

Siemens 6ES5312-5CA11

Expansion Unit Interface Module

Product scope

- Provides the expansion-side IM 312-5 interface with a fixed 0.5 m cable.
- Carries bus communication and operating power to supported compact S5 racks.
- Pairs with the IM 300-5 interface used in the central expansion path.

Manufacturer source

Exact-model technical record

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

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Siemens 6ES5312-5CA11

Expansion Unit Interface Module

Product overview

Siemens 6ES5312-5CA11 is the IM 312-5 expansion-unit interface with a fixed 0.5 m cable. It connects an S5 EU 184U or EU 187U rack without its own power supply to the matching IM 300-5 central interface.

6ES5312-5CA11 is the short-cable IM 312-5 execution installed in an S5 expansion unit. Its captive 0.5 m link connects the rack to an IM 300-5 interface in the central controller or preceding supported unit.

The interface carries both bus signals and operating power to a compact expansion rack that has no separate power supply. Siemens limits current through each IM 300-5 connection to 5 A and permits up to three documented expansion units per connection.

Rack type, absence of a local supply, cable reach and total 5 V loading must be confirmed before replacement. The similar 6ES5312-5CA21 uses a different fixed-cable length and should not be substituted without checking cabinet spacing.

Technical specifications

Interface designation	IM 312-5
Installation side	Expansion unit
Fixed cable length	0.5 m
Configuration type	Centralized expansion
Compatible expansion units	EU 184U and EU 187U
Expansion power arrangement	Rack without local power supply
Matching central interface	IM 300-5
Maximum units per IM 300-5 connection	3
Maximum current per IM 300-5 connection	5 A
Bus and power path	Combined through interface connection

6ES5312-5CA11 function and operating principle

Ordered configuration

The CA11 suffix denotes the short fixed-cable version of the IM 312-5.

System role

It lets a supported expansion unit operate without a separate internal power supply.

Selection and installation

Available cable reach and cumulative rack current must be verified before the connection is restored.

Functional path

- Provides the expansion-side IM 312-5 interface with a fixed 0.5 m cable.
- Carries bus communication and operating power to supported compact S5 racks.
- Pairs with the IM 300-5 interface used in the central expansion path.

Application scenarios

- EU 184U and EU 187U racks can be placed directly above or near the central controller in compact cabinets.
- Centralized S5 layouts use the fixed interface cable where distributed communication is unnecessary.
- Maintenance replacements preserve a powered expansion path without adding a new rack supply.

6ES5312-5CA11 engineering checks

Interoperability

- The expansion unit connects to a matching IM 300-5 on the central side.
- Bus signals and rack operating power share the documented interface path.
- Up to three supported expansion units may use one IM 300-5 connection arrangement.

Performance & Efficiency

- The fixed 0.5 m cable defines the usable reach between the connected S5 racks.
- The combined interface path carries bus signals and operating power to an expansion rack without its own supply.
- Total loading must remain within the upstream 5 A connection limit.

Safety

- Each IM 300-5 connection is limited to 5 A for the attached expansion loads.
- Rack power must be isolated before inserting or removing the fixed interface connector.
- Load calculations prevent overheating or voltage drop in the combined bus-and-power path.

Critical technical note

Calculate expansion-rack load before fitting Siemens 6ES5312-5CA11; the upstream IM 300-5 connection must remain within its 5 A limit.

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