

Datasheet



Miniature Polarized Retroreflective Laser Sensors

- Visible Class 1 laser
- Narrow effective beam provides small-object detection and precise position control
- Crosstalk rejection algorithm protects against optical disturbance from adjacent sensors
- Excellent optical performance throughout sensing range, even close up
- 10 to 30 V dc operation, with complementary (SPDT) NPN or PNP outputs, depending on model
- Bright LED operating status indicators are visible from 360°
- Compact, rugged sealed housing, protected circuitry
- Mounting versatility – popular 18 mm threaded barrel or side-mount
- Choose 2 m (6.5 ft) or 9 m (30 ft) cable or one of four QD options

Excellent for applications where high sensing power and small beam size are important. Uses a special filter to polarize the emitted light, filtering out unwanted reflections from shiny objects.



Models	Sensing Range	Spot Size at Focus	Cable	Output
QS18VN6LLP	650 nm Visible Red Class 1 Laser: 0.1 to 10 m (0.33 ft to 33 ft)	Approximately 4 mm at 10 m (0.16 in at 33 ft)	4-wire, 2 m (6.5 ft) integral cable	NPN
QS18VP6LLP				PNP

Standard 2 m (6.5 ft) cable models are listed. To order a 9 m (30 ft) cable model, add the suffix "W/30" to the model number (e.g., QS18VN6LLP W/30).

To order QD models with a 4-pin integral Euro-style QD, add suffix "Q8" (e.g., QS18VN6LLPQ8); to order a 4-pin Euro-style 150 mm (6 in.) pigtail QD, add suffix "Q5" (e.g., QS18VN6LLPQ5); to order a 4-pin integral Pico-style QD, add suffix "Q7" (e.g., QS18VN6LLPQ7); to order a 4-pin Pico-style 150 mm (6 in.) pigtail QD, add suffix "Q" (e.g., QS18VN6LLPQ). Models with a QD connector requires a mating cable.



WARNING: Not To Be Used for Personnel Protection

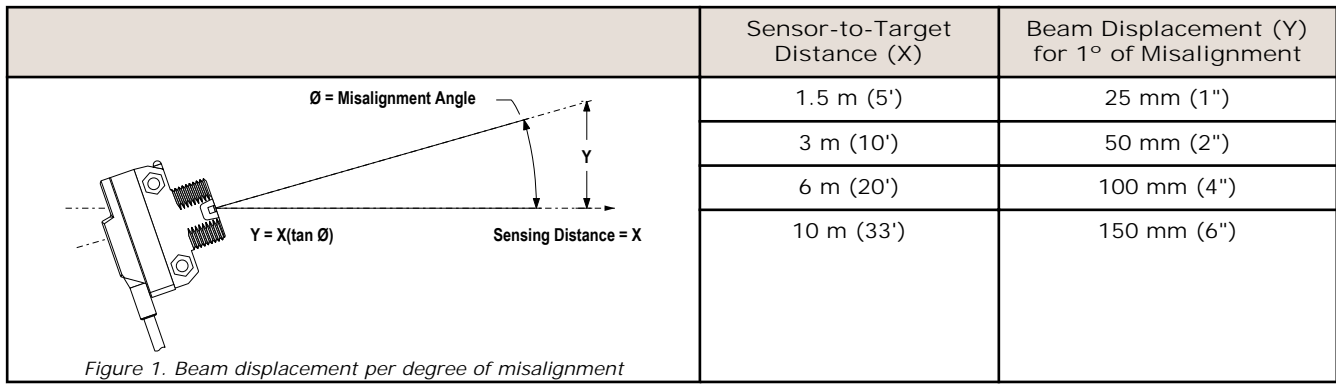
Never use this device as a sensing device for personnel protection. Doing so could lead to serious injury or death. This device does not include the self-checking redundant circuitry necessary to allow its use in personnel safety applications. A sensor failure or malfunction can cause either an energized or de-energized sensor output condition.

Installation Notes

Conventional retroreflective photoelectric sensors are extremely easy to align. Beam angles are wide, and retro targets are forgiving to the light beam's angle of incidence. The beam of this laser sensor is very narrow, compared with the beam of most retro sensors. As the figure indicates, the effect of angular misalignment can be dramatic. Alignment is critical because the beam may miss the retroreflective target unless the target is large.

For example, with one BRT-51X51BM mounted at a distance of 6 m (20 ft) from the sensor, one degree of angular misalignment will cause the center of the laser beam to miss the center of the target by 100 mm (4 inches).





Alignment Tip

When using a small retroreflective target at medium or long range, it is often useful to temporarily attach (or suspend) a strip of retroreflective tape (e.g., BRT-THG-2) along a line that intersects the actual target. The visible red laser beam is easily seen in normal room lighting on such tape. Sight along the beam toward the target (from behind the sensor). Move the sensor to sweep the laser beam back and forth across the retro tape strip. Use the tape strip to guide the beam onto the target.

Consider using sensor mounting bracket model SMB18SF or SMB3018SC. A swivel bracket can simplify multiple-axis alignment. Alignment is complete when the visible image is centered on the retro target. The perpendicularity of the laser beam to the face of the retro target is forgiving, just as it is with a conventional retroreflective sensor.

Effective Beam Size

Unlike conventional retroreflective sensors, the retroreflective laser has the ability to sense relatively small profiles. The table indicates the diameter of the smallest opaque rod which will reliably break the laser beam at several sensor-to-object distances. These minimum object sizes were measured with the sensor aligned to a BRT-51X51BM reflector and with the sensor set for an excess gain of about 10X. Flooding effects are possible when the gain is much higher. This means that sensor gain may have to be reduced in some situations in order to reliably detect these minimum object sizes.

Table 1: Minimum object detection size vs distance from sensor

Distance from Sensor to Object	Minimum Object Detection Size
0.3 m (1 ft)	2.5 mm (0.10 in)
1.5 m (5 ft)	5.0 mm (0.20 in)
3 m (10 ft)	6.5 mm (0.26 in)
6 m (20 ft)	10 mm (0.40 in)
10 m (33 ft)	13 mm (0.52 in)



CAUTION: Never stare directly into the sensor lens. Laser light can damage your eyes. Avoid placing any mirror-like object in the beam. Never use a mirror as a retroreflective target.

Note that the shape of the beam is elliptical. The minimum object sizes listed assume passage of the rod across the major diameter of the ellipse (worst case). It may be possible to detect objects smaller than the sizes listed if the direction in which the objects pass through the beam can be controlled.

Retroreflector Recommendations

- BRT-51X51BM recommended for beam-block applications up to 10 m range.
- BRT-TVHG-2X2 recommended for applications up to 1.5 m range. (This retroreflector is an adhesive-backed sealed tape with micro-prism geometry.)

Both reflectors are included with the sensor. See *Accessories* for information about ordering replacements or other reflector options.



NOTE: When sensing objects with specular reflections, use the sensor's side-mounting option to optimize sensing performance.