



# **VT1586A**

## **Rack Mount Terminal Panel**

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### **Installation and User's Manual**



Manual Part Number: 82-0095-000  
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Printed in U.S.A.



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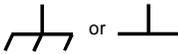
## Safety Symbols



Instruction manual symbol affixed to product. Indicates that the user must refer to the manual for specific WARNING or CAUTION information to avoid personal injury or damage to the product.



Indicates the field wiring terminal that must be connected to earth ground before operating the equipment. Protects against electrical shock in case of fault.



Frame or chassis ground terminal—typically connects to the equipment's metal frame.



Alternating current (AC)



Direct current (DC).



Indicates hazardous voltages.

**WARNING**

Calls attention to a procedure, practice, or condition that could cause bodily injury or death.

**CAUTION**

Calls attention to a procedure, practice, or condition that could possibly cause damage to equipment or permanent loss of data.

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## WARNINGS

The following general safety precautions must be observed during all phases of operation, service and repair of this product. Failure to comply with these precautions or with specific warnings elsewhere in this manual violates safety standards of design, manufacture, and intended use of the product. VXI Technology, Inc. assumes no liability for the customer's failure to comply with these requirements.

**Ground the equipment:** For Safety Class 1 equipment (equipment having a protective earth terminal), an uninterruptible safety earth ground must be provided from the mains power source to the product input wiring terminals or supplied power cable.

DO NOT operate the product in an explosive atmosphere or in the presence of flammable gases or fumes.

For continued protection against fire, replace the line fuse(s) only with fuse(s) of the same voltage and current rating and type. DO NOT use repaired fuses or short-circuited fuse holders.

**Keep away from live circuits:** Operating personnel must not remove equipment covers or shields. Procedures involving the removal of covers or shields are for use by service-trained personnel only. Under certain conditions, dangerous voltages may exist even with the equipment switched off. To avoid dangerous electrical shock, DO NOT perform procedures involving cover or shield removal unless you are qualified to do so.

**DO NOT operate damaged equipment:** Whenever it is possible that the safety protection features built into this product have been impaired, either through physical damage, excessive moisture, or any other reason, REMOVE POWER and do not use the product until safe operation can be verified by service-trained personnel. If necessary, return the product to a VXI Technology Customer Support office for service and repair to ensure that safety features are maintained.

**DO NOT service or adjust alone:** Do not attempt internal service or adjustment unless another person, capable of rendering first aid and resuscitation, is present.

**DO NOT substitute parts or modify equipment:** Because of the danger of introducing additional hazards, do not install substitute parts or perform any unauthorized modification to the product. Return the product to a VXI Technology Customer Support office for service and repair to ensure that safety features are maintained.

# VT1586A Rack Mount Terminal Panel

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## Description

The VT1586A Rack Mount Terminal Panel provides extended connections to certain VXIbus instruments, like the VT1413C High Speed A/D Converter, VT1415A Algorithmic Closed Loop Controller and Agilent/HP E1476A 64-Channel T/C and Low Offset Relay Multiplexer. The Terminal Panel is recommended if the VXIbus instruments are located a distance away from the measurement connections. The Terminal Panel provides up to 32 3-wire connections to allow for 32 channel connections to the VXIbus instruments.

Since the Terminal panel only provides 32 channels, use an additional VT1586A Terminal Panel when using it with a VT1413C, VT1415A or an Agilent/HP E1476A.

The Terminal Panel also provides three on-board thermistors for sensing the isothermal reference temperature of the Terminal Panel. The three thermistors provide substantial accuracy improvements when temperature gradients are generated across the length of the Terminal Panel.

The VT1586A Terminal Panel can be ordered with optional High Frequency Common Mode Filters (i.e., VT1586A Option 001, RF Filters). These filters are connected to the input terminal and are used to filter out AC common mode signals present in the cables that connect between the terminal panel and the device under test. The filters are useful for filtering out small common mode signals below 5 V<sub>p-p</sub>. To order these filters, order VT1586-001.

## Connecting to VXIbus Instruments

Figure 1 on page 4 shows how to connect the Terminal Panel to a VXIbus instrument. The connections are made to a VT1413C with the Option A3F Terminal Module.

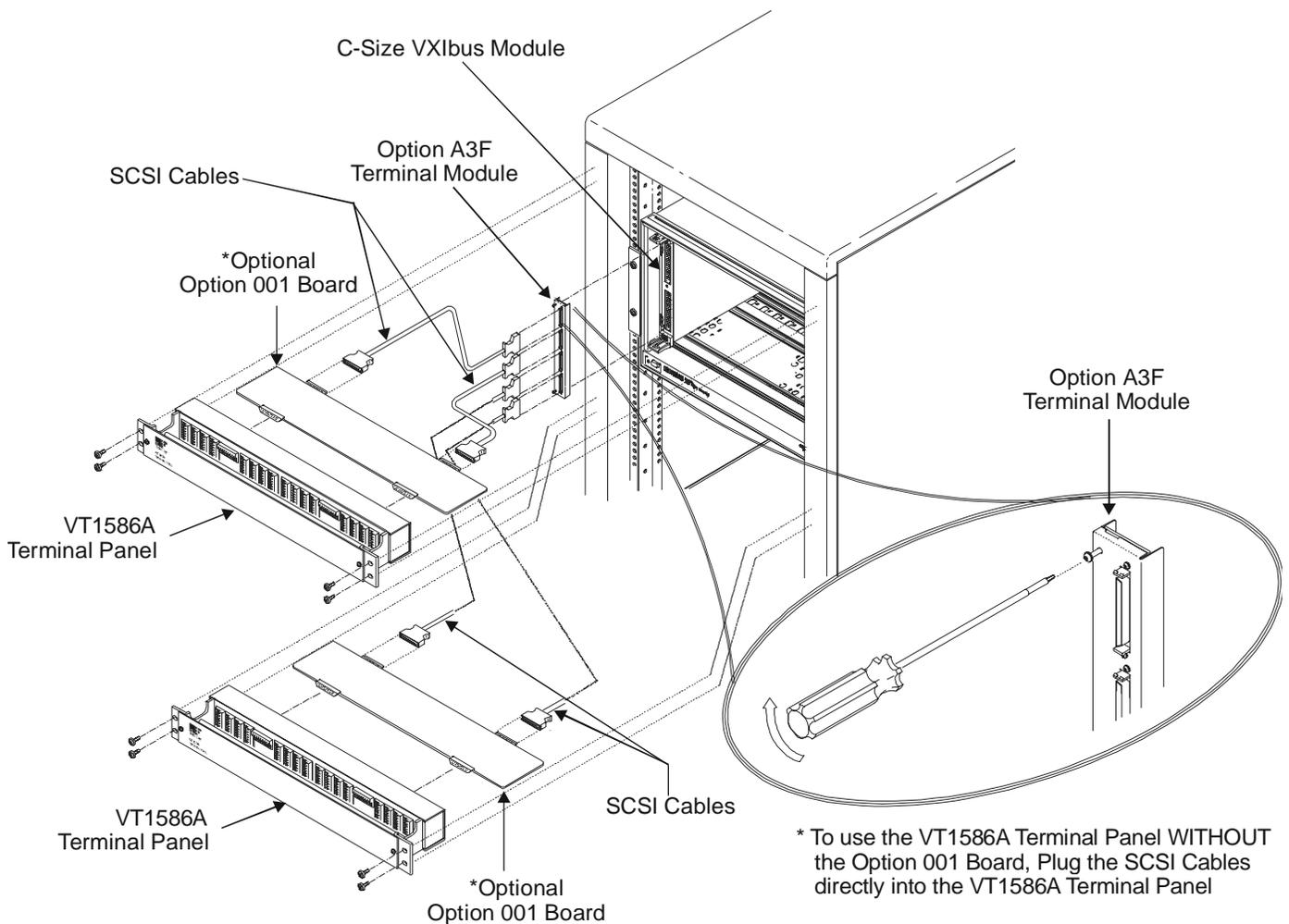
### Interconnect Cables

The panel uses SCSI cables to make the connections to the VXIbus modules. Note that the modules must have the correct Terminal Modules (e.g., VT1413C/VT1415A-A3F) installed to make these connections. Each cable provides connections for 16-channels thus each Terminal Panel requires two cables to make 32-channel connections.

The cables do not come with the Terminal Panel and must be ordered separately. The available cables described in the following.

#### Standard Cable

This cable (VT1588A) is a 16-channel twisted pair cable with an outer shield. This cable is suitable for relatively short cable runs.



**Figure 1. Connecting the Terminal Panel**

### Custom Length Cable

This cable (HP Z2220A Option 050) is available in custom lengths. It is a 16-channel twisted pair cable with each twisted pair individually shielded to provide better quality shielding for longer cable runs.

## Terminal Block Connections

Figure 2 on page 5 shows typical connections to the Terminal Panel. The panel provides four terminal blocks for the connections. These blocks consist of eight three-wire sets of terminals with each terminal set marked HI, LO, and G. The HI marking is for High connection, LO is for Low connections and G is for Guard connections.

Each terminal set also includes channel numbers, like 0(32), 4(36), etc., where the numbers outside the parenthesis indicate channels 00-31, and the numbers inside the parenthesis indicate channels 32-63. These numbers, and the HI, LO, and G terminals, correspond directly to the channel numbers and input terminals of the VT1413C and VT1415A.

# Using the Terminal Panel for Reference Temperature Measurements

The following explains how to use the Terminal Panel as an isothermal reference panel for thermocouple measurements. This explanation is for connections to a VT1413C High Speed A/D Converter or a VT1415A Algorithmic Closed Loop Controller

## Mounting the VT1586 Terminal Panel

The Terminal Panel can be mounted in a standard size instrument rack. To minimize temperature gradients across the panel, it should be mounted in the rack such that it is away from the other heat sources. The bottom of the rack is usually the preferred location. Take particular care to minimize the temperature differences across the horizontal width of the Terminal Panel, since it is most susceptible to horizontal temperature gradients across its longest dimension.

## Reference Thermistor Connections and Operations

The VT1586 Terminal Panel's three thermistors are located next to the channel 3 terminal block, between channels 11 and 16 and next to channel 24 (see Figure 2 on page 5).

## Thermistor Excitation Sources

Both a VT1413C or VT1415A provides a 122  $\mu$ A current source as the excitation for the thermistors. This is available on the Terminal Panel's terminals labeled HI-I and LO-I. For other modules, use an external Voltmeter or Multimeter like the Agilent/HP E1411 or E1412.

The excitation current is ONLY available to the Terminal panel connected to channels 00-31 of the VT1413C/VT1415A. This current is NOT on the Terminal Panel connected to channels 32-63 of the VT1413C/VT1415A.

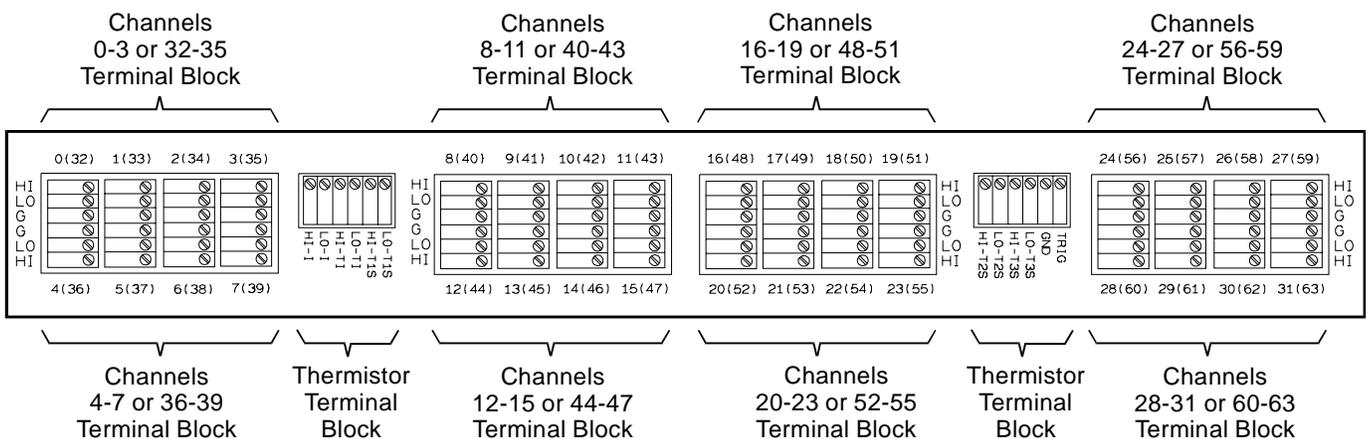


Figure 2. Terminal Panel Connections

The following shows how to connect the thermistors to the VT1413C/ VT1415A current source. For the Terminal Panel's on-board thermistors excitation, connect HI-I to HI-TI, and LO-I to LO-TI, respectively.

### Connecting One Terminal Panel for Reference Temperature Measurements

In this configuration, a single Terminal Panel is used with a VT1413C/ VT1415A to provide up to 32 channels for temperature measurements. Make the following connections on the thermistor terminal block of the Terminal Panel: Connect HI-I to HI-TI Connect LO-I to LO-TI

This provides the excitation current to all three on-board thermistors on the Terminal Panel. Figure 3 on page 6 shows the connection for a single Terminal Panel

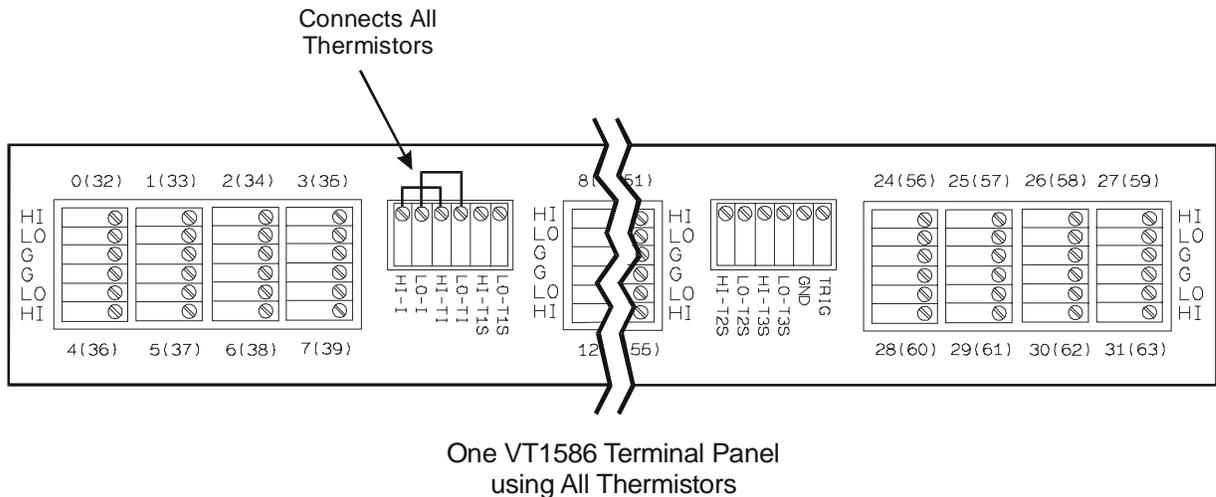


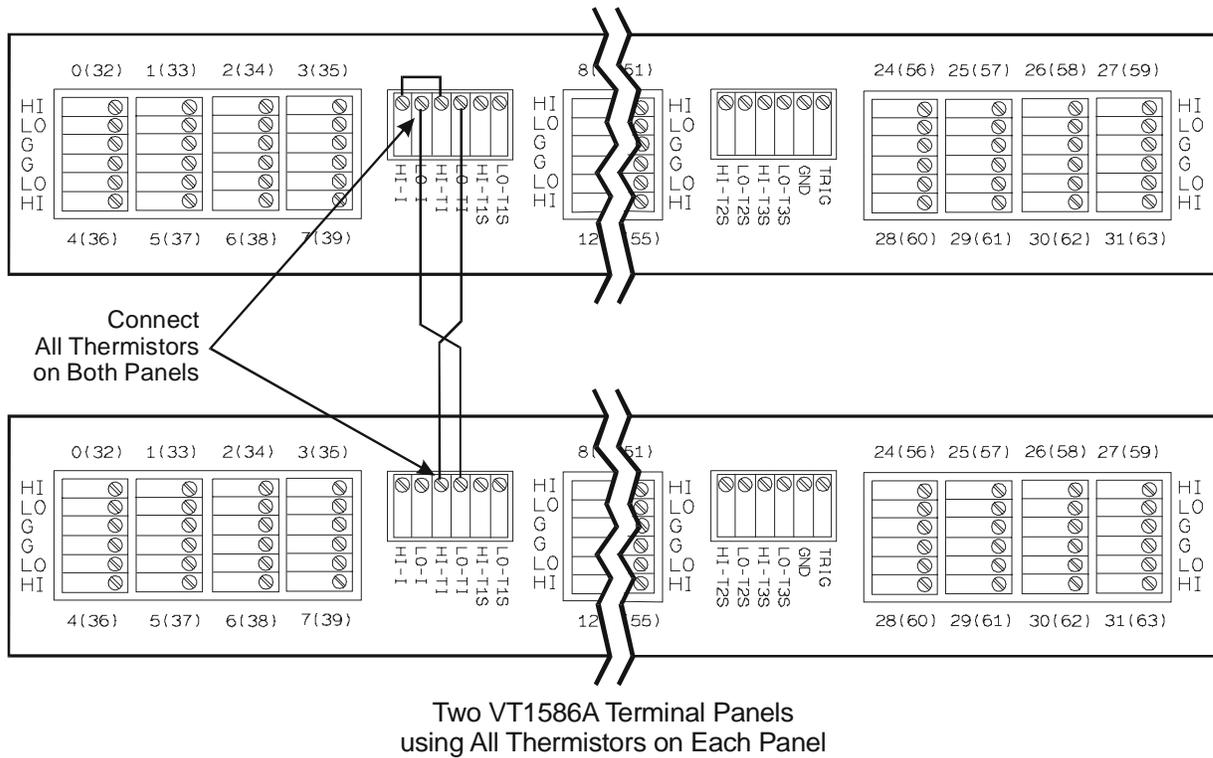
Figure 3. Connecting Three Thermistors on a Single Panel

### Connecting Two Terminal Panels for Reference Temperature Measurements

In this configuration, two Terminal Panels are used with a VT1413C/ VT1415A to provide up to 64 channels for temperature measurements. Make the following connections on the thermistor terminal blocks of both Terminal Panels:

Connect HI-I to HI-TI of the First Terminal panel  
 Connect LO-I to LO-TI of the First Terminal Panel  
 Connect LO-TI of the First Terminal Panel to HI-TI of the Second Terminal Panel  
 Connect LO-TI of the Second Terminal Panel to LO-I of the First Terminal Panel.

This provides the excitation current to all six on-board thermistors on the Terminal Panels. Figure 4 on page 7 shows the connection for two Terminal Panels.



**Figure 4. Connecting Six Thermistors on Two Panels**

## Using the Option 001 RF Filter

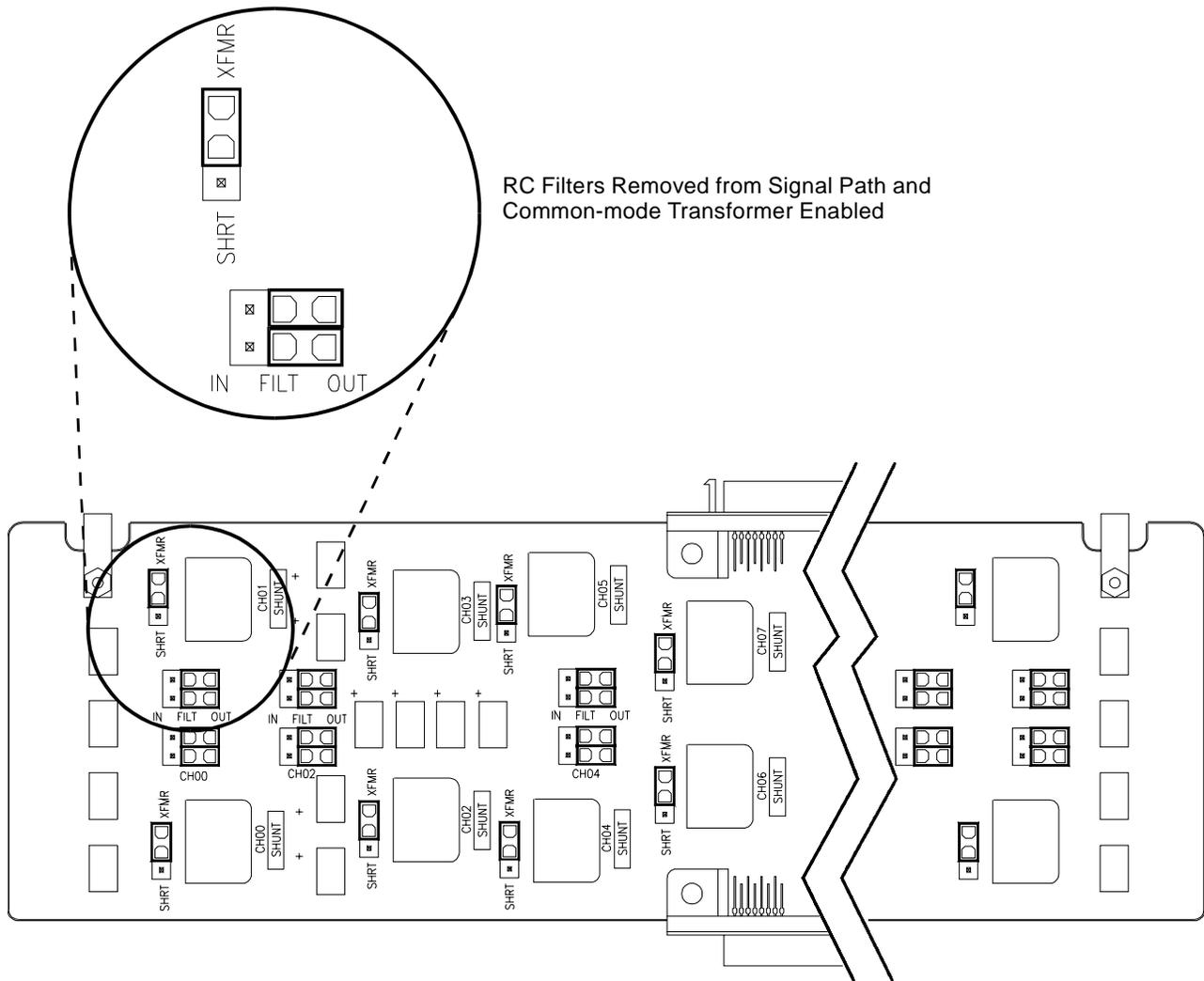
The VT1586-001 Terminal Panel has an additional board that contains the RF Filters. These filters consist of a 3-winding common-mode transformers for each channel. These transformers greatly attenuate common mode signals above 1 kHz. In combination with a properly connected Option 001 Terminal Panel, the VT1413C/VT1415A can achieve common mode rejection ratios of >100 dB for signals from DC to >10 MHz.

These transformers do not limit the measurement bandwidth of the VT1413C/VT1415A. The RF Filter Board, using on board jumpers, can be configured for various wiring and Signal Conditioning Plug-on (SCP) combinations for the VT1413C/VT1415.

### Analog Inputs Using Three-wire Cabling

In this configuration, the HI, LO and shield terminals are used for each channel. This is the preferred wiring for configuration of low level analog channels and provides the best common-mode rejection performance. To configure the Terminal Panel, move the jumpers for each channel as shown in Figure 5 on page 8.

The configuration in the figure removes the RC-filters from the path and enables the common-mode transformers. Be sure the side by jumpers are moved into the same position, or poor Common Mode Rejection will result.



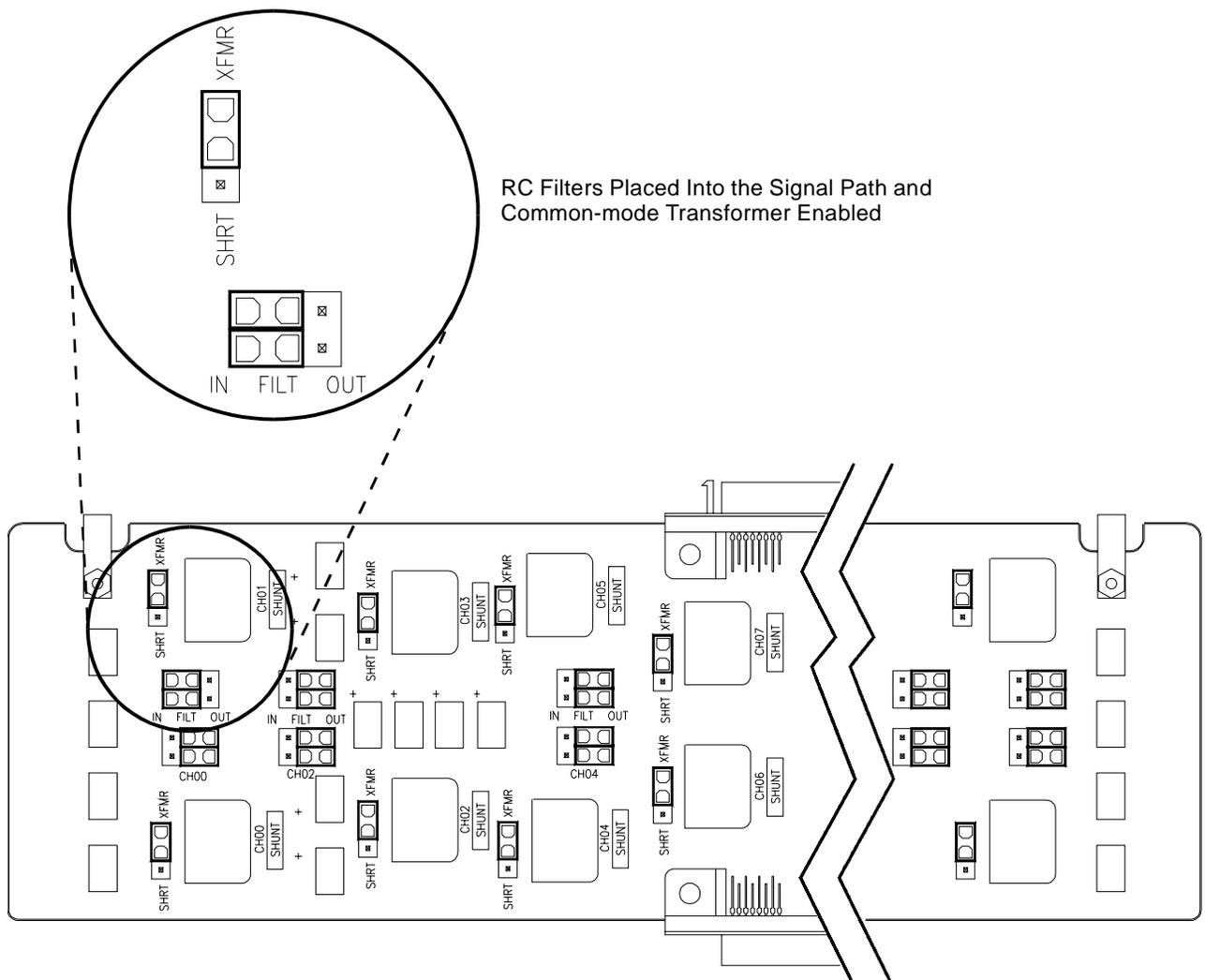
**Figure 5. Option 001 Three-Wire Cable Configuration**

## Analog Inputs Using Two-Wire Cabling

In this configuration, the HI and LO terminals are used for each channel, without the shield terminal being used. This is not the preferred wiring for low noise rejection, but may be necessary for certain configurations. For example, some isolation Signal Conditioning Plug-ons used by the VT1413C or VT1415A, such as the VT1514A, VT1515A, VT1516A and VT1517A, must use this configuration. This is because those SCs have no shield connections available. To configure the Terminal Panel, move the jumpers for each channel as shown in Figure 6 on page 9.

Since there is no shield available to drive the third winding of the common-mode transformer, the transformer effectiveness is reduced. To provide additional high frequency filtering, RC filters are provided on the board.

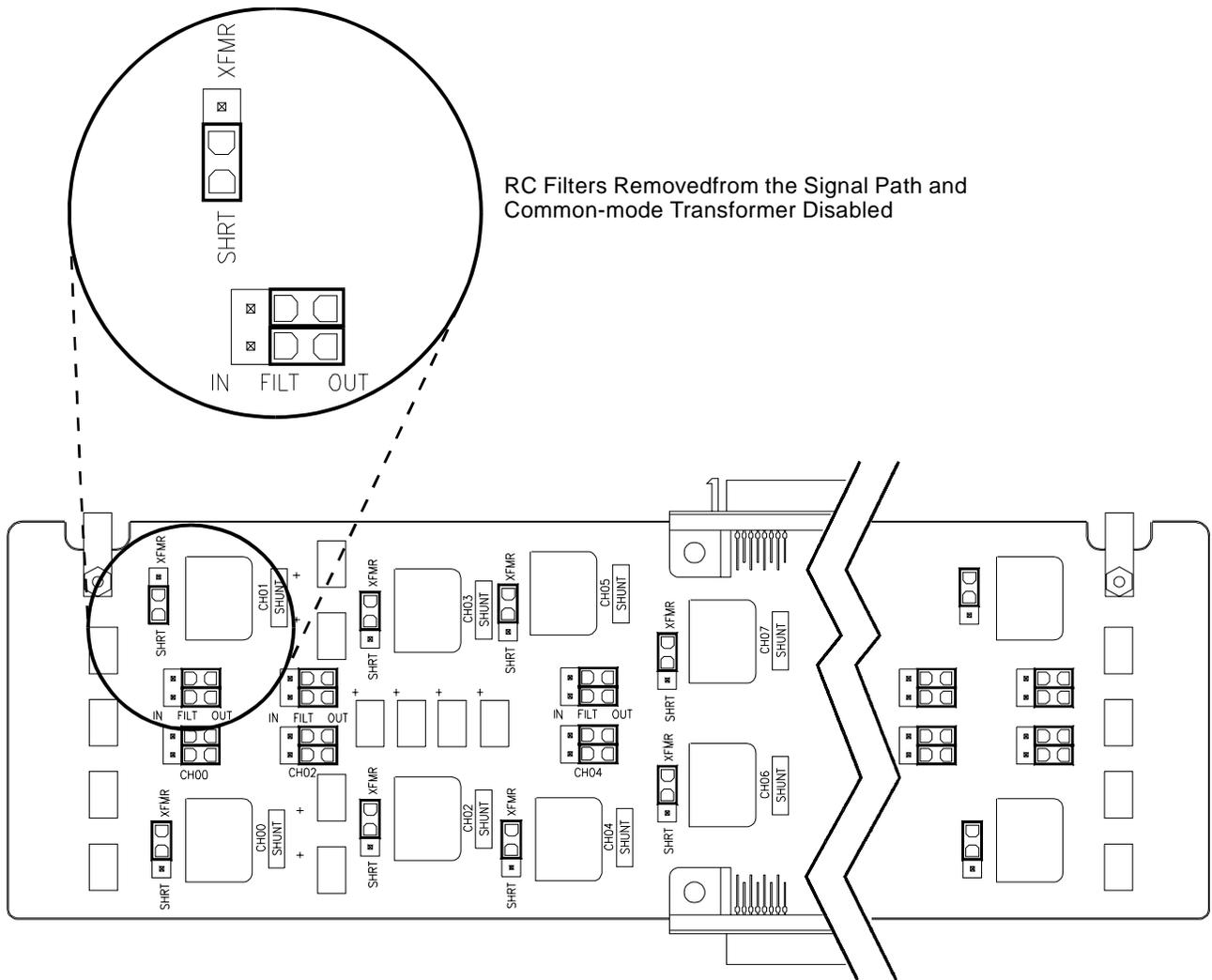
Use of the filters decreases the low-frequency Common-mode Rejection to about 90 dB at 60 Hz, and the measurement bandwidth to about 10 kHz for the VT1413C or VT1415A



**Figure 6. Option 001 Two-Wire Cable Configuration**

**Configuration for  
VT1413C/VT1415A  
with Digital I/O  
SCPs**

This configuration should be used for the VT1413C/VT1415A Digital I/O Signal Conditioning Plug-on (SCP). This especially the case when low level analog SCPs are used with the digital I/O SCP. This configuration may make it necessary to connect the digital channels through the VT1586A-001 board. To configure the Terminal Panel, when using a digital I/O SCP, move the jumpers for each affected channel as shown in Figure 7 on page 10



RC Filters Removed from the Signal Path and Common-mode Transformer Disabled

Figure 7. VT1586A-001 Digital I/O SCP Configuration

# Typical Reference Temperature Measurements

The following shows how to make reference temperature measurements on the VT1586A thermistors using the VT1413C High Speed A/D Converter or the VT1415A Algorithmic Closed Loop Controller.

The methods to measure the thermistor reference temperature depends on the location of the Terminal Panel. For Terminal Panels mounted away from heat sources, it is only necessary to measure the center thermistor. Use the information in “Measuring Using the Center Thermistor“.

For Terminal Panels mounted in such a way that temperature gradients are generated along its length, measure all three thermistors. Use the information in “Measuring Using the Left, Center, and Right Thermistors”.

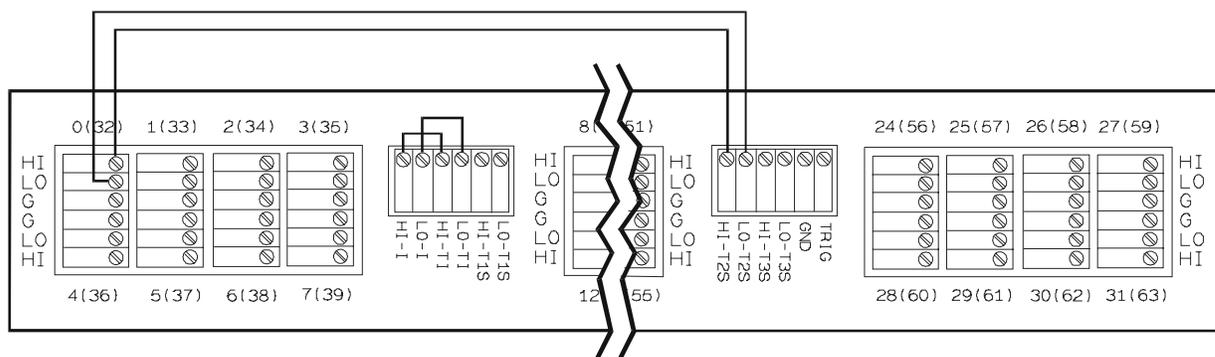
## Measuring Using the Center Thermistor

To measure the center thermistor, select a VT1413C or VT1415A channel as a reference channel. Connect the reference channel’s HI and LO to the center thermistor (thermistor 2) HI-T2S and LO-T2S terminals, respectively. These connections are shown in Figure 8 on page 11.

If two Terminal Panels are used, each panel must be connected as above so that both panels provide reference temperature measurements. These connections are shown in Figure 9 on page 12.

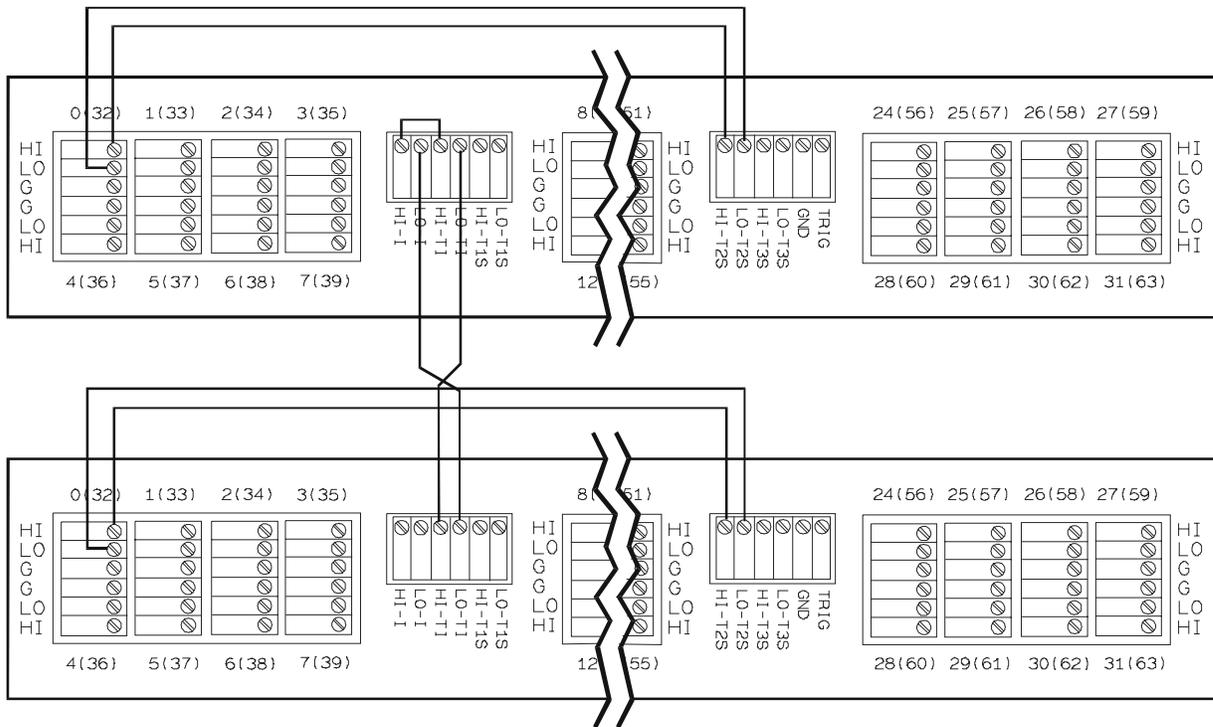
Use the information in the VT1414C/VT1415A User’s manuals to setup the instruments to make the reference measurements. The following is an example that uses two Terminal Panels to measure type K thermocouples.

```
SENS:REF THER,5000,1,(@100,132)
    measures reference temperature measurements on channels 100 and 132
SENS:FUNC:TEMP TC,K,.06,(@101:131,133:163)
    defines channels for temperature measurements
ROUT:SEQ:DEF (@100,101:131,132,133:163)
    defines the scan list.
```



One VT1586A Terminal Panel  
Measuring One Thermistor  
on Reference Channel 100

Figure 8. Center Thermistor Measurements on a Single Panel



Two VT1586A Terminal Panels  
 Measuring One Thermistor on Each Panel  
 on Reference Channels 100, 132

**Figure 9. Center Thermistor Measurements on Multiple Panels**

## Measuring Using the Left, Center, and Right Thermistors

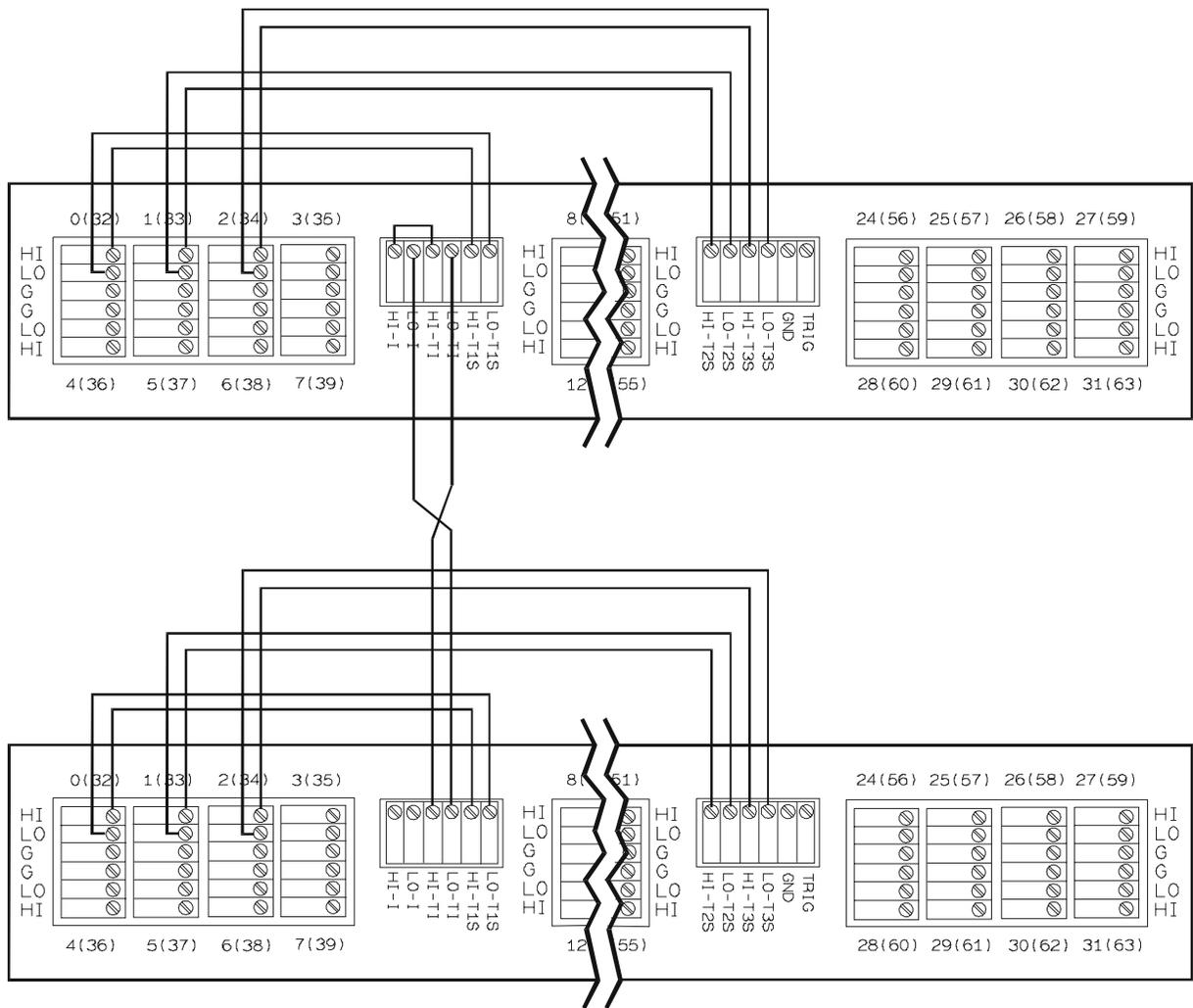
To measure all three thermistors, select three VT1413C/VT1415A channels as reference channels. The recommended method is to use thermistor 1, the left thermistor (HI-T1S and LO-T1S), as a reference for channels 0 - 7 (or 32 - 39), thermistor 2, the center thermistor (HI-T2S and LO-T2S), for channels 8 - 23 (or 40 - 47), and thermistor 3, the right thermistor (HI-T3S and LO-T3S), for channels 24 - 31 (or 56 - 63). Connect the reference channels HI and LO terminals to the respective

Connect the reference channel's HI and LO terminals to the appropriate thermistor terminals (e.g., channel 100 HI and LO terminals to thermistor 1 HI-T1S and LO-T1S terminals, respectively). These connections are shown in Figure 10 on page 13.

If two Terminal Panels are used, each panel must be connected as above so that both panels provide reference temperature measurements. These connections are shown in Figure 11 on page 14.

Use the information in the VT1414C/VT1415A User's manuals to setup the instruments to make the reference measurements. The following are two examples that measure type K thermocouples. One example uses a single Terminal Panel and the other uses two Terminal Panels.





Two VT1586A Terminal Panels  
 Measuring One Thermistor on Each Panel  
 on Reference Channels 100, 101, 102  
 132, 133, 134

**Figure 11. Left, Center, and Right Thermistor Measurements on Multiple Panels**