

TracMap Flight

User's Manual

Firmware Version 1.7.1

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Contents

Over	rview	1
1.1	Main view	1
1.2	Keypad	3
1.3	Keyboard	4
1.4	Data structure	6
1.5	Menus	6
1.6	Lightbar	6
Insta	allation	9
2.1	Head Unit	9
2.2	Lightbar	10
2.3	GPS	11
2.4	Connections Wiring Diagram	11
Quic	k start	15
3.1	Baseline	16
	3.1.1 Marking A/B \ldots	17
	3.1.2 Multi-Baseline	18
	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 Inst 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 Quic	 1.2 Keypad

CONTENTS

	3.2	Blocks with outlines	19
	3.3	Log Off Flag	21
4	Com	mand reference	23
	4.1	Baseline	23
	4.2	Buffer width	24
	4.3	Closest line	25
	4.4	Delete app	25
	4.5	Delete block	25
	4.6	DryRun	25
	4.7	Edit block	26
	4.8	Edit job	26
	4.9	Edit void	27
	4.10	Export	28
	4.11	Fly To	30
		4.11.1 Markers	30
		4.11.2 Lines	31
	4.12	Import	32
	4.13	Info	35
	4.14	Line buffer	36
	4.15	Line History	36
	4.16	Line orient	37
	4.17	Lines (such as farm maps)	38
	4.18	Markers	41
	4.19	Multi-Baseline-std	42
	4.20	Multi-Baseline-alt	43

CONTENTS

	4.35 Swath width	60
	4.36 Unit setup	60
	4.36.1 Locale Setup	60
	4.36.2 Timezone	61
	4.36.3 Delete All	61
	4.37 Viewpoint	61
5	Troubleshooting	63
A	Configurable Menus	69
B	Autoboom Controller	75
С	Technical specifications	81
D	Tracmap Head Unit Connections	83
Е	Map projections	91
F	Software License Agreement	93
G	GNU General Public License	97

Chapter 1

Overview

TracMap Flight is a GPS guidance system for agricultural aircraft. The system consists of a GPS receiver, the TracMap Flight head unit, and a lightbar to provide guidance. The system also provides proof of placement in the form of logged data that can be exported.

The two main forms of guidance are baseline: where you fly in regular parallel lines with or without boundaries defined, and block-bounded guidance: which guides you along parallel line segments within a block outline.

1.1 Main view

The main view is the screen shown once the unit has started (see Figure 1.1). This screen shows all information about the current job, block and application that may be required.

The main menu is navigated by using the rocker pad (up and down) to select items, and **ENT** to select the desired item. Up to three commands are shown per page on the menu. Select the **Next page** and **Prev page** options to browse forward and back a page, respectively.

The top three menu items can also be activated using remote switches (cyclic switches, buttons) if the switches have been wired as per the instructions in Chapter 2.

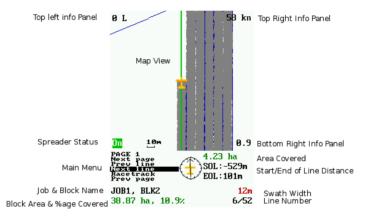


Figure 1.1: The main view, shown when the unit starts

Note	The graphics on the head unit screen are for visual effect
	only. To allow the head unit to present large jobs faster it
	simplifies the view of coverage, which sometimes makes the
	display on screen appear to have a jagged edge. The cover-
	age stored is based on the GPS fix received from satellites
	and the swath width you entered.

1.2. KEYPAD

1.2 Keypad

The functions of the keys on the keypad are:

Key	Function
ESC	Used to back out of a menu or dialog box.
TAB or PAGE	In the main view, used to toggle pan mode. In dialog boxes, used to switch between control elements (text boxes, buttons etc.) Note: your unit will have either a TAB key or a PAGE key,
MENU	in this Manual we will use TAB to refer to both In the main view, used to return the main menu to page 1. If page 1 is already visible, this key will create a new block.
ENT	Used to activate a selected menu item or control element.
Rocker pad	Used to navigate between menu options and control ele- ments, or to shift the viewpoint in pan mode.
+	In the main view, used to zoom the viewpoint in. In a page list, used to scroll up by an entire page. In an option box moves up by one item.
-	In the main view, used to zoom the viewpoint out. In a page list, used to scroll down by an entire page. In an option box moves down by one item.
F1	Used to manually toggle between log on & log off.
F2	Toggles the appearance of the on-screen keyboard.
Power	Hold for 1 second to switch unit on. Hold for 3 seconds to shut down.

Table 1.1: Keypad button description	Table	1.1:	Keypad	button	description
--------------------------------------	-------	------	--------	--------	-------------

In the main view, switch in and out of pan mode by pressing the **PAGE** button. While in pan mode, four arrows will appear around the edge of the screen. You can use the rocker pad to pan the display around, or press **ENT** to pan automatically to your current location.

1.3 Keyboard

Keypad	USB Keyboard
ESC	Escape
TAB / PAGE	Tab
MENU	End
ENT	Enter
Rocker pad	Cursor keys
+	Page up
-	Page down
F1	Home
F2	Insert

Table 1.2: Key mapping

The unit's USB port may be used to attach a USB keyboard for control and data entry. When a USB keyboard is attached, some keys on the keyboard act as substitutes for keypad keys on the front of the head unit (see Table 1.2).

In addition to these mappings, the keyboard's function keys (F1, F2, ...) can be used to select menu items. F1 selects the item at the top of the current menu, F2 selects the second, and so on.

In situations where a USB keyboard is unavailable or inconvenient, TracMap Flight provides an on-screen keyboard for text entry. To show the on-screen keyboard, press F2 on the keypad (see Figure 1.2).

While the on-screen keyboard is visible, you enter text by moving the block cursor around with the rocker pad, and selecting characters by pressing **ENT**. To erase characters, either select the red arrow in the bottom row, or press **ESC**.

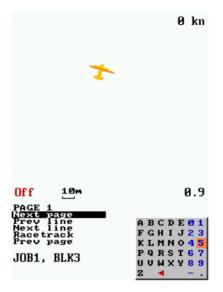


Figure 1.2: The on-screen keyboard (shown in the lower right corner of the screen)

Use the **PAGE** key to move the on-screen keyboard around the screen. Press **F2** to hide the keyboard. Lower case letters can be entered by pressing + or - (these keys toggle between upper and lower case text entry).

1.4 Data structure

Data stored on the head unit is structured into *jobs* and *blocks*. A job is a collection of blocks. One block is displayed on the screen at a time.

Each block may contain one outline, this is optional.

1.5 Menus

The menu, shown in the lower left corner of the screen in Figure 1.1 is navigated by browsing items with the up and down keys on the rocker pad, and pressing **ENT** to select them.

The top three menu items can also be activated using remote switches (cyclic switches, buttons) if the switches have been wired as per the instructions in Chapter 2.

The menu is divided into pages. Use **Next page** and **Prev page** to move between pages. The commands are distributed among the pages and can be configured to suit your needs. The menu can also be divided into 2 sections: Primary and Secondary. The **Change Menu** command is used to switch between the sections. To select a menu configuration either use the **Preferences** command (Section 4.27) to choose from one of the three TracMap supplied menu configurations or use the **Import** command (Section 4.12) to import your own configuration. Refer to Appendix A for the three menu layouts provided by TracMap and how to build a new menu to import.

The menu commands are described in detail in Chapter 4.

1.6 Lightbar

The lightbar is attached to the head unit and is the primary means of guidance. It has three parts (shown in Figure 1.3).

Guidance LEDs The row of guidance LEDs represents the off-line distance. When following the flight line, three LEDs will light up green in the centre of the lightbar. As you drift off course, the three LEDs will drift along the bar in the opposite direction and turn orange. Maintain a straight travel path by

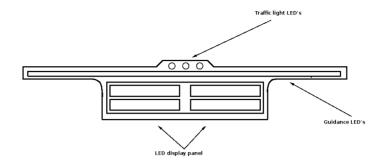


Figure 1.3: Lightbar guidance LEDs and display.

"chasing" the LEDs along the bar. The amount each LED represents can be configured by setting at Preferences - Lightbar Settings - Interval (see section 4.27 **Preferences**).

Note	If a negative value is set the interval field guidance lights
	will flip from "chase" to "pull".

- Warning LEDs LEDs at each end of the guidance LEDs serve as warnings. If GPS reception is not available, then one orange LED at each end is lit. If the user is currently inside an active void zone, then two LEDs at each end are lit.
- **Traffic light LEDs** When using block-bounded guidance, the traffic light LEDs indicate whether or not the current position along the flight line needs to be covered. If the current position has not yet been covered, the green LED is lit. If the position is outside the block, in a void zone or already covered, then the red LED is lit. The orange LED is lit for a set interval before changing between green to red or vice versa, the default for this interval is one second and may be set at Preferences Lightbar Settings Timing.
- **LED display** The LED displays shows the number of the currently selected line on the top left, and the current ground speed on the top right by default. Any of the four positions, top left - bottom left - top right - bottom right, can be configured in the preferences menu to any of the options in Table 1.3.

Option	Description
NONE	No display
SOL	Distance (m/ft) to start of flight line/leg
EOL	Distance (m/ft) to end of flight line/leg
LINE NUMBER	The current flight line number
SPEED	The current ground speed (knots)
OFFSET DISTANCE	Distance (m/ft) away from current flight line
OFFSET ANGLE	Heading deviation from current flight line
PDOP	Indication of GPS accuracy (the lower the numbe
	the more accurate)
NEXT BRNG	The bearing of the next line when using Fly To
	Polyline
CHANGE BRNG	The change in bearing from from the current lin
	segment to the next when using Fly to - Polyline
CUR HEADING	The current heading
AGL_MIN	The minimum height above ground recorded in th
	last second logged by AgLaser
AGL_AVG	The average height above ground recorded in th
	last second logged by AgLaser
AGL_MAX	The maximum height above ground recorded in th
	last second logged by AgLaser

Table 1.3: Lightbar display fields

Note	SOL and EOL will not be displayed if there is no block
	outline.

Chapter 2

Installation

2.1 Head Unit

The head unit can be attached to a suitable mounting bracket by four M4 mounting screws supplied as part of your instruction kit. Connections are needed for the power supply, lightbar, GPS receiver, USB (optional) and digital inputs. Currently there are 2 types of Tracmap Flight cables: TMW-1001 and the TMW-1002. Install overlays using TMW-1001 and TMW-1002 Flight cables are shown Figures 2.1 and 2.2. The main differences between TMW-1001 and TMW-1002 is the lightbar connection.

Note	If your log on switch is connected to an inductive device such
	as a solenoid or relay, when it is switched off, a back EMF is
	generated by the collapsing magnetic field around the induc-
	tor. This back EMF can attain a surprisingly high voltage
	that may damage the Tracmap head unit's electronics. The
	solution is to place a diode across the Cannon 10 pin con-
	nector Pins D and K, such that the diode is in reverse bias
	when the coil is energized. When the coil is de-energized
	the back EMF then has a closed path and high voltages are
	not generated. See Figure 2.4.

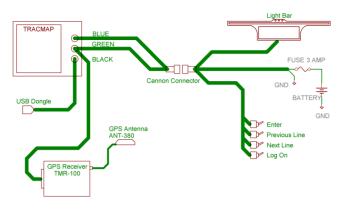


Figure 2.1: Install overlay TMW-1001 Loom

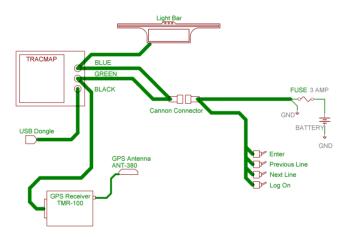


Figure 2.2: Install overlay TMW-1002 Loom

2.2 Lightbar

The lightbar can be mounted using RAM mounting kit supplied. Alternatively it is permissable to carefully dismantle the lightbar and attach a custom made bracket in

place of the attached ball on the back of the lightbar.

Note TracMap accepts no responsibility for any accidential damage resulting from dismantling the lightbar case to remove the RAM mounting ball.

2.3 GPS

Any GPS can be installed that provides the baud rate and GPS sentences listed in Appendix C. If installing the TracMap TMR-100 GPS receiver attach the GPS antenna by an SMA type connector. For higher precision TracMap TMR-200 GPS receiver, the antenna must be fixed to the outside of the aircraft and for helicopters with more than 2 blades fitted outside of the blade arc.

NoteIf using the TMR-200 receiver a wire must be cut to stop
the TracMap Head unit attempting to autodetect the baud
rate as this interferes with the GPS signal. To do this you
need to cut the wire connected to Pin3 of the DB9 connector.
Unscrew the connector and remove the case. Once the wires
are exposed cut the centre wire in the top row. Then screw
the connector back together.

2.4 Connections Wiring Diagram

Figure 2.3 and 2.5 show the connections from the 10 Pin Cannon connector to the aircraft. The digital inputs are used to detect whether the logging switch is on and to control the menus. These inputs require a voltage of at least 3V to activate and can be pulled to 12 volts or 24 volts dc. Normally these are wired to the aircraft's cyclic or joystick switches. The digital input connections are described in detail in Section D.

For more information see appendix D.

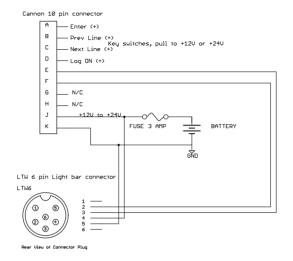


Figure 2.3: Aircraft Wiring Diagram for the TMW-1001 loom

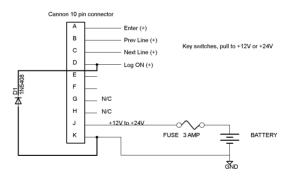


Figure 2.4: Aircraft Wiring Diagram with back feed protection (diode across pins D & K)

2.4. CONNECTIONS WIRING DIAGRAM

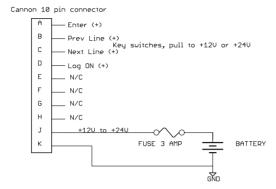


Figure 2.5: Aircraft Wiring Diagram for the TMW-1002 loom



Figure 2.6: Picture of cannon connector

CHAPTER 2. INSTALLATION

Chapter 3

Quick start

The instructions in this manual assume all actions are done via the keypad. If press switches have been wired to the **Enter**, **Prev Line** & **Next Line** input as per chapter 2, then pressing the appropriate switch achieves the same result as highlighting it and pressing **ENT** on the keypad.

After powering on the unit for the first time, you will see the screen shown in Figure 3.1. Before using the unit, you need to specify your swath width, create a job and a block.

Note	If your head unit hasn't been configured for the country
	you will be working in, you'll need to run Locale setup first.
	By default, NZ Transverse Mercator will be selected. See
	section 4.36 for details on how to do this.

To specify the swath width used, select **Swath Width** from the menu (PAGE 7 on the default menu), enter the width to be used in metres/feet using the on-screen keyboard (**F2**; Figure 3.2) or a USB keyboard. Press **ENT** to set the swath width. The width shown in the main view will change to the entered value.

Next create the first job. You can do this by selecting **New job** from the menu (PAGE 5 on the default menu). You will see something similar to Figure 3.3. If you wish, you



Figure 3.1: The main view after the unit is first started up

can edit the name given to the new job. Otherwise, you can accept the automatically generated name (which will be something like **JOB1**). Press **ENT** to create the job.

Now that a job is set up, you have several options for guidance and coverage recording.

3.1 Baseline

Baseline is the simplest form of guidance, and is suitable for blocks where the boundaries can be identified visually. To use baseline, you first need to define a **New Block** (menu PAGE 3 on the default menu).

You will prompted (Figure 3.4(a)) for a name (but one will be generated automatically if you don't want to specify it), just like when creating a new job. Press **ENT**, and the block outline dialog will appear.

For simple baseline guidance, no block outline is required, so press **ESC** or highlight **Finish** and press **ENT** when the block outline menu appears. Make sure you have GPS

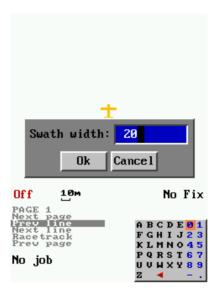


Figure 3.2: Entering a swath width using the on-screen keyboard

reception at this point (you should be able to see your ground speed in the top-right of the screen and on the lightbar, if it's attached).

Select **Baseline**, now fly the first line. If your logging switch is not connected to the head unit via a digital input, you will need to manually indicate to the unit when it switches on and off by pressing F1.

While the logging switch is on, you should see the area covered (in green) clocking up as you fly (Figure 3.5(a)). Once the logging switch is switched off, the baseline will be defined by joining the points where you switched log on and off (Figure 3.5(b)).

3.1.1 Marking A/B

Alternatively if you don't wish to mark the baseline by turning coverage on & off, select **Mark A** from the baseline menu, fly the line then select **Mark B** and a baseline will be created.

Now that the baseline is defined, you can shift the line left or right by using the **Prev**

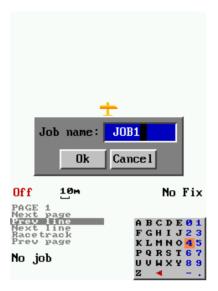


Figure 3.3: Creating a new job

line and Next line options.

3.1.2 Multi-Baseline

There may be circumstances where multiple baselines are needed. Up to six consecutive baselines can be created allowing for these circumstances. There are two options available: Standard and Alternating.

Standard (Multi-BL-std) means all baselines remain as they are, so Next line will move them all to the right of the direction they were made.

Alternating (Multi-BL-alt) means that the direction of every 2nd line created is reversed, so Next line will make the 1st, 3rd and 5th lines go right and the 2nd, 4th and 6th lines go left. This is useful for aircraft zig zagging up a hill (for example).

Multiple baselines can only be used if there is NO block outline. To create multiple baselines select either **Multi-BL-std** or **Multi-BL-alt** depending on which option you wish to use. While flying along the necessary flight line, turn on the logging switch

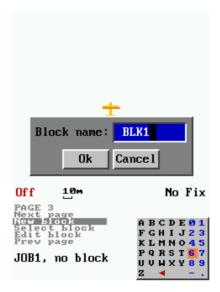


Figure 3.4: Creating a new block

for each of the baselines you wish to set.

To override automatic baseline creation when logging is turned off (for example, when turning off temporarily when crossing a stream), highlight **Creating** and press **ENT**. This will toggle to skipping which will stop a baseline being created from the next log off.

If you choose to use Multiple baselines, you cannot use Racetracking.

3.2 Blocks with outlines

Create a block by selecting **New block** in the main menu. When the block editing menu appears, fly over each corner of the block in turn and mark it by selecting **Add point** (Figure 3.2 or by using autoboundary (section 4.27)). Once all corners have been marked, select **Finish**. The line back to the first point will be drawn for you.

The block outline will be shown on screen, as well as the first flightline, which by

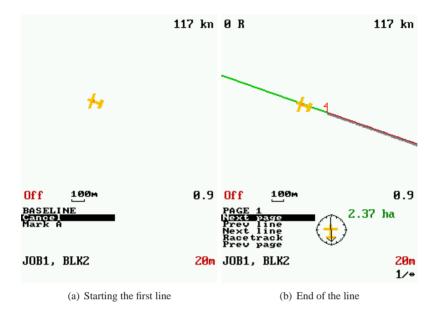


Figure 3.5: Defining a baseline by flying the first swath

default is aligned to the first edge marked in the block. Often, this will not be the line you wish to fly along. To align to a different edge of the block, select **Line** orient (section 4.16). Use **Next edge** and **Prev edge** to highlight the edge you want to fly parallel to (Figure 3.7(a)), or alternatively you can select **Optimum** which will cycle through the edges that have the least number of flight lines. Once you have highlighted the edge required, select **Finish** and the line will be realigned with the highlighted edge (Figure 3.7(b)).

Use the options **Prev line** and **Next line** to change flight lines.

Note	The lightbar traffic light will turn green when within the
	area marked by an imaginary line drawn at right angles to
	the flightline at the point where it crosses the block bound-
	ary.

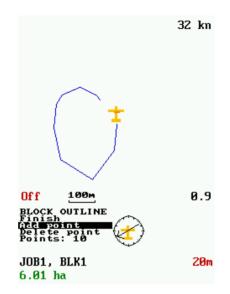


Figure 3.6: Creating a block outline by marking a sequence of points

3.3 Log Off Flag

Whenever you switch the log off a red flag will appear on screen at the point where log was switched off. This flag will remain in view until the next log off point is reached then it will be replaced (Figure 3.5(b)).

Note	WARNING! - DO NOT power off the aircraft without prop-
	erly shutting down the TracMap headunit correctly. Failure
	to do so may cause corruption which will result in the loss
	of job data.

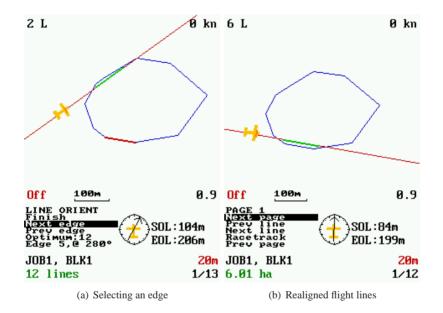


Figure 3.7: Changing the line orientation to a different edge of the block

Chapter 4

Command reference

This section describes the commands available on the TracMap Flight head unit. The commands are listed in alphabetical order. Navigate the menu by using the rocker pad to highlight items, then press **ENT** to select the item.

Only three commands (and Next page & Prev page) will be displayed on the menu at a time. You can view the complete list of commands by activating the **Next page** and **Prev page** commands as necessary.

The top three menu items can be activated using remote switches (cyclic switches, buttons) if the switches have been wired as per the instructions in Chapter 2.

4.1 Baseline

The **Baseline** function can be used for simple guidance when flying in parallel lines. It can be used with or without a block outline.

To use the **Baseline** function, first ensure that you have a block selected, as this function will not create a new block. If you want to fly without a block outline, create a new block but don't add any points to the boundary.

Select **Baseline** then fly the first swath. Flight lines will be oriented so that the first line passes through the start and end points of the first swath recorded.

If **Baseline** is used without a block outline, then the number of flight lines is unlimited. For the purpose of guidance a baseline is considered green everywhere except previously spread areas and inside void zones.

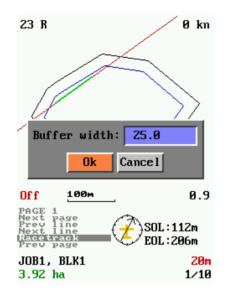


Figure 4.1: Specifying a buffer zone width for a block

4.2 Buffer width

If you wish to avoid logging within a specified distance from the border of a block, use the **Buffer width** command. Select the command, enter the desired distance in metres, and select **Ok**.

A double border will be created for the shape (refer to Figure 4.1), with the new border inside the old.

Note	The spread indicator light will only treat this area as a no- spread zone when you are on the current flight line.
Warning	Buffering may not work correctly if there are sections of the block outline that are narrower than twice the buffer width.

4.3 Closest line

Once you have created a flightline, this command will select the line closest to your current position. This is useful if you need to change to the other side of the block after a wind change, for example.

4.4 Delete app

Choose this option to delete the application coverage. This will remove any coverage and logging information associated with the currently selected block. The block will not be deleted.

You will be asked for confirmation before the application is deleted. Select ${\bf Yes}$ to delete, or ${\bf No}$ to cancel.

4.5 Delete block

Delete the currently selected block. You will be prompted for confirmation before the block is deleted. When this prompt appears, select **Yes** to delete, or **No** to do nothing.

4.6 DryRun

Creates a flightline with a defined start and stop point. DryRun is useful when wanting to do a practice run to identify a drop point and direction of travel, such as firebombing. Select **Start** and press **ENT** to make the start point and **Finish** and

press **ENT** to mark the end point. A flightline will be created between the two points and the lightbar traffic lights will turn green between the two points. DryRun can not be used when a block outline is present.

4.7 Edit block

Use this command to edit the outline of a block, edit the block name or edit the overlap setting. This command is disabled if no block exists.

Overlap allows you to fly with an overlap. Set this overlap amount as required using the onscreen keyboard. It is not recommended that this is set to more than half the current swath width. A negative overlap value will leave a gap between swaths.

Hint! - When flying very wide swaths (e.g. 30 mile passes at 1 mile intervals), set a large negative overlap and a narrow swath width to avoid overloading the TracMap unit with coverage data (e.g. -5180ft overlap, 100ft swath width).

Outline The points of a block boundary are numbered from 1. Select **Add point** to take the current position and add it as a boundary point on the end of the existing points.

The **Delete point** option will remove the most recently added point.

Edit name will bring up a dialog box that will allow you to change the name of the current block.

Choose Finish after you've finished editing the block.

Note	Editing a block outline in any way will clear all previously
	defined flight lines within Line History .

4.8 Edit job

This option will allow you to -

- **Delete Job** use this option to delete the currently selected job. This will delete all associated blocks.
- Edit name use this option to change the name of the current job.
- Cancel use this to return to main menu.

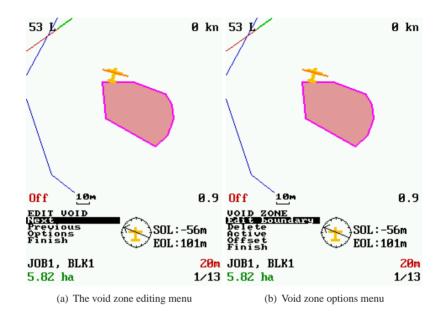


Figure 4.2: Void zone editing menus

4.9 Edit void

This command allows you to edit the properties of void zones. Selecting it will produce a screen similar to that shown in Figure 4.2(a).

First, select the void that you wish to modify. The currently selected void is shown with a thick magenta line. Use the **Next** and **Previous** options to cycle through the voids for the current block. After selecting the void you want to edit, select **Options**. You will be presented with the options menu depicted in Figure 4.2(b).

To modify the outline of the selected void, use the **Edit boundary** option. The procedure for editing the outline of a void is similar to that used to edit a block (see Section 4.7). Select **Delete** to delete the selected void. You will be asked for confirmation before the void is deleted.

One of the options will appear as **Active** or **Inactive**. Selecting this option will toggle the void zone's status. Active voids are filled red onscreen and inactive voids are filled orange. When flying over an active void zone, the warning lights on the lightbar will light up, and the spread light will be red, indicating that the area is not to be covered. When flying over an inactive void zone, the warning lights will appear, but the spread light will remain green.

The **Offset** option allows you to specify a buffer region around the void zone (distances should be entered in metres/feet). For example, you may have imported a shape outlining a river, but you actually want to avoid logging within 50 m of it. In this situation, you would load the outline of the river as a void zone, and then set an offset of 50 m for it. The zone's effective outline is expanded by 50 m, and the spread indicator light will change 50 m earlier than it would if no offset was specified.

After editing options for a zone, select **Finish** to go back.

4.10 Export

Use this command to save the details of the current block onto a USB storage device. After inserting the device into the USB connector, select **Export**. You will see a file browser (Figure 4.3).

Use the rocker pad to navigate to the folder on the device where you wish to store the information. Press **PAGE** to select either **Export Block** to export information for the currently selected block only, or **Export Job** to export information for all blocks in the current job.

Note	While exporting an entire job the lightbar LED's may flash,
	depending on the number of blocks in the job. This will
	cause no harm to any data.

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BLK1 BLK2 BLK3 BLK4		<dir> <dir> <dir> <dir> <dir></dir></dir></dir></dir></dir>	
C Coord i	inates: 🖡	WGS84	E g
PN	Export Job		I.
PZP	Export Block		
JOB1, B	LK1		20m
5.82 ha		1.	⁄13

Figure 4.3: The dialog used to export job and block information

The **Coordinates** option selects whether the shape files created will contain coordinates in WGS-84 or the currently selected map projection. Change between the two by pressing the '+' and '-' buttons.

A folder will be created for each block exported, containing the following files:

- a block and void zone outline shape file & KML(outline) as a polygon
- coverage log for each application (log) as polylines
- secondary log containing markers (waypoints) showing travel between coverage (secondary)
- a text file containing a summary of the block(summary)
- a compressed file of all the blocks data(**raw**) used for transfering data between TracMap units.
- local lines shape file (lines)

- local markers shape file & KML (markers)
- a compressed job file (tmo) used for the upload to your maps

If a machine name has been entered in the preferences, the job export directory will be named **machinename_jobname**, and block directory **machinename_jobname_blockname**. The exported file names will also be prepended with **machinename_jobname_blockname** where **machinename** is the machine name entered in the Preferences. If a machine name has not been entered in the preferences, the job export directory will be named **jobname** and the block directory **jobname_blockname**. The exported file names will be prepended with **jobname_blockname**.

If you want to change these directory and file names you will need to edit them after they have been exported to your computer.

The exported job or block can be then -

- used to generate a coverage map on a PC
- uploaded to TracMap internet mapping system
- uploaded to another TracMap headunit

4.11 Fly To

The **Fly To** command allows you to choose a marker or line to fly to from your current location.

4.11.1 Markers

If you select to fly to a marker, a list box containing markers will appear. Use the '+' and '-' buttons to choose between local and global markers. The list will be empty if markers have not been recorded/created. Use the rocker pad to select the marker and press **ENT**. Distance (DIS) and bearing (BRG) to the marker will be displayed on screen. The lightbar will also display the distance and bearing. Distance and bearing will continuously update as you fly toward the marker.

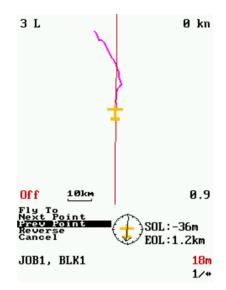


Figure 4.4: Fly to line

4.11.2 Lines

The main menu is not accessable whilst using fly to line. Be sure to setup your Viewpoint, Swath width and any other configuration settings first.

Like markers, choose the line you wish to fly along. Then enter the accuracy needed for passing a turn point (Pt Precision), and press **ENT**. The selected line will show onscreen in magenta. As you fly along the line and reach the point precision at the end of each leg the flightline will automatically shift to the next leg. Selecting the **Next Point** & **Prev Point** will manually shift the current fightline one leg forward or back. Selecting **Reverse** will set the flight line to the first leg at the opposite end of the line and reverse the order of the legs.

The configurable display choices for the lightbar are -

 ${\bf SOL}\,$ - Start of leg

EOL - End of leg

CUR HEADING - The current heading

NEXT BRNG - The bearing of the next line segment

CHANGE BRNG - The change in bearing between the current and next leg

Note	The bearing and projection details provided by the head-
	unit and lightbar are in projected coordinates. In some case
	when you are at the outer edge of your coordinate system
	these readings may vary by a few degrees to other onboard
	navigation devices.

Setting a point precision of 0 will make it almost impossible to get the line segment to change automatically as you will have to fly exactly over the point.

If using the TracMap AutoBoom Controller it will shut off when the point precision is reached unless the Offline Distance is large enough for the booms to remain on.

4.12 Import

The **Import** command will allow you to import a previously exported job/block (TM_Job or TM_Block), a block/void zone outline from a shape (.shp) file or KML, a new menu layout, or template. You must insert a USB storage device into the connector on the end of the USB cable first. It may take a few seconds before the device will be ready for use. From the import dialog (Figure 4.5) select the type of import you wish to perform.

TM_Job/TM_Block

A file browser dialog box will appear, use the rocker pad to first select the directory or the TM_Job or TM_Block that you wish to import. Next press **PAGE** so that the import button is highlighted and press **ENT**. You will be asked to confirm the name of the imported file. Press **F2** to bring up the onscreen keyboard if you wish to edit the name. Press **OK** to complete the import.

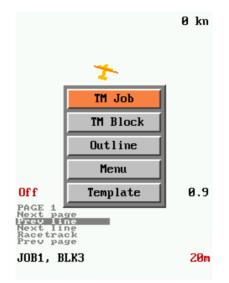


Figure 4.5: The dialog used to select import type

Note	To import a TM_Block there needs to be a currently selected
	job. Importing a TM_Block will also change your current
	block to the newly imported one. Importing a TM_Job will
	not change your currently selected job unless there are no
	jobs on the head unit. If the import is large then this may
	take some time to import, please wait until dialog disappears
	before removing USB.

Outline

TracMap Flight recognises ESRI shape files (.shp), using both WGS-84 and projected coordinates and Google KML files. To import an outline from a shapefile it must be a 'polygon' type. KML files must have at least one 'polygon' for import outline to work.

When selected a file browser appears (Figure 4.6(a)), use the rocker pad to select the file you wish to import. After selecting a shape file or KML, you will be shown a list of all shapes contained within that file. Select a shape using the rocker pad — you

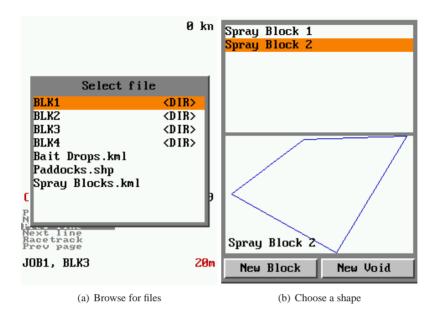


Figure 4.6: Importing outlines from a USB drive

will be shown a preview of the shape you have selected (Figure 4.6(b)). Select **New Block** to import the selected shape as a new block or **New void** to import as a new void to the currently selected block. Press **ENT** to complete import.

Note	The shape file coordinates used in the imported outline must
	be either WGS-84 or the map projection selected in Locale
	setup (see Section 4.36). Outlines must be imported as a
	new block or a new void. To edit outlines after they have
	been imported you must edit the relevant block or void.
	Markers are imported using the Marker command. Lines
	(such as farm maps) are imported using the Lines command.

Import Menu

This command allows you to import up to 3 pre-configured menu layouts.

To import a menu, it must be created as a text file on a PC first, then imported under the **Import** menu. Insert the numbers of the menu items you want in the first page, separated by a space. Insert the numbers of the menu items you want in the second page on the next line, and so on. Remember that you can have a maximum of 3 menu items per page. All menu items must be included in either the Primary or Secondary menu. The **Change menu** item is inserted automatically if you load a primary and secondary menu. Once you have created your file, the file must be names **menu1.txt** or **menu2.txt** or **menu3.txt**.

Once your file is created, save this to a USB stick and then insert it into the USB cable attached to the Head Unit. Select **Import** from the menu and the USB stick data directory will be displayed. Select the appropriate menu you have saved and press **ENT**.

The imported menu will overwrite the menu already in place. To use your menu after importing it, ensure the imported menu is the one selected in **Preferences** then you must turn the head unit off, then on again for the menu change to occur.

Note	There is no error checking when importing a menu, there-
	fore an invalid menu will still appear to import but won't
	override the existing menu. See Appendix A for additional
	instructions on building your own menu.

Import Template Templates that have been created using the TracMap Office Flight Template Builder can be imported into the headunit. A template is like a block but with no coverage data. You can import a template from a USB drive by simply selecting a *.tflz* file and clicking import. Templates are a very good way of setting up complex Block in the office and considerably simply the task of loading data into the cockpit.

4.13 Info

This command opens a sub-menu which allows you to view general information. The items shown on the sub-menu are:

About shows a copyright message and version number for the software, as well as the

percentage of available storage space used.

- **Unit ID** displays the Unit ID for this unit, this can be changed using the keypad if required. Unit ID is required to allow maps to be sent to your account using TracMap Office.
- **Brightness** is used to adjust the brightness of the display backlight and lightbar. A dialog box will appear with a slider control for each setting. Use up and down on the rocker pad to select the appropriate slider. Use left and right to adjust the position of the slider, and then press **ESC** to hide the control. Contrast is only available for Lightbar LB15.
- **Satellites** displays the last known location and signal strength for visible GPS satellites in a diagram similar to that shown in Figure 4.7. The crosshair at the top shows the positions of each satellite (the centre of the crosshair is directly overhead, while the edge of the circle represents the horizon). The bar graph at the bottom shows signal strengths.

The figure labelled "PDOP" gives an indication of the current position accuracy. Lower numbers mean more accurate positioning. See Chapter 5 for further information.

Also displayed are the Lat & Long and date/time.

4.14 Line buffer

Use **Line buffer** to set a margin at the ends of lines. Each line segment will effectively shrink by twice the distance entered (the segment shrinks at each end).

This command differs from the **Buffer width** command described in Section 4.2. **Buffer width** applies a margin in all directions around the block outline. **Line buffer** applies a margin only in the direction of the lines.

4.15 Line History

Select Line History to see previously defined flight lines. Using the Next line or Prev line you can toggle through all lines that have been previously defined for this block. Select Finish to make it your current flight line.

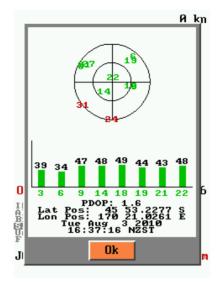


Figure 4.7: The GPS satellite map

Selecting a line will move it to the top of the line history list. For example a block that has had five different baselines defined, will have a Line History list numbered 1,2,3,4,5. Now lets say line 4 was selected from Line History, the order of the line History list is now 4,1,2,3,5.

Line History is a circular list, so selecting previous on the current line (first in list) will bring up the flight line that is last in the list.

Note	If the swath width, overlap or block outline are changed, the
	Line History will be cleared.

4.16 Line orient

Select **Line orient** to choose a direction for lines parallel to a block edge. The currently selected line will be highlighted in red (Figure 4.9).

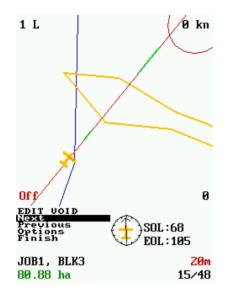


Figure 4.8: Line buffer

Use the **Next edge** and **Prev edge** options to change the selected edge. The number of passes required for the selected line is shown on the bottom left of the screen (Figure 4.9). The **Optimum:** option allows you to cycle through all the edges that have the minimum number of flight lines. Press the **ESC** button to leave the lines as they are. If you choose **Finish**, the lines will now be aligned parallel to the chosen edge.

4.17 Lines (such as farm maps)

This menu allows you to manage lines. Line can either be saved as 'Global' or 'Local'. Global lines will always show (if set to visible) while load lines only display when their associated block is selected. Lines allow you to display a background map.

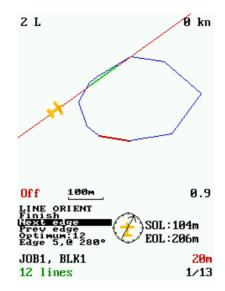


Figure 4.9: Line orient mode

Manage

Manage will bring up a list that allows you to toggle between all Global or Local lines if you are in a block. If you are not in a block only Global lines will be displayed. This list may take some time to load if there are a lot of lines. Below the list there are options that enable you to **Rename**, **Delete**, **Delete** All and **Import** lines.

Import You can import lines from either an ESRI Shape file (.shp) or a Google Earth file (.kml). When you select import you can select either **Polylines** or **Polygons**.

When lines are imported from a shape file the geometry type must be correct (e.g polygon shapefiles must use the polygons import tool and polyline shapefiles must use the polylines import tool). Likewise when importing KML files only polygon feature will appear under the polygons import menu and and line features will only appear under the polylines import menu. KML files will honour the colour of polylines and fill for polygon features.

If you want imported lines to be associated to a block when importing them you must have that block open and the toggle switch to **Local**. Conversely if

you want imported lines to be **Global**, you must have the toggle switch set to Global. Local lines will have double thickness compared to Global lines.

When importing a polygon from KML - If a fill colour other than white has been set in Google Earth, then that fill colour will display on screen. Be careful to avoid confusion with TracMap default fill colours (e.g. red for active voids, orange for inactive voids). The colours cannot be changed once they have been imported into the TracMap headunit.

ESRI Shape files will display in default TracMap colour scheme.

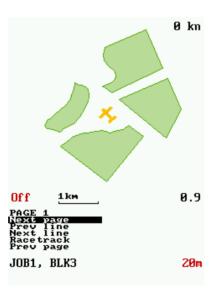


Figure 4.10: Polygons imported from KML file

Note

Line Visibility

The visibility of both Global and Local lines can be set using the following menu options -

Hide / Show Globals This menu option toggles the visiblity of Global Lines.

Hide / Show Locals This menu option toggles the visiblity of Local Lines.

4.18 Markers

This command allows you to manage markers. Selecting **New Global** will record a new marker that is visible within any job/block. A Global marker is represented by a gold square box and its name. **New Local** will record a new marker that is only visible within the current block and is represented by a light blue diamond and its name. If there is no block open, you will not be able to record a local marker. Local and global marker locations are recorded at the location of the aircraft when you press **ENT** to confirm the marker name.

Markers must have a name and you should only use letters, numbers a dash (-) and an underscore (_) when creating the names of markers.

Manage will bring up a list that allows you to toggle between all Global or Local markers, if you are in a block. If not in a block only Global markers will be displayed. Here you can **Rename**, **Delete**, **Delete All**, **Import**, **Export**, and **Create** markers (by entering the latitude and longitude in decimal degrees of the location where you want a marker, use a '-' for southern and western hemispheres). Highlighting a marker in the list and pressing **[ENT]** will display the Lat & Long for the selected marker.

Marker Visibility

The visibility of both Global and Local markers can be set using the following menu options -

Hide / Show Globals (L) This menu option toggles the visiblity of Global Markers.

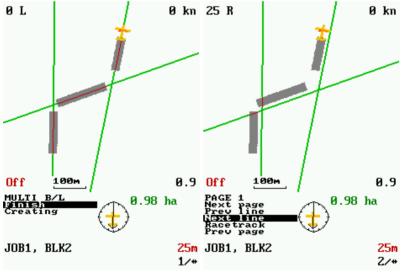
Global Markers also have an option to display the marker but hide the label (indicated in the menu by (L)).

Hide / Show Locals This menu option toggles the visibility of Local Markers.

4.19 Multi-Baseline-std

There may be circumstances where multiple baselines are needed. Up to six consecutive baselines can be created using Multi-Baseline-Standard (Multi-BL-std), see Figure 4.11.

Multiple baselines can only be used if there is NO block outline. While flying along the necessary flight line, turn on the spreader switch for each of the baselines you wish to set.



(a) Creating Multi Baselines (b) After clicking next line

Figure 4.11: Using Standard Multi Baselines

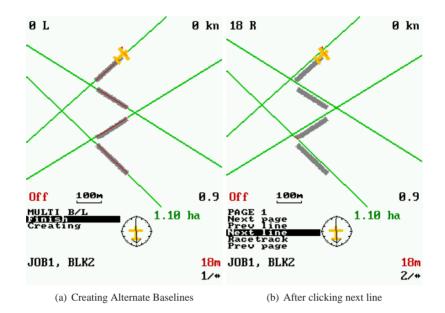


Figure 4.12: Using Alternating Multi Baselines

4.20 Multi-Baseline-alt

There may be circumstances where multiple baselines are needed. Up to six consecutive baselines can be created using Multi-Baseline-Alternating (Multi-BL-alt), see Figure 4.12.

The difference between Alternating and Standard Multi Baseline is that the direction of every 2nd line created is reversed when using alternating. So **Next line** will make the 1st, 3rd and 5th lines go right and the 2nd, 4th and 6th lines go left. This is useful for aircraft zig zagging up a hill (for example).

Multiple baselines can only be used if there is NO block outline. While flying along the necessary flight line, turn on the logging switch for each of the baselines you wish to set.

To override automatic baseline creation when spread is turned off (for example, when turning off temporarily when crossing a stream), highlight **Creating** and press **ENT**.

This will toggle to skipping which will stop a baseline being created from, the next log off.

If you choose to use Multiple baselines, you cannot use Racetracking.

4.21 New app

This command creates a new block by copying all the settings for the currently selected block, except the coverage. You may enter a name for this block. If you don't wish to enter a name, one will be generated for you.

4.22 New block

Selecting this option allows you to define a new block within the current job. You will be prompted for a block name. If the automatically generated name is acceptable, press **ENT**. Otherwise edit the name either by attaching a USB keyboard, or press **F2** to bring up the on-screen keyboard.

If the previous block's name is a numeric value, then by default the new block's name will be that number plus one.

After choosing the name of the block, you will be asked to define the outline of the block by selecting a series of points. This procedure is the same as that described in Section 4.7. Press **ESC** or select **Finish** if you do not want to create a block outline.

This command will do nothing if a job is NOT selected.

Note	Pressing the MENU button from page 1 will bring up the
	new block dialog, also pressing the MENU button from any
	other page will return you to page 1. So to fast path to the
	new block dialog from any page except page 1 press MENU
	twice.

4.23 New job

Select **New job** to define a new job. Each job contains a distinct collection of blocks.

You will be prompted to edit the name for the new job. If you don't wish to enter a name, press **ENT** and the job will automatically be given a name of the form **JOB***n* where n is an integer.

4.24 New void

Create a new void zone in the currently selected block.

After creating the void zone, you will asked to select boundary points to define the outline of the void zone. The procedure for doing this is similar to that described in Section 4.7.

Active voids are filled in red and inactive voids are filled orange.

4.25 Next line

The Next line command selects the next line in the sequence.

If a block is defined, and the currently selected line is the last one in the block, then the next line selected will be line number 1.

4.26 Point zone

Sometimes, it is inconvenient to specify the outline of void zones by giving boundary points. The **Point zone** command allows you to create circular void zones by choosing a radius and a centre point. After selecting this command, you will see the menu shown in Figure 4.13.

Active point zones are filled in red and inactive voids are filled orange.

The **Create** option will create a new void zone centered at your current location. The radius (in meters) is shown in brackets alongside **Create**. Before you create you may

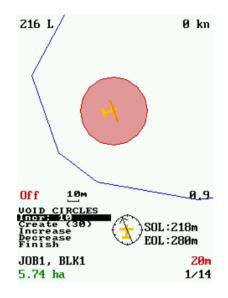


Figure 4.13: Creating a void zone around a marked point with the Point zone command

use the **Increase** and **Decrease** options to alter the radius in increments. The size of the increment set using the **Incr** option, it can be configured to **Increase** or **Decrease** the size of the zone by 1, 10 or 100m with each click.

Choose **Finish** to return to the main menu.

		0	kn
Machine name:			
Auto Boundary:		1 0	ff
Menu Selection:	۰¢	Menu	1
Units of Measure:	۰.	Met	ric
Coverage set	tin	gs	
GPS setti	ngs		
Lightbar settings			
Predefined Text			
InfoPanel settings			
Factory Reset			
•			

Figure 4.14: The preferences dialog box

4.27 Preferences

This command shows a dialog box which allows you to edit the head unit's settings. From the main dialog (shown in Figure 4.14), the following options are available.

- Machine name This is an optional unit identifier. If anything is entered in this box, it will cause the job export directory name to be machinename_jobname, and block directory name to be machinename_jobname_blockname and the exported file names will also be prepended with machinename_jobname_blockname. The advantage of this is when combining log files from several aircraft into one directory or mapping program on a PC.
- Auto Boundary is an option that can be toggled on or off. If this is set to on, when creating a new block or editing a current one, a point will be created if the aircraft crosses over its own flight path by doing an outside turn. An example of when you would use this is when wanting to accurately capture a precise corner point.

Menu Selection allows you to select one of three menus: Menu 1, Menu 2, Menu 3 by toggling between the options. After a different menu has been selected you must turn the head unit off, then on again for the menu change to occur. The imported menu overwrites the menu previously in place.

Units of Measure allows you to switch between metric and imperial units.

4.27.1 Coverage Settings

The **Coverage Settings** button produces a further dialog box (see Figure 4.15(a)), allowing the user to change the following settings:

- **Include coverage** allows coverage to be displayed onscreen, select Coverage **On** if you would like it displayed, or else select **Off**.
- **Delay coverage** allows coverage to be delayed onscreen, navigate to **Delay coverage**, use **F2** to bring up the keyboard and input the number of seconds you want to have the delay set to (e.g. 1.5 for one and a half] seconds). This also delays the recorded coverage reported in the log file used for mapping purposes. If using a predefined block outline, it will also advance the traffic light changes by the same amount of time. Use to prevent 'castling' on a coverage map.

The Delay setting can also be used with the TracMap autoboom controller to set the initial release point for each flightline prior to reaching the block boundary by (x) seconds to allow for the forward projection of the product.

- **Show overlap** allows overlapping of the coverage to be displayed onscreen, coloured blue. This option can be toggled on or off. If this is set to on, then any regions which have been covered more than once will be highlighted blue. Otherwise, all coverage will be drawn grey.
- **Controller** defaults to disabled, set to enabled when using a boom controller (see Appendix B).
- **Auto Booms** set to off by default, can be used to set automatically turn boom on when using the TracMap Controller box. No Misses will ensure that the boundary of the block is covered without missing. No Overlap will ensure that nothing is dropped outside the block boundary. Auto booms will change to Error if there is a problem with comms, speed or GPS (see Appendix B).

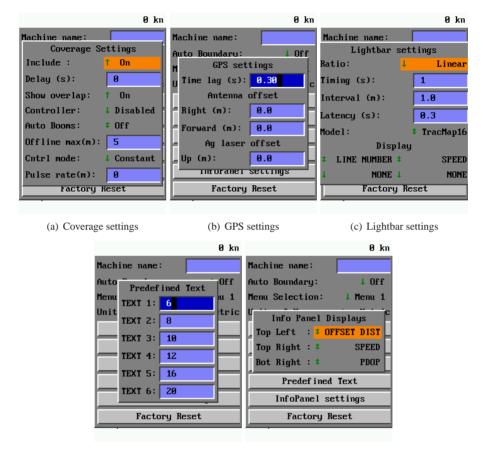
- **Max Offline** this setting is used for Auto Booms. It defines the maximum distance that aircraft can be offline before the boom is switch off (see Appendix B).
- **Control Mode** the Auto Boom can be configured to either a Constant or Pulse mode. Constant is a continuous drop whilst over the spread zone, Pulse will drop at set intervals (e.g 50m; see Appendix B).
- **Pulse Rate** The distance at which product is dropped when the Auto Booms controller is set to pulse (see Appendix B).
- **Timer** The timer records the amount of time the logging has been on since the unit powered. The Reset button sets it back to 00:00:00.

4.27.2 GPS Settings

The **GPS settings** button produces a further dialog box (see Figure 4.15(b)), allowing the user to change the following settings:

- **Time lag(s)** Set this to a time in seconds to compensate for lag from the GPS receiver. Compensation is done by projecting reported positions ahead in the direction of travel. If in doubt, leave this field blank.
- Antenna offset: Right(m) The is the distance, in metres, between the GPS antenna and the centre-line of the logging, perpendicular to the direction of travel. The position reported by the GPS will be shifted to the right by this amount. Specify a negative number to shift the reported position to the left.
- Antenna offset : Forward(m) Distance, in metres, between the GPS antenna and the boom, parallel to the direction of travel. The position reported by the GPS is shifted forward by the specified amount. Specifying a negative number causes the reported position to be shifted backwards.

Note	The GPS offset can also be used to compensate for an air-
	craft flying with off centre booms. This can be achieved by
	setting the GPS offset to the amount of the boom offset but
	in the opposite direction.



(d) Predefined text settings

(e) InfoPanel settings

Figure 4.15: Sub-dialogs to the preferences dialog box

4.27.3 Lightbar Settings

The dialog box shown when the **Lightbar settings** button is selected (shown in Figure 4.15(c)) allows you to change the following:

- **Ratio** Allows you to select Linear or Exponential for the guidance LEDS on the lightbar.
- **Lightbar timing** The warning time given by the lightbar, in seconds (i.e. the length of time that the amber traffic light will stay lit between log on and log off areas).

Lightbar interval When in Linear ratio mode this setting is the offline distance in metres, that each LED on the lightbar represents. When in Exponential mode choose one of the following three settings.

Setting	Metres offline for each respective LED
Exp 1	0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 14, 20, 28, 38, 50, 64, 82, 102, 132, 175
Exp 2	0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 50, 100
Exp 3	0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 50, 100

Note	When the headunit is set to imperial units the metric expo-
	nential offline distances still apply.

- Latency This will adjust the timing of the traffic lights to compensate for reaction time, delays in equipment control, or preference. For example, setting this value to 0.3 will cause the logging indicator traffic lights to change 0.3 seconds before product application needs to start.
- **Model** Allows you to select the lightbar model to be used. Options are TracMap LB15, LB16 or 3rd party. **Note:** not all 3rd party lightbars are supported, talk to your distributor.
- **LED Display** This allows you to adjust what is being displayed on the lightbar LED. The LED display on the lightbar is divided up into four sections, top left, top right, bottom left and bottom right. In the menu under the title **LED Display** each section is represented as a option box in the same position as on the LED. For example in (Figure 4.15(c)) the top left section is set to display the current line number, top right is set to speed, bottom left is set to none and the bottom

right is set to none.

Options which you can choose to have displayed on your lightbar LED screen include:

- Start of line/leg (SOL)
- End of line/leg (EOL)
- Speed (knots)
- Line number
- Offset angle(degrees left / right)
- Offset distance (m / ft)
- PDOP
- Next bearing
- Change bearing
- Current heading
- AGL_MIN (for AgLaser for reporting altitute above ground level)
- AGL_AVG (for AgLaser for reporting altitute above ground level)
- AGL_MAX (for AgLaser for reporting altitute above ground level)
- None

4.27.4 Predefined Text

The dialog box shown when the **Predefined Text** button is selected (shown in Figure 4.15(d)) allows the user to enter 6 items that can then be used in conjunction with the cyclic switches (buttons) to quickly cycle through a range of pre-defined entries. An example is you may frequently use the swath widths 20, 40 50, 12 and 3. If you enter these when you flick the cyclic switch when the cursor is in the swath width box, these values will be progressively displayed. Stop flicking when the value you want is displayed. The default values for pre-defined text are 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20. Commonly used words (e.g herbicide, thistles) can also be predefined to use as block names.

4.27.5 InfoPanel Settings

The onscreen InfoPanel display can be configured in the same way as the lightbar. The top left, top right and bottom right corners can all be set. The bottom left always displays the logging status.

Options which you can choose to have displayed on your InfoPanel include:

- LINE NUMBER
- SPEED (knots)
- OFFSET DISTANCE
- PDOP
- AGL_MIN
- AGL_AVG
- AGL_MAX
- SATS
- LOG TIME
- NONE

4.27.6 Factory Reset

The Factory Reset button will set all preferences back to factory defaults. The only settings that are not affected are the map projection and Unit ID.

4.28 Prev line

The **Prev line** command selects the previous line in the sequence. If a block is defined and the line currently selected is line number 1, then the selection wraps around and the line selected will be the last one.

4.29 Racetrack

A number of different racetrack options are available.

The options are -

- Lines
- Tracks
- A-B-C
- Squeeze
- Half Track

Racetracking does not change the numbering of the lines. It only alters the way lines are selected when using the **Next line** and **Prev line** commands. For example, in a block with 8 lines, the ordering shown in Figure 4.17 could be attained by setting the racetrack **Lines** to 8.

4.29.1 Lines

You can create a racetrack using the Lines option with or without a block outline.

- 1. Set up a flight line, this can be done by either Line orient when there is a block outline, or you can set baseline.
- 2. Select the racetrack command and a dialog box (figure 4.16(a)) will appear prompting you to choose racetrack type.

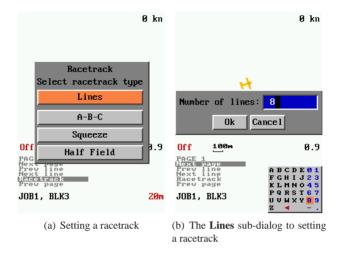


Figure 4.16: Dialog boxes to set a racetrack size

3. After choosing **Lines** another dialog box will prompt you for the number of lines in the racetrack.

If the number of lines within a block outline does not match a multiple of the amount entered for the racetrack, any remainder lines will be flown back to back. The distance between the lines is determined by the swath width you have entered.

4.29.2 Tracks

To use the **Tracks** option to set up a racetrack you must use a block outline.

- 1. Set up a flight line, this can be done by either Line orient or by setting a baseline.
- 2. Select the racetrack command and a dialog box (Figure 4.16(a)) will appear prompting you to choose racetrack type.
- 3. After choosing **Tracks** another dialog box will prompt you for the number of tracks in the racetrack.

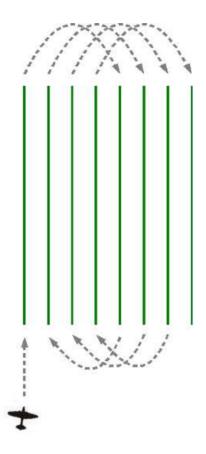


Figure 4.17: Re-ordering of lines when racetracking is active

4.29. RACETRACK

The block will then be divided into that many racetracks, with any remainder lines being flown back to back.

4.29.3 A-B-C

You can create a racetrack pattern using the A-B-C option with or without a block outline.

- 1. Select the racetrack command and a dialog box (Figure 4.16(a)) will appear prompting you to choose racetrack type.
- 2. After selecting **A-B-C** fly your first line, once you turn logging off a baseline will appear. As you turn at the end of the run, new flightline options will appear. Choose an appropriate flightline and as soon as you press the log on switch, this will create your racetrack.

4.29.4 Squeeze

Use the **Squeeze** racetrack option with the same process described above with **A-B-C** except choose **Squeeze** for the racetrack type. The squeeze option sets up a guidance pattern so that you wil be guided from the outside flight lines to the centre, as in Figure 4.18

4.29.5 Half Field

Half Field creates a racetrack with consecutive flight lines half the field width apart (e.g. if your field has 29 lines. They will be ordered 1, 16, 2, 17, 3, 18.....). Fly the first flight line on one side of the field, turning the log on and off to mark start and end points. Then fly the last flight line on the opposite side of the field, again turning the log on and off to mark start and end points to create the racetrack.

Note	Half Field is only available when no block outline is present.
------	--

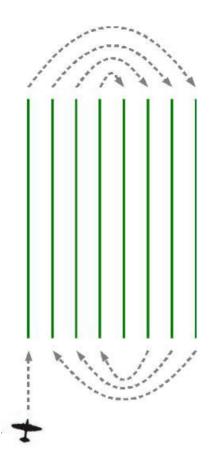


Figure 4.18: Re-ordering of lines when squeeze racetracking is active

4.30 Select block

To navigate between blocks in the currently selected job, use the **Select block** option. A new menu will appear, with the options **Next block** and **Prev block** for cycling between blocks. After choosing the desired block, select **Finish**.

4.31 Select job

This is used to navigate between multiple stored jobs. A menu will appear, with the options **Next job** and **Prev job**, which are used to cycle between stored jobs. Select **Finish** once the job is chosen.

4.32 Set edge

The **Set edge** command is an alternative to using **Line Orient**. In the dialog box that appears, enter the number of the edge you wish to fly parallel to. Select **OK** to confirm or **Cancel**.

This feature is useful when multiple aircraft are using the same block with a complex outline.

4.33 Set orient

If you know the direction of the lines you want to fly, you can use this command to specify an exact direction to orient the lines. After selecting this command, a box will appear on screen asking you to enter the heading you wish to fly along. This is to be entered in degrees (0 indicates north, 90 is east). Set orient can only be used in conjunction with a block outline.

4.34 Start line

To jump directly to a particular line, rather than using the **Next line** and **Prev line** commands, you can use **Start line**. In the dialog box that appears, enter the number of the line you wish to fly. It will be selected immediately. This is useful when multiple aircraft are treating different parts of a previously defined block.

4.35 Swath width

This command alters the swath width setting. The new width should be specified in metres or feet. After entering the new width, press **ENT** to change it, or **ESC** to cancel. This changes the swath width for the current block. Previously recorded coverage will not be affected.

Swath width can also be altered using predefined text.

Note	Very large swath widths my make the unit slow. This is
	due to the number of coverage tiles that have to be created
	and stored on the head unit. Consider using a narrow swath
	width and negative overlap instead.

4.36 Unit setup

4.36.1 Locale Setup

The head unit uses map projections internally, rather than WGS-84. Each map projection is valid for only a small portion of the Earth's surface, and so an appropriate system must be chosen depending on the region you are working in.

A list of map projections will be shown. The current UTM zone is also displayed at the bottom of the dialog. Scroll to the projection that is most appropriate for your region and press **ENT**. After a brief pause, the head unit will change to using the newly selected time zone and map projection. Map projections can be changed at any time.

Note	Warning Changing the Map Projection will delete all data
	on the Head Unit. To ensure your data is kept, export all
	job information as WGS-84 projection to a USB key before
	changing the Map Projection. If you are more than 2 UTM
	zones from your selected projection the TracMap unit will
	not provided guidance.

For more information on supported map projections, see Appendix E.

4.36.2 Timezone

The Timezone menu allows you to set the current timezone. Time can be checked on the satellites page.

4.36.3 Delete All

This command removes all job and block data. Be sure you have backed up any data you do not wish to lose (this can be done by exporting).

4.37 Viewpoint

The **Viewpoint** command displays a menu that allows you to control the way the map is drawn on screen. When the menu appears, selecting the **Zoom block** option will zoom the display in or out as necessary so that the entire block will fit on screen. The **Center block** option will pan the display so that the map is in the center of the screen. Set **Auto pan** to on if you want the screen to pan across every time you move off the visible portion of the display.

The **View** option controls the way the map is oriented. Three different styles are available (see Figure 4.19). The default is to orient the map so that north points towards the top of the screen - **View: north** (Figure 4.19(a)). You may also elect to have the map oriented so that the current line runs vertically up the screen - **View: line** (Figure 4.19(b)). Note that in this mode, the map will flip depending on your current heading, so that the direction that you fly the line is always towards the top of the screen. **View: heading** continually centres on your current position and rotates

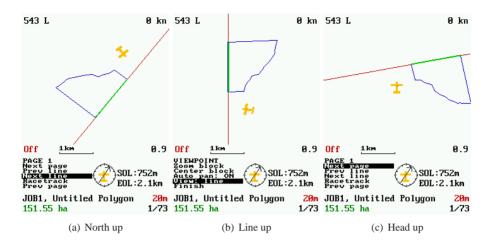


Figure 4.19: Different viewpoint styles for map display

so that your current heading points towards the top of the screen (Figure 4.19(c)). After altering the viewpoint, select **Finish** to hide the viewpoint menu.

Note	Viewpoint settings (except Autopan) are stored on the head
	unit and remembered when you next power on. If the view-
	point is set to "heading up" when you start, blocks won't
	be zoomed automatically when they're selected.
	Center Block will not work if Autopan is turned on.

Chapter 5

Troubleshooting

The sections of this chapter describes problems that may be encountered and possible solutions.

Menu selection not working

Some menu selections are designed to not work unless you're in a job / block / outline etc. Check the Command Reference for the selection that you're after and that will advise what scenario this will work in.

No GPS fix

This may be caused either by poor satellite reception, or by a faulty data connection. To determine the cause, first move the receiver to a location with a clear view of the sky. Select **Info** from the menu and then **Satellites**.

If the screen resembles Figure 5.1(a) and there are no satellite numbers shown, then the most likely cause is an incorrectly wired or configured GPS. Refer to Section D and check the wiring.

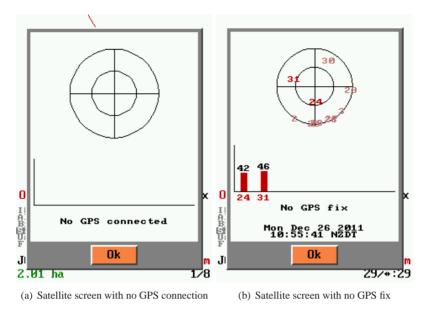


Figure 5.1: No GPS fix

If, on the other hand, the screen looks more like Figure 5.1(b), then the GPS is wired correctly, but the GPS reception is poor. Make sure the antenna is located in a suitable position, as per the manufacturers recommendations, and that it has a clear view of the sky. It may require somewhere between 30 and 60 seconds for the receiver to acquire its first fix after powering on.

For the TracMap TMR-200 receiver, the antenna must be located externally, and clear of the rotor arc when installed on a helicopter.

PDOP Values

Position Dilution of Precision (PDOP) describes the geometric strength of satellite configuration on GPS accuracy. When visible GPS satellites are close together in the sky, the geometry is said to be weak and the DOP value is high; when far apart, the geometry is strong and the DOP value is low. Thus a low DOP value represents

DOP Value	Rating	Description
1	Ideal	The highest possible confidence level to be used for applications demanding the highest possible preci- sion at all times
2-3	Excellent	At this confidence level, positional measurements are considered accurate enough to meet all but the most sensitive applications
4-6	Good	Represents a level that marks the minimum appro- priate for making business decisions. Positional measurements could be used to make reliable in- route navigation suggestions to user
7-8	Moderate	Positional measurements could be used for calcula- tions, but the fix quality could still be improved. A more open view of the sky is recommended
9-20	Fair	Represents a low confidence level. Positional mea- surements should be discarded or used only to in- dicate a very rough estimate of the current location
21-50	Poor	At this level, measurements are inaccurate by as much as 300 metres with a 6 meter accurate device (50 DOP * 6m) and should be discarded

a better GPS positional accuracy due to the wider anglular separation between the satellites used to calculate a GPS unit's position. The table below shows the meaning of DOP values.

Table 5.1: PDOP values

Logging or digital inputs not working

Check the connections listed in Appendix D. There must be a voltage of over 3 V for the signal to be detected.

Lightbar not working

This problem is often caused because lightbar model setting is incorrect. Check this in the **Preferences** dialog (see Section 4.27 for more information).

If the lightbar is still not working after changing the model, check the wiring on the lightbar cable.

The lightbar will begin to flash if it has not received data from the headunit within 2 seconds.

Guidance LEDs move erratically

If the position of the guidance LEDs rapidly jumps back and forth, it may be due to poor satellite reception. First, check this by using the **Info** command described in Section 4.13.

Setting the lightbar LED interval (see Section 4.27) too low may also cause the LEDs to jump around. Since consecutive positions reported by an autonomous GPS can vary significantly (sometimes up to 2 metres), it's best not to set the interval much smaller than 1 m.

The USB drive is not ready

While attempting to import a block, or load an upgrade, you may see this message on the screen. When USB flash drives are plugged in to a TracMap Flight head unit, they typically require about 5 to 10 seconds to "settle" before they can be used. Wait a few seconds (without removing the USB drive) and then try again.

If the problem persists, it may be that you are using a non-standard USB flash drive. This would normally only be a problem for very old models of USB drive (with capacities of 512 MB or less).

Menu not importing

If a menu file is not correct, it will not display. Check that the file contains all menu number options, that the file is named correctly (ie **menu1.txt** and that you have restarted the Head unit.

Imported Block Outline slow to load, or buffer zones not correct

Check that the imported **Block Outline** does not contain more than 6000 edges, or that the buffer width is wider than half the narrowest section of the block.

Unit performing slower than usual

Delete all unwanted jobs. As the unit reaches storage capacity performance decreases. This can be checked under Info - About.

Cannot see block outline on screen

Check whether Viewpoint is set to Autopan or Heading as these settings always centre the aircraft.

Baseline not working

Check that you are not trying to create a baseline outside the block outline (if a block outline exists). Also check that the block outline has not been created with only one or two points present. The easiest way to check this is by creating a new block.

Can't import block or job

Check that the folder selected contains a valid block or job. Also check that the folder in highlighted in the list.

Controller (Booms) box keep erroring

Check that the Error time is set to a large enough value for the GPS that you are using (should be more than double the time between GPS signals).

Appendix A

Configurable Menus

Import Menu

To import a menu, it must be created as a text file on a PC first, then imported under the **Import** menu. Insert the numbers of the menu items you want in the first page, separated by a space. Put the numbers of the menu items you want in the second page on the next line, and so on. Remember that you can have a maximum of 3 menu items per page. All menu items must be included in either the Primary or Secondary menu. The **Change menu** item is inserted automatically if you load a primary and secondary menu. Once you have created your file, the file must be names **menu1.txt** or **menu2.txt** or **menu3.txt**.

Once your file is created, save this to a USB stick and then insert into the USB cable attached to the Head Unit. Select **Import** from the menu and the USB stick data directory will be displayed. Select the appropriate menu you have saved and press **ENT**.

Note	After you have imported a menu, you will need to turn the
	head unit off, then on again for the menu change to occur.
	The imported menu overwrites the menu previously in place.
	You must use all 36 menu options, and each one only once.
	If your imported menu fails to replace the existing menu, it
	may mean that you have duplicated a menu option, or not
	used the correct file format or file name.

The example below shows a text file (.txt) that could be used to import a menu

The table below shows the numbers of the menu items. Use these numbers when creating the text file for a configurable menu.

TracMap Menu 1 - Default Menu

PAGE 1	PAGE 2	PAGE 3	PAGE 4	PAGE 5
Prev line	Baseline	New block	Line orient	New job
Next line	Std-Multi-BL	Select block	Line History	Select job
Racetrack	Preferences	Edit block	Info	Edit job
PAGE 6	PAGE 7	PAGE 8	PAGE 9	PAGE 10
New void	Swath width	Markers	Closest line	Set orient
Point zone	New app	Go to	Line buffer	Set edge
Edit void	Delete app	Lines	Buffer width	Start line
PAGE 11 Import Export Delete block	PAGE 12 Viewpoint Alt-Multi-BL Locale setup	PAGE 13 DryRun		

TracMap Menu 2

Primary menu				
PAGE 1	PAGE 2	PAGE 3	PAGE 4	PAGE 5
Prev line	Line History	Select block	Select job	New Void
Next line	Swath width	Edit block	New job	Point Zone
Baseline	Line orient	Delete block	Edit job	Edit void
Secondary menu				
PAGE 6	PAGE 7	PAGE 8	PAGE 9	PAGE 10
New void	Swath width	Markers	Closest line	Set orient
Point zone	New app	Go to	Line buffer	Set edge
Edit void	Delete app	Lines	Buffer width	Start line
PAGE 11	PAGE 12	PAGE 13		
Import	Viewpoint	DryRun		
Export	Alt-Multi-BL			
Delete block	Locale setup			

APPENDIX A. CONFIGURABLE MENUS

TracMap Menu 3

Preferences Locale setup

PAGE 1	PAGE 2	PAGE 3	PAGE 4	PAGE 5
Prev line	New block	Line History	Select block	Select job
Next line	Swath width	Markers	Edit block	New job
Baseline	Line orient	Lines	Delete block	Edit job
PAGE 6	PAGE 7	PAGE 8	PAGE 9	PAGE 10
New void	New app	Import	Start line	Set orient
Point zone	Delete app	Export	Closest line	Set edge
Edit void	Viewpoint	Buffer width	Line buffer	Racetrack
PAGE 11 Alt-Multi-BL Info	PAGE 12 Go to Std-Multi-BL	PAGE 13 DryRun		

72

Number	Menu Item	Description
1	Prev line	Selects the next lowest numbered flight line
2	Next line	Selects the next highest numbered flight line
3	Racetrack	Choose a flightline pattern
4	Baseline	Creates an A-B line
5	Std-Multi-BL	Create up to six consecutive baselines
6	Preferences	Set your configuration preferences
7	New block	Create a new block
8	Select block	Cycle through blocks loaded in memory
9	Edit block	Change the block name or corner points
10	Line orient	Choose block edge to orient the flightline
11	Line history	Cycle through flightlines used in the block
12	Info	Displays software version, satellites etc
13	New job	Create a new job
14	Select job	Cycle through jobs loaded in memory
15	Edit job	Change the job name, delete job
16	New void	Create a new void (exclusion) zone
17	Point zone	Creates a void zone as a circle
18	Edit void	Change a void zone corner points, set as active/inac
19	Swath width	Define the swath width
20	New app	start a new application on a block
21	Delete app	Delete the present coverage
22	Markers	Create, import and edit markers (waypoints)
23	Go To	Select a marker to fly to
24	Lines	Import shapes for display as a background on screen
		fly to a polyline
25	Closest line	Selects the closest flight line when flying
26	Line buffer	Creates a buffer at each end of the flight lines
27	Buffer width	Creates a buffer zone around the inside of the sele
		block outline
28	Set orient	Set a flight line to a compass heading
29	Set edge	Choose which block edge to orientate flight lines
	0	edge number
30	Start line	Define the start line number in a block
31	Import	Import jobs, blocks, block outlines and menus
32	Export	Export jobs and blocks with their application cover-
33	Delete block	Delete the currently selected block
34	Viewpoints	Change between North Up, Line Up and Track
	rr	Also turn on Autopan
35	Alt-Multi-BL	Create upto six consecutive baselines which alter
		moving left or right when nextline is clicked
36	Locale Setup	Change clock settings and UTM zones
37	DryRun	Creates a dry run shape

APPENDIX A. CONFIGURABLE MENUS

Appendix B

Autoboom Controller

What is Autobooms?

The TracMap contoller box provides direct control of actuators controlling air or hydrallic rams, or opening/closing relays which in turn control valves.

To operate load block outlines and void zones into TracMap unit and configure any other settings you may want (e.g. line buffer). Use the **Preferences / Coverage Settings** dialog to configure the controller (see section 4.27.1). Here you can enable the controller, set the Auto Boom mode, Max Offline, Control Mode (Pulse vs constant) and Pulse Rate.

For clusters to be released the pilot must have logging turned on, the aircraft must be within the Max Offline distance, and over the spread zone. The Max Offline distance setting needs to be set as low as possible to minimise any potential over or under coverage.

If the Max Offline distance is set to wide and the aircraft is not over the flight line or crosses the block boundary at acute angle or is to close to the edge of a void zone, it is possible for release points to be outside the allowable area see Figure B.1.

As the aircraft flies each flightline, the unit will activate a further release immediately after the aircraft has entered the block. Thereafter, the unit will activate a further release after travelling the preset interval distance. If the next relase is projected to

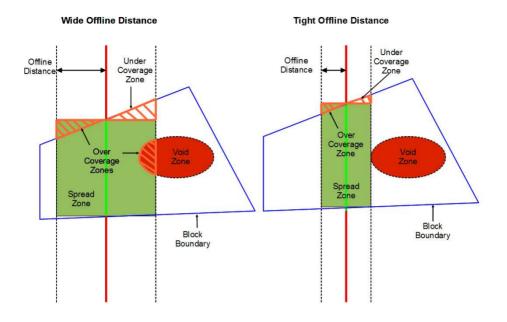


Figure B.1: Offline distance setting

land in a void zone, the unit will pause release activation. As soon as the aircraft is clear of the void zone a release will be activated - i.e it will not be a multiple of the release interval, but it will release as soon as the flightline turns green.

Install Options

No Controller

The control of the product application (on/off) is independent of the TracMap unit. There is a data feed from the logging switch to the headunit for mapping and logging purposes. Alternatively, the 'Log On' data feed can come from the application device (e.g. pressure sensor on a spray boom).

Manual Operation with Controller

The product application is controlled by the pilot, with data feed going directly to the TracMap Unit, which in turn produces a command to the relays that are wired to the product valve. All on/off is mapped and the application can only happen if the TracMap Unit is on.

Autoboom with Controller

The on/off switch links to the TracMap unit, which in turn will only allow product application if the switch is turned on, the aircraft is over the spread zone and within the maximum offline distance and that the current speed is more than 8m/sec (approximately 16 knots).

Pulse vs Constant

The controller can be set to either constant spread (e.g. spraying) or pulse (e.g. bait drops, camera operation). This option is set in the headunit (see section 4.27.1).

Autoboom Set Up

The Relay on time and Error timer can be configured when the booms board is powered on. Hold down the centre button at start up to access the set up menu. Then use the up and down buttons to alter the settings.

Relay Time

The time in millisecond that the relay is on for. The minimum is 50ms and it can be increased in 50ms intervals

Error Timer

The time in milliseconds before the booms board will go to error if no communication from the headunit is received. This needs to be configure depending the hertz rate at which your GPS receives, as the head unit will attempt to communicate with the boom board after each GPS signal.

For example a 10 hertz GPS gets one sample every 100ms so depending on your accuracy needs you might see the error timeout to 250ms. This will allow one signal to be missed before an error occurs.

The head unit settings for the autobooms are in the the preference sub menu - coverage settings. See section 4.27.1 for details on how to configure the head unit.

Mapping/Reporting

Flight data can be output to ESRI shapefile format in the form of polylines showing the aircraft flight path when cluster releases have been occuring (with start and end points adjusting for the advanced release time) and points showing the travel path of the aircraft when cluster releases were deactivated.

Each cluster release point is also captured in a text file on the SD card in the controller box. The last GPS fix prior to the release is logged. It is important to note that if you are using a 4 hertz GPS for example then you are getting four GPS positions per second. So if you are travelling at 80 knots for example (41 m/sec) the GPS location recorded on the SD card could be out by approximately +/- 10m (e.g 41 m/sec / 4 hertz).

It is also important to note that the position reported is the actual release point. If you have set an advance of 2.5 seconds to allow for the forward projection of the product after release, then the first release point in each run will likely be outside thetarget area.

The data for each point will shot the Latitude, Longitude, Date, Time, Speed & Heading.

Autoboom Errors

The are a number of situations that may arise that cause the booms board to enter an error state. These include the loss of communitation between the autoboom board and the head unit, the loss of GPS signal or a change to a speed at which the autobooms can no longer operate.

Communication Error

A communication error will occur when the Autoboom board has not received a signal from the headunit for a set period of time. See Set Up above.

GPS Error

A GPS error will occur when the Autoboom board is not receiving a GPS signal. The GPS baud rate must be set to 38400.

Speed Error

A speed error will occur when the aircraft is travelling to fast or to slow for the Autobooms board to operate.

Note	The pulse drop locations recorded on the SD card will have
	an error of up to $+/-$ (speed (m/sec) / GPS hertz rate).

Controller Specifications

Max Relay Current	5 Amps
Min On Time	100ms
Max On Time	1000ms (1 second)
Incremental Change	50ms
Min Ground Speed	8 m/sec (approx 16 knots)
Max Cycle Rate	Relay On Time plus 50 ms

Table B.1: Controller specs

APPENDIX B. AUTOBOOM CONTROLLER

Appendix C

Technical specifications

Operating voltage	8 - 32 V
Operating current	270 - 900 mA
Power consumption	7.3 - 13.8 W
GPS baud rates	9600, 19200, 38400, 57600, 115200
GPS sentences	RMC GSA GSV
GPS supply voltage	5 V
GPS supply current	500 mA max
Digital input threshold	3 V

Table C.1: Techincal Specs

APPENDIX C. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Appendix D

Tracmap Head Unit Connections

Viewed from the back, the unit has three connectors which are numbered from 0.top to bottom (see Figure D.1). The functions of each connector are:

- **Connector 1** This connector, located nearest the top of the unit, provides power to the unit and drives the lightbar.
- **Connector 2** The middle connector should be attached to the GPS receiver, and digital inputs.
- **Connector 3** The connector nearest the base of the unit is used to attach USB devices, such as memory sticks and keyboards.

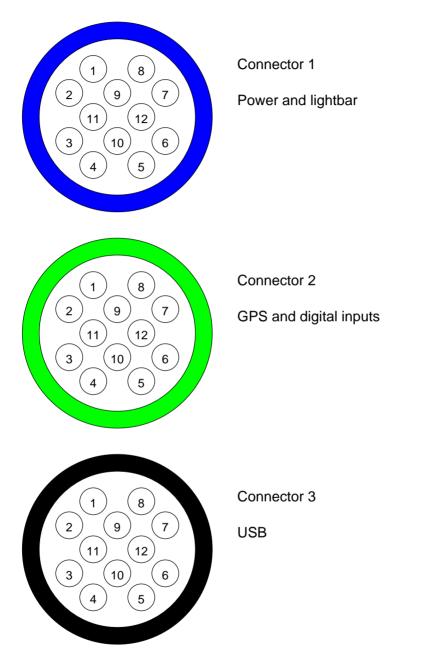


Figure D.1: Connector pin-outs as shown from the back of the unit

Power supply

The unit will operate on any voltage between 8 V and 32 V. Power is supplied through the following pins on connector 1:

Pin	Function
11	Ground
12	Positive supply (8
	- 32 V)

Table D.1: Power supply

Lightbar

The Lightbar is connected via an RS-485 interface on connector 1. Power is not available from the head unit and must be supplied separately. The following pins are used:

Pin	Function
5	RS-485 (A/-)
6	RS-485 (B/+)

Table D.2: Lightbar pins

GPS receiver

Connector 2 supplies power to, and receives data from the GPS receiver. Power supplied is 5 V. Data is received via an RS-232 interface. Any GPS receiver that produces an **RMC** sentence can be used, provided the baud rate matches one of those supported by the head unit (see Appendix C).

Relevant pins on connector 2 are:

APPENDIX D. TRACMAP HEAD UNIT CONNECTIONS

Pin	Function
9	GPS TxD (data to GPS receiver)
10	GPS RxD (data from GPS receiver)
11	Ground
12	Positive supply to GPS receiver (5 V)

Table D.3: GPS pins

Digital inputs

Digital inputs are used to detect whether the logging is on, and to control menus. Inputs are opto-isolated and require a voltage of at least 3 V to activate.

Relevant pins on connector 2 are:

Pin	Function
1	Menu 1 (+)
2	Menu 1 (-)
3	Menu 2 (+)
4	Menu 2 (-)
5	Menu 3 (+)
6	Menu 3 (-)
7	Logging (+)
8	Logging (-)

Table D.4: Digital input pins

The menu inputs will activate the first, second and third items on the menu when a pulse is detected on the input. The logging switch is assumed to be on while a voltage is applied to the logging inputs.

USB

The supplied USB cable plugs into connector 3 (nearest the base) and allows you to attach memory sticks and keyboards. A USB hub may be attached to this cable if you wish to use a keyboard and memory stick at the same time.

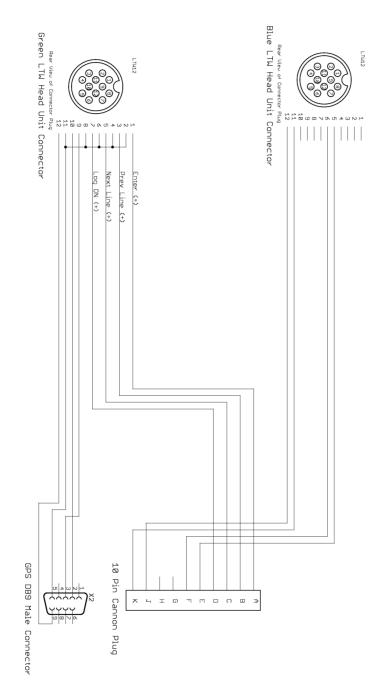


Figure D.2: Standard TracMap Wiring Loom part number: TMW-1001

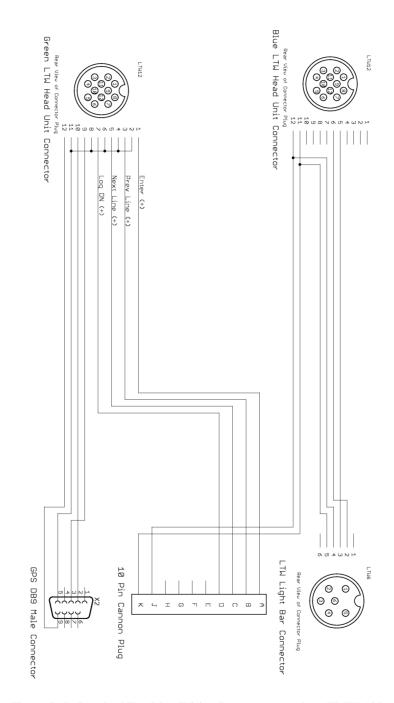


Figure D.3: Standard TracMap Wiring Loom part number: TMW-1001

APPENDIX D. TRACMAP HEAD UNIT CONNECTIONS

Appendix E

Map projections

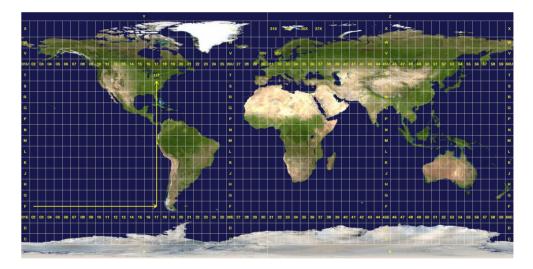


Figure E.1: Universal Transverse Mercator zones

Figure E.1 shows the division of the globe into Universal Transverse Mercator zones. On the head unit, each column is covered by two zones. The north zone covers rows N to X, and the south zone covers rows C to M.

In addition to this, the head unit also supports the following special map projections:

- New Zealand Map Grid
- New Zealand Transverse Mercator 2000

Appendix F

Software License Agreement

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- 1. TracMap Aviation Limited ("Licensor") provides the TracMap Flight Product ("the Program") and licenses its use subject to the terms and conditions below:
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Version 2, June 1991

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