 120 Ω terminator closes the last DMX OUT.

7 Operation

Setting the DMX address

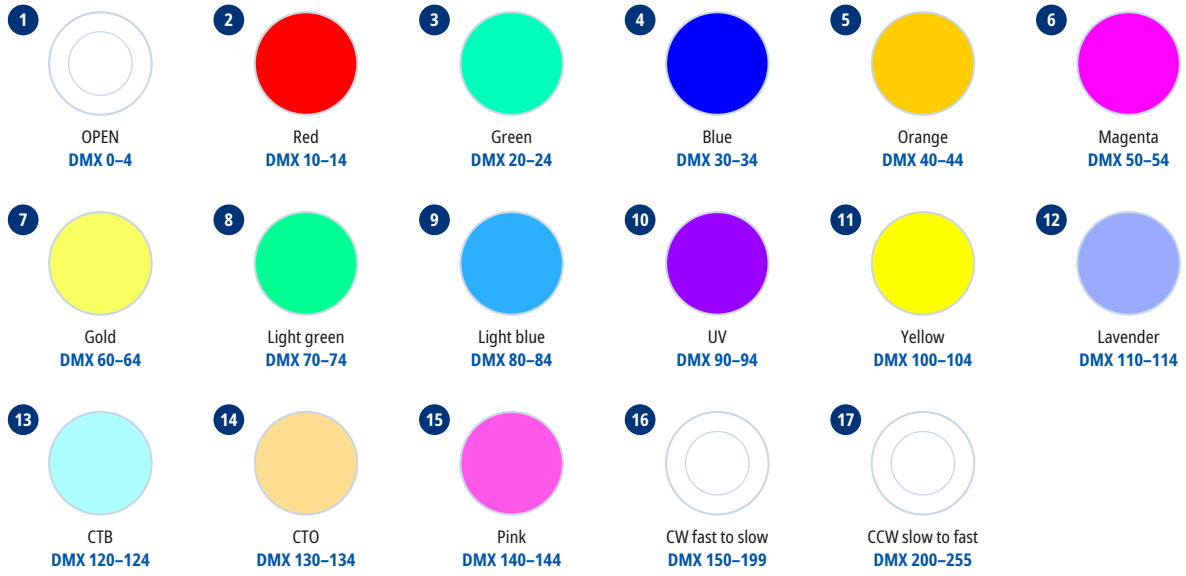
- The device occupies as many consecutive channels in the DMX universe as the selected DMX mode uses, starting at the set start address.
- Number of channels occupied in the DMX mode “Mode 1”: 17.
- Choose start addresses so that the channels of individual devices do not overlap and the last occupied channel does not exceed 512. Devices with the same start address and mode respond identically.
- For several devices in a row in the DMX mode “Mode 1”, you can use, for example, the start addresses 1, 18, 35, 52.
- The DMX mode set on the device must match the fixture profile (personality) used in the controller.

8 Functions at a glance

Functions in each DMX mode

	Mode 1 17 channels
Pan / Tilt	1, 2
Dimmer	7, 8
Shutter / strobe	7
Color wheel	9
Gobo wheel	10, 11
Gobo rotation	12
Prism	14, 15
Frost	16
Focus	13
Effects / macros	6

Color wheel



Gobo wheel 1

1 Open	9 Wheel Slot 8	17 Wheel Slot 16
2 Wheel Slot 1	10 Wheel Slot 9	18 Open (1)
3 Wheel Slot 2	11 Wheel Slot 10	19 Fast to Slow
4 Wheel Slot 3	12 Wheel Slot 11	20 Stop
5 Wheel Slot 4	13 Wheel Slot 12	21 Slow to Fast
6 Wheel Slot 5	14 Wheel Slot 13	22 Shake
7 Wheel Slot 6	15 Wheel Slot 14	
8 Wheel Slot 7	16 Wheel Slot 15	

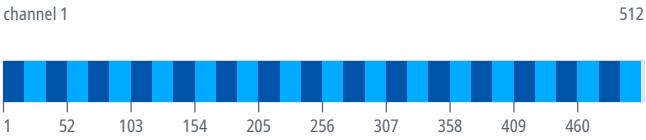
Gobo wheel 2

1 Open	5 Wheel Slot 4	9 CCW Fast to Slow
2 Wheel Slot 1	6 Wheel Slot 5	10 CW Slow to Fast
3 Wheel Slot 2	7 Wheel Slot 6	11 Shake
4 Wheel Slot 3	8 Wheel Slot 7	

9 DMX channels

Units in one DMX universe

Mode 1
17 channels



up to 30 units
last address 494

Start addresses of 20 units in the mode “Mode 1”

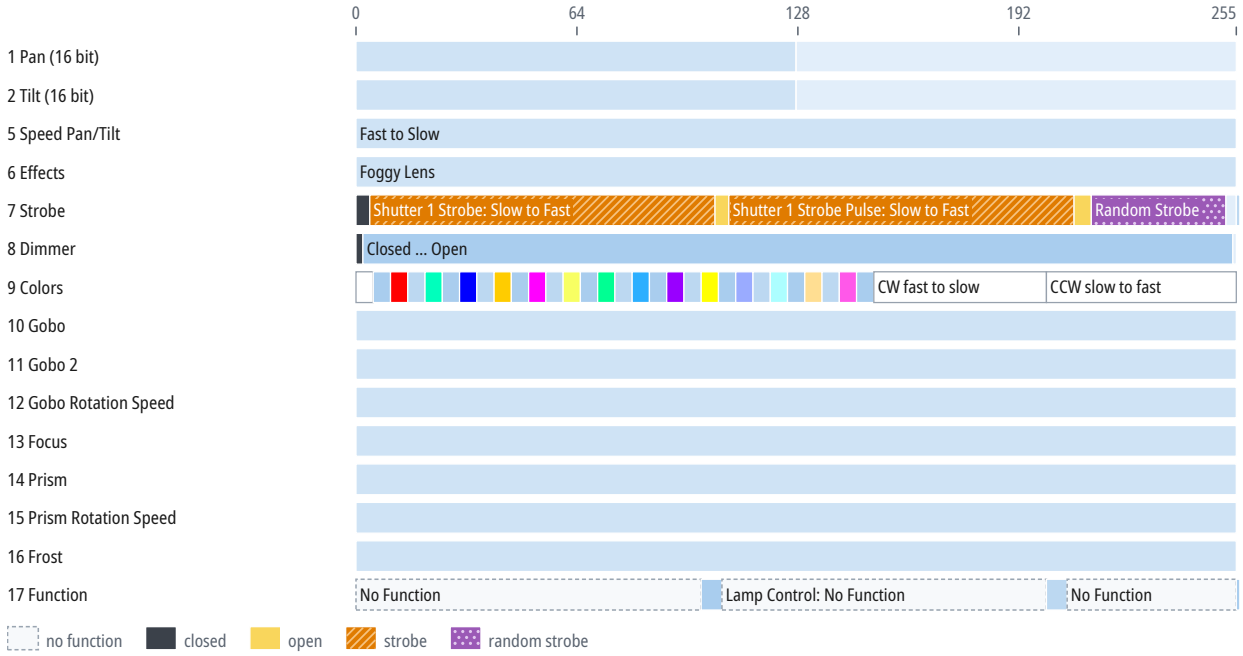
Unit	Start address	Unit	Start address	Unit	Start address	Unit	Start address
1	1	6	86	11	171	16	256
2	18	7	103	12	188	17	273
3	35	8	120	13	205	18	290
4	52	9	137	14	222	19	307
5	69	10	154	15	239	20	324

Mode 1

16-bit parameters use two channels, coarse and fine: value = 256 × coarse value + fine value.

If the device receives DMX in this mode but gives no light, check these channels: CH 7 Strobe at 104–107, 208–212, 252–254 “Open” or 255; CH 8 Dimmer above 1. The GDTF file gives these values for a console's Highlight function: CH 8 Dimmer 255.

Channel functions at a glance



CH	Function	DMX	Description
1	Pan	0–127	Pan 1
		128	Home
		128–255	Pan 1
2	Tilt	0–127	Tilt 1
		128	Home
		128–255	Tilt 1
3	Pan Fine	0–255	Fine adjustment of CH 1
4	Tilt Fine	0–255	Fine adjustment of CH 2
5	Speed Pan/Tilt	0–255	Fast to Slow
6	Effects		Foggy Lens
		0–255	Foggy Lens
7	Strobe	0–3	Closed
		4–103	Shutter 1 Strobe: Slow to Fast
		104–107	Open
		108–207	Shutter 1 Strobe Pulse: Slow to Fast
		208–212	Open (1): Open
		213–251	Random Strobe
		252–254	Open (2): Open
		255	Open (2)

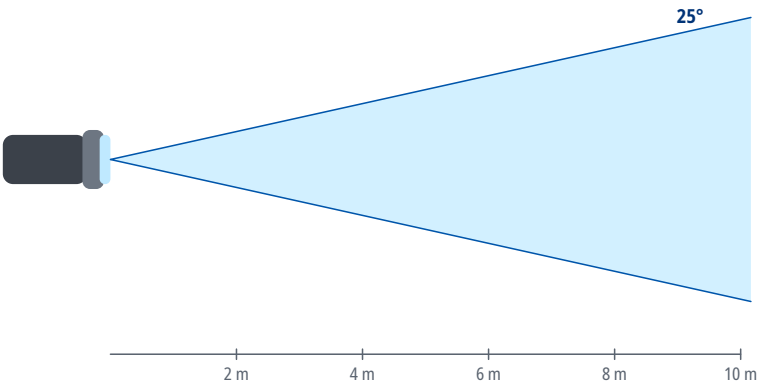
CH	Function	DMX	Description
8	Dimmer	0–1	Closed
		2–253	Closed ... Open
		254–255	Open
9	Colors	0–4	OPEN
		5–9	OPEN ... Red
		10–14	Red
		15–19	Red ... Green
		20–24	Green
		25–29	Green ... Blue
		30–34	Blue
		35–39	Blue ... Orange
		40–44	Orange
		45–49	Orange ... Magenta
		50–54	Magenta
		55–59	Magenta ... Gold
		60–64	Gold
		65–69	Gold ... Light green
		70–74	Light green
		75–79	Light green ... Light blue
		80–84	Light blue
		85–89	Light blue ... UV
		90–94	UV
		95–99	UV ... Yellow
		100–104	Yellow
		105–109	Yellow ... Lavender
		110–114	Lavender
		115–119	Lavender ... CTB
		120–124	CTB
		125–129	CTB ... CTO
		130–134	CTO
		135–139	CTO ... Pink
		140–144	Pink
		145–149	Pink ... CW fast to slow
		150–199	CW fast to slow
		200–255	CCW slow to fast
10	Gobo	0–255	
11	Gobo 2	0–255	
12	Gobo Rotation Speed	0–255	
13	Focus	0–255	
14	Prism	0–255	
15	Prism Rotation Speed	0–255	
16	Frost	0–255	

CH	Function	DMX	Description
17	Function	0–99	No Function
		100–105	Lamp Off
		106–199	Lamp Control: No Function
		200–205	Lamp On
		206–254	No Function
		255	Reset

10 Technical specifications

Parameter	Value
Light	
Light source	LED
LED power	700 W
Luminous flux	1,000 lm
Color temperature	6,000 K
Color rendering index (CRI)	85
Optics	
Beam angle	25°
Movement	
Pan	540°
Tilt	270°
Control	
DMX connection	5-pin XLR IN/OUT, 3-pin XLR IN/OUT
RJ45 connectors	RJ45 IN
Electrical	
Power supply	100–240 V, 50/60 Hz
Power consumption	850 W
Power connectors	powerCON TRUE1 IN/OUT
Operating environment	
Operating temperature	0 to 40 °C

Spot diameter



Distance	Ø 25°
2 m	0.89 m
4 m	1.8 m
6 m	2.7 m
8 m	3.5 m
10 m	4.4 m
15 m	6.7 m

Spot diameter square to the beam axis, calculated from the beam angle.

11 Maintenance and cleaning

- Before cleaning and maintenance, switch the device off, disconnect it from the power supply and let it cool down.
- Clean the housing with a soft, dry or slightly damp cloth. Do not use solvents, abrasive cleaners or pressure washers, and make sure no liquid gets into the device.
- Clean optical parts (lenses, front glass), if the device has any, with a soft lint-free cloth and a cleaner intended for optics or glass.
- Regularly inspect the housing, cables, connectors and fixings. Have damaged parts replaced by a service center.
- How often to clean depends on the environment; dust, smoke and fog make the device dirty much faster.

12 Troubleshooting

Problem	Remedy
The device does not switch on	Check the supply voltage, the cables and the fuse, if the device has one.
The device does not respond to DMX	Check the start address, the selected DMX mode and whether it matches the profile in the controller, the cable connection to DMX IN, and the controller output (universe).
The device behaves erratically or flickers	Check the terminator at the end of the line, the condition and wiring of the cables (shield on pin 1 only), the number of devices on the line (32 at most), and that the line is not split without a splitter.
Only some devices on the line respond	Check the cable and connectors between the last working and the first non-working device, and make sure all devices on the line are switched on.
Devices respond to the wrong channels or affect each other	Check that the addresses do not overlap and that the DMX mode on the devices matches the patch in the controller.
The device or the connected load does not light up although it receives DMX	Check the values of the dimmer, shutter and strobe channels against the DMX channel table. For the DMX modes for which the sources state it, the chapter DMX channels gives under the mode's heading which channels must be open.
Movement is reversed	Check whether Pan/Tilt inversion is enabled in the device menu or in the controller.
Moving parts do not reach the correct position after power-on or transport	Switch the device off and on again to reset the position, and make sure the transport lock, if any, is released. If this does not help, contact a service center.
Movement is jerky	Check the value of the Pan/Tilt speed channel, if the device has one, and the stability of the DMX signal.

13 Disposal

The crossed-out wheeled bin symbol on the product, in the manual or on the packaging means that the product must not be disposed of with unsorted household waste at the end of its life.

Take the end-of-life equipment to a collection point, for example a municipal collection site or a retailer. Proper disposal enables materials to be recycled and helps prevent possible negative effects on the environment and human health.

Follow the regulations applicable in your country; in the Czech Republic, take-back is governed by Act No. 542/2020 Coll., on End-of-Life Products.

Recycle the packaging materials according to their type.