



Multiplexing Transceiver System FS1001M

User Manual

Application Firmware Version 2.1



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PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The FS1001M (Multiplexer) RFID reader is a high performance auto tuning unit specifically designed for installations requiring up to 6 antennas where the environmental conditions necessitate the need for auto tuning, where antennas must be placed in close proximity to one another, or where the power budget is limited.

Features:

- Full-time auto tuning to compensate for changes in the antenna environment.
- Support for up to six antennas.
- Remote and local interface for setup, maintenance, status monitoring, and data logging.
- DC power input configuration.

Interface:

- Two lines by 16 characters LCD display with backlight.
- Five-key keypad that allows local operation and reader configuration.
- EIA 232 serial communication port, female DB-9 connector.
- Connections for six antennas.

Firmware:

- Field-updateable firmware.
- Configurable non-volatile set-up parameters.
- Data logging memory for up to 5,350 tags with reader ID, antenna number, and date and time stamp for each tag.
- Data logging memory for up to 146 System Status Reports.
- Data logging of test tag activations.

Functional Description

The FS1001M is designed to drive up to six antennas and provide independent auto tuning for each antenna. It multiplexes or switches between the antennas in a user selectable sequence. Since only one antenna is activated at a time the antennas can be placed in any location and orientation without interfering with one another. The antenna switching also has the added benefit of supporting up to six antennas using approximately the same power as a single Stationary FS1001A reader.

When the unit switches to an antenna it automatically retunes to that particular antenna and makes necessary tuning adjustments due to environmental changes such as water level, temperature, etc. The unit then looks for the presence of a PIT tag in the antenna field. If no tag is present the unit switches to the next antenna, set by a switching sequence, and repeats this process. If a tag is present the unit will stay at the antenna until the tag is successfully read or the allotted scanning time expires, whichever comes first. After the last antenna in the switching sequence is reached the cycle is repeated.

The default timing of antenna switching process is 30ms for determining the presence of a tag, and 100ms (user-defined parameter, up to 1 second) to read a tag.



Figure 1: FS1001M Reader Top View

As an example, an installation with four antennas and an antenna switching sequence of 1-2-3-4 would take 120ms (4 x 30ms) to cycle through all four antennas if no tag was detected on any of the four antennas. The system would check for the presence of a tag at each antenna every 90ms (3 x 30ms). When a tag enters the field of one of the antennas, if the antenna scan time is 100ms, the antenna cycle time would increase to a maximum of 220ms. This is explained in greater detail in subsequent sections.

Note: If necessary, the default switching time value of 30ms can be changed to 20, 25, or 44ms by reprogramming the reader with the appropriate application firmware (see Reader Firmware Update).



Figure 2: FS1001M Reader Side View

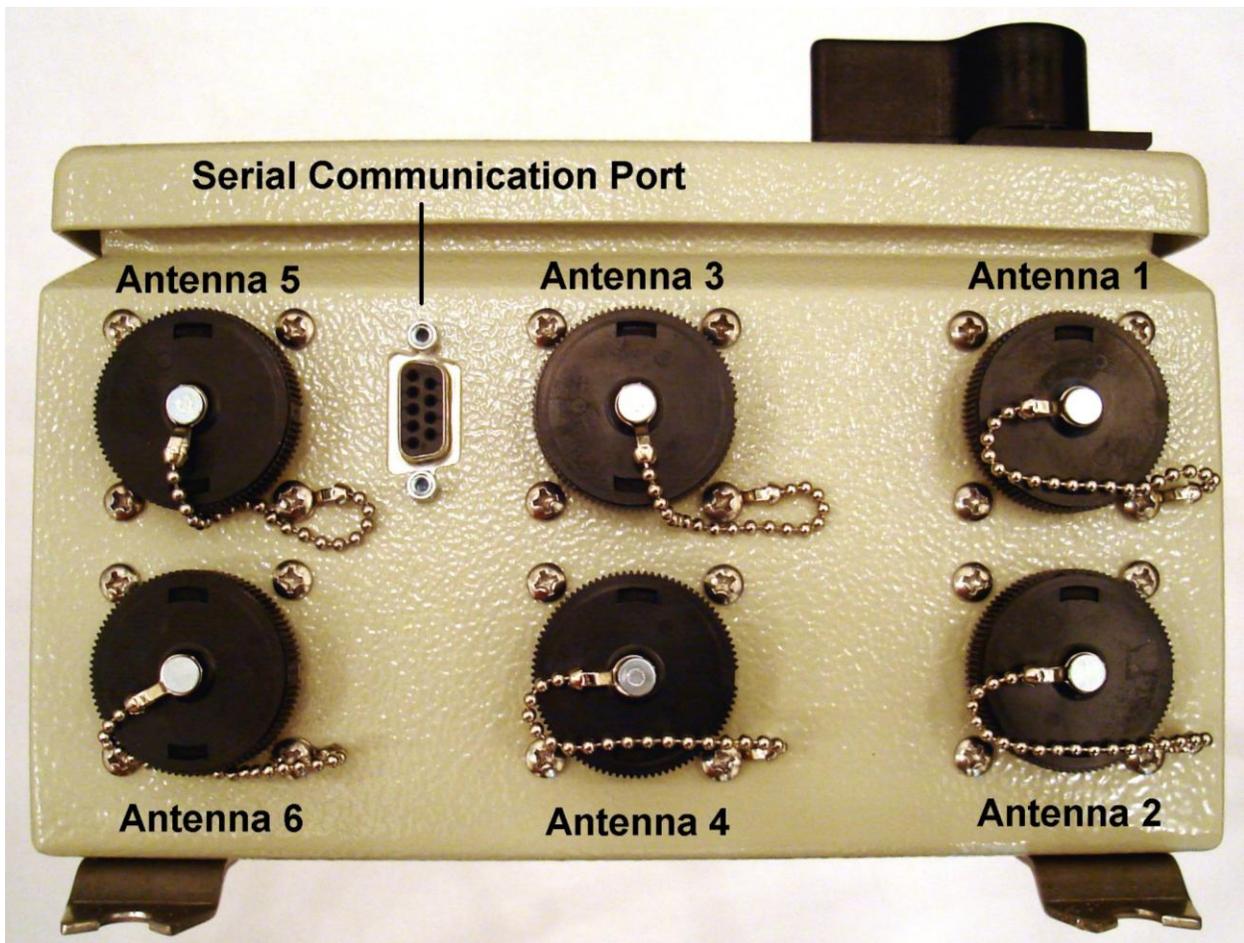


Figure 3: FS1001M Reader Bottom End View

READER OVERVIEW

The FS1001M front panel is illustrated in the next figure, showing the main interface components:

- LCD display
- LED indicators
- Context sensitive keypad

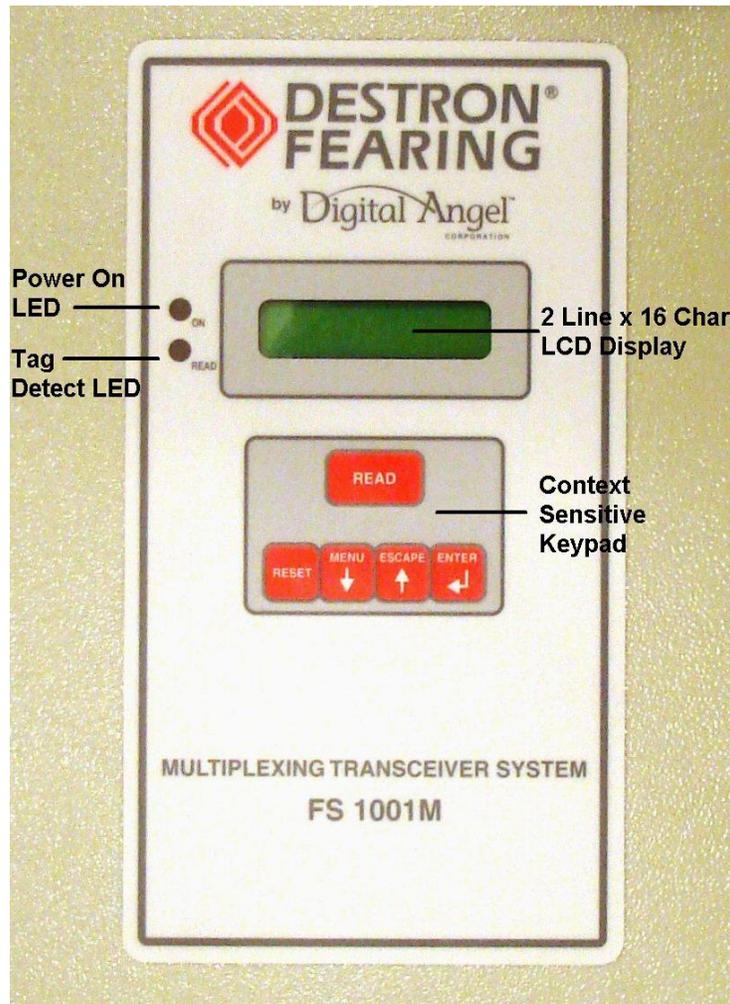


Figure 4: FS1001M Reader Front Panel

In addition to the LCD and Keypad interface the FS1001M has an audible indicator (beeper) and a serial communication port for connecting to a computer. The FS1001M menu structure is quite deep and complex. Users are required to use a computer for initial setup and antenna tuning.

LCD Display and LED Indicators

The LCD display is 2 lines by 16 characters with a backlight. It displays tag IDs and reader status information.

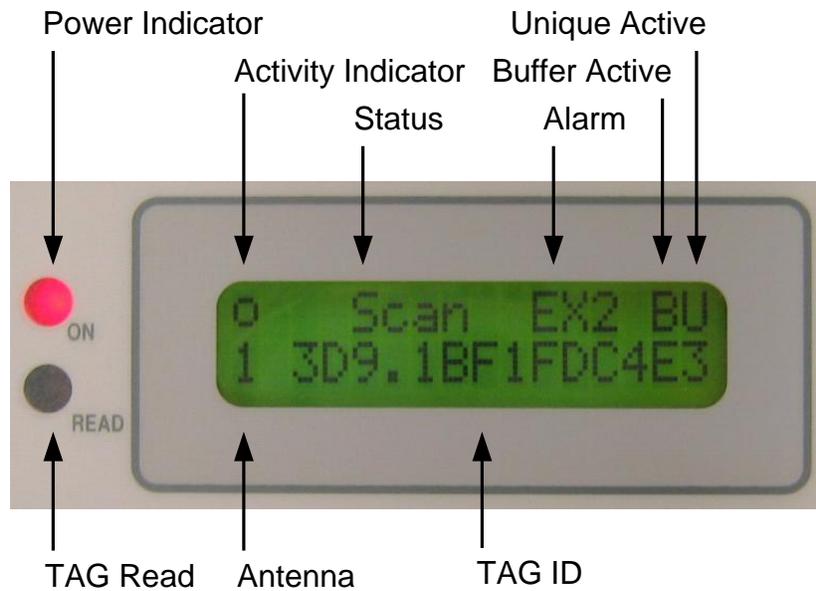


Figure 5: FS1001M Reader LCD Display with LED Indicators

The top **ON** LED located left of the display is the reader power indicator. The bottom **READ** LED flashes each time a tag is read: this LED is turned on each time a tag message is decoded successfully, regardless of the Unique Mode setting.

Activity indicator

On the first line of the LCD, the unit features an animated antenna activity indicator that changes shape each time a new signal data buffer is acquired from the antenna.

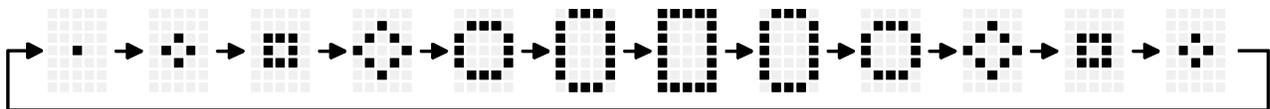


Figure 6: Activity Indicator Animation

Reader status indicator

The next display field is used to display the reader activity and the tag search result. The unit can display:

Stby	The reader is inactive (standby mode), waiting for a user command through the keypad or through the communication port.
Scan	The reader is active (scan mode) and searching for tags.
Found	The unit has found a new tag. The tag number found by the unit is different from the previous one found by the unit.
Same	The unit has found a tag but its number is the same as the last one detected by the unit.

Alarm indicator

The next 3-character zone is used to indicate the presence of an alarm. See page 47 for a list of all possible alarms and their descriptions.

The alarm messages are also sent to the communication port as they occur. A list of alarms that have occurred and are still active can be displayed on the LCD using the system summary feature, available by pressing the Enter key from the main display. A complete list of occurred alarms is also available at the end of the Status Report sent to the communication port.

Buffer mode indicator

Letter “B” (Buffer) on the right side of the first LCD line indicates that the Buffer mode is enabled. When enabled, the Buffer option allows tag IDs to be stored in the reader memory as they are read along with the reader ID, antenna number, and date and time of detection. This information is stored in a memory file that has a capacity of 5,350 tag codes. In the case of a power outage back-up lithium battery will protect the memory file contents. Each tag ID in the memory is protected by a CRC (cyclic redundancy check) in order to avoid invalid information being retrieved by the computer. When the memory file is full, the oldest tag ID is erased in order to store the new tag ID found. The memory file contents can be downloaded to a computer and erased using either the front panel (Buffer menu) or the communication port connection.

Unique mode indicator

Letter “U” (Unique) on the right side of the first LCD line indicates that the Unique mode is activated. The Unique mode defines the reaction of the reader when the same tag is read several times sequentially on the same antenna (Unique mode is antenna-specific). When the Unique mode is off, the tag will be reported each time it is read. When the Unique mode is on, the tag ID will be reported only once for each antenna it is detected on until either five other different tags are detected on those antennas or the Unique Delay times out (if the mode set to Delay). See Unique Mode on page 13 for additional information.

Tag ID indicator

The second line of the LCD displays detected tag ID in hexadecimal format and an antenna number where this tag was detected in the following pattern: antenna number followed by a space then manufacturer ID or country code followed by a universal identification code all in capital letters.



Figure 7: FS1001M Reader Tag ID Display

Keypad

The unit is equipped with a 5 keys context sensitive keypad, which means that the use of the keypad is adapted to the information being displayed on the LCD (see Figure 9).

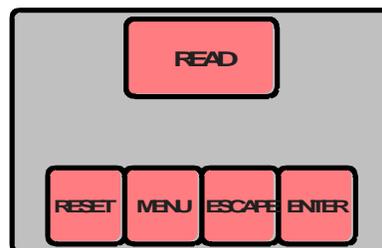


Figure 8: FS1001M Reader Keypad

Reset key

The unit can be restarted using the **RESET** key. When resetting, the unit performs self-diagnostics and starts scanning for tags. Please refer to the “Power-up/reset sequence” section for more details.

Read key

The **READ** key is used to activate/deactivate the scanning of tags. Pushing **READ** toggles the unit between the scanning mode and the standby mode.

Menu, Escape and Enter keys

The **MENU**, **ESCAPE** and **ENTER** keys are context sensitive navigation keys used to access:

- The reader overview that provides detailed information about the reader operation.
- The file management utility that allows creation, deletion and downloading of memory file to a computer using the serial communication port.
- The configuration menu.

Key usage is described in the next chapter.

Audible Indicator

The audible indicator (beeper) is located on reader’s CPU board. The audible indicator provides:

- Tactile feedback for the keypad.
- Indication that a tag has been read (short beep).
- Indication that an abnormal condition (alarm) has been detected (2 short beeps).

Serial Communication Port

All functions and information available through the front panel is also available through the serial communication port and some of the operations such as antenna setup and tuning can be only performed through the communication port.

This port is an EIA 232 communication interface with a female 9-pin DIN connector. The communication parameters are fixed at 57,600 baud, no parity, eight bits, one stop bit, (57600, N, 8, 1) with no flow control. Standard straight through communication cable is required (DB-9 Female/Male connectors, straight through, NOT null modem).

Reader Components

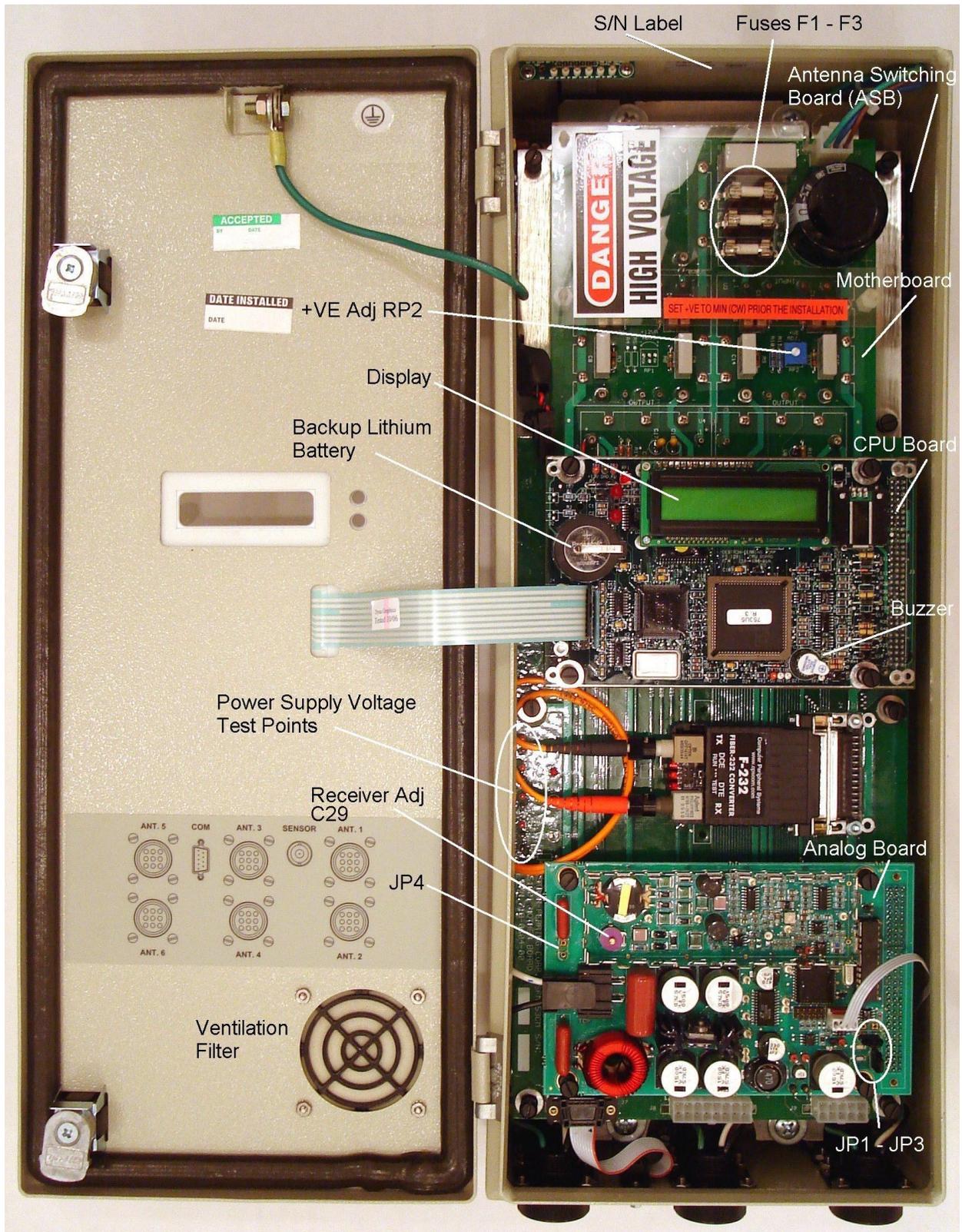


Figure 9: FS1001M Reader Components

SCANNING FOR TAGS (Scan and Stby modes)

The tag scanning process can be started and stopped in different ways:

- **Manually** using the **READ** key
- **Remotely** using the communication port command

Note: The reader starts up in the Scan mode after a reset or power up.

Manual Scanning

Manual scanning is done through the FS1001M front-panel keypad using the **READ** key:

- In the Standby mode, momentarily push the **READ** key to Scan for tags.
- During the tag Scan, momentarily push the **READ** key to return to the Standby mode.

Remote Scanning

The RA command can be used to start and stop the scanning through the communication port. RA1 will start the Scan mode and RA0 will return the reader to the Standby mode. RAR will reset the reader. Please refer to the Reader active (RA) section for more details.

Tag ID Detection

When scanning, the following annunciation process occurs upon detection of a valid tag ID:

1. The antenna number and tag ID is displayed on the second line of the LCD (antenna number followed by a space then manufacturer ID followed by universal code all in hexadecimal format). If the tag number is different from the preceding tag found, the first line will briefly display "FOUND". If the number is the same as the preceding tag, the display will briefly show "SAME".



2. The READ LED indicator (left of the display) is turned ON each time a valid tag message is detected. Therefore, the LED will flash until the tag is removed from the antenna detection range.
3. The beeper is activated briefly if it is enabled (see Reader Buzzer, page 14). This option can be turned on or off through the keypad menu or the communication port.
4. The tag ID message is sent to the communication port if "Send tag" is enabled. This option can be turned on or off through the keypad menu or the communication port.
5. If the Buffer mode is selected, the tag ID is stored in the memory file along with antenna ID and the current date and time.

Note: The above sequence is somewhat different when UNIQUE or UNIQUE DELAY is enabled. See the UNIQUE and UNIQUE DELAY command descriptions on page 13 for details.

Reader status

The system status information available through the front panel allows a user to examine detailed reader status through the display, including:

- Antenna current, relative antenna signal phase and noise signal level.
- Complete list of occurred alarms.
- Number of tag codes stored.
- Date and Time.

A full system status report is available through the communication port; see Status Report on page 25 for details.

Antenna Display

The six “Antenna #” displays show the following information:

- The first value is the antenna current in Amperes peak-to-peak.
- The next or middle value is the relative phase. This is the difference between the actual antenna signal phase and the target phase for that antenna. The system uses this phase difference to adjust the tuning capacitance of the antenna. This is discussed in greater detail on pages 18 and 38.
- The last value is average noise signal level seen on the antenna. See pages 29 and 38 for more details.

Pressing the **[ENTER]** key will show the next Antenna Display or the Alarm List, or **[ESCAPE]** will return to the main display.

Alarm List

The Alarm List allows a user to see detailed description of all alarms that have occurred and are still active.

When new alarm is detected:

- The reader beeps twice.
- A detailed alarm message is sent to the communication port.
- An abbreviated alarm message is displayed on the LCD main screen.

If no alarms are active, the following message is displayed on the Alarm List screen:

No alarms

A detailed list of alarms and their descriptions can be found on page 47.

A down arrow (↓) is displayed on the right corner side of the display when more than one alarm exists. A user must then press the **[MENU]** key to see the remaining alarms.

Test Tag Failed
↓

Pressing the **[ENTER]** key again will show the Records Count, or **[ESCAPE]** will return to the main display.

Records Count

The Records Count displays the number of tag IDs presently stored in the buffer. The buffer can store a maximum of 5,350 tag IDs with reader ID, antenna ID and date and time stamps.

Pressing the **[ENTER]** key again will show the Date and Time, or **[ESCAPE]** will return to the main display.

Date and Time

The Date and Time displays current system clock setting used to stamp tag IDs as they are detected.

At this point, pressing the **[MENU]**, **[ENTER]** or **[ESCAPE]** keys will return to the main display.

CONFIGURING THE READER

One of the exclusive features of the FS1001M reader is its ability to be adapted to several types of operations and applications. The FS1001M operation can be tailored to a customer's needs using the configuration setup through the front panel keypad and display. It should be noted that any change can also be made through the communication port using the appropriate command.

The FS1001M reader has five primary menus and several sub-menus for selecting operating options. The following table shows the menu structure.

Table 1: Menu Structure and Default Settings

Main menu	Sub-menu	Available settings	Default
Reader	Unique Unique Delay ID in HEX	On, Off, Delay 0001 – 1440 (unique mode delay in minutes) 00, 10, 20, ... , F0	On 0030 F0 (can be set during firmware installation)
	Buzzer Reset parms	On, Off No, Yes	On No
Buffer	Active Download	On, Off Pressing Enter will download the buffer memory to the communication port	On
	Erase Test Tag	No, Yes On, Off (determines if test tag IDs are stored in the buffer)	No On
Local	Send tag	No, Yes (determines if tag IDs are sent to the communication port as they are detected)	Yes
Antenna	Sequence	XXXXXXXXXXXX (where X is 1 – 6)	123456000000
	1 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 1 target phase value)	0650
	2 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 2 target phase value)	0650
	3 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 3 target phase value)	0650
	4 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 4 target phase value)	0650
	5 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 5 target phase value)	0650
	6 Tuned Ph	0000 – 9999 (antenna 6 target phase value)	0650
Scan Time	0040 – 1000 (added antenna active time when a tag presence is detected in milliseconds)	0100	
Sleep Time	0000, 0002 – 9999 (antenna idle time before switching to the next antenna in 10 milliseconds)	0000	
Diag	Sys Temp	Displays system temperature in Celsius	
	Exciter	Displays exciter power supply voltage (+VE) in volts	
	Curr gain %	001 – 200 (antenna current measurement calibration gain %)	110
	Alarm mA	0001 – 9999 mA (low antenna current alarm threshold in milliamperes)	1000 (can be set during firmware installation)
	Virtual Test tag	On, Off, S-S (for all antennas or for a specific antenna)	Off All
	TstTAG delay	0000 – 1440 (automatic test tag activation delay in minutes)	0060
	Report delay	0000 – 1440 (automatic status report sending delay in minutes)	0240
	Noise delay	0000 – 1440 (automatic noise report sending delay in minutes)	0000
	Send status	Pressing Enter will send the status report to the communication port	
	Noise gain %	001 – 200 (noise level measurement calibration gain %)	100
	Noise Alm	01 – 99 (high noise level alarm threshold %)	30

Keypad Navigation and Operation

The reader contains four different keys that can be used to configure the reader.

- The **MENU** key is equivalent to a down arrow (↓) and allows you to browse the various menus and sub-menus.
- The **ESCAPE** key is equivalent to an up arrow (↑) and allows you to exit the current menu and go to the preceding menu.
- The **ENTER** key is equivalent to a computer enter key (↵) and allows either the selection of the currently displayed menu item for modification or the confirmation of a made change.
- The **RESET** key allows the reader to be restarted (hardware Reset).

The following figure illustrates the operation of the keys.

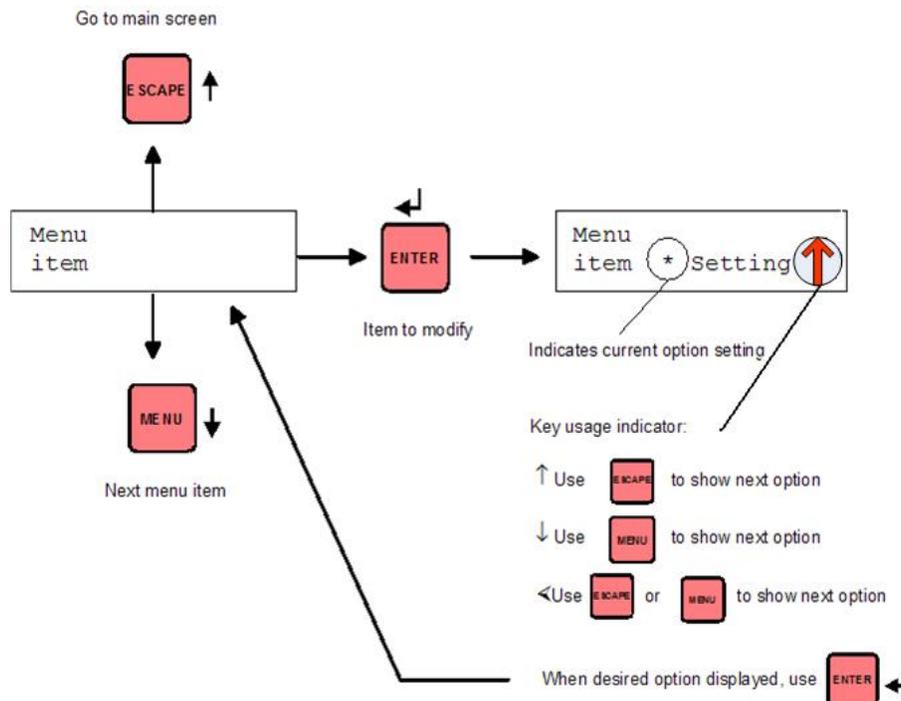


Figure 10: Key Usage

From the Standby or the Scan mode, press the **MENU** key to move from one primary menu to the next (Scan/Standby → Reader → Buffer → Local → Antenna → Diag → Scan/Standby...). From any menu, press the **ESCAPE** key to escape back to the previous menu. Press the **ENTER** key to move to the sub-menus under each primary menu and then use the **MENU** key to move among sub-menu options. When you want to modify an option, use the **ENTER** key. Using the **MENU** and the **ESCAPE** keys, select the desired option and hit the **ENTER** key. Press the **ESCAPE** key to return to the upper level menu where you started. Pressing the **MENU** key repeatedly will then cycle through the remaining primary menus until you return to the main menu. Alternatively, press the **ESCAPE** key to return directly to the main menu.

Reader Menu

The Reader menu contains the following sub-menus:

- Unique Mode
- Unique Mode Delay

- Reader ID
- Reader buzzer
- Reset

Reader unique

For the following discussion, reported means the beeper is activated (if enabled), the tag ID is stored in the buffer (if active) and sent to the communication port (if enabled).

The Unique mode defines the reaction of the reader when the same tag is read several times sequentially on the same antenna. The Unique mode is antenna-specific.

- When the Unique mode is Off, each time a tag is read it will be reported, displayed on the LCD and the READ LED will flash.
- When the Unique mode is On, a tag will be reported only if it is not the same as the previous 5 different tags detected on a given antenna. Therefore, the tag will only be reported once for each antenna it is detected on even if it remains in the detection range of those antennas, unless 5 other different tags are read. However, the READ LED will flash and tag ID will be displayed on the LCD every time a tag is read just as when Unique is Off.
- When the Unique mode is set to Del, a tag will be reported either if it is not the same as the previous 5 different tag IDs detected on a given antenna or if the Unique Delay has expired for that antenna. Therefore, the tag will be reported once when it first is read on an antenna and if the tag stays in the antenna detection range it will not be reported again until 5 other different tags are read on that antenna or until the Unique Delay times out for that antenna; it would then only be reported once and the cycle would repeat.

Unique Mode helps minimize the amount of identical tag IDs stored in the buffer. This is particularly helpful in situations where a tag can remain in the detection range of an antenna for extended periods of time. Unique Delay Mode also provides the researcher with an approximate length of time the tag remained in the detection range of an antenna.

To change the Unique Mode setting through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Reader...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Reader Unique” sub-menu.
3. From the “Reader Unique” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (On, Off or Del), with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select the next available setting.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.
6. You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Reader sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Reader unique delay

Unique Delay allows a user to select preferred value for the delay.

To change the Unique Delay value:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Reader...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Reader Unique” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader Unique Delay” sub-menu is displayed.

3. From the “Reader Unique Delay” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Reader sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: To enable the Unique Delay Mode through the keypad see the Unique Mode above.

Reader ID in hex

The Reader ID is a user selectable hexadecimal number meant to uniquely identify a particular reader.

To change the Reader ID setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Reader...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Reader Unique” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader ID in HEX” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Reader ID in HEX” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit. The least significant digit can not be changed and will always be “0” (Due to added Antenna ID feature).
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.
6. You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Reader sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: Reader ID default value is set up during a reader programming process. See VBFlash program operation on page 52 for details.

Reader buzzer

The Reader Buzzer is an audible annunciator that indicates that key has been pressed, a tag has been read, an alarm condition has occurred, a system reset has occurred, etc.

To change the Reader Buzzer setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Reader...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Reader Unique” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader Buzzer” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Reader Buzzer” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (On or Off) with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓ or ↑).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select the next available setting.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.

You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Reader sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: The audible alarm can interfere with reader performance when a large volume of tags is being decoded. It is recommended you turn off the buzzer during regular reader operation and use it only for set up and maintenance purposes.

Reset parameters

To restore a reader default parameters (see table 2) through the keypad, use the following procedure:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Reader...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Reader Unique” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Reader Reset parms” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Reader Reset parms” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (No), with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↑).
4. Use the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) to select “Yes” or the **[MENU]** key (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) as indicated on the display to go back to the “No” setting.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.

A reader reset is performed automatically after this command is issued.

Note: Reader ID, Current Gain, Antennas Sequence and Antennas Tuned Phase settings will not be affected by the Reset parameters command.

Buffer Menu

The FS1001M reader has a data-logging memory buffer with a maximum capacity of 5,350 tag IDs (with a date/time stamp, reader ID and antenna ID) and up to 146 Status Reports. The data-logging buffer is protected by a back-up lithium battery that prevents accidental data loss when the main power is low or turned off. This button style battery is located on the CPU board and has an expected life of 5 years (Model CR2032 made by Panasonic, Toshiba or equivalent).

The buffer is designed to store tag IDs in a ring configuration in 50-tag record blocks. That is, when the buffer is filled to 5,350 tag records the next tag read will cause the block of memory containing the first 50 records (the oldest ones) to be erased to make room for the new tag. This process of “out with the old and in with the new” will repeat each time the buffer reaches 5,350 records. Since the tag memory management is performed in blocks of 50 tags when the reader indicates memory full (MMF) the actual count of tag records in memory will be between 5,301 and 5,350.

The buffer management utilities allow the user to enable or disable the storing of tag IDs, download the buffer contents to the communication port, and erase the contents of the buffer.

Note: The Unique Mode affects the manner in which tag IDs are stored when the buffer is active. See the Unique Mode section on page 13 for more details.

The buffer is also designed to store reader status reports. When the Status Report Delay is set to any value other than zero, automatic full Status Report is sent to the communication port each time the delay times out. Each time an automatic status report is sent to the communication port a shortened version of this report containing volatile parameters and active alarms is stored in the buffer (regardless of the Buffer Active setting) in the same round-robin fashion as the tag buffer above. Once the report buffer fills up, each new report only overwrites the oldest report. See page 25 for more details on full and short Status Report contents.

Note: Status Reports are cleared from the buffer each time the reader is powered down or reset. Also, status reports generated manually using the reader “Send status” sub-menu or the DRS command are not stored in the buffer.

The Buffer menu contains the following sub-menus:

- Active

- Download
- Erase
- Test Tag

Buffer active

To enable or disable the buffer through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Buffer...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Buffer...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Buffer Active” sub-menu.
3. From the “Buffer Active” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (Yes or No), with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓ or ↑).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select the next available setting.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.
6. You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Buffer sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Buffer download

The Buffer Download function is used to copy the reader's buffer content to a computer.

When the Buffer Download command is generated the reader sends stored tag IDs first.

The buffered tag record consists of the following:

```
*F0 F1 3D9.29E9227BCC 01-01-1996 00:17:41
```

where:

- * – Asterisk indicating this is a buffered record and not a tag detected in real time
- F0 – Reader ID
- F1 - Antenna ID: antenna channel 1 of reader F0
- 3D9.29E9227BCC – Tag ID
- 01-01-1996 – Date the tag was detected
- 00:17:41 – Time the tag was detected

After all the buffered tag reports have been sent to the communication port a full status report is sent followed by all buffered status reports. See page 25 for more details.

To initiate the buffer content download through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Buffer...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Buffer...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Buffer Active” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Buffer Download” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Buffer Download” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then start downloading. The message “Sending buffer ESC to abort” will remain on the display until the download is completed. The download may take several minutes but does not affect the tag detection. To stop the download press the **[ESCAPE]** key.
4. Once the buffer download is completed, the reader will automatically return to the “Buffer Download” menu.

5. You can then use the **MENU** key to select the next Buffer sub-menu or the **ESCAPE** key to return to the upper level menu.

Buffer erase

The Buffer Erase function allows you to delete all stored tag IDs and Status Reports from a buffer.

To erase the buffer through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **MENU** key until the “Buffer...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Buffer...” sub-menu, press the **ENTER** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Buffer Active” sub-menu. Press the **MENU** key until the “Buffer Erase” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Buffer Erase” sub-menu, press the **ENTER** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (No) with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↑).

Use the **ESCAPE** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) to select “Yes” or the **MENU** key (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) as indicated on the display to go back to “No” setting if you change your mind.

4. Once the desired choice is on the display, press the **ENTER** key to select it.
5. You can then use the **MENU** key to select the next Buffer sub-menu or the **ESCAPE** key to return to the upper level menu.

Buffer test tag

The Buffer Test Tag option allows you to store test tag IDs in a buffer.

Note: Test tag ID is treated by a reader the same way as a real tag, so all Unique Mode rules also apply to it. Meaning that if Unique Mode is set to On or Delay, test tag ID will be stored only once for each antenna unless 5 other different tags are detected or the Unique Delay is expired (if the Unique Mode is set to Delay). So to avoid this and have test tag ID stored every time it is fired and detected the Unique Mode should be set to Delay and that delay value adjusted so it is large enough for an application requirements but less than Test Tag Delay value. This way when automatic test tag is ready to fire Unique Mode will be reset on all antennas and test tag ID will get stored (if it is successfully detected). See the Unique Mode section on page 13 for more details.

To enable or disable storing test tag IDs in the buffer through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **MENU** key until the “Buffer...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Buffer...” sub-menu, press the **ENTER** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Buffer Active” sub-menu. Press the **MENU** key until the “Buffer TestTag” menu is displayed.
3. From the “Buffer TestTag” sub-menu, press the **ENTER** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (Yes or No) with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓ or ↑).
4. Use the **MENU** key (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **ESCAPE** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select the next available setting;
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **ENTER** key to select it.
6. You can then use the **MENU** key to select the next Buffer sub-menu or the **ESCAPE** key to return to the upper level menu.

Local Menu

The Local menu is used to set the communication port operating option. The Local menu contains one sub-menu: Send tag.

Send tag setting

When the “Send tag” is enabled, tag IDs are sent to the communication serial port as they are detected and conditioned by the Unique Mode. The tag IDs are sent in the following format (ASCII characters: manufacturer ID followed by the universal code in hexadecimal format separated by a dot):

```
3D9.1BF0DB2DF0
```

The complete message is made up of the Reader ID, Antenna ID, Tag ID, Date and Time Stamp. The following is an example of the same tag being read on three different antennas:

```
F0 F3 3D9.29E9227BCC 25-08-2003 15:23:26
F0 F1 3D9.29E9227BCC 25-08-2003 15:23:27
F0 F2 3D9.29E9227BCC 25-08-2003 15:23:27
```

The tag record consists of the following:

```
F0 F1 3D9.29E9227BCC 25-08-2003 15:23:26
```

where:

- F0 - Reader ID
- F1 - Antenna ID: antenna channel 1 of reader F0
- 3D9.29E9227BCC – Tag ID
- 25-08-2003 – Date the tag was read
- 15:23:26 - Time the tag was read

To change the Send tag setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Local...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Local...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Local Send tag” sub-menu.
3. From the “Local Send tag” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option (Yes or No), with the “*” symbol on the left and an arrow on the right (↓ or ↑).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select the next available setting.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it.
6. You can then use the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Antenna Menu

The Antenna menu is used to set antennas operation parameters. It contains the following sub-menus:

- Antenna Sequence
- Antenna 1 Tuned Ph
- Antenna 2 Tuned Ph
- Antenna 3 Tuned Ph
- Antenna 4 Tuned Ph
- Antenna 5 Tuned Ph
- Antenna 6 Tuned Ph
- Antenna Scan Time

- Antenna Sleep Time

Antenna Sequence

The Antenna Sequence sub-menu is used to select which antennas will be active and what sequence they will be switched between. The reader is limited to up to six physical antennas. However, to provide additional flexibility there are up to 12 entries available in the switching sequence.

To change the Antenna Sequence setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Antenna...” sub-menu is displayed;
2. From the “Antenna ...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Antenna Sequence” sub-menu.
3. From the “Antenna Sequence” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with the first digit flashing and an arrow on the right of the sequence (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the first position of the sequence.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The next digit will start flashing. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done press the **[ENTER]** key, the reader will display “ESC(clr)/ENT(ok)”, press the **[ENTER]** key to confirm or the **[ESCAPE]** key to abort antenna sequence change.
7. Once the sequence is updated you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Antenna sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: If using only one antenna select the following sequence: {X,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0}, where X is the channel number to which the antenna is attached.

Antenna 1 – 6 Tuned Ph

The Antenna 1-6 Tuned Ph sub-menus are used to set the target tuning phase value for each antenna. The reader then automatically selects and constantly updates the bank of tuning capacitors for each antenna to achieve the target phase.

To change the Antenna Tuned Ph setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Antenna...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Antenna ...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Antenna Sequence” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until “Antenna # Tuned Ph” sub-menu is displayed (where “#” is the number of desired antenna).
3. From the “Antenna # Tuned Ph” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Antenna sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: For the information on how to determine target phase value see Tuning procedure on page 49.

Scan time

The Antenna Scan Time sub-menu is used to define for how long the reader will extend the stay at an antenna if a tag presence is detected to attempt to decode it. If tag presence is not detected the reader switches to the next antenna in the switching sequence every 30 milliseconds (default switching time). If at any moment during these 30ms a tag presence is detected the reader will extend the stay at currently active antenna and continue scanning for period of time defined by this parameter. Acceptable range is 40 to 1000ms.

Note: If necessary, the default switching time value of 30ms can be changed to 20, 25, or 44ms by reprogramming the reader with the appropriate application firmware (see Reader Firmware Update).

To change the Scan Time setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Antenna...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Antenna ...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Antenna Sequence” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until “Antenna Scan Time” sub-menu is displayed.
7. From the “Antenna Scan Time” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
8. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
9. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
3. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Antenna sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: Decreasing this parameter decreases overall switching cycle but also decreases the chance of a successful tag ID decoding.

Sleep time

The Antenna Sleep Time sub-menu is used to activate and set up Antenna Sleep Mode, which helps to conserve and extend supply battery life. In this mode the reader puts each antenna in an idle state prior to switching to the next antenna in the switching sequence for amount of time specified by this delay. The delay can be set to 0 (disable Sleep Mode) or from 2 - 9999 in 10ms increments.

To change the Sleep Time setting:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Antenna...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Antenna ...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Antenna Sequence” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until “Antenna Sleep Time” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Antenna Sleep Time” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Antenna sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: While in sleep mode the antenna current is turned off so no tags can be detected. Also, activating the sleep mode will increase the amount of time it takes to cycle through all antennas in the antenna sequence.

Diagnostic Menu

The Diagnostic menu includes a variety of tools used for system installation and maintenance. It consists of the following features:

- Display the temperature inside the reader case (system temperature).
- Display the voltage of the exciter power supply (+VE test point).
- Calibrate the antenna current measurement.
- Set the low antenna current alarm threshold.
- Control the test tag.
- Set the automatic test tag delay (periodic system verification).
- Set the automatic status report delay.
- Set the automatic noise report delay.
- Send the reader status report through the communication port to a computer.
- Calibrate the noise measurement.
- Set the high noise alarm threshold.

System temperature

The Sys Temp function displays the system temperature in Celsius. For example:



```
Diag - System
37.6 C
```

To display system temperature:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu.
3. You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: This information is available through the communication port as part of the Status Report.

Exciter

The Exciter function displays the exciter (antenna driver) power supply voltage. For example:



```
Diag - Exciter
>■■■■■■■ < 12.1
```

The left portion is a horizontal bar graph with approximately 0.75V resolution (per horizontal dot). The right side shows the supply value in volts. The measurement precision is approximately $\pm 0.2V$. This voltage is equivalent to the one measured between +VE and 0VE test points on the Mother board.

Under fixed conditions (antenna, system and environmental properties) higher exciter voltage translates into greater current at the antenna and, as a result, stronger antenna magnetic field. But on the other hand higher exciter voltage means higher power consumption of the reader and possible noise increase

due to increased interference with environment and other systems and devices. Therefore, for the best performance, exciter voltage should be optimized to the application requirements keeping in mind explanations above. The voltage can be adjusted from 14V to 24V using potentiometer RP2 located on the Mother board.

To display exciter voltage:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag - Exciter” sub-menu is displayed.

You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: This information is available through the communication port as part of the Status Report.

Current gain %

The Curr Gain % function is used to calibrate the antenna current peak-to-peak measurement. Current gain value can be between 1 and 200%. The calibration formula is the following:

$$I_{\text{displayed}} = (I_{\text{measured}} * \text{Curr gain})/100$$

The current gain has been calibrated at the factory. But if for any reason the system is reporting inaccurate current values the following calibration procedure can be used to correct it.

1. Set the antenna sequence for selection of only one antenna (use the following sequence: {X,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0}, where X is the channel number to which the antenna is attached).
2. Connect a current probe to either wire from connector J2 on the Analog board and measure the real peak-to-peak current value (I_{real}) with an oscilloscope.
3. Take note of the existing Curr Gain (Old gain) from the Curr Gain menu.
4. Using the Antenna X display under the Reader Status menu, find the selected antenna current value displayed by the reader ($I_{\text{displayed}}$).
5. The new current gain setting should be computed as follows:

$$\text{New gain} = (I_{\text{real}} * \text{Old gain}) / (I_{\text{displayed}})$$

6. After setting new current gain verify that antenna current value displayed by the reader matches the real one measured with an oscilloscope.

To change the current gain:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Curr gain %” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Curr Gain” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: The present Current Gain value is available through the communication port as part of the Status Report.

Alarm mA

The Alarm mA function is used to set the antenna low current alarm threshold from 1 to 9999 milli-Amperes. The alarm will be generated if antenna current drops below the threshold. It can be used to indicate reader deterioration (tuning or connection problem, etc.).

To change the current alarm:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Alarm mA” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Alarm mA” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓,↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: The present Current Alarm Threshold value is available through the communication port as part of the Status Report.

Note: The Current Alarm Threshold default value is set up during the reader programming process. See page 52 for details.

Virtual test tag

The Virtual Test Tag (VTT) is a device designed to verify the reader integrity and sensitivity. It generates an ISO FDX-B tag signal at pre-selected signal levels for each antenna and can be turned on/off by the reader in the following manner.

1. Automatically at user selectable intervals based on the Virtual Test Tag Delay setting. This test is done in order to verify that the reader is operating properly especially for extended periods when no PIT tags are present.
2. Manually by the user through the keypad or the communication port connection.

When the test is performed automatically by the system or manually set to Single Shot through the keypad or communication port, the following message is sent to the communication port for each antenna in switching sequence (or specific antenna is the later case):

```
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 1
```

If the test is successful, the user will be notified by the following message on the communication port:

```
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
```

If the test tag is not detected within the time frame defined by the Scan time parameter, the “TAG” alarm message will be displayed on the reader’s LCD main screen and the following message will be sent to the communication port:

```
PROBLEM: Test Tag Failed
```

If the system detects a presence of a real tag at the antenna in question the Test Tag firing will be aborted and the following message will appear:

```
MESSAGE: Test aborted due to system activity
```

When the Test tag is turned ON continuously through the keypad or the communication port, the system performs a detection efficiency evaluation, which is a percentage of tag detections (hit rate) over a 4 second period for each antenna enabled. The hit rate value of 100% means that VTT was successfully read once every time an antenna was selected.

Note: It is recommended to disable the buzzer as it can interfere with reader performance by presenting audible noise, thus reducing the hit rate.

The following message is sent to the communication port when antennas 1, 2, 3, and 4 are enabled every four seconds.

```
Ant1 Hit Rate: 99
Ant2 Hit Rate: 98
Ant3 Hit Rate: 100
Ant4 Hit Rate: 100
```

In order to exit from this test mode, the Test tag must be turned Off or the unit must be reset.

Note: The Virtual Test tag level or its signal strength is adjustable and can be set to different levels for each antenna channel. This enables a user to utilize the VTT to determine reader sensitivity as well as to perform end-to-end system integrity test for each individual antenna channel. However, the VTT level can only be adjusted via the communication port from the Manual Tuning Mode or by using TL command. See pages 23 and 44 for details.

The test tag can be turned On, Off, or S-S (Single Shot) for all antennas simultaneously or for individual antenna through the front panel:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag-Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Virtual Test tag” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Virtual Test tag” display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display “VTT State ON↓”. Press the **[MENU]** key to select the desired action (turn VTT “On”, “Off”, or “S-S” (Single Shot)) and then press the **[ENTER]** key to select the action.
4. The reader will then display “VTT Ant *All↓”. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to select “*All” or one of the 6 antenna channels.
5. Once the desired selection is made press the **[ENTER]** to initiate the VTT action.
6. You can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

TstTAG delay

The TstTAG delay function is used to set the automatic virtual test tag delay period. The delay can be set from 0 (disabled) to 1440 minutes (24 hours).

When the delay expires, the reader verifies the possible presence of real tag within each antenna field. This is done by checking both of the following conditions for each antenna:

- The number of signal transitions per second must be below 1024 (average signal frequency below 512 Hz).
- The tag-decoding algorithm must not be synchronized on the incoming signal.

If one of the conditions is not met, there is a possibility that areal tag is already within the antenna field and the self-test for that particular antenna is aborted.

```
MESSAGE: Test aborted due to system activity
```

If both of these conditions are met, the probability of having a tag within the antenna is low and therefore, the reader proceeds with the self-test by activating the test tag for amount of time defined by the Scan

time parameter for each antenna. If the test tag is successfully read the following actions are performed by the reader:

- It will show the test tag ID on its LCD display.
- It will store the test tag ID in the memory file (if “Buffer Active” and “Buffer TestTag” are enabled).
- It will send the test tag ID (if “Send tag” is enabled) and test messages to the communication port:

```
F0> MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 1  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found  
F0 F1 3E7.0000001DF0 25-08-2003 15:23:27
```

If the test tag was not read within the allocated time frame (defined by the Scan time parameter), a “TAG” (Test Tag Failed) alarm is generated and the following messages are sent to the communication port:

```
F0> MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 1  
PROBLEM: Test Tag Failed
```

This process is repeated for each antenna in the antenna sequence. The delay is then reset and the next test will be conducted at its expiration.

To change the Test tag delay:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag TstTAG Delay” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag TstTAG Delay” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Note: The first test will follow right after the new delay is set.

Report delay

The status report is a complete list of the present system setup and operational parameters. This report is only available through the communication port and is presented as a compressed comma delimited communication data stream. This format is difficult to read as is but was necessary due to program memory constraints. It is recommended to use the “MiniMon” program release 1.5.3 or higher or the next-generation PTAGIS interrogation software – “M4”, available at the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Web site at www.psmfc.org, to read this report. The MiniMon and M4 programs have been designed to interface with the Multiplexer to provide data collection services, command interface and to break out the status report data stream into an easy to read format.

A status report can be requested through both the front panel and the communication port. The Report Delay can be set by a user so that a status report is sent to the communication port automatically at an interval of between 0 (disabled) and 1440 minutes (24 hours). In addition, short versions of status reports are stored in internal memory (see page 15 for details). Status reports stored in memory only contain dynamic parameters such as antenna current, internal system temperature, etc. (see Table 3 below) to conserve memory.

Below is a full status report followed by a table identifying each element in the status report:

\$MUX1230,2,0,10,1,0030,1,1,1,1,60,240,0,103,3000,100,50,100,0,670,36A,0,670,224,0,670,36D,50,670,1F2,0,670,36D,0,670,22B,25,1,2,3,4,5,6,0,0,0,0,0,0,22,231,0,1,70,1,1,1,1,1,1,455,633,455,634,457,636,-1,-1,-2,-3,-2,-3,29,54,29,54,20,47,0,0,0,0,0,0,NL2,NL4,TAG,188,05-02-2007 16:21:39

Table 2: Full Status Report Items Description

Item Position	Item Description	Value Range	Value Above
0	Unique String Identifier	\$	\$
1	Firmware Name	MUX1220, MUX1225, MUX1230, MUX1244	MUX1230
2	Firmware Version	00 – 99	2
3	Firmware Revision	00 – 99	0
4	Reader ID	00 – F0	10
5	Unique Mode	0 – OFF, 1 – ON, 2 – DELAY	1
6	Unique Mode Delay	0 – 1440 min	0030
7	Enable Beep	0 – OFF, 1 – ON	1
8	Send To Comm	0 – NO, 1 – YES	1
9	Store Tag Mode	0 – OFF, 1 – ON	1
10	Store Test Tag	0 – OFF, 1 – ON	1
11	Test Tag Fire Delay	0 – 1440 min	60
12	Status Report Delay	0 – 1440 min	240
13	Noise Report Delay	0 – 1440 min	0
14	Current Gain	1 – 200 %	103
15	Current Alarm Threshold	1 – 9999 mA	3000
16	Noise Gain	1 – 200 %	100
17	Noise Alarm Threshold	1 – 99 %	50
18	Scan Time	40 – 1000 msec	100
19	Sleep Time	0, 2 – 9999 x 10 msec	0
20	Ant1 Target Phase	0 – 1023	670
21	Ant1 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	36A
22	Ant1 VTT Level	0 – 99	0
23	Ant2 Target Phase	0 – 1023	670
24	Ant2 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	224
25	Ant2 VTT Level	0 – 99	0
26	Ant3 Target Phase	0 – 1023	630
27	Ant3 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	36D
28	Ant3 VTT Level	0 – 99	50
29	Ant4 Target Phase	0 – 1023	670
30	Ant4 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	1F2
31	Ant4 VTT Level	0 – 99	0
32	Ant5 Target Phase	0 – 1023	670
33	Ant5 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	36D
34	Ant5 VTT Level	0 – 99	0

35	Ant6 Target Phase	0 – 1023	670
36	Ant6 Present Capacitors Setting	0 – FFF (Hex Value)	22B
37	Ant6 VTT Level	0 – 99	25
38	Antenna Sequence 1 st Position	1 – 6	1
39	Antenna Sequence 2 nd Position	1 – 6	2
40	Antenna Sequence 3 rd Position	1 – 6	3
41	Antenna Sequence 4 th Position	1 – 6	4
42	Antenna Sequence 5 th Position	1 – 6	5
43	Antenna Sequence 6 th Position	1 – 6	6
44	Antenna Sequence 7 th Position	1 – 6	0
45	Antenna Sequence 8 th Position	1 – 6	0
46	Antenna Sequence 9 th Position	1 – 6	0
47	Antenna Sequence 10 th Position	1 – 6	0
48	Antenna Sequence 11 th Position	1 – 6	0
49	Antenna Sequence 12 th Position	1 – 6	0
50	System Temperature	-50 – 999 °C	22
51	Exciter Voltage	140 – 240 x 0.1 V	231
52	Lithium Battery	0 – OK, 1 – LOW	0
53	Memory Used	0 – 100 %	1
54	Stored Tags Count	0 – 5350	70
55	Antenna 1 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
56	Antenna 2 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
57	Antenna 3 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
58	Antenna 4 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
59	Antenna 5 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
60	Antenna 6 Presence	0 – NO, 1 – YES, 2 – YES, Reader in STANDBY	1
61	Antenna 1 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	455
62	Antenna 2 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	633
63	Antenna 3 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	455
64	Antenna 4 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	634
65	Antenna 5 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	457
66	Antenna 6 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	636
67	Antenna 1 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-1
68	Antenna 2 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-1
69	Antenna 3 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-2
70	Antenna 4 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-3
71	Antenna 5 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-2
72	Antenna 6 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-3
73	Antenna 1 Noise	0 – 100 %	29
74	Antenna 2 Noise	0 – 100 %	54
75	Antenna 3 Noise	0 – 100 %	29

76	Antenna 4 Noise	0 – 100 %	54
77	Antenna 5 Noise	0 – 100 %	20
78	Antenna 6 Noise	0 – 100 %	47
79	Antenna 1 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
80	Antenna 2 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
81	Antenna 3 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
82	Antenna 4 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
83	Antenna 5 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
84	Antenna 6 Relays Counter	0 – 100 %	0
85	Alarms Active	none, one or all	NL2,NL4,TAG
86	Elapsed Shutdown Time	sec	188
87	Date	DD-MM-YYYY	05-02-2007
88	Time	HH:MM:SS (24hr format)	16:21:39

The next is a stored status report followed by a table identifying each element in the status report. This is a short version of the full status report and only contains the dynamic elements of the full report:

&1, 24, 231, 0, 1, 70, 455, 633, 456, 632, 456, 634, 1, -2, 0, -4, 0, -2, 20, 42, 20, 40, 18, 40, 05-02-2007, 16:23:57

Table 3: Short Status Report Items Description

Item Position	Item Description	Value Range	Value Above
0	Unique String Identifier	&	&
1	Report ID	1 – 146	1
2	System Temperature	-50 – 999 °C	24
3	Exciter Voltage	140 – 240 x 0.1 V	231
4	Lithium Battery	0 – OK, 1 – LOW	0
5	Memory Used	0 – 100 %	1
6	Stored Tags Count	0 – 5350	70
7	Antenna 1 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	455
8	Antenna 2 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	633
9	Antenna 3 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	456
10	Antenna 4 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	632
11	Antenna 5 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	456
12	Antenna 6 Current	0 – 800 x 0.01 A _{p-p}	634
13	Antenna 1 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	1
14	Antenna 2 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-2
15	Antenna 3 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	0
16	Antenna 4 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-4
17	Antenna 5 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	0
18	Antenna 6 Relative Phase	0 – ±1023	-2

19	Antenna 1 Noise	0 – 100 %	20
20	Antenna 2 Noise	0 – 100 %	42
21	Antenna 3 Noise	0 – 100 %	20
22	Antenna 4 Noise	0 – 100 %	40
23	Antenna 5 Noise	0 – 100 %	18
24	Antenna 6 Noise	0 – 100 %	40
25	Date	DD-MM-YYYY	05-02-2007
26	Time	HH:MM:SS (24hr format)	16:23:57

To change the Status Report delay:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Report Delay” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Report Delay” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Noise delay

The noise report provides noise statistics (such as average and peak noise measurement values) for each antenna. The noise report can be requested through both the front panel and the communication port. The Noise Delay can be set by a user so that a status report is sent to the communication port automatically at an interval of between 0 (disabled) and 1440 minutes (24 hours) in the following form:

```

Noise report for Reader ID#F0
Antenna:    1      2      3      4      5      6
Average:    2 %   3 %   2 %   2 %   2 %   1 %
Peak:      10 %  3 %   5 %   3 %   2 %   3 %

```

To change the Noise Report Delay:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Noise Delay” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Noise Delay” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.

6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Send status

You can force the immediate transmission of the status report to the communication port through the keypad using the “Send status” sub-menu. The procedure is the following:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Send status” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Send status” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then send the status to the communication port (“Sending status..” displayed momentarily).
4. Once the download is done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Noise gain %

The Noise gain % function is used to calibrate noise measurement. Noise measurement corresponds to peak-to-peak value of a signal at receiver comparator input (test point TP21 on Analog board) in percents, meaning that if signal at TP21 is 5V peak-to-peak (maximum possible), noise measurement should be 100%. If signal at TP21 is 200mV peak-to-peak, noise measurement should be 4%. Noise gain value can be set between 1 and 200%.

To change the Noise gain %:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Noise gain %” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Noise gain %” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.
5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **[MENU]** or the **[ESCAPE]** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **[ENTER]** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **[MENU]** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **[ESCAPE]** key to return to the upper level menu.

Noise Alm

The Noise Alm function is used to set the excessive noise level alarm threshold between 1 and 99%. The alarm will be generated if noise rises above the threshold. It can be used to indicate reader deterioration (tuning or connection problem, etc.) or ambient conditions influence.

To change the excessive noise level alarm threshold:

1. From the Scan/Standby display, press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag...” sub-menu is displayed.
2. From the “Diag...” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the “Diag - Sys temp” sub-menu. Press the **[MENU]** key until the “Diag Noise Alm” sub-menu is displayed.
3. From the “Diag Noise Alm” sub-menu, press the **[ENTER]** key to select it. The reader will then display the current setting of the option with an arrow on top of the most significant digit (↓, ↑ or ↕).
4. Use the **[MENU]** (equivalent to a down arrow “↓”) or the **[ESCAPE]** key (equivalent to an up arrow “↑”) as indicated on the display to change the most significant digit.

5. Once the desired setting is on the display, press the **ENTER** key to select it. The arrow will then move over the next digit. You can change it using the **MENU** or the **ESCAPE** key, or go to the next digit by pressing the **ENTER** key.
6. Once all the digits are done, you can then use the **MENU** key to select the next Diag sub-menu or the **ESCAPE** key to return to the upper level menu.

SERIAL COMMUNICATION PORT OPERATION

The FS1001M reader can be fully configured and operated through the serial communication port. The serial communication port enables you to connect to a computer for data logging, system setup, and maintenance functions. For initial system setup utilizing the communication port is easier and more time efficient than working through the reader's front panel.

Hardware Description

The serial communication port is located on the bottom of the FS1001M enclosure and is a 9-pin "D" type female connector (DB9) configured as a DCE (Data Communication Equipment). Normally, a direct cable (pin to pin) is required to connect the communication port to a computer. The pin assignment of the connector is as follows:

Table 4: Communication Port Connections (DB-9 Connector)

DB9 Pin number	EIA 232 signal name	Description	Reader signal direction	PC Computer connection	PC Computer connection
				(25 pin)	(9-pin)
2	RD	Receive Data	Output	3	2
3	TD	Transmit Data	Input	2	3
5	GND	Signal Ground	None	7	5

Configuration

The communication port is configured for operation at 57,600 baud, no parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no flow control (57,600,N,8,1). The system is intended to be used in conjunction with the MiniMon or M4 program, which runs on the connected computer and provides interface and data interpretation, separation and collection tools. For instance, the status reports are presented in a compressed format and are difficult to read without the aid of the MiniMon or M4. But since all the data is presented in ASCII format, most communication software packages such as HyperTerminal  or ProComm  can be used to send and capture data through the communication port.

Command/response Messages

The communication port commands are used to configure the reader parameters and to perform specific operations on the reader from a computer. The commands can be typed in ASCII format using a terminal or a PC computer running a communication software package. A majority of commands is available from within the MiniMon or M4 program, except for AS, BE, MT, RI and RP commands (see descriptions below), so initial system setup must be performed using a communication software packages such as HyperTerminal  or ProComm .

General Format

The reader commands consist of 2 or more characters followed by Enter (Carriage Return, \$0d, 12d) as in the following example: **RA0**↵

By default, commands are echoed on the communication port as they are typed. The backspace key can be used to correct an improper command.

Command List

The following is a brief description of the commands available at the communication port ({ } - indicates a variable parameter (1 - On/Set, 0 - Off/Reset and, # - value)). Type in **bold red** indicates user entered values and a ↵ indicates “Enter.” For a more detailed description of the commands refer to the preceding sections.

Help (H or ?)

The H or ? command displays the list of available commands:

H↵ or ?↵

```
F0> h↵
AS           Antenna switching sequence
AT {#}      Antenna scanning time #msec
BA {1|0}    Buffer Active ON|OFF
BC          Buffer Count
BD          Buffer Download
BE          Buffer Erase
DA {#}      Low current alarm threshold #mA
DG {#}      Current measurement gain #%
DR {D#|S}   Status report DELAY|SEND
DS {1|0}    Store test tag code ON|OFF
DT {1|0|D#|S} Test tag ON|OFF|DELAY|SEND
LT {1|0}    Send tag codes to COM1 ON|OFF
MT          Manual tuning mode
NG {#}      Noise measurement gain #%
NT {#}      High noise alarm threshold #%
NR {D#|S}   Noise report DELAY|SEND
RA {1|0|R}  Reader Active ON|OFF|RESET
RB {1|0}    Reader Buzzer Active ON|OFF
RI {XX}     Reader Hex ID
RP          Reset parameters to default
RU {1|0|D#} Unique mode ON|OFF|DELAY
SM (#)      Antenna sleep mode delay #msec
TC          Display current date and time
TE {1|0}    Test Reader Efficiency ON|OFF
TD {DD-MM-YYYY} Reader date
TH {HH:MM:SS} Reader time
TL {ant}{lev} Test tag level (0 - 99)
H or ?     Display list of all commands
```

Note: The execution of the Help command generates a heavy processor load (interrupt processing) and may cause temporary overload when scanning for tags.

Antenna switching sequence (AS)

The AS command is used to select which antennas will be active and what sequence they will be switched between. The reader is limited to up to 6 physical antennas. However, to provide additional flexibility there are up to 12 entries available in the switching sequence. The following text shows a 4 antenna system being set for a round robin switching sequence of 1,2,3,4,1,2,3,4,1,...:

F0> **as↵**

```
Valid sequence value are (0 - 6 where 0 is none)
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 1 (current: 1): 1
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 2 (current: 1): 2
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 3 (current: 1): 3
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 4 (current: 1): 4
```

```
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 5 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 6 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 7 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 8 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 9 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 10 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 11 (current: 1): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 12 (current: 1): 0
```

```
CONFIRM: 1 2 3 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 ? (Y/N) y
MESSAGE: Sequence table saved in EEPROM
```

Note: The entered values are not echoed back to the computer and are therefore not displayed. When filling the sequence list, the selected antennas should be entered first; any remaining entries should be filled in with "0".

The user's entries are displayed in the final "confirm" message. To select the new sequence enter a "Y" or to abort the command and make no changes enter "N."

The following text shows a four antenna system were the #1 antenna is switched to every other time to provide a higher percentage of dwell time on #1. The switching sequence for this setup will be 1,2,1,3,1,4,1,1,2,1,3,1,4,1,1,2,....:

```
F0> as↵
```

```
Valid sequence value are (0 - 6 where 0 is none)
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 1 (current: 1): 1
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 2 (current: 2): 2
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 3 (current: 3): 1
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 4 (current: 4): 3
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 5 (current: 0): 1
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 6 (current: 0): 4
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 7 (current: 0): 1
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 8 (current: 0): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 9 (current: 0): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 10 (current: 0): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 11 (current: 0): 0
Enter Antenna id for Sequence 12 (current: 0): 0
```

```
CONFIRM: 1 2 1 3 1 4 1 0 0 0 0 0 ? (Y/N) y
MESSAGE: Sequence table saved in EEPROM
```

Note: If using only one antenna select the following sequence: {X,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0}, where X is the channel number to which the antenna is attached.

Antenna scanning time (AT)

The AT command defines for how long the reader will extend the stay at an antenna if a tag presence is detected to attempt to decode it. If tag presence is not detected the reader switches to the next antenna in the switching sequence every 30 milliseconds (default switching time). If at any moment during these 30ms a tag presence is detected the reader will extend the stay at currently active antenna and continue scanning for period of time defined by this parameter. Acceptable range is 40 to 1000ms as in the following example (do not include the leading zeroes):

```
F0> at100↵
MESSAGE: Scanning time set to 100 ms.

F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
```

```
F0> at25↓  
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 40 to 1000 ms
```

Note: Decreasing this parameter reduces overall switching cycle but also reduces the chance of a successful tag ID decoding.

Buffer active (BA)

The BA command is used to enable or disable the storing of tag IDs in a buffer.

To enable the buffer:

```
F0> ba1↓  
MESSAGE: Buffer was turned ON
```

To disable the buffer:

```
F0> ba0↓  
MESSAGE: Buffer was turned OFF
```

Buffer count (BC)

The BC command is used to display the number of tag IDs stored in a buffer.

To see the buffer count:

```
F0> bc↓  
MESSAGE: Tag count is 4610
```

Buffer download (BD)

The BD command is used to send all information stored in a buffer to the communication port:

```
F0> bd↓  
MESSAGE: Download initiated press ESC to quit  
*F0 F2 3D9.1BF264C7F0 22-01-2007 10:04:16  
*F0 F6 3D9.1BF264C7F0 22-01-2007 10:04:19  
*F0 F1 3D9.1BF269C039 22-01-2007 10:04:20  
*F0 F6 3D9.1BF269C039 22-01-2007 10:04:23  
*F0 F2 3D9.1BF269C039 22-01-2007 10:04:24  
*F0 F5 3D9.1BF264C7F0 22-01-2007 10:04:26  
*F0 F6 3D9.1BF264C7F0 22-01-2007 10:04:29  
$MUX1230,2,0,10,1,0030,1,1,1,1,60,240,0,103,3000,100,50,100,0,670,36A,0  
,670,224,0,670,36D,50,670,1F2,0,670,36D,0,670,22B,25,1,2,3,4,5,6,0,0,0,  
0,0,0,22,231,0,1,70,1,1,1,1,1,1,455,633,455,634,457,636,-1,-1,-2,-3,-  
2,-3,29,54,29,54,20,47,0,0,0,0,0,0,NL2,NL4,TAG,188,05-02-2007 16:21:39  
&1,26,231,0,0,7,473,595,474,595,474,596,0,-5,-2,-1,1,1,9,20,8,27,12,23,  
22-01-2007,10:05:00  
&2,26,231,0,0,7,473,594,473,596,474,595,0,-4,1,3,2,3,10,37,11,51,11,45,  
22-01-2007,10:10:00  
&3,26,231,0,0,7,473,595,473,596,474,595,2,-3,2,0,3,2,10,45,11,53,12,43,  
22-01-2007,10:15:00  
&4,26,231,0,0,7,473,593,473,595,473,596,2,-3,2,0,2,2,10,35,11,43,10,39,  
22-01-2007,10:20:00  
Message: Buffer download complete
```

Buffer erase (BE)

The BE command is used to erase all information stored in a buffer:

```
F0> be↓  
CONFIRM: Erase Buffer? (Y/N) y  
MESSAGE: Buffer erased.  
F0> be↓  
CONFIRM: Erase Buffer? (Y/N) n
```

```
MESSAGE: Command cancelled.
FF>
```

Low current alarm threshold (DA)

The DA command is used to set low antenna current alarm threshold. The acceptable range is 1 to 9999 in milleamperes peak-to-peak, as illustrated in the following examples:

```
F0> da100.↓
MESSAGE: Current alarm threshold set to 100mA
F0> da6000.↓
MESSAGE: Current alarm threshold set to 6000mA
F0> PROBLEM: Ant2 current low
F0> da12000.↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 9999mA
F0>
```

The alarm threshold can be used to indicate reader deterioration (tuning or connection problem, etc.). When the antenna N current is lower than the alarm threshold, the EXN is displayed on reader's LCD and "AntN current low" alarm is generated and sent to communication port as in the above example.

Note: The alarm threshold default value is set up during the reader programming process.

Current measurement gain (DG)

The DG command is used to calibrate antenna current measurement by adjusting current gain. The calibration formula is the following:

$$I_{\text{displayed}} = (I_{\text{measured}} * \text{Curr gain})/100$$

The default value is 110%. The acceptable range is 1 to 200% and can be changed, as illustrated in the following example:

```
F0> dg100.↓
MESSAGE: Current gain set to 100%
F0> dg1000.↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 200%
F0>
```

Status report delay (DRD)

The DRD command is used to set the automatic status report delay period. The status report is sent automatically to the communication port and provides complete status information about the reader. The automatic sending of the report can be set from 0 (disable) to 1440 minutes (24 hours). For example:

```
F0> drd1.↓
MESSAGE: Report delay set to 1 minute(s)
F0> drd1440.↓
MESSAGE: Report delay set to 1440 minute(s)
F0> drd5000.↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 1440min
```

Status report send (DRS)

The DRS command displays the current reader status and configuration. For example:

```
F0> drs.↓
$MUX1230,2,0,10,1,0030,1,1,1,1,60,240,0,103,3000,100,50,100,0,670,36A,0
,670,224,0,670,36D,50,670,1F2,0,670,36D,0,670,22B,25,1,2,3,4,5,6,0,0,0,
0,0,0,22,231,0,1,70,1,1,1,1,1,1,455,633,455,634,457,636,-1,-1,-2,-3,-
2,-3,29,54,29,54,20,47,0,0,0,0,0,0,NL2,NL4,TAG,188,05-02-2007 16:21:39
```

Note: For more information about the status report and its contents refer to page 25.

Store test tag code (DS)

The DS command is used to enable or disable the storing of test tag IDs in a buffer.

To enable storing test tag IDs:

```
F0> ds1↓  
MESSAGE: Buffering of test Tag ID was turned ON
```

To disable storing test tag IDs:

```
F0> ds0↓  
MESSAGE: Buffering of test Tag ID was turned OFF
```

Test tag on/off/single shot (DT)

The DT command controls the Virtual Test Tag (VTT) operation.

To turn VTT On:

```
F0> dt1↓  
MESSAGE: Test Tag On for ALL Antennas  
Ant1 Hit Rate : 100  
Ant2 Hit Rate : 100  
Ant3 Hit Rate : 100  
Ant4 Hit Rate : 100  
Ant5 Hit Rate : 100  
Ant6 Hit Rate : 100
```

When the virtual test tag is turned On the system performs a detection efficiency evaluation, which is a percentage of tag detections (hit rate) over a 4 second period for each antenna enabled. The hit rate value of 100% means that VTT was successfully read once every time an antenna was selected.

Note: It is recommended to disable the buzzer as it can interfere with reader performance by presenting audible noise, thus reducing the hit rate.

To turn VTT Off:

```
F0> dt0↓  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Off for ALL Antennas
```

To single-shoot VTT (activate once for each antenna in the antenna switching sequence):

```
F0> dts↓  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Single shot for ALL Antennas  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 1  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 2  
PROBLEM: Test Tag Failed  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 3  
MESSAGE: Test aborted due to system activity  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 4  
PROBLEM: Test Tag Failed  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 5  
MESSAGE: Test aborted due to system activity  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 6  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
```

Test tag delay (DTD)

The DTD command is used to set the automatic test tag delay period. The reader automatically performs a test tag single shot for all antennas in the switching sequence each time the delay expires (the same way as DTS command). The delay can be set from 0 (disable) to 1440 minutes (24 hours). For example:

```
F0> dtd10↓  
MESSAGE: Test tag timer set to 10 minute(s)  
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 1
```

```
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 2
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 3
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 4
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 5
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
MESSAGE: Test Tag Fired on antenna 6
MESSAGE: Test Tag Found
```

```
F0> dtd5000↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 0 to 1440min
```

Send tag codes to COM1 (LT)

The LT command is used to enable and disable the sending of real-time tag IDs to the communication port. For example:

```
F0> 1t1↓
MESSAGE: Sending of tags enabled.
F0> 1t0↓
MESSAGE: Sending of tags disabled.
FF>
```

Note: If Unique mode is activated, the tag ID is sent to the communication port only if it is different from the previous five other different tag IDs, or if Unique Delay expires.

Manual tuning mode (MT)

Note: See page 49 for additional tuning information.

The MT command is used to tune the antenna. The Manual Tuning menu contains all necessary antenna tuning commands and parameters. There are two modes in which tuning can be performed:

First mode is activated by turning Dynamic Tuning “On” by pressing the “D” key until “DynTun ON” appears. In this mode tuning is accomplished by changing the target phase (Tuned Ph 670) using the appropriate “decrement/increment” keys for Phase. The Dynamic Tuning then adjusts tuning capacitor settings automatically to achieve selected phase value.

Manual Tuning Function Command Key:

```
+ - Change Antenna to tune
Q W decrement/increment by 1 Phase set point
A S decrement/increment by 10 Phase set point
E R decrement/increment by 100 Phase set point
Z X decrement/increment by 0.1 Phase Slope
Y U decrement/increment VTT Level
T Turn ON/OFF VTT
D Turn ON/OFF Dynamic Tuning
C Max current tune this Antenna
N Save PH, slope, cap setup and vtt level for this antenna
. QUIT
```

```
DynTun ON VTT OFF Lev 0 Tuned Ph 670
Ant1 Cap 0x0372 Ph -3 Slope 5.0 Cur 4.73A (580) Noi 13% Eff 0 Header 0
```

Second mode is activated by turning Dynamic Tuning “Off” by pressing the “D” key until “DynTun OFF” appears. In this mode tuning is done by manually adjusting the tuning capacitance (Ant1 Cap 0x0372) using appropriate “decrement/increment” keys for Capacitance. This is a somewhat crude method and can be confusing since a higher capacitance setting doesn’t always mean more capacitance was switched in. This is because the higher capacitor values do not have the same magnitude or weight as the associated binary digit. The biggest change can be noticed when crossing the larger number boundaries, such as going from 0x04FF to 0x0500 setting. There are 12 tuning capacitors; therefore the maximum capacitance setting in hex is 0x0FFF. You can determine the actual capacitance switched into the circuit from the following table. A binary “1” indicates the capacitor is switched in and a “0” means it is switched out.

<u>Binary Digit Position</u>	<u>Capacitance, pF</u>
1	56
2	120
3	220
4	400
5	780
6	1,500
7	2,820
8	5,400
9	10,180
10	19,200
11	36,300
12	69,000

So, a hex capacitance setting of 0x0291 is binary 0000 0010 1001 0001 and, as shown above, has a capacitive value of 19,200 + 5,400 + 780 + 56 = 25,436 pF. The unit has a fixed capacitance of 12,000 pF which is added to the tuning capacitance value, thus the total capacitance of 0x0291 setting is 37,436 pF.

Manual Tuning Function Command Key:

```

+ - Change Antenna to tune
Q W decrement/increment by 0x001 CAPACITOR SETUP
A S decrement/increment by 0x010 CAPACITOR SETUP
E R decrement/increment by 0x100 CAPACITOR SETUP
Z X decrement/increment by 0.1 Phase Slope
Y U decrement/increment VTT Level
T Turn ON/OFF VTT
D Turn ON/OFF Dynamic Tuning
C Max current tune this Antenna
N Save PH, slope, cap setup and vtt level for this antenna
. QUIT

```

```

DynTun OFF VTT OFF Lev 0 Tuned Ph 670
Ant1 Cap 0x0372 Ph -3 Slope 5.0 Cur 4.73A (580) Noi 12% Eff 0 Header 1

```

The last two lines of the display give the real time antenna data.

The first line displays:

```
DynTun OFF VTT OFF Lev 0 Tuned Ph 670
```

Where:

```

DynTun Dynamic Tuning setting (ON or OFF)
VTT Virtual Test Tag setting (ON or OFF)
Lev VTT level setting (0-99, see below)

```

Tuned Ph Target phase value setting (typically around 650)

The second line is continuously updated and displays:

```
Ant1 Cap 0x0372 Ph -3 Slope 5.0 Cur 4.73A (580) Noi 12% Eff 0 Header 1
```

Where:

Ant1	Selected antenna number (1-6)
Cap	Present capacitance setting in hex (0x0000 – 0x0FFF) (12,000 pF – 157,976 pF)
Ph	Relative phase difference between the last measured phase and the target phase from the above line
Slope	Slope setting (see below)
Cur	Antenna current measurement (Amperes peak-to-peak)
(580)	Analog to digital converter value of the measured antenna current (this is a hold over from the development phase of the project)
Noi	Average noise measurement (See Noise Gain % on page 30)
Eff	Reading efficiency if a tag is read
Header	Number of tag headers seen in the last reading efficiency update (used to determine the reading efficiency (tag reads/headers x 100))

The VTT level setting (VTT ... Lev) is inversely proportional to the VTT signal strength. Thus, the larger the VTT level number the weaker the VTT signal seen by the reader.

The Slope value determines how far the relative phase from line 2 must differ from the target phase of line 1 before the reader adjusts the tuning and to some degree determines how aggressively the tuning is adjusted. So, a slope of “3” means the reader will not adjust the tune (capacitance settings) until the relative phase is equal to or larger than ± 3 . But note that if this value is too low the Multiplexer may not be able to stay in tune and achieve target phase (this depends on the antenna, capacitors setting in the Multiplexer, etc.). If this happens the Slope value needs to be increased. The recommended value is between 3.0 and 5.0.

Remember to save any changes by pressing key “N” before going to the next antenna or exiting Manual Tuning menu.

When you exit the Manual Tuning menu, Dynamic Tuning automatically turns on.

Note: See page 49 for additional tuning information.

Noise measurement gain (NG)

The NG command is used to calibrate the average noise measurement by adjusting noise gain. (See Noise Gain % on page 30 for more details.) The default value is 100%. The acceptable range is 1 to 200% and can be changed, as illustrated in the following examples:

```
F0> ng100↵
MESSAGE: Current gain set to 100%.
F0> ng500↵
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 200%
F0>
```

High noise alarm threshold (NT)

The NT command is used to set the excessive noise level alarm threshold. The acceptable range is 1 to 99%, as illustrated in the following examples:

```

F0> nt50↓
MESSAGE: Current noise alarm threshold set to 50%
F0> nt10↓
MESSAGE: Current noise alarm threshold set to 10%
F0> PROBLEM: Ant1 noise level
F0> nt0↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 99%

```

The alarm threshold can be used to indicate reader deterioration (tuning or connection problem, etc.). When the noise level is higher than the alarm threshold, the NL1-6 (Ant1-6 noise level) alarm is generated, as illustrated in the above example.

Noise report delay (NRD)

The NRD command is used to set the automatic noise report delay period. The noise report is sent automatically to the communication port and provides noise statistics for each antenna, such as average and peak noise measurement values. The delay can be set from 0 (disable) to 1440 minutes (24 hours). For example:

```

F0> nrd60↓
MESSAGE: Noise Report delay set to 60 minute(s)
F0> Noise report for Reader ID#F0
Antenna:    1      2      3      4      5      6
Average:    10 %  51 %  10 %  52 %  11 %  45 %
Peak:       11 %  51 %  14 %  53 %  16 %  48 %

F0> nrd5000↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 0 to 1440min
F0> Noise report for Reader ID#F0
Antenna:    1      2      3      4      5      6
Average:    12 %  62 %  12 %  59 %  12 %  53 %
Peak:       21 % 100 %  23 %  93 %  19 %  92 %

```

Noise report send (NRS)

The NRS command displays the current noise report. For example:

```

F0> nrs↓
Noise report for Reader ID#F0
Antenna:    1      2      3      4      5      6
Average:    11 %  64 %  11 %  62 %  11 %  58 %
Peak:       20 %  92 %  27 %  80 %  28 %  92 %

```

Reader active (RA)

The RA command is used to enable or disable scanning for tags. The command is also used to reset the reader. For example:

```

F0> ra1↓
F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
F0> ra0↓
F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode
F0> rar↓
MESSAGE: Reader shutdown!
F0> MESSAGE: MUX1230 2.0
MESSAGE: Reader reset!
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode

```

Reader buzzer active (RB)

The RB command is used to enable or disable the reader's buzzer:

```

F0> rb1↓

```

```
MESSAGE: Beep sound enable
F0> rb0↓
MESSAGE: Beep sound disable
```

Note: An audible alarm generated by the buzzer can interfere with reader performance when a large volume of tags is being decoded. It is recommended you turn off the buzzer during regular reader operation and instead use the buzzer for set up and maintenance purposes.

Reader Hex ID (RI)

The RI command is used to set the reader ID number. It is entered in hexadecimal format, where the most significant (left) hex digit in 'xx' is in the range 0-F and the least significant (right) must be 0. This is illustrated in the following commands, which set the reader ID to E0:

```
F0> rie0↓
CONFIRM: Reader ID = E0? (Y/N) y↓
MESSAGE: Reader ID = E0.
E0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
F0> rief↓
MESSAGE: Invalid argument
```

Note: The reader ID default value is set up during the reader programming process.

Reset parameters to default (RP)

The RP command is used to reset the reader parameters to the default values. For example:

```
F0> rp↓
CONFIRM: Reset default parameters? (Y/N) y↓
MESSAGE: Reader reset to default parameters
MESSAGE: Reader shutdown!
F0> MESSAGE: MUX1230 2.0
MESSAGE: Reader reset!
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
```

A reader reset is automatically performed after this command.

Note: The Reader ID and the antenna parameters, such as antennas switching sequence and antennas target phase, will not be affected by the reset parameter command. To reset all parameters to default you need to power down the reader and remove the back-up lithium battery from the CPU board for a few seconds; this will also reset the internal clock.

For a complete list of default parameters, see page 11.

Reader unique on/off (RU)

The RU command is used to enable or disable unique mode. For example:

```
F0> ru1↓
MESSAGE: Unique mode turned ON
F0> ru0↓
MESSAGE: Unique mode turned OFF
```

Reader unique delay (RUD)

The RUD command is used to set up and enable unique mode delay. The automatic delay can be set from 1 to 1440 minutes (24 hours). For example:

```
F0> rud10↓
MESSAGE: Unique mode delay set to 10 min(s)
F0> rud0↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 1 to 1440 min(s)
```

Antenna sleep mode delay (SM)

The SM command is used to activate and set up sleep mode, which helps to conserve and extend battery life. In this mode the reader puts each antenna in an idle state prior to switching to the next one for amount of time specified by this delay. The delay can be set to 0 (disable) or from 2 - 9999 in 10ms increments. For example:

```
F0> sm0↓
MESSAGE: Sleep set to 0 ms
F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
F0> sm10↓
MESSAGE: Sleep set to 100 ms
F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode
F0> sm1↓
MESSAGE: Bad #. Acceptable range is 0, 2 to 9999
```

Note: While in sleep mode the antenna current is turned off so no tags can be detected. Also, activating the sleep mode will increase the amount of time it takes to cycle through all antennas in the antenna sequence.

Display current date and time (TC)

The TC command is used to display the current date and time from the reader's internal clock. For example:

```
F0> tc↓
23-01-2007 14:54
```

Test reader efficiency (TE)

The TE command is used to activate the reader efficiency test. For example:

```
F0> te1↓
Efficiency test enabled
Ant1 Hit Rate : 100
Ant2 Hit Rate : 100
Ant3 Hit Rate : 100
Ant4 Hit Rate : 100
Ant5 Hit Rate : 100
Ant6 Hit Rate : 100
F0> te0↓
Efficiency test disabled
```

This test generates a Hit Rate report for each antenna in the antenna sequence. This is the same report as the one generated when VTT is activated with a DT1 command. The only difference is that in this case real tags need to be placed into each antenna field. This option can be used to test each individual antenna's performance (field strength, shape, etc.) or to test tag performance.

Note: It is recommended that you disable the buzzer, as it can interfere with reader performance by presenting audible noise, thus reducing the hit rate.

Reader date (TD)

The TD command is used to set the date on the reader's internal clock. The date is set using the following format: DD-MM-YYYY. For example, to set the reader date to January 23, 2007 you would enter the following:

```
F0> td23-01-2007↓
```

Note: There is a back-up lithium battery on the CPU board that keeps the clock running when the reader power is low or turned off. This button style battery has an expected life of 5 years (Model CR2032 made by Panasonic, Toshiba or equivalent).

Reader time (TH)

The TH command is used to set the time on the reader's internal clock. The time is set using the following 24-hour format: HH:MM:SS. For example, to set the reader time to 16 hours, 30 minutes and 30 seconds you would enter the following:

```
F0> th16:30:30↓
```

Note: There is a back-up lithium battery on the CPU board that keeps the clock running when the reader power is low or turned off. This button style battery has an expected life of 5 years (Model CR2032 made by Panasonic, Toshiba or equivalent).

Test tag level (TL)

The TL command is used to set the VTT level for each individual antenna 1 through 6. Acceptable antenna numbers are 1 to 6 and acceptable level settings are 0 to 99. For example, to set the VTT level of antenna 6 to 25 you would enter the following:

```
F0> t1625↓  
MESSAGE: antenna #6 Vtt Level Set  
F0> MESSAGE: Reader is in standby mode  
MESSAGE: Reader is in scan mode  
F0> t1810↓  
MESSAGE: Unexpected or Missing argument  
F0> t12100↓  
MESSAGE: VttLevel must be 0-99
```

Note: The VTT level setting is inversely proportional to the VTT signal strength. Thus, the larger the VTT level number the weaker the VTT signal seen by the reader: VTT level setting of 0 generates the strongest VTT signal and a VTT level setting of 99 generates the weakest VTT signal.

If this problem is encountered, check the system power supply (+12VR and 0VR test points on the Mother board). If the voltage level is 11 V or higher, this problem may indicate that the Flash EPROM is bad or that there is a severe CPU board problem. You should then replace the CPU board.

Flash EEPROM Memory Test

Once the CPU is started, the processor performs a “Boot Manager” memory verification. The “Boot Manager” is a section of program included in the Flash EEPROM memory (Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory) that can never be erased and which initializes the reader hardware. If the “Boot Manager” program is invalid, the system is halted and the CPU board needs to be replaced.

Once this verification is completed, the unit checks if there is a valid application program. The application program governs the operation of the reader and can be updated in the field using the VBFlash program running on any PC compatible computer with Microsoft Windows (see page 52 for details).

Note: The “Boot Manager” and the application program version/revision numbers are displayed during the power-up sequence.

If there is no valid application program, the reader will automatically enter in the firmware update mode, waiting for a download from VBFlash.

RAM Memory Test

When the Flash EEPROM memory is verified, the reader proceeds with the RAM memory (Random-Access Memory) verification. The RAM test is a non-destructive test that performs read/write operations with known bit patterns in every memory location. Before writing in a memory location, its content is saved in one of the processors internal registers. A series of write/check back read operations are then done in that memory location before the original content is re-written. If a memory failure is detected, the beeper will be activated permanently.

Upon detection of a RAM failure, no clear message can be displayed since the CPU could lose control of the program; therefore, the beeper is used to indicate the problem. If such a failure occurs, the CPU board must be replaced.

Power Supply Verification

The next step in the power-up sequence is the power supply verification. This test is also done periodically during the normal operation of the reader unit. If the exciter supply voltage +VE drops below 12V, an alarm will be generated.

Back-up Lithium Battery Verification

The reader performs checks of the back-up lithium battery. This battery protects the collected data and user parameters' settings stored in RAM memory and keeps the reader internal clock running when the reader input power is low or turned off. If the battery voltage is low (under 3V) an alarm will be generated. If back-up battery voltage is low at power-up all previously stored data and user parameters' settings are lost, so default parameters settings will be reloaded and the following message will be sent to the communication port:

```
MESSAGE: Parameters reloaded.
```

The lithium battery connection should then be checked. If the connection is fine then the battery needs to be replaced. The back-up lithium battery has an expected shelf life of 5 years, which is reduced when the unit is powered off for a long period of time since current is drawn from it in order to preserve the RAM memory content. The back-up battery compartment is located on the CPU board. It should be replaced with a CR2032 type lithium battery (Panasonic or any other battery manufacturer with UL approval). A new battery is usually 3.25V and becomes weak when its voltage drops under 3V.

Periodic Self-tests

When the unit is in operational mode, periodic self-tests are performed, including:

- Virtual test tag detection
- System parameters monitoring
- Critical antenna current protection
- Elapsed Shutdown Time (ESDT)
- Antenna switching relays usage counter

Virtual test tag detection

The Virtual Test Tag (VTT) is a device designed to verify the reader integrity and sensitivity. It generates an ISO FDX-B tag signal at pre-settable signal levels for each antenna that can be turned on/off by the reader. It does this in the following manner:

- Automatically at user-selectable intervals based on the Virtual Test Tag Delay setting. This test is done in order to verify that the reader is operating properly, especially for extended periods when no PIT tags are present.
- Manually by the user using the keypad or the communication port connection.

System parameter monitoring

The reader measures and monitors a list of key hardware parameters on a continuous basis. The following parameters are monitored:

- Antenna current on each antenna channel in the antenna sequence
- Average noise on each antenna channel in the antenna sequence
- Temperature inside the reader enclosure
- Communication between the Analog board and CPU board
- Communication between the ASB board and CPU board
- Exciter power supply voltage
- Back-up lithium battery voltage

Critical antenna current protection

This feature is implemented to protect sensitive parts of the circuitry (receiver front end). When current of an antenna X reaches $7.0 A_{p-p}$ "AntX high cur" (HCX) alarm is being generated. When current reaches $7.5 A_{p-p}$ reader goes in Standby mode and a message is displayed on the LCD asking user to reduce Exciter Voltage by turning RP2 on the Mother board clockwise and to reactivate the reader by pressing the READ button.

Note: Antenna current measurement needs to be calibrated accurately in order for this feature to function correctly.

Elapsed Shutdown Time (ESDT)

This feature provides the total time a reader was off. This allows a user to see if there were any performance interruptions due to power outages and for how long.

Every time a reader is turned on the time difference between current time and time it was shut down is added to ESDT counter. ESDT value is added to Status Report just before the Current Time value. This value is in seconds. To reset the counter Buffer Download (BD) or Status Report (DRS) command has to be generated from the console; automatically generated status reports will not reset the counter.

Note: After the counter is reset the previous ESDT value will still be available until a reader is turned off.

Antenna switching relays usage counter

Relays usage counter records the number of times each antenna switching relays were activated. When any of these numbers reaches 100,000,000 the message is generated notifying that the relays are near their life expectancy limit and need to be replaced soon.

Note: The counter data is stored on CPU board in RAM memory therefore is dependant on the lithium battery life and is not linked to actual hardware, so if the lithium battery is replaced while the reader is powered down or the CPU board is exchanged the counter values will not be accurate.

Alarm Messages

Alarm messages are issued by the reader and displayed on the LCD in form of a code and sent to the serial communication port in form of a message when abnormal conditions are detected. The messages are in ASCII format.

Table 5: Alarm Messages Description

Code	Message	Description
ANC	Analog comm	Analog board communication problem (disconnected or failed). Also caused by a power supply voltage drop below 12V.
ASB	ASB comm	Antenna Switching Board (ASB) communication problem (improperly connected, disconnected, or failed).
EPW	Exc. Power low	Low exciter voltage level: Mother board power supply should be checked (+VE).
EX1-6	Ant 1-6 current low	Current of the indicated antenna is below the alarm threshold level. It may be caused by an out-of-tune antenna, a bad antenna or antenna connection, reader failure, or an improper threshold parameter setting.
HC1-6	Ant1-6 high cur	Current of the indicated antenna is above 7.0Ap-p.
HTP	High temperature	System temperature level inside the enclosure is above +65°C.
LIT	Low lithium	Voltage level of the memory/real-time clock back-up lithium battery is low.
LTP	Low temperature	System temperature level inside the enclosure is below -10°C.
MMF	Memory full	Memory used to store tag IDs is full.
MML	Memory low	Memory used to store tag IDs is 95% full.
NL1-6	Ant 1 – 6 noise level	Average noise level at the specified antenna is above the noise alarm threshold level. It may be caused by a noisy environment, a tag present in the antenna field for a long time, antenna or reader failure, or an improper threshold parameter setting.
OVR	Overrun	Overrun of the reader CPU. May be caused by environmental or system noise.
TAG	Test Tag Failed	Virtual test tag has not been decoded successfully.

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance of the FS1001M reader system must be done by qualified personnel. Call Destron Fearing at 1-800-328-0118 for assistance.

The system is to be placed in a securable NEMA Type 4 cabinet with restricted access.

The FS1001M Transceiver warranty is for 1 year from the date of delivery and covers parts and labor.

Back-up Lithium Battery Replacement

The lithium battery is used as reader internal clock and RAM memory content backup. The battery has an expected shelf life of five years, which is reduced when the unit is powered off for a long period of time because current is drawn from it in order to preserve the RAM memory content. The back-up battery compartment is located on a CPU board. The battery should be replaced every three years or more often (if possible) with a CR2032 type lithium battery (Panasonic or any other battery manufacturer with UL approval).

The battery should be replaced while the reader is powered up to preserve some factory set parameters and other key features. Caution should be used to prevent damage: the operator must ground himself before changing the battery to avoid static discharge and use non-conductive tools to prevent shorting any traces.

CAUTION! There is a danger of explosion if the battery is replaced incorrectly. Dispose of used batteries according to the battery manufacturer's instructions.

System Tuning Procedure

The following procedure will help guide **qualified personnel** in the steps necessary to tune an FS1001M PIT Tag detection system.

Tools Required

- PC or a laptop computer with communication software packages such as HyperTerminal, ProComm or other.
- Oscilloscope with the voltage probes.
- Current probe Tektronix P6021 or equivalent.
- Potentiometer adjustment tool or small flat blade screwdriver.

Procedure

1. Install and set up the Multiplexer.

This includes hooking up all antennas and the power supply. Attach a communications cable from a PC or laptop to the COMM port of a Multiplexer and set up a connection between the two **(57600,N,8,1)**. Refer to **Serial Communications Port Operation** on page 32 for detailed information.

2. Attach the current probe to channel 1 (or A) of the oscilloscope and the voltage probe to channel 2 (or B). Attach the probe to the black antenna lead wire at the Analog board (the white wire can also be used). Remove the shield that is covering the Receiver section of the Analog board and attach the voltage probe to TP21 (input to the comparator circuit).

Note: Adjust the scope so that both signals can be displayed and measured at the same time. Both channels need to be AC coupled and set to measure the signal peak to peak. Set trigger on channel 1 and turn **ON** the **high frequency noise reject filter**; this will make viewing the signal at TP21 easier.

3. Adjust the exciter voltage all the way down by turning potentiometer RP2 "+VE ADJ" on the Mother board clockwise (the silkscreen marking on the board is opposite, so disregard it).



Figure 12: Exciter Voltage Adjustment Potentiometer RP2

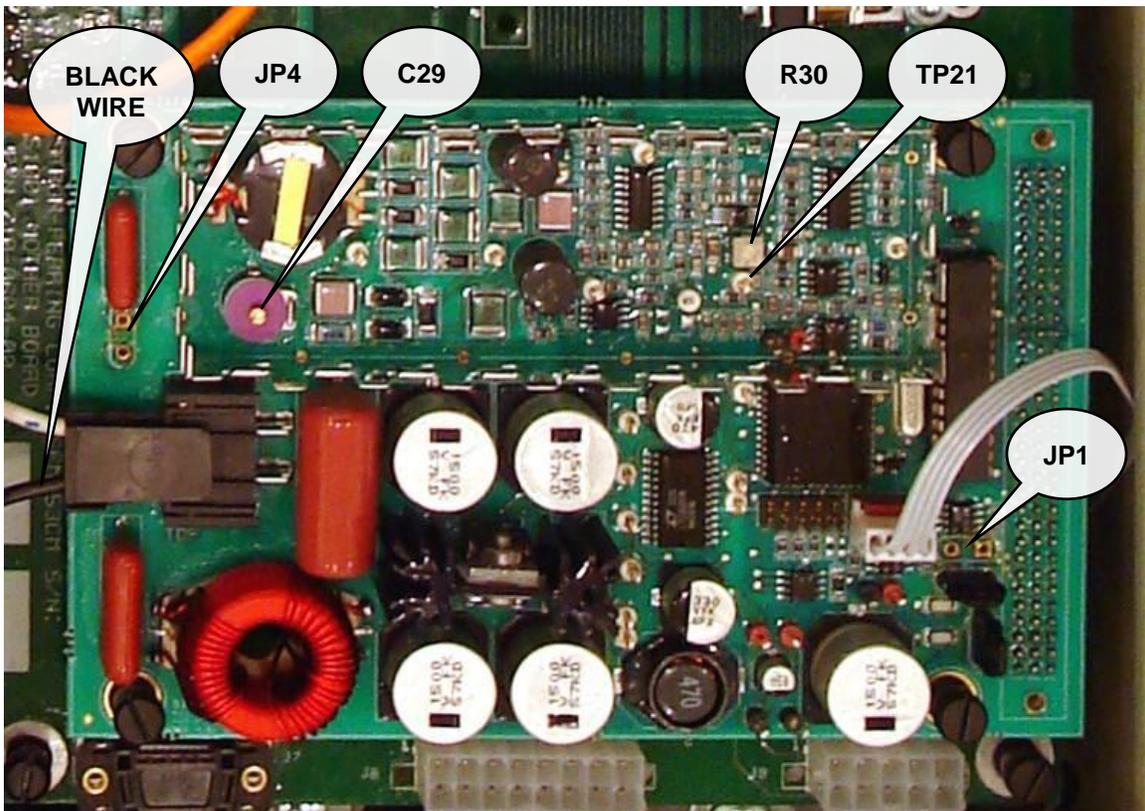


Figure 13: Analog Board Components.

4. Preset capacitor C29 in receiver section of the Analog board to the mid-range (lift the color plastic cover to see the plates of the capacitor; the moving plates should cover the half of the static plates. **Multiplexer power must be "OFF"!**).
5. Preset potentiometer R30 in Receiver section of the Analog board to mid-range.
6. Install jumper JP4 on the Analog Board if antenna connecting cables are short (up to 30 feet) or remove it if antenna connecting cables are long (over 30 feet).

Note: Both configurations could be tried to find the optimal one.

7. Turn the Multiplexer "ON".
8. Set the Antenna Sequence to "X0000000000" by using "AS" command, where "X" is the channel number of the antenna you want to tune. Enter Manual Tuning menu by using "MT" command. Select the sub-menu of the antenna you are tuning by pressing the "+" or "-" key.
9. Peak the antenna current by pressing the "C" key. After this process is done save new target phase (Tuned Ph) value by pressing the "N" key. Turn ON Dynamic Tuning by pressing the "D" key.
10. Adjust exciter voltage by turning potentiometer RP2 "+VE ADJ" on the Mother board counter-clockwise to set the desired antenna current (channel 1 of the scope or second line of live antenna data in Manual Tuning menu). **Do not exceed 7A_{p-p}**.
11. Turn ON VTT by pressing the "T" key and adjust its level by pressing the "Y" or the "U" key so you get one read every few seconds.
12. Slowly adjust the target phase (Tuned Ph) value by up to 20 points each direction by pressing the "Q" or the "W" key to see if you can improve reading efficiency. Return the target phase to the value with the best reading efficiency.

Note: Allow few seconds for the dynamic tuning to retune the antenna when adjusting target phase setting or capacitor C29. This time can be reduced by decreasing the Slope value, but note that if this value is too low the Multiplexer may not be able to stay in tune and achieve target phase (this depends on an antenna properties, tuning capacitors setting, etc.). If this happens increase the Slope value. The recommended value is between 3.0 and 5.0. For more information on Slope see Manual Tuning on page 38.

13. Adjust variable capacitor C29 to improve the reading efficiency. If monitoring the signal at TP21 on channel 2 of the scope, adjust C29 so that the amplitudes of the 2kHz and 4kHz components of the signal (wide and narrow waves) are as equal as possible. For this adjustment set the scope time base to 0.5msec/Div.
14. Adjust the target phase (Tuned Ph) value by 5 - 10 points each direction by pressing the "Q" or the "W" key to see if you can improve reading efficiency.
15. Repeat steps 12 and 13 while reducing the VTT level until you are unable to read it at all.
16. Adjust VTT level (by pressing keys "Y" or "U") so you get one read per few seconds and adjust potentiometer R30 (High Pass Filter adjustment) fully CW so that the signal at TP21 is minimized. Turn R30 counter clockwise (CCW) until the best reading efficiency is achieved (should be approx. between 1/3 and 1/2 of the way).
17. Turn OFF VTT. Reset the slope value to its factory setting 5.0 (or increase if necessary), set desired VTT level and save these values along with new target phase (Tuned Ph) value by pressing the "N" key.
18. Exit the Manual Tuning menu by pressing the "." key.
19. Repeat steps 8 through 18 for each antenna connected to the multiplexer.

Note: Potentiometers RP2 "+VE ADJ", R30 and capacitor C29 settings might be different from channel to channel depending on the antennas properties, cables properties and cables lengths. For better overall system performance it is recommended to have each antenna and cable properties as similar as possible. If the antennas and the connecting cables are different, note the C29, R30 and RP2 settings for each antenna and then optimize them.

20. If after tuning the transceiver there is still presence of noise or instability it may be necessary to connect the digital ground to the analog ground via the jumper JP1 on the Analog board. Slight antenna tuning might be needed after the grounds are connected.
21. Set up the desired antenna switching sequence and the rest of the reader's parameters.

Reader Firmware Update

The reader's application firmware can be updated through the VBFlash application program running under Microsoft Windows (version 3.1 or newer).

Requirements

- MUX Version 2.1 ZIP file (extract to the folder of your choice)
- VBFlash Version 2.2 software
- DB9 M/F RS-232 data cable

VBFlash program installation

The VBFlash program can be installed on your computer using the **Setup.exe** file on the installation disk. To install, start Setup from Windows and follow the instructions.

VBFlash program operation

The VBFlash application program can be started through the following icon:



Figure 14: VBFlash Desktop Icon

When started, the application program appears:

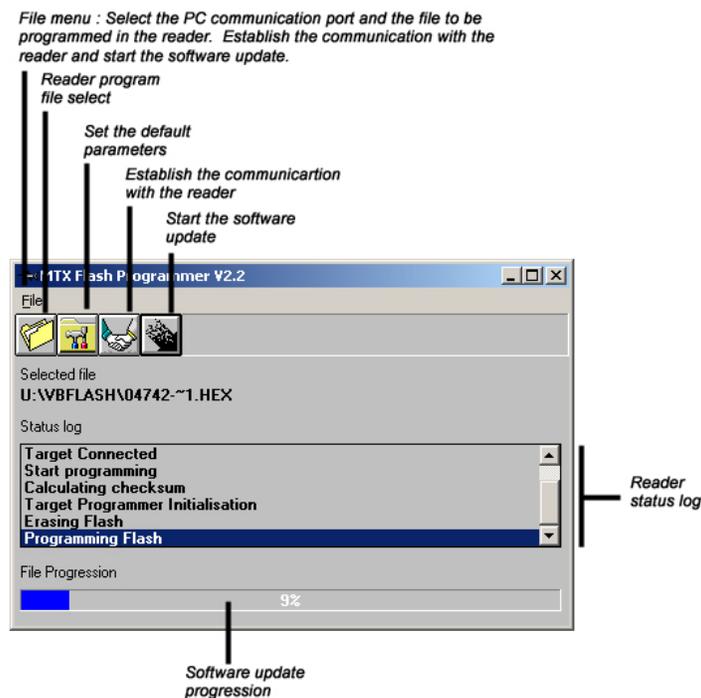


Figure 15: VBFlash Dialog Window

When opened, the File menu is as follows:

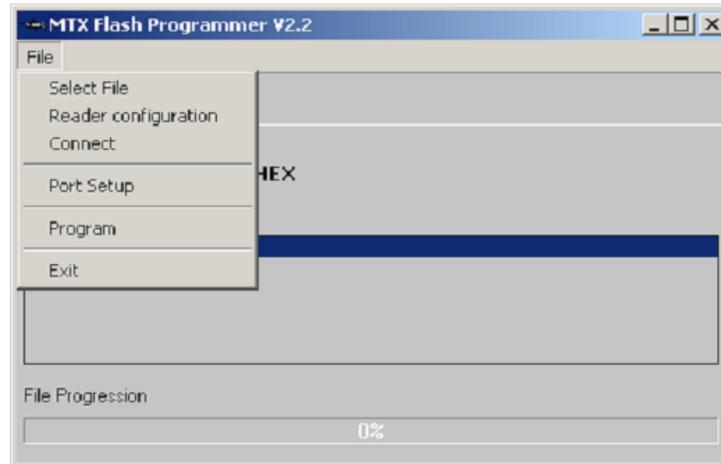


Figure 166: VBFlash File Menu

The commands are as follows:



Select file: Allows the user to select a file to be programmed in the reader (hex extension).



Reader conf.: Allows the user to set the default values of the reader ID (00-F0) and antenna low current alarm threshold (1- 9999mA). The values are stored permanently into the EEPROM of the reader.



Connect: Allows the PC to start the communication with the reader.

Port setup: Allows the user to select the PC communication port to which the reader is connected.



Program: Starts the firmware update in the reader from the selected file.



Exit : Exit the VBFlash application program.

Reader firmware update procedure

The step-by-step procedure for updating the reader's application firmware is as follows:

1. Connect the communication cable between the PC communication port and the reader communication port. The PC communication port must not be used by any application program, such as HyperTerminal. Baud rate is not relevant as the reader automatically adjusts to match the computer rate.
2. Turn the reader power on or press the **RESET** key if the power is already on. When black squares are displayed, press and hold both the **MENU** and the **ESCAPE** keys until the following message is displayed:

Update request
Waiting download



3. Start the **Vbflash** application program.
4. From the VBFlash **Port Setup** command, select the PC communication port connected to the reader. By default, COM2 is selected.

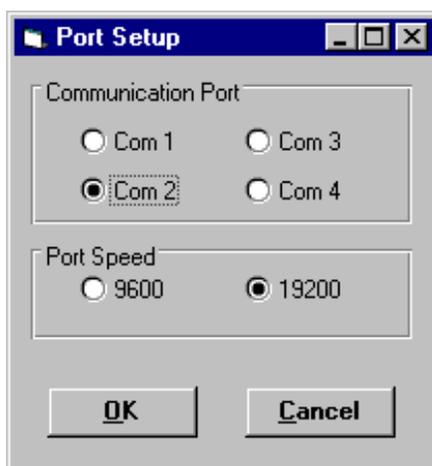


Figure 17: VBFlash Communication Port Setup Dialog Window

If the communication port is used by another application or is not available on the computer, the following message will appear on the screen.



Figure 18: VBFlash Bad Port Selection Dialog Window

5. Using the  **Select file** command select the firmware file to be programmed in the reader as follows:

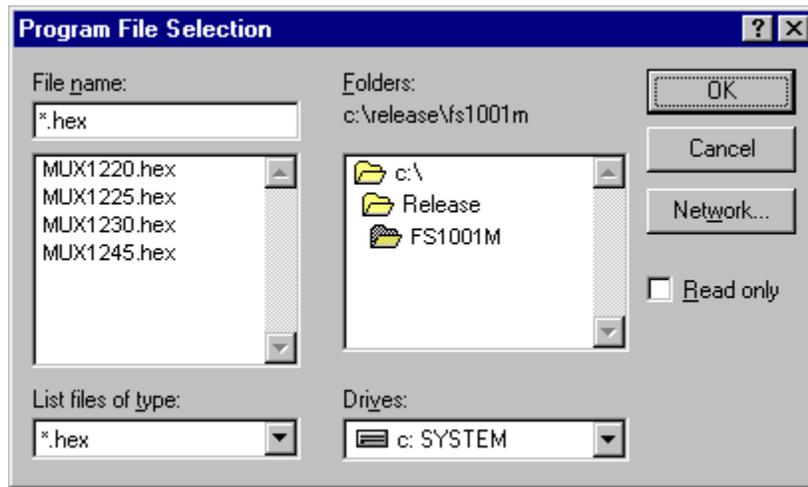


Figure 19: VBFlash File Selection Dialog Window

The file must have a hex extension and a name MUX12xx, where xx is either 20, 25, 30 or 44 and defines antennas default switching time in milliseconds. Once selected, the file name will appear on the VBFlash window as follows:

Selected file
U:\WBFLASH\04742-~1.HEX

6. Using the  Reader Configuration command, set up the permanent reader ID and current alarm threshold values (optional). The toolbox program will be display as follows:

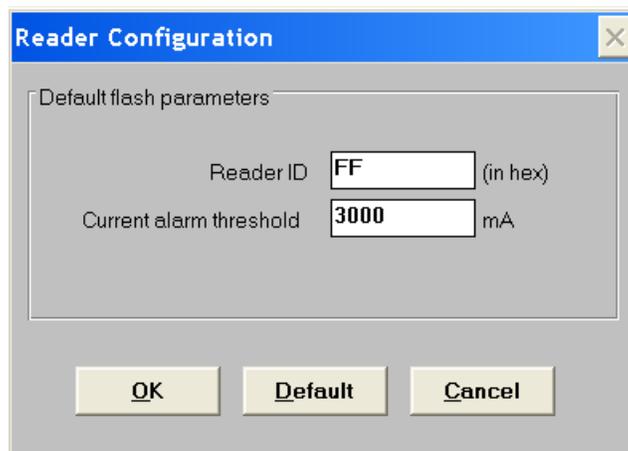
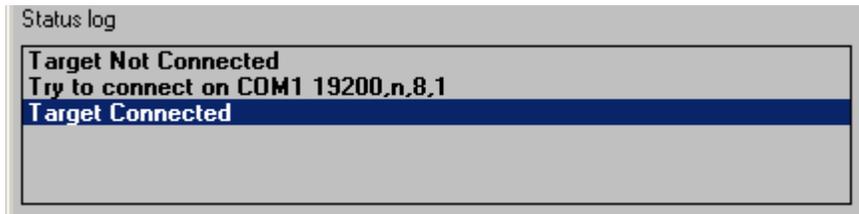


Figure 20: VBFlash Reader Configuration Dialog Window

- Select the reader ID value field with the mouse and change it to the desired value. Valid values are from 0 to F0 (Hex). The default value is F0.
- Select the low antenna current alarm threshold value field with the mouse and enter a number from 1 to 9999. This will set the antenna current alarm in mA. The default value is 1000.
- Click OK.

7. Using the  **Connect** command establish communication between the PC and a reader. Once connected, the Status will be updated as follows:



If the computer has a problem establishing the communication with the reader, the Status will be updated as follows:

Status : Target Not Connected! (TimeOut)

8. Using the  **Program** command, start the reader firmware update. The VBFlash program will:

- Calculate the program checksum.
- Set the reader in program mode. The LCD display will be as follows:

Loading program
Please wait

- Erase the Flash EEPROM program memory.
- Program the Flash EEPROM program memory.

The completion of the firmware update will be indicated as follows:

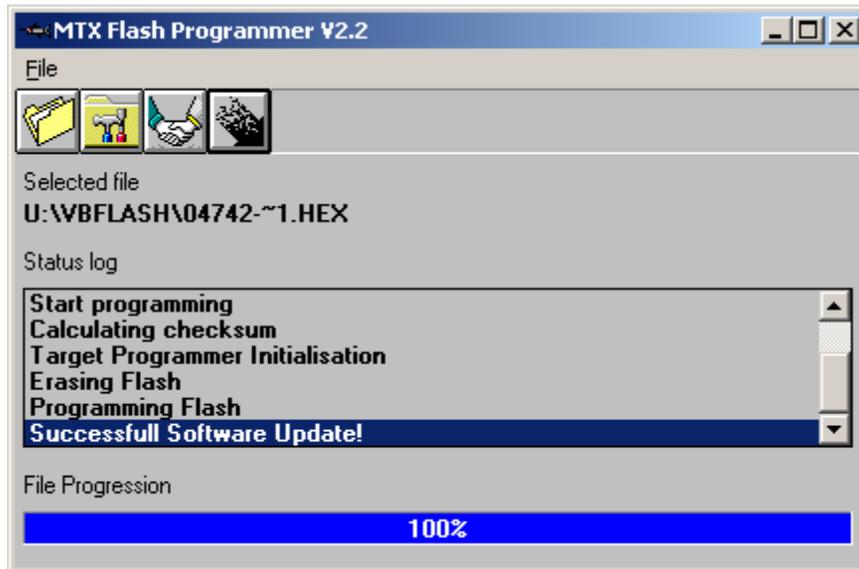


Figure 21: VBFlash Dialog Window

9. The reader will automatically restart after the completion of the firmware update, showing the firmware version number.

10. Close the VBFlash application using the Exit command ( or ).

11. Using an application such as HyperTerminal  or ProComm  , setup the desired reader configuration by using the appropriate commands.

Note: The Multiplexer power should not be turned off while performing a firmware update.

Cleaning Instructions

- The unit may be cleaned by wiping with a clean, dry cloth.
- Ventilation filter foam should be replaced as it gets old or dirty (pack of 5 supplied with the reader; Qualtek/Fan-S Division p/n: 09250-M/100 or equivalent).

ELECTRICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Electrical Specifications

Fuses

Motherboard:

- F1 – 10A 250V HI-BRK FAST 5MM x 20MM (Littelfuse p/n: 0216010.H or equivalent)
- F2, F3 – 8A 250V HI-BRK FAST 5MM x 20MM (Littelfuse p/n: 0216008.H or equivalent)

Main Power Source

24V DC +/-25%, up to 3A

Main Power Connection

With the reader's power switch in the OFF position, plug one end of the supplied power cord into the unit's power connector. Connect the other end to a 24V DC power source in polarity specified on "DC Input Only" label, located on a side of a Multiplexer above the power connector or attached to the supplied power cord.



Figure 22: FS1001M Reader Power Switch and Power Connector

Grounding

For safe and optimal performance the reader **must** be properly grounded locally using green/yellow wire of the supplied power cord.

Note: If ground connection is not available connect this wire to the negative terminal of the power supply.

Mounting

Mounting of the unit **must** be vertical with antenna connectors facing down to ensure proper operation of the antennas switching relays.

Environmental Recommendations

Surroundings

The unit is designed for indoor use or installation into a NEMA Type 4 cabinet.

Altitude

Sea level to 2000 meters.

Temperature range

-20°C to 70°C.

Relative Humidity

0% to 80%, non-condensing.

Pollution

Degree 2.



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