

Model 8920

GeoNet Wireless Cellular Loggers

Instruction Manual



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1. INTRODUCTION

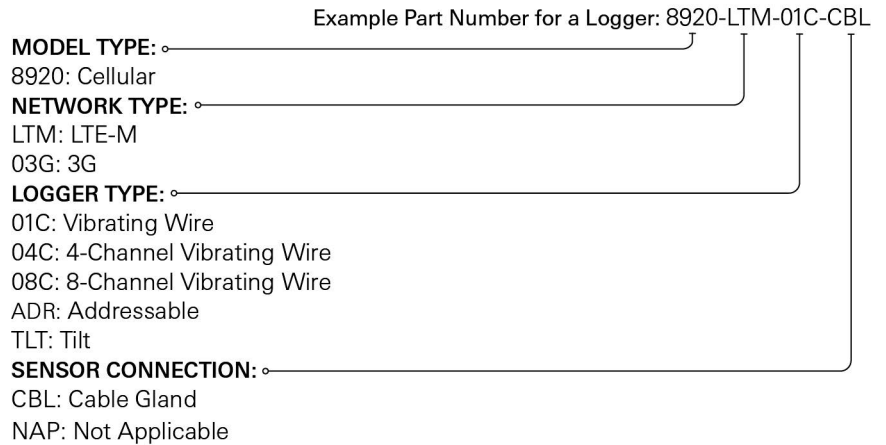
GEOKON Model 8920 Series Loggers offer a high-value cellular data collection option for all GEOKON Vibrating Wire (VW) instruments and digital sensor (MEMS IPI and VW) strings. Each logger is ready to be installed from the factory and acquiring data in minutes, without needing to purchase SIM cards or contact a cellular provider.

Sensor data is collected and transferred via the cellular network to a secure cloud-based storage platform where it can be accessed through the GEOKON openAPI. Industry leading data visualization software, such as Vista Data Vision, or the free GEOKON Agent program can be used with the openAPI for data viewing and reporting. Commissioning, billing and configuration are accomplished via the easy to use GEOKON API Portal. The portal allows users to activate loggers, change settings, configure sensor channels, and view current logger status. The API Portal can be found at api.geokon.com and the GEOKON Agent program can be downloaded at www.geokon.com/software.

FEATURES:

- Automated cellular data connection to servers
- Automated calculation of engineering units via Web API integration with the GEOKON database with VDV or third-party software
- USB connector for firmware updates, diagnostics, and more

1.1 MODEL NUMBERS



1.2 MODEL LIST

8920-LTM-01C-CBL	Single-Channel Logger, LTE-M, Cable Gland
8920-LTM-04C-CBL	Four-Channel Logger, LTE-M, Cable Gland
8920-LTM-08C-CBL	Eight-Channel Logger, LTE-M, Cable Gland
8920-LTM-ADR-CBL	Addressable Logger, LTE-M, Cable Gland
8920-LTM-TLT-NAP	Tilt Logger, LTE-M, Not Applicable
8920-03G-01C-CBL	Single-Channel Logger, 3G, Cable Gland
8920-03G-04C-CBL	Four-Channel Logger, 3G, Cable Gland
8920-03G-08C-CBL	Eight-Channel Logger, 3G, Cable Gland
8920-03G-ADR-CBL	Addressable Logger, 3G, Cable Gland
8920-03G-TLT-NAP	Tilt Logger, 3G, Not Applicable

TABLE 1: GeoNet 8920 Series Model List

2. COMPONENTS

2.1 VIBRATING WIRE LOGGERS

Model 8920 Cellular Loggers will read up to eight GEOKON VW gauges, two GEOKON VW load cells, or a combination thereof, via cables with stripped conductor wires. (Capacity varies by model.)

2.1.1 SINGLE-CHANNEL LOGGER (8920-XX-01C-CBL)



FIGURE 1: Single-Channel Logger (8920-XX-01C-CBL)

2.1.2 FOUR-CHANNEL LOGGER (8920-XX-04C-CBL)



FIGURE 2: Four-Channel Logger (8920-XX-04C-CBL)

A four-channel logger can be configured as follows:

Model	Maximum Number of Gauges	Maximum Number of Load Cells
8920-XX-04C-CBL	Four	One 3-gauge or one 4-gauge load cell

TABLE 2: Four-Channel Logger Gauge/Load Limits

2.1.3 EIGHT-CHANNEL LOGGER (8920-XX-08C-CBL)



FIGURE 3: Eight-Channel Logger (8920-XX-08C-CBL)

An eight-channel logger can be configured as follows:

Model	Maximum Number of Gauges	Maximum Number of Load Cells
8920-XX-08C-CBL	Eight	One 3-gauge and one 4-gauge load cell Two 3-gauge or two 4-gauge load cells One 6-gauge load cell

TABLE 3: Eight-Channel Logger Gauge/Load Limits

2.2 ADDRESSABLE LOGGER (8920-XX-ADR-CBL)

The addressable logger is compatible with Model 6180 Vertical In-Place Inclinometer, Model 3810 Addressable Thermistor Strings, and Model 8960 Vibrating Wire interface.



FIGURE 4: Addressable Logger (8920-XX-ADR-CBL)

2.3 TILT LOGGER (8920-XX-TLT-NAP)

Tiltmeters are designed for permanent long-term monitoring of changes in tilt of structures such as dams, embankments, foundation walls, retaining walls, buildings, and the like.

GEOKON biaxial tiltmeter loggers contain an integrated tiltmeter sensor, and communicate with the gateway in the same manner as other loggers.

The two axes of the tiltmeter have a calibrated range of $\pm 30^\circ$, based on a starting position of 0° (antenna pointing up).



FIGURE 5: Tilt Logger (8920-XX-TLT-NAP)

2.4 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Model 8920 loggers are protected from environmental contaminants by a rugged IP66 die cast aluminum enclosure. An earth ground terminal is provided on the exterior of the enclosure to protect against lightning and other large, transient voltages.

2.5 ANTENNA

Loggers are shipped with an omni-directional antenna. For other antenna options, please contact GEOKON technical support.

3. INSTALLATION

GEOKON recommends a mounting height of at least two meters. Lower than two meters may compromise performance; as a rule, higher is usually better.

Install the logger using the following steps:

1. Mount the logger. The attached mounting bracket is designed to be used with U-bolts, hose clamps, screws, etc. Mount all devices vertically, with the antenna pointing up.
2. Attach the antenna.
3. Attach a ground wire to the logger. See Section 3.2.
4. Connect the power supply (solar or mains adapter). See Appendix C.
5. Connect the sensors to the logger. Be sure to record which sensor serial number is connected to which channel. See Section 3.3.
6. Turn on the power by moving the switch to the "Battery" position.
7. Check the logger status. See Section 3.4.
8. Insert desiccant into the logger.
9. Install the lid securely.

3.1 LOGGER BATTERY SWITCH

Power Source	Geographic Zone	
	Sub Polar	Temperate
Mains or solar with external battery	EXT BATTERY	INT BATTERY
Solar without external battery	N/A	

TABLE 4: Battery Switch

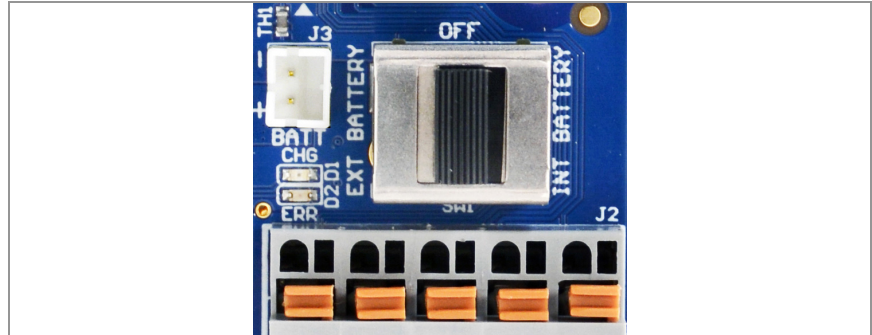


FIGURE 6: Battery Switch

3.2 GROUND THE LOGGERS

Install a grounding rod and cable, or other suitable ground, at a location near each device. Multi-channel loggers come equipped with a copper grounding lug to which you can connect the grounding cable. Other types of loggers ground using the mounting bracket.

3.3 CONNECT THE SENSORS TO LOGGERS

3.3.1 MAKING CABLE GLAND CONNECTIONS

To connect a sensor using a cable gland connection:

1. Loosen the nut on the cable fitting and remove the white plastic dowel.
2. Slide the transducer cable through the cable gland nut and fitting.

- Wire each conductor into the terminal block by pressing down on an orange tab, inserting the bare end of the conductor into the terminal blocks, and then releasing the tab. Refer to the tables below for wiring information. *To prevent a short circuit, do not allow bare leads to touch each other during or after wiring.*
- Pull gently on each conductor to ensure it is secure.
- Tighten the cable gland nut until it firmly grips the outer jacket of the cable. The cable gland nut must be properly tightened to prevent water entry. *Do not over-tighten, as this might strip the plastic threads.*
- Pull gently on the gauge cable to ensure it is held in place by the cable gland.
- Repeat these steps for each gauge cable to be connected.

Single/Multiple-Channel VW Loggers			Addressable Loggers		
Position	Color	Description	Position	Color	Description
VW+	RED	Vibrating Wire +	485+	WHITE	RS-485 Data +
VW-	BLACK	Vibrating Wire -	485-	GREEN	RS-485 Data -
TH+	WHITE	Thermistor +	12V	RED	12 Volt Bus
TH-	GREEN	Thermistor -	GND	BLACK	Bus Ground
SHD	BARE	Analog Ground (shield)	SHD	BARE	Analog Ground (shield)

TABLE 5: Logger Wiring

3.3.2 RECORD LOGGER AND SENSOR SERIAL NUMBERS

Record the serial numbers of both the loggers and of the attached sensors.

Also record the channel to which each sensor has been connected.

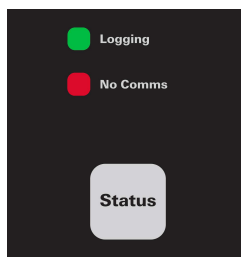
The serial numbers are needed to correlate channels to sensors when commissioning the logger.

3.3.3 SEAL THE LOGGERS

- Place the supplied desiccant packs inside the enclosure.
- Ensure the cover gasket and the mating ridge on the enclosure are clean, and that the gasket is properly seated inside the groove on the cover. Place the cover on the unit.
- Tighten the cover screws slowly. If an electric screwdriver is used, **do not** fully tighten the screws; do the final tightening by hand. Work in a diagonal pattern. Make sure the cover seals tightly and evenly.

3.4 STATUS BUTTON FUNCTIONALITY

All GeoNet devices have red and green LED indicators to display their status. When the Status button is pressed, the LEDs briefly display the logger status. The table below shows the meaning of the various LED indications.



'Logging' LED	'Comms' LED	Indication
Green		Logging, good communications
Green	Red	Logging, no communications
	Red	Not logging, no communications

FIGURE 7: LEDs and Status Button **TABLE 6: LED Indicator Meaning**

3.5 LOGGER COMMISSIONING

Loggers are commissioned on the GEOKON API portal: <https://api.geokon.com>

A tutorial on using the API portal is available at:

<https://www.geokon.com/8900-Tutorials#API>

4. MAINTENANCE

All GeoNet devices are designed to operate in field environments with minimal upkeep; nevertheless, there are some basic maintenance procedures that should be followed to ensure maximum reliability and functionality.

4.1 PREVENTING WATER FROM ENTERING THE ENCLOSURES

GeoNet devices are designed to be splash proof and rain proof, but are not submersible.



GeoNet devices MUST be mounted vertically

These units are sealed by a gasket preventing water entry, so long as the screws that hold the lid in place are properly tightened and the gasket inside the lid is properly aligned. It is also very important to ensure that all the cable fittings are securely tightened. Models that feature a 10-pin connector are equipped with a watertight cap, which must be installed when the connector is not in use.

Despite these precautions, the loggers may encounter leakage along the cable if the cable is cut, or if the unit is installed in an especially humid environment. In this type of environment, GEOKON recommends that the internal desiccant packs be replaced at intervals to prevent condensation from corroding or shorting out the internal electronics.

4.2 LIGHTNING PROTECTION

Each vibrating wire (VW) channel is protected by a 230V gas discharge tube, followed by a high-speed surge protector and a transient voltage suppression diode. Each thermistor (TH) channel is protected by a 230V gas discharge tube, followed by an inductor (lower resistance than high-speed surge protectors) and a transient voltage suppression diode.

For these components to safely divert lightning energy to ground, a solid electrical connection to earth ground is required. A copper grounding rod at least six feet in length should be driven into the soil to a minimum depth of three feet, as close to the device as possible. Alternatively, any other suitable earth ground attachment may be used. Connect the grounding rod to the copper grounding lug on the exterior of the device (if equipped) with a 12 AWG or larger wire. This will provide a path from the device to earth ground in the event of a lightning strike.

APPENDIX A. SPECIFICATIONS

A.1 CELLULAR LOGGER SPECIFICATIONS (ALL 8920 MODELS)

Data Memory	32 MB
Storage Capacity	Varies by model. Circular buffer.
Scan Interval	10-1440 Minutes
Power Supply	Mains power or solar
Operating Temperature	40° C to +85° C (range varies by power source)
Dimensions (L x W x H)	120 x 122 x 91 mm (single-channel, addressable, tilt) 160 x 260 x 91 mm (four-channel) 180 x 280 x 101 mm (eight-channel)

TABLE 7: Cellular VW Logger Specifications

A.2 VW LOGGER SPECIFICATIONS (MODELS ENDING IN 01C, 04C, 08C)

Trueness	0.082 Hz
Frequency Precision ¹	±0.146 Hz
Frequency Resolution	±0.002 Hz
Thermistor Accuracy	1% (0.5° C thermistor point match)
Thermistor Resolution	0.032° C
VW Frequency Range	400–5000 Hz

¹ 99% confidence interval (i.e. 99 out of 100 individual readings fall within this tolerance).

TABLE 8: Cellular VW Logger Specifications

A.3 TILT LOGGER SPECIFICATIONS (MODELS ENDING IN TLT-NAP)

Precision ^{1,2}	±0.0075° (±0.13 mm/m)
Nonlinearity	±0.005° across ±30° range (±0.09 mm/m)
Temperature-Dependent Uncertainty	±0.019°/°C (±0.33 mm/m/°C)
Resolution ²	±0.00025° (±0.004 mm/m)
Range	±30°

¹Includes random walk (changes between consecutive readings that have no discernible cause) and seismic noise during testing.

²99% confidence interval (i.e. 99 out of 100 individual readings fall within this tolerance).

TABLE 9: Tilt Logger Specifications

APPENDIX B. TROUBLESHOOTING

These topics are also covered in the **Troubleshooting GeoNet Networks, Agent Software Tutorial**, and in the **GeoNet Troubleshooting Guide**, all of which are available at GEOKON's website, <https://www.geokon.com>. Contact GEOKON if additional assistance is needed.

SYMPTOM: DATA PRESENT (E.G., BATTERY/SIGNAL STRENGTH) BUT NO VW GAUGE DATA AVAILABLE

- Verify that the gauge leads are wired correctly inside the logger. Refer to Section 3.3.1 and the gauge manual for wiring information.
- Check the gauge for proper operation with an independent readout, such as a GK-404, GK-405, or GK-406.

SYMPTOM: VW GAUGE READING IS UNSTABLE

- Move any sources of electrical noise away from the transducer cable, such as generators, motors, arc welding equipment, high voltage lines, etc.

SYMPTOM: THERMISTOR DISPLAY SHOWS -273.15 DEGREES C°

- This indicates an open circuit to thermistor leads. Verify that the thermistor leads are properly connected inside the logger. For wiring information, refer to Section 3.3.1, or to the gauge manual for wiring information.
- Check the thermistor for proper operation by using an ohmmeter to measure the resistance between the thermistor leads. Resistance should be between 10K Ω and 2.4K Ω when the ambient temperature is between 0 and +30 °C. Very high or infinite resistance may indicate cable damage, very low resistance may indicate a short between conductors.

SYMPTOM: NO LIGHTS WHEN PRESSED

- Make sure that a power source is connected to the logger.
- Make sure the power switch is not in the center (OFF) position.
- Malfunction

SYMPTOM: GREEN LIGHT FLASHING ONCE PER SECOND

Bootloader is activated, complete the following:

1. Check whether any channel switches are in the ON position.
2. If channel switches were set to ON, set them to the OFF position and then press the blue reset button.
3. If light is still flashing, a firmware update was interrupted. Update the firmware to the latest version. Firmware can be downloaded at <https://www.geokon.com/Software> (Instructions are included with the download.)

SYMPTOM: GREEN AND RED LIGHT ALTERNATING

- Device malfunction, contact GEOKON

SYMPTOM: RED LIGHT

- Make sure the antenna is not obstructed
- Raise or otherwise elevate the mounting location
- Make sure the unit is activated in the API portal

APPENDIX C. SOLAR PANEL KIT

The GEOKON Solar Panel Kit enables you to power a Cellular Logger in an area that has no access to mains / domestic power.

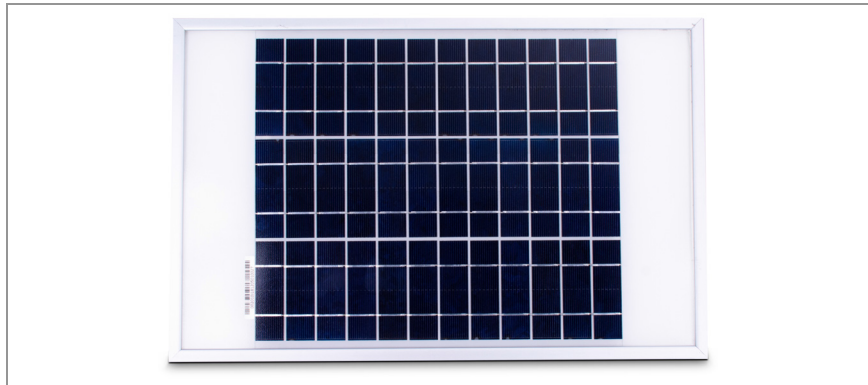


FIGURE 8: Solar Panel 8900-SOL-10W-BRJ

Inside the kit box are the following:

- One envelope containing technical documents and instructions
- One mounting bracket
- One solar panel complete with power regulation circuitry and power cable



FIGURE 9: Solar Panel Kit Box Contents

INSTALLATION OVERVIEW

The general installation steps are as follows:

1. Select a location for the solar panel.
2. Assemble and adjust the mounting bracket to the proper angle.
3. Install the mounting bracket.
4. Secure the solar panel to the mounting bracket.
5. Connect the power cable to the Logger.

C.1 SELECT A LOCATION

Choose a location for the solar panel that is clear of obstructions and anything that might cast a shadow on the panel.

C.2 ASSEMBLE THE MOUNTING BRACKET

When assembling the two sections of the mounting bracket, be sure to set the sections to the desired angle before tightening the nuts. The angle of the mounting bracket will dictate the angle of the solar panel.

- Ensure the angle is at least 10 degrees, to aid in water control.
- In general, choose the best angle for the latitude of your location.
- Mounting on a horizontal surface will require a reverse configuration of the two sections compared to mounting vertically. See the figure below.

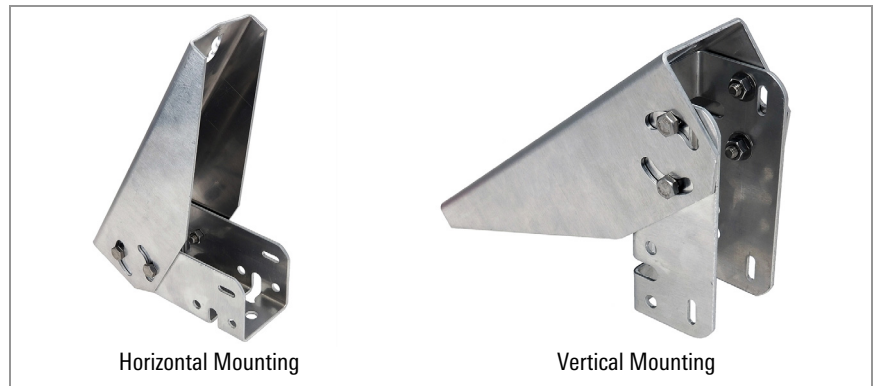


FIGURE 10: *Mounting Options*

C.3 INSTALL THE MOUNTING BRACKET

Mount the bracket on a flat surface (roof, wall, etc.) using locally-supplied bolts or lag screws. If mounting to a pole, use locally-supplied U-bolts and retaining clamps.

C.4 SECURE THE SOLAR PANEL TO THE MOUNTING BRACKET Use the included nuts and screws to secure the solar panel to the mounting bracket. Use the centrally-located holes provided for this purpose on the back of the solar panel.

Note: Be sure to mount the solar panel with the cable coming out the bottom of the panel, as shown below.

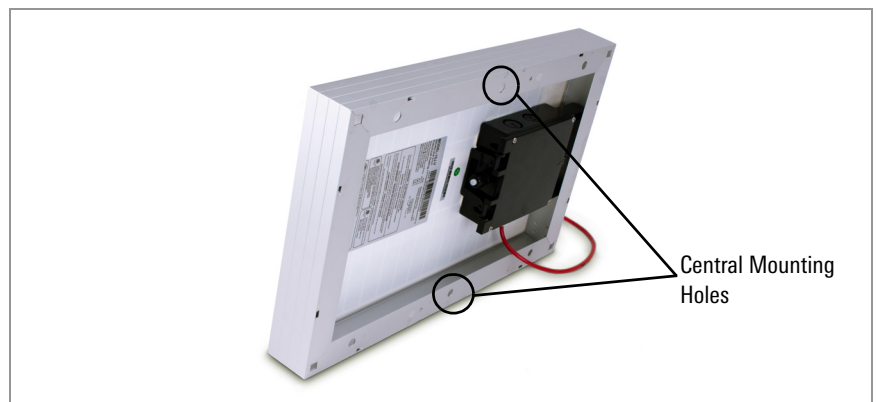


FIGURE 11: *Centrally-Located Mounting Holes*

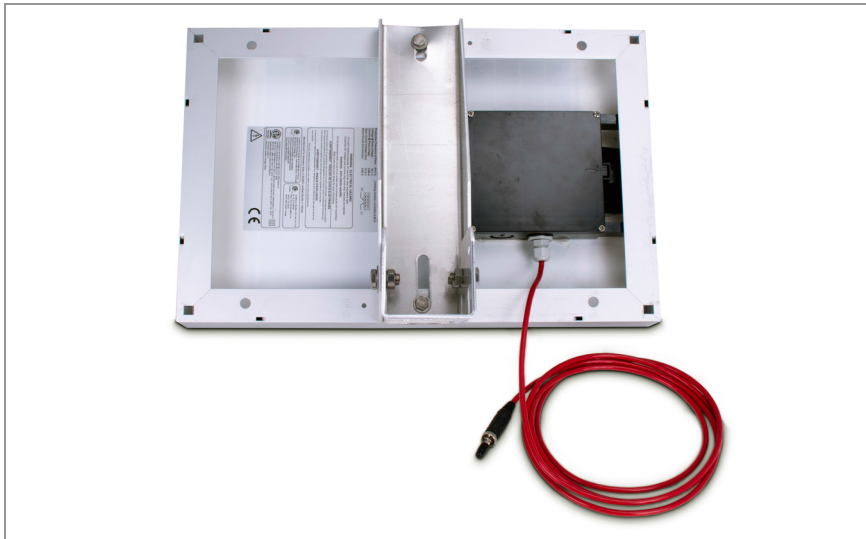


FIGURE 12: Mounting Bracket Fastened Centrally

C.5 CONNECT THE POWER CABLE

C.5.1 BATTERY SWITCH

Before connecting the power cable, be sure you have set the battery switch appropriately.

- When not using an external battery, set the battery switch inside the Logger to the INT BATTERY setting.
- When using an external battery between the solar panel and the Logger, set the battery switch inside the Logger to the EXT BATTERY setting.

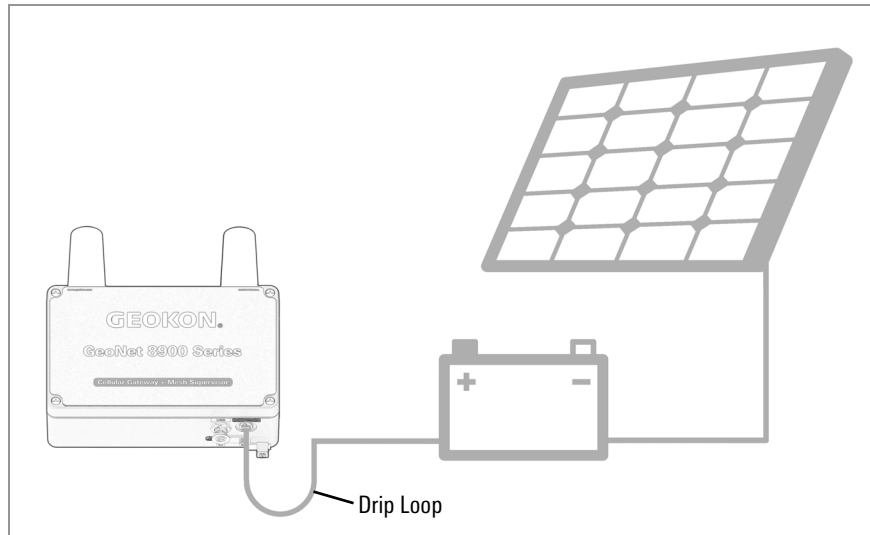


FIGURE 13: Solar Panel with External Battery

C.5.2 MAKING THE CONNECTION

Remove the plastic cap from the cable connector, then attach it to the EXT BATTERY plug on the Logger. Tighten the retaining ring on the EXT BATTERY plug, for strain relief.

Note: Be sure to implement a drip loop, as indicated in the previous figure, to prevent water ingress through the power connector.

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