Tortoise manual version 1.8



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Tortoise TOP PANEL

TX1:

XMIT(Green)- Lit when the associated transmitter is on. UNLOCK(Red)- is lit if the associated transmitter has an RF problem - contact factory.

TX2:

same as TX1 unless Tortoise is modulated for specific models such as the CDMA version

CONTRAST SLIDE CONTROL:

Adjusts the contrast of the LCD display.

AUDIO SPEAKER:

Outputs tones that indicate Tortoise functions.

128 x 240 PIXEL LCD DISPLAY

KEYPAD:

1-9,0 are used for frequency and channel entry.

ENTER is used to initiate parameter entry in the main screen and to display unit information in the main menu.

ESC is used to exit entry and to enter the main menu. It is also used to exit menus to return to the main screen.

TX1 is used to turn on and off transmitter 1.

TX2 is used to turn on and off transmitter 2.

RECALL is used to enter the frequency/power recall menu. SAVE is used to enter the frequency/power save menu.

MAIN POWER ON/OFF SWITCH

POWER/FREQUENCY KNOB:

Is used to change selected transmitter parameters (frequency or power), the current parameter controlled by the knob is displayed on the last line of the main screen and selected using the main menu.

TORTOISE REAR PANEL

TX1 transmitter module 1 output

TX2 transmitter module 2 output

GPS GPS antenna input

ETHERNET 10/100 Mbit ethernet comm port

USB USB 2.0 comm port

SERIAL DB9 serial comm port

12V 12VDC power input

FUSE user replaceable fuses

AC/DC AC or DC input switch

120-240 VAC 120-240 VAC power input





All control and setting of operating parameters for the TORTOISE TRANSMITTER are accomplished using the top-panel keypad/knob combination (Figure 1). All valid parameters are saved by the TORTOISE and are the parameters used whenever the unit is powered up.

TORTOISE KEYPAD AND KNOB

Figure 1

The current TORTOISE parameter that can be modified by the keypad or knob is indicated by the marker as shown in Figure 2 on the left hand side of the TORTOISE main display (Figure 3).



Figure 2



TORTOISE MAIN DISPLAY

Figure 3

MAIN DISPLAY PARAMETERS

TX1 MHz indicates the current frequency setting of transmitter 1. dBm indicates the current power output of transmitter 1. Watts indicates the equivalent wattage for the displayed dBm. The Watts display converts the dBm value entered to watts. And is controlled by the dBm entry.

The bottom line of the display indicates the change in frequency that will occur if BOTH TX1 or TX2 is pointed to by the marker AND the knob is turned. The step for the knob is fixed at .1dBm if either TX1 or TX2 dBm is pointed to by the marker AND the knob is turned.

The minimum and maximum values for these parameters can be found by viewing the unit data screens.

PARAMETER MODIFICATION

The TORTOISE main display indicates the current settings of the installed transmitters. Parameters that can be changed by the user are indicated by the marker (Figure 2) on the left side of the display. Parameters that can be modified are TX1,TX2 frequency and TX!,TX2 dBm.

In Figure 3 the marker indicates that the Frequency for Transmitter 1 can be modified (using the keypad or knob). To move the marker down to the next adjustable parameter, press the ENTER key on the keypad.

When either TX1 or TX2 frequency are thus marked, turning the knob increases or decreases frequency by the amount indicated on the last line, the knob step.

If either TX1 or TX2 dBm are marked, turning the knob increases or decreases power by .5 dBm (TBD),



When either transmitter is on, both the knob and keypad (except TX1 and TX2 keys) are ignored (TBD).

TORTOISE UNIT DATA SCREEN 1

Whenever the MAIN SCREEN is displayed (Figure 3), pressing the ESC key will display the first of 6 unit data and setup screens. Screen 1 (Figure 4) displays non rf related information about the TORTOISE (firmware version, serial number and owner) and general RF information about each transmitter.

Figure 4

When the first unit data screen is displayed (Figure 4), press any key to move to TRANSMITTER 1 RF information screen (Figure 5).



TORTOISE UNIT DATA SCREEN 2

Figure 5
UNIT DATA SCREEN 2 and 3
TRANSMITTER RF PARAMETERS
(Figures 5 and 6)

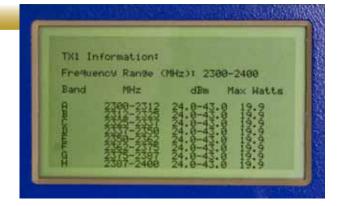
Frequency Range indicates the minimum to maximum frequency that the installed transmitter can tune. The smallest increment that can be changed by the knob is displayed on the Resolution line in unit data screen 1. Note that a black square cursor indicates the current band of the main screen frequency.

The Frequency range can be split into up to 8 bands, each band with a frequency range in MHz and dBm range. The maximum RF power in Watts for each band is displayed to the right of the dBm range.

Whenever a frequency is entered in the main screen, the Tortoise selects the proper band for the entered frequency. Any frequency entered not in any band is ignored. DBm entry is limited by the band selected. Any dBm entered less than or greater than the band minmax will be forced to either the min or max value for that band.

Band RF ranges are determined at the factory. Band name (A-H) can be set by the user with optional PC software.

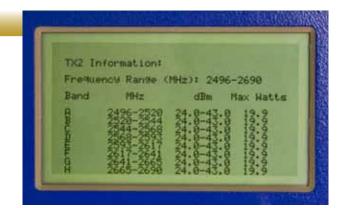
When unit data screen 2 is displayed (Figure 5), press any key to move to TRANSMITTER 2 RF information screen (Figure 6).



TORTOISE UNIT DATA SCREEN 3

Figure 6

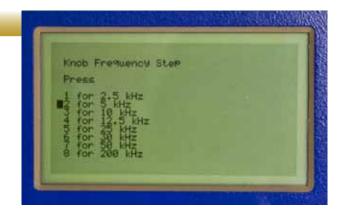
When unit data screen 3 is displayed (Figure 6), press any key to move to KNOB STEP screen (Figure 7).



TORTOISE UNIT DATA SCREEN 4 - SET KNOB FREQUENCY STEP

Figure 7

Press 1 through 8 key to change the knob step to the indicated value. After doing so, Tortoise proceeds to setup screen 5, with the updated knob setting saved. Any other key press causes Tortoise to move on to setup screen 5 with no change in the knob step. The current setting is indicated by the cursor.



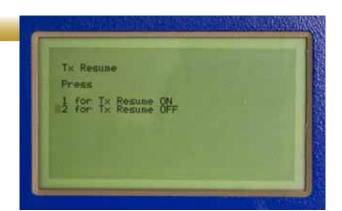
TORTOISE UNIT DATA SCREEN 5 - TX Resume setting

Figure 8

Press 1 to turn on, 2 to turn off the TX Resume feature.

TX Resume Operation:

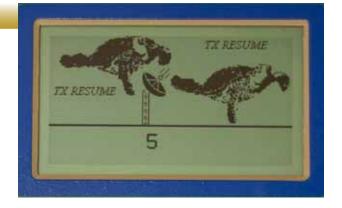
If either or both transmitters is ON when the unit loses power (or is manually turned off) and TX Resume is ON, the transmitter(s) that were on when power is restored will resume transmitting after the TX resume screen is displayed as shown in figure 9. Pressing any other key causes Tortoise to go to setup screen 6 without changing the TX Resume setting.



TORTOISE TX RESUME SCREEN

Figure 9

When the screen in figure 9 is displayed after power up, the operator has 10 seconds to abort transmission by pressing any key. At the bottom of the screen a count down of seconds remaining before retransmission is displayed along with an audible dual tone speaker output.

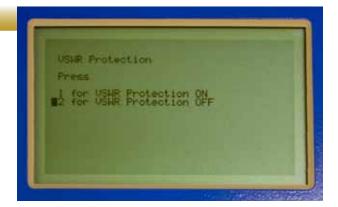


TORTOISE VSWR UNIT DATA SCREEN 6

VSWR Protection

Figure 10

The screen in figure 10 is used to turn on or off the VSWR protection for BOTH transmitters. Use the OFF setting when the transmitter shuts off with a good load, this can happen at low power levels.



TORTOISE MODULATION UNIT DATA SCREEN 7

TX1 MODULATION SELECT

Figure 11

This screen example shows a CDMA modulated Tortoise in TX 1



TORTOISE MODULATION UNIT DATA SCREEN 8

TX2 MODULATION SELECT

Figure 12



For any modulator equipped Tortoise transmitter, the modulation that will be transmitted is displayed below selection 1 and 2 as shown in Figures 11 and 12. Pressing 1 in either screen will cause the transmitter to output the indicated modulation when it is turned on. Pressing 2 in either screen will cause the selected transmitter to output an non-modulated (CW) signal when turned on. Additionally, the transmission mode is displayed on the Tortoise main screen as shown in Figures 13 and 14.

Figure 13

Figure 13 is an example of the display when CW is selected in screen 7.



Figure 14

Figure 14 is the display when modulation is selected in screen 7. The same applies for TX2.



TORTOISE CONNECTION UNIT DATA SCREEN 7

Default Communication Setting

Figure 15

The Tortoise will select USB communication if a USB cable is connected between the Tortoise and a powered up PC when Tortoise is turned on. To use LAN or RS232, select option 2 or 3. Select USB if the Tortoise will be powered up without a "live" USB cable connected and USB connection is desired.



TORTOISE SYSTEM STATUS UNIT DATA SCREEN 8

System Status

Figure 16

This screen follows unit data screen and displays the condition of the Tortoise RF power amplifiers, the input Voltage and interior temperature. This screen is displayed automatically on any error condition, and a power amplifier (PA1 or PA2), Voltage or interior temperature will cause outputs to be shut off. Service may be required.



PA1 or PA2 Action
RF unlock PA shut off
Bad Match PA shut off

PA Temperature PA temperature is greater than 70 degree C, both

PA shut off

DAC error PA has gone beyond its control range, PA shut off Voltage Voltage is less than 11.4 V or greater than 13.2 V,

both PA shut off

Interior Temp If "Degrees C" is greater than 70 degree C, both

PA shut off



Fwd and Rev AD (both PA) indicate PA range and are used for factory trouble shooting.

If the Tortoise is equipped with GPS, the following screen is displayed after the status screen,

TORTOISE GPS UNIT DATA SCREEN 9

Figure 17

The screen in Figure 17 shows the condition of the GPS receiver.

GPS Status:

Acquiring - the GPS receiver is searching for satellites to track.

3D Lock - GPS is locked with 3D solution. Height is reliable.

2D Lock - GPS is locked with 2D solution. Height is NOT reliable.

Propagate - GPS is not locked

Hold - Position Hold (NOT USED BY TORTOISE)

Bad Geometry – GPS is not locked. Visible satellites cannot be used for a solution.

The GPS Status is displayed on the last display line in the right corner of the screen. More details (such as Lat,Lon) can be found in setup screen 9, Figure 17.

Please note that the GPS Status is displayed in the main screen only if EITHER TX1 or TX2 Frequency is selected with the arrow. Full details are always available through setup screen 9.

GPS Details

Date: 09-11-2008

Time: 14:04:41

Satellites: 00

Status: Acquiring

Latitude: 40.5470 North

Longitude: 74.3802 West

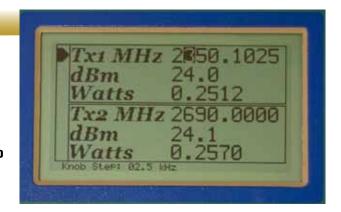
Height: 0005 Meters

FREQUENCY ENTRY

Figure 19

STEP By STEP Example

- 1) Make sure the MAIN screen is displayed.
- 2) Place the marker on the row displaying the frequency to change using the ENTER key.
- 3) Press the first digit of the frequency.
- 4) The next digit to enter is highlighted . If the first or any other digit is in error, use the CLEAR key to backup one digit.
- 5) Enter all digits in this fashion. Note that the decimal point is automatically skipped. When past the last digit displayed, the value is used (and displayed). To exit without using the digits entered press ESC. To use before typing all digits, press ENTER.
- 6) If the frequency entered is out of range, it is ignored. Otherwise, the nearest frequency (given the resolution of the transmitter) is displayed.



POWER ENTRY

Figure 20

STEP By STEP Example

- 1) Make sure the MAIN screen is displayed.
- 2) Place the marker on the row displaying the dBm to change using the ENTER key.
- 3) Press the first digit of the dBm.
- 4) The next digit to enter is highlighted . If the first or any other digit is in error, use the CLEAR key to backup one digit.
- 5) Enter all digits in this fashion. Note that the decimal point is automatically skipped. When past the last digit displayed, the value is used (and displayed). To exit without using the digits entered press ESC. To use before typing all digits, press ENTER.
- 6) If the dBm entered is out of range, it is ignored. Otherwise, the entered dBm is used and the Watts portion of the display is updated.



TRANSMITTING

To begin transmitting with TX1 or TX2 or BOTH (TDB) be sure that the parameters displayed by the MAIN screen are set as desired. Also be sure that the output(s) are properly terminated BEFORE starting the output.

LED INDICATORS

Figure 21

The led indicators to the left of the LCD display (Figure 13) show the current output status of both transmitters. When both transmitters are off, they appear as depicted in Figure 13.

KEYPAD AND KNOB WHILE OUTPUT IS ON

Whenever either transmitter is ON, the knob is ignored and the only keys that are not ignored are the TX1 ands TX2 keys.

Note that some modulated models allow for only one TX to be installed. In these cases, the Tortoise might be labeled with modulation specific tags such as Rb (Rubidium) and GPS lock LEDs.

UNLOCK XMIT TX2 UNLOCK XMIT



AUTOMATIC SHUTDOWN

Any detected fault will cause the effected transmitter to shut off.

Possible faults that can turn off a transmitter are:

RF error (unlock)
Excessive VSWR
Excessive current (TBD)
Excessive temperature (TBD)

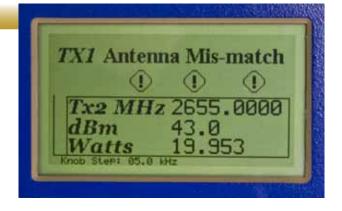
Figure 22

The screen depicts a VSWR error detected by Tortoise transmitter # 2 while it was transmitting. The problem must be corrected before attempting to use the indicated transmitter again. The most common causes for this error are:

- 1) No antenna connected to the output.
- 2) Faulty N connector used to connect to the Tortoise.
- 3) Shorted or Open antenna cables.

A similar screen is displayed if the error is encountered by transmitter # 2. Either error also causes the System Status screen display (Figure 11).

VSWR protection can be turned OFF using setup screen 6. USE CAUTION when turning off the Tortoise VSWR protection.



STEP By STEP Example

Set TX1 to output 37 dBm at 2550 MHz and transmit:

Figure 23

- 1) Assuming a screen such as Figure 15 BEFORE transmitting with both status led's as shown in Figure 13.
- 2) Check that TX1 output is connected properly to the antenna.
- 3) Change frequency of TX1 to 2550.0000 and dbm to 37. When the display appears as in Figure 16 press the TX1 key.

Figure 20

4) After TX1 reaches 37 dBm, the XMIT led for TX1 will turn on as in Figure 17.

Figure 21

- 5) To turn off TX1, press the TX1 key again.
- 6) If TX1 has an RF problem, the led's will appear as in Figure 18 and the output would NOT be turned on.

Figure 24

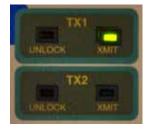
This error also causes the System Status screen display (Figure 11).

Tx1 MHz 2550.0000 dBm 37.00 Watts 5.0119 Tx2 MHz 1875.0000 dBm 43.00

Tx1 MHz 2500.0100

atts

2 MHz



Watts



SAVING and RECALLING settings

To save the current frequency and dBm settings for both TX1 and TX2, press the SAVE key and the display in Figure 19 appears. To save, press the 0 through 9 key.

Figure 25

To recall settings previously stored by the SAVE key, press the RECALL key and the display in Figure 20 is presented. Press the appropriate key (0-9) to transfer the settings to the right of the digit pressed from the recall screen to the MAIN screen.

Figure 26





Power Conversion dBm to Watts

PUW	er co
	milli
dBm	Watts
26.0	398
26.5	447
27.0	501
27.5	562
28.0	631
28.5	708
29.0	794
29.5	891
30.0	1000
dBm	Watts
30.5	1.12
31.0	1.26
31.5	1.41
32.0	1.58
32.5	1.78
33.0	2.00
33.5	2.24
34.0	2.51
34.5	2.82
35.0	3.16
35.5	3.55
36.0	3.98
36.5	4.47
37.0	5.01
37.5	5.62
38.0	6.31
38.5	7.08
39.0	7.94
39.5	8.91
40.0	10.00
40.5	11.22
41.0	12.59
41.5	14.13
42.0	15.85
42.5	17.78
43.0	19.95
43.5	22.39
44.0	25.11
44.5	28.18
45.0	31.62
45.5	35.48
46.0	39.81
46.5	44.67
47.0	50.12
47.5	56.23
48.0	63.10
48.5	70.79
49.0	79.43
49.5	89.13

50.0

100.00

Return Loss vs. VSWR

Hotuin	LUUU
Return Loss	
(dB)	VSWF
32.256	1.05
26.444	1.10
23.127	1.15
20.828	1.20
19.085	1.25
17.690	1.30
16.540	1.35
15.563	1.40
14.719	1.45
13.979	1.50
13.324	1.55
12.736	1.60
12.207	1.65
11.725	1.70
11.285	1.75
10.881	1.80
10.509	1.85
10.163	1.90
9.842	1.95
9.542	2.00
8.999	2.10
8.519	2.20
8.091	2.30
7.707	2.40
7.360	2.50
7.044	2.60
6.755	2.70
6.490	2.80
6.246	2.90
6.021	3.00
5.811	3.10
5.617	3.20
5.435	3.30
5.265	3.40
5.105	3.50

Glossary of Acronyms

AC Alternating Current

A/D or ADC Analog to Digital Converter AGC Automatic Gain Control

BER Bit Error Rate

BPSK Binary Phase Shift Keying

BW Band Width

CDMA Code Division Multiple Access - a spread spectrum modulation

DC Direct Current D/A Digital to Analog

dB deciBel

dBm deciBels referenced to 1 milliwatt

DOS Digital Operating System
DSP Digital Signal Processing
FIR Finite Impulse Response

GHZ GigaHertz

GPS Global Positioning System (satellite based)

GPS diff. GPS error correction signal which enhances GPS accuracy

IF Intermediate Frequency
I and Q In phase and Quadrature

kHz kiloHertz

LCD Liquid Crystal Display

LO Local Oscillator
Mbits Megabits
MHz MegaHertz

modem acronym for modulator/demodulator

PCMCIA Personal Computer Memory Card International Association

PC Personal Computer

PCS Personal Communications Service (1.8 to 2.1 GHz)

PN Pseudo Noise

QPSK Quaternary Phase Shift Keying, 4-level PSK

RF Radio Frequency

RSSI Receiver Signal Strength Indicator

UTC Universal Time Code
VAC Volts Alternating Current
VGA Video Graphics Array

VSWR Voltage Standing Wave Ratio

X horizontal axis Y vertical axis

GENERAL SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

When using your telephone equipment, basic safety precautions should always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock and injury to persons, including the following:

- 1)Read and understand all instructions.
- 2)Follow all warnings and instructions marked on the product.
- 3)Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.
- 4)Do not use this product near water, for example, near a bath tub, wash bowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub, in a wet basement, or near a swimming pool.
- 5)Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, or table. The product may fall, causing serious damage to the product.
- 6)Slots and openings in the cabinet and the back or bottom are provided for ventilation, to protect it from overheating these openings must not be blocked or covered The openings should never be blocked by placing the product on the bed, sofa, rug or other similar surface. This product should never be placed near or over a radiator or heat register. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation unless proper ventilation is provided.
- 7) This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the appliance. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your dealer or local power company.
- 8)Do not allow anything to rest on the power cord. Do not locate this product where the cord will be abused by persons walking on it.
- 9)Do not overload wall outlets and extension cords as this can result in the risk of fire or electric shock.
- 10)Never push objects of any kind into this product through cabinet slots as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short out parts that could result in a risk of fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.
- 11) To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not disassemble this product, but take it to a qualified service facil4 when some service or repair work is required. Opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltages or other risks. Incorrect reassembly can cause electric shock when the appliance is subsequently used.
- 12)Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
- A) When the power supply cord or plug is damaged or frayed. B) If liquid has been spilled into the product.
- C)If the product has been exposed to rain or water.
- D)If the product does not operate normally by following the operating instructions. Adjust only those controls, that are covered by the operating instructions because improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to normal operation.
- E) If the product has been dropped or the cabinet has been damaged. F) If the product exhibits a distinct change in performance.
- 13) Avoid using the product during an electrical storm. There may be a remote risk of electric shock from lightning.
- 14)Do not use the telephone to report a gas leak in the vicinity of the leak.

GENERAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Never install telephone wiring during a lightning storm.

- 2. Never install telephone jacks in wet locations unless the jack is specifically designed for wet locations.
- 3. Never touch uninsulated telephone wires or terminals unless the telephone line has been disconnected at the network interface.
- 4. Use caution when installing or modifying telephone lines.

GENERAL INSTRUCTION FOR BATTERIES

CAUTION: To Reduce the Risk of Fire or Injury to Persons, Read and Follow these Instructions:

- 1. Use only the type and size of batteries mentioned in owner's manual.
- 2. Do not dispose of the batteries in a fire. The cells may explode. Check with local codes for possible special disposal instructions.
- 3. Do not open or mutilate the batteries. Released electrolyte is corrosive and may cause damage to the eyes or skin. It may be toxic if swallowed.
- 4. Exercise care in handling batteries in order not to short the battery with conducting materials such as rings, bracelets, and keys. The battery or conductor may overheat and cause burns.
- 5. Do not attempt to recharge the batteries provided with or identified for use with this product. The batteries may leak corrosive electrolyte or explode.
- 6. Do not attempt to rejuvenate the batteries provided with or identified for use with this product by heating them. Sudden release of the battery electrolyte may occur causing burns or irritation to eyes or skin.
- 7. When replacing batteries, all batteries should be replaced at the same time. Mixing fresh and discharged batteries could increase internal cell pressure and rupture the discharged batteries. (Applies to products employing more than one separately replaceable primary battery.)
- 8. When inserting batteries into this product, the proper polarity or direction must be observed. Reverse insertion of batteries can cause charging, and that may result in leakage or explosion. (Applies to product employing more than one separately replaceable primary battery.)
- 9. Remove the batteries from this product if the product will not be used for a long period of time (several months or more) since during this time the battery could leak in the product.
- Discard "dead" batteries as soon as possible since "dead" batteries are more likely to leak in a product.
- 11. Do not store this product, or the batteries provided with or identified for use with this product, in high-temperature areas. Batteries that are stored in a freezer or refrigerator for the purpose of extending shelf life should be protected from condensation during storage and defrosting. Batteries should be stabilized at room temperature prior to use after cold storage.

BVS Tortoise Transmitter Windows Software User Manual

Software Installation for the BVS Tortoise Transmitter

To install the software for the Transmitter, choose the setup file in the transmitter directory of the SD card. Setup will guide you through installation of the software. If a previous version has been installed, it must be removed prior to installation of the new version.

USB Driver Installation for the BVS Tortoise Transmitter

Installation of the USB driver for the BVS Tortoise Transmitter can be accomplished in one of two different ways.

- 1. Connect to the transmitter via USB.
- 2. Power on the transmitter using the toggle switch located above the power cord.
- 3. A message may pop up stating that you are connected to a BVS Tortoise.
- 4. If you are requested to choose a driver, simply browse the computer and find the USB driver folder on the supplied SD card.
- 5. Installation should then automatically proceed.

UPDATING DRIVER

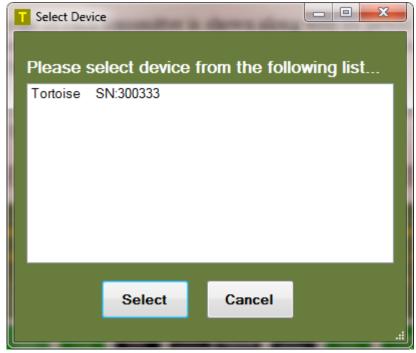
Sometimes you will not be prompted for the driver. In this instance, please follow the below instructions.

- 1. Open up the Control Panel. (START button in lower left hand corner followed by clicking on the Control Panel.
- 2. Click on Hardware and Sound.
- 3. Click on Devices and Printers.
- 4. Find the icon for the "BVS Tortoise".
- 5. Right-click on the icon and choose properties.
- 6. Choose the hardware tab.
- 7. Choose "Properties".
- 8. Choose "Change Settings".
- 9. Choose the driver tab.
- 10. Click on "Update Driver".
- 11. Choose to browse for the driver.

- 12. Select the folder on the SD card supplied with the unit.
- 13.Installation should then automatically proceed.

Getting Started

Connect the USB cable to the transmitter and to the PC. Power on the transmitter box with the switch provided on the top panel of the unit. Start the PC software.



Connection Dialog Box

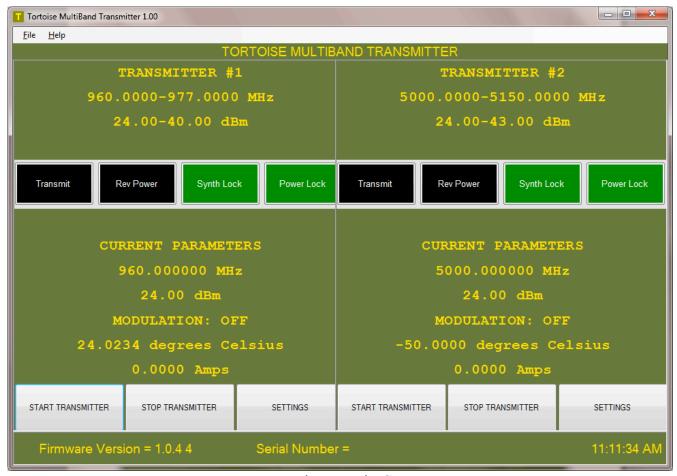
A connection box will appear showing the transmitter to which the software can see and make a connection. Choose the transmitter device. Then simply press the "SELECT" button to connect to the selected transmitters.

Main Window Tour

The main window of the transmitter application is straightforward. The left panel contains information about transmitter #1 and the right panel contains information about transmitter #2 (if installed).

The frequency range of each transmitter is shown along with its power range in dBm. Below this is a series of 4 information lights. The first is the transmit indicator. This will be lit whenever the transmitter is transmitting.

The second light is the reverse power indicator. This will be lit if the transmitter senses too much power being reflected back into the antenna connection.



Transmitter Main Screen

The third light indicates whether or not the synthesizer is locked for the individual transmitter. The fourth light indicates whether or not there is a power lock.

Below the light indicators are the current parameters for the transmitters. The current

frequency set is shown followed by the current power level when transmitting. Whether or not the transmitted signal is modulated is shown followed by the current internal temperature in Celsius and the current in Amps.

Below the current parameters are buttons to start the transmission and stop the transmission. There is also a button to pull up the settings dialog where the current settings can be changed.

Finally, the bottom status bar shows the firmware and serial number of the unit.

The current system time is also shown on the bottom status bar.

Transmitter Settings

Pressing the transmitter settings button produces the transmitter setting dialog screen. In this screen the frequency and power of the transmitter can be set.



Transmitter Setting Screen

Press "OK" to update the settings.