

Siemens 6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0

Expansion Rack Interface Module

Product scope

- Receives the S7-300 expansion-bus connection in an extension rack.
- Uses an external 24 V DC source to support the expansion-side interface electronics.
- Passes communication and K-bus traffic to modules installed in the connected rack.

Manufacturer source

Exact-model technical record

Verified model-specific overview, function, operating principle, applications and technical data.

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Siemens 6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0

Expansion Rack Interface Module

Product overview

Siemens 6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0 is the IM 361 receiving interface for an S7-300 expansion rack. It connects the rack to an IM 360 central-rack interface and supplies the expansion backplane from 24 V DC.

6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0 terminates the S7-300 rack-connection cable on the expansion side. It transfers the communication bus and K-bus while deriving internal rack power from the connected 24 V DC supply.

Each expansion rack in the supported chain uses an IM 361 so additional I/O and function modules communicate with the CPU in the central rack. The interface can consume up to 500 mA from the external supply and dissipates about 5 W.

Replacement requires the same expansion-rack position, supply polarity, cable direction and hardware-configuration address. The 80 mm module width and downstream rack loading must be included in the mechanical and electrical check.

Technical specifications

External supply	24 V DC
Maximum supply current	500 mA
Power loss	Approximately 5 W
Supported buses	Communication bus and K-bus
Maximum interfaces in expansion chain	3
Module width	80 mm
Height	125 mm
Depth	120 mm
Net weight	Approximately 0.407 kg
Mounting location	S7-300 expansion rack
Upstream interface	IM 360 central-rack module
Country of origin	Germany

6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0 function and operating principle

Ordered configuration

This order number is the expansion-side IM 361 execution for the IM 360/361 rack link.

System role

It couples remote rack modules into the same logical S7-300 controller configuration.

Selection and installation

The 24 V feed, cable direction and configured rack address require individual verification at installation.

Functional path

- Receives the S7-300 expansion-bus connection in an extension rack.
- Uses an external 24 V DC source to support the expansion-side interface electronics.
- Passes communication and K-bus traffic to modules installed in the connected rack.

Application scenarios

- Expansion cabinets use the receiver to add I/O capacity beyond the space available in the central rack.
- Multi-rack machines retain one CPU project while distributing modules between mechanically separate rack sections.
- Service teams can replace a failed receiving interface without changing the functional assignment of the connected I/O.

6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0 engineering checks

Communication

- One rack-interface cable arrives from the central-rack IM 360 or preceding expansion stage.
- The communication bus and K-bus continue through the defined S7-300 expansion topology.
- Connectors must be fully seated before the 24 V supply is restored.

Control

- The CPU supervises the configured expansion rack through normal S7-300 hardware diagnostics.
- Loss of the 24 V interface supply removes the connected rack from the controller view.
- Cable order and rack address narrow fault isolation when multiple expansions are present.

Protection

- Correct polarity is required on the 24 V DC supply terminals.
- Power isolation prevents connector damage while changing the rack-interface cable.
- Cabinet protection must account for the module's IP20 industrial construction.

Critical technical note

Apply 24 V DC with correct polarity to 6ES7361-3CA01-0AA0 and isolate power before disturbing either rack-interface cable.

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