STINGER

V.I.P.
User manual
English

Legality

Many countries in the world have their own, unique regulations regarding drivers being alerted to, and protected from, speed traps. Depending on the country, citizens may or may not have the freedom to receive information concerning speed traps and to be alerted accordingly. In some countries citizens have the liberty to freely pick up radar signals, while in others that is made illegal. Also the freedom to receive the information from laser speed trap guns often differs per country.

In order to offer its products to car drivers throughout the world (like in the so called "common market" of the E.U., where the laws vary widely per country, as well as in many other countries and states on our planet), Stinger in certain markets only supplies versions of the Stinger V.I.P. that are incapable of certain functionalities. Radar Alerting, Laser Alerting, LaserShield, and SpotList may not be available on those versions. When powered up, this version of the Stinger V.I.P. can be easily recognized in the Pilot screen by means of the text "Safety Signals Scanning".

Please remember that it is and always will be your personal responsibility to be aware of and abide by the locally applicable laws. Therefore, please always thoroughly check local legislation before first using your Stinger V.I.P. If you are driving in a country where you do have the freedom to use Radar Alerting and/or Laser Alerting and/or LaserShielding and/or SpotList Alerting, you can download and install the software appropriate for that country.

Of course you can later delete this (new) functionality with the touch of a button, in order to easily and completely stay in compliance with local legislation whenever entering a country/state/province that does not allow one or more of the above mentioned functionalities. Erasing is achieved by first pressing the 'S' key. In the subsequent screen simply choose the ERASE button. This will turn your Stinger V.I.P. into a version that is incapable of Radar Alerting, Laser Alerting, LaserShielding, and SpotList Alerting. A new software download and installation (available where allowed) is required in order to once again change the version of your Stinger V.I.P.

Please be aware that all features and functionalities discribed in this manual are subject to the presence of the corresponding hardware modules.

Note: Under no circumstance does your Stinger constitute a license to exceed the posted speed limits. Alerts from your Stinger serve as an effective reminder to mind your speed. Always drive responsibly and pay full attention to traffic.

1. Keeping your Stinger up-to-date

To optimally benefit from your Stinger we suggest you use the Stinger Desktop application to check for updates monthly.

1. If you have not yet installed the Stinger Desktop application on your Mac (or PC if need be), it can be downloaded from **www.stinger.com/downloads**.
2. Connect the USB stick of your Stinger V.I.P. to your Mac (or PC).
3. The Stinger Desktop application will automatically check for and show any available updates.
4. Follow the steps shown on the screen of your Stinger Desktop.
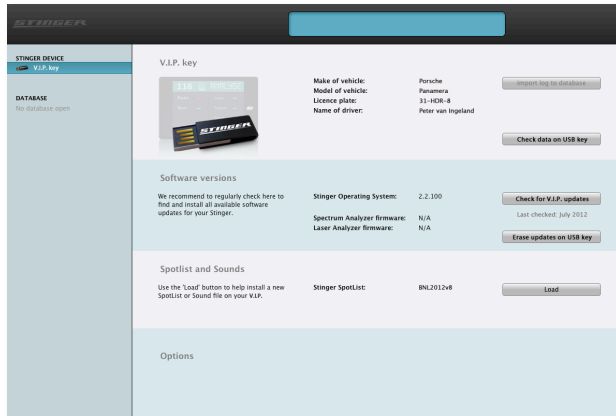
2. Contact and help

If, at any point, you have questions regarding your Stinger, more information and answers can be found in the following ways:

Head Office
Phone: +31 (0)252 - 41 80 95

Website: **www.stinger.com**

Email: mail@stinger.com

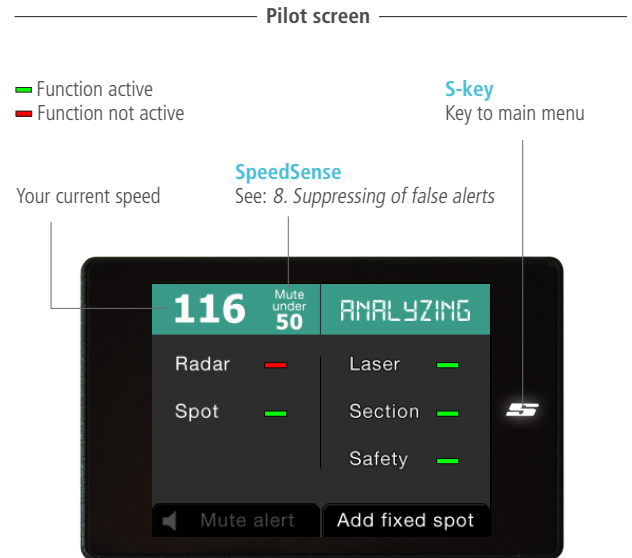Online manuals: www.stinger.com/manuals

3. Using your Stinger V.I.P.

Using your Stinger V.I.P. is extremely simple. Make sure your V.I.P. key is connected to the Stinger USB cable in your car. Your V.I.P. will automatically start up each time you turn on the ignition of your car and shut down when you turn the ignition off again. Clear, color-coded alerts make driving with the V.I.P. pleasurable and straightforward: Green means 'relax', yellow 'suppressed alert' and red 'full alert'.

After start-up the V.I.P. will always take you to the Pilot screen (the standard operating screen).
For any further interaction with the V.I.P. you can use the pressure sensitive touch display. At any time, pressing the Stinger S-key will take you directly to the main menu.

Green
No special circumstances

Yellow
Perceived threat likely unimportant

Red
Direct attention requested

Pilot screen

▬ Function active
▬ Function not active

Your current speed

SpeedSense
See: *8. Suppressing of false alerts*
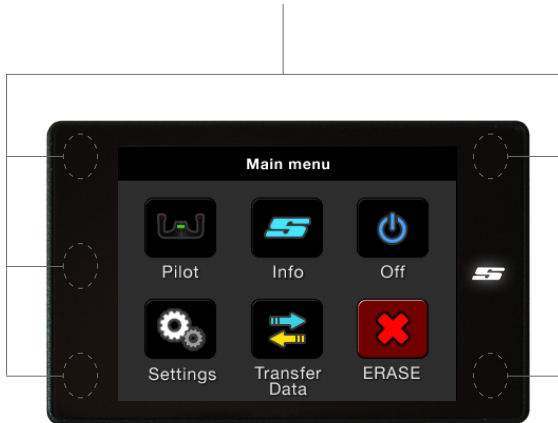
S-key
Key to main menu

In the main menu you can proceed to the Settings-menu where you can change settings such as volume, brightness, time, language, kilometer/miles and SpeedSense. From the main menu simply press the 'Pilot' icon to return to the Pilot screen.

Main menu

Side buttons
'Hidden' keys for which you can select the functionality in the Settings menu

4. SafetySignals

The Stinger V.I.P. incorporates an advanced safety system. At great distances it picks up SafetySignals that can be transmitted around work zones, school zones and emergency vehicles. These signals will be transcoded in real-time and shown as the appropriate alert. This way your V.I.P. can alert you up to a kilometer ahead of a special traffic situation. Depending on the application, there are several ways a SafetySignal can be generated.
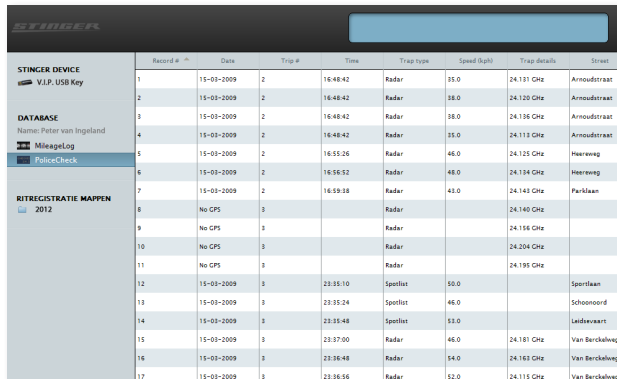
Cars equipped with Stinger Laser can even automatically and instantly alert other - Stinger Laser equipped - cars to dangerous situations such as heavily braking traffic.

5. PoliceCheck

This unique Stinger feature enables you to fight unjust or incorrect traffic citations. With PoliceCheck switched on *(Main Menu > Settings > PoliceCheck)*, your V.I.P. will automatically log the instances you encountered radar, laser and other types of speed traps. Of those moments it will also log other data including your speed and essential details such as radar frequencies. That latter enabling you to check if the radar in question has been operating within legal bandwidths.

In the Stinger Desktop application you can retroactively look up, store and print all the collected data.
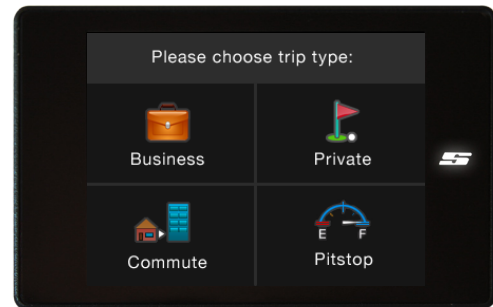
6. MileageLog

To assist with someone's hourly billing or travel cost administration, and in some countries even to help avoid extra state taxes, your Stinger V.I.P. can keep detailed track of all your business and private car travel.

At the start of any trip you simply choose the trip type (Business, Personal or Commute) or automatically let it default. To register trip 'interruptions' like petrol and food stops you just choose 'pit stop' when resuming your ride.

With the supplied Stinger USB key it is a cinch to transfer your RouteLogging information to the Stinger Desktop application on your Mac (or PC) and further manage the data.

	Record #	Date	Trip #	Time	Trap type	Speed (kph)	Trap details	Street
STINGER DEVICE V.I.P. USB Key	1	15-03-2009	2	16:48:42	Radar	35.0	24.131 GHz	Arnoudstraat
	2	15-03-2009	2	16:48:42	Radar	38.0	24.120 GHz	Arnoudstraat
DATABASE Name: Peter van Ingeland	3	15-03-2009	2	16:48:42	Radar	38.0	24.136 GHz	Arnoudstraat
MileageLog	4	15-03-2009	2	16:48:42	Radar	35.0	24.113 GHz	Arnoudstraat
PoliceCheck	5	15-03-2009	2	16:55:26	Radar	46.0	24.125 GHz	Heereweg
	6	15-03-2009	2	16:56:52	Radar	48.0	24.134 GHz	Heereweg
RITREGISTRATIE MAPPEN 2012	7	15-03-2009	2	16:59:38	Radar	43.0	24.143 GHz	Parklaan
	8	No GPS	3		Radar		24.140 GHz	
	9	No GPS	3		Radar		24.156 GHz	
	10	No GPS	3		Radar		24.204 GHz	
	11	No GPS	3		Radar		24.195 GHz	
	12	15-03-2009	3	23:35:10	Spotlist	50.0		Sportlaan
	13	15-03-2009	3	23:35:24	Spotlist	46.0		Schoonoord
	14	15-03-2009	3	23:35:48	Spotlist	53.0		Leidsevaart
	15	15-03-2009	3	23:37:00	Radar	46.0	24.181 GHz	Van Berckelweg
	16	15-03-2009	3	23:36:48	Radar	54.0	24.163 GHz	Van Berckelweg
	17	15-03-2009	3	23:36:56	Radar	52.0	24.115 GHz	Van Berckelweg

Please choose trip type:

Business — Private — Commute — Pitstop

7. Types of speed traps

Alerts of the V.I.P. distinguish between the types of speed traps:

a. Spot

Post with
induction loops

Radar installation

b. Section

c. Laser

Sidelaser

Gun

d. Radar

On tripod

In car

Radar installation
(active)

7a. Spot

The V.I.P. will alert you, with the help of GPS technology, to fixed speed trap installations (such as posts with induction loops and radar installations) or simply 'Spots'. Stinger has mapped the vast majority of fixed speed trap installations in the world (which by definition are located in fixed spots) and distributes these in the form of a so-called 'SpotList'. Just use the Stinger Desktop application on your Mac (or PC) to keep your SpotList up-to-date.

Whenever you approach a location that's in the Stinger SpotList, the V.I.P. will show you the following type of alert screen:

The Spot alert
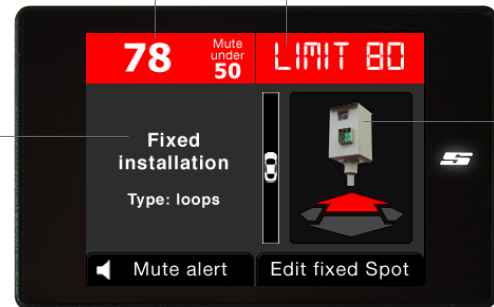The V.I.P. will start alerting ca. 15 seconds ahead of the spot.

Your current speed
Your GPS speed, usually much more accurate than that on a car's speedometer.

Limit
The stored speed limit for that location.[1]

Visual
A visual representation of the fixed installation.

[1] Stored limit might not always correspond with the actual speed limit

7b. Section

Section Alerting will warn you for, and guide you through, the Section Controls (a.k.a. SPECS or 'automated VASCAR'). With Section Control cameras (regardless of your speed) register your vehicle at a point 'A' and then again at point 'B' (often at least a mile down the road). A computer then automatically calculates your average speed between points 'A' and 'B' and arranges for your ticket in case of speeding.
With the clear information of the V.I.P. you will effortlessly be guided through Section Control.

Approaching Section

Limit
The set speed limit for the Section.

Alert
You will get an initial alert when approaching Section.

Change limit
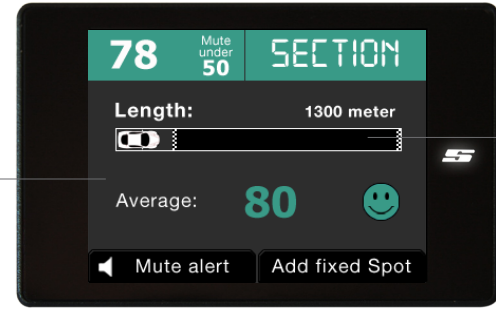You can change the limit set by the V.I.P. by pressing the [+] and [-] keys.
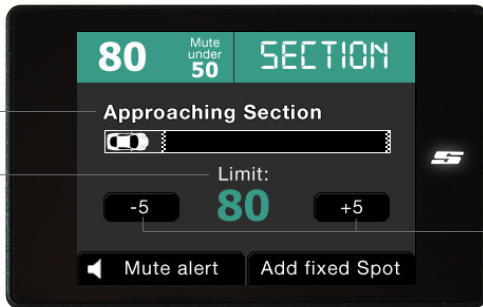
During Section

Average speed
Your real-time average speed in the Section so far.
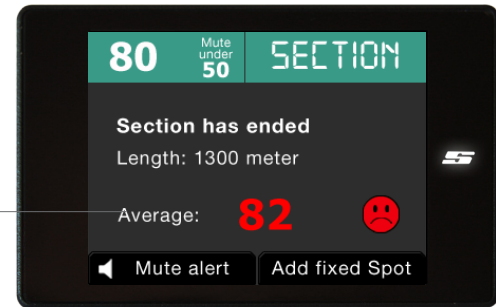
Section length
Your position within the Section shown graphically and in numbers.

End of Section

Average speed
Your final average speed over the completed Section. If exceeding the limit a 'sad face' will be shown and the sound of a camera shutter played.

7c. Laser

If you have equipped your V.I.P. with Stinger Laser, it can provide you with protection against laser speed traps*. In such traps a device will fire laser light towards your car and use the reflections to determine your speed.

Laser Alerting*
The Laser Alerting functionality allows your Stinger to instantly see that laser is being fired, often even already when cars ahead of you are being targeted. In your car you will be alerted with clear visual and audible warnings.
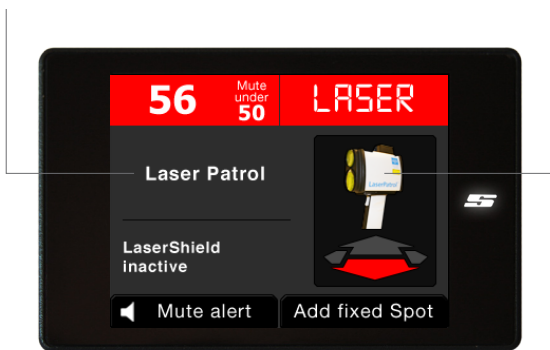
LaserShield*
When being fired at with laser, your Stinger can instantly deploy a shield of invisible light: the LaserShield®. It will (temporarily) make it nearly impossible for laser guns to measure your speed.

The LaserShield is so advanced that even modern side-lasers (positioned next to the road, for instance installed into the guard rail) can be effectively blocked.

Laser Alerting

Alerts
The moment your Stinger identifies laser light it will display an alert like below. Even the type of laser device can be shown.

Visual
A visual representation of the laser device.

* Optional: available where allowed

LaserShield

Shield-up time
The LaserShield will stay up for a pre-set time of 2 to 9 seconds after the initial alert. After that Shield-up time the shield will automatically go down, allowing a laser a 'second shot' at measuring your speed. At speeds below ca 30 km/h the shield will always be down.
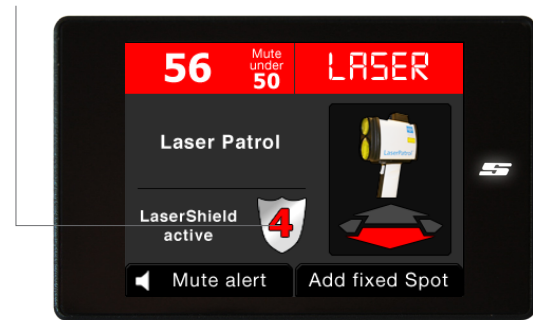
* Optional: available where allowed

7d. Radar

Radar based speed traps determine your speed with the help of reflected radio waves. Those radars may be set up temporarily in a car or on a tripod next to the road, or be part of a fixed installation such as in a cabinet next to or above the road. The SpotList Alerting feature (described in 7a.) can only alert you to the fixed locations. Radar Alerting, however, can recognize the radio waves emitted by the radars and therefore not just alert to the (active) fixed radars, but also to the temporary and mobile ones. As a result of its unique Multi Polarity HD antenna the Stinger V.I.P. can even timely recognize speed radars where radar detectors fall short.

The extreme accuracy of the Stinger V.I.P. is also evident in the Spectrum Analysis screen. Go to settings to select it as your default screen or to define it as a toggle key.

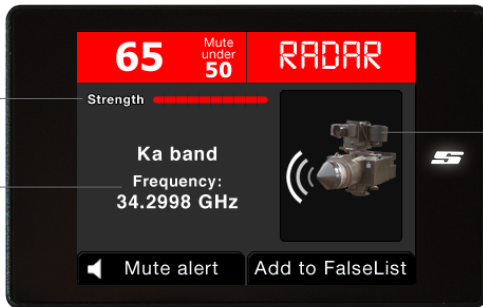### Radar Alerting

Band and Frequency
Scientific name of the frequency band (X, K, Ka) as well as the frequency, exact to the fourth decimal.

Visual
A visual representation of the radar trap.

Signal Strength
Signal strength indication displayed on a scale of 1 to 10. The higher the strength, the closer the approximate vicinity of the radar source.

Spectrum Analyse

3D Graph
Analysis of the X, K and Ka bands is shown simultaneously. The horizontal axis indicates the relative frequency, the vertical axis the relative signal strength.
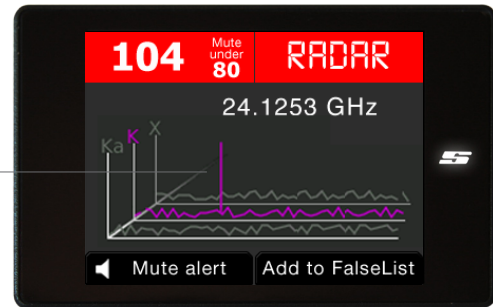
8. Suppression of false alerts

SpeedSense
This function offers an easy way to eliminate many unwanted alerts. Simply activate a threshold speed under which your V.I.P. will automatically mute all alerts. Go to '*Main Menu > Settings > SpeedSense*' to change the chosen threshold or just press the Display where it shows your current speed.
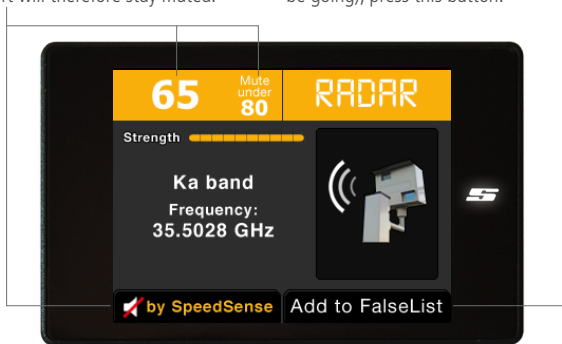
FalseList*
Whenever you receive a false alert, simply hit the 'Add to FalseList' button to store that specific signal at that specific location in the FalseList of your Stinger. Next time you drive past, your V.I.P. will stay pleasantly quiet.

SpeedSense
You are driving 65 km/h and therefore below the SpeedSense threshold of 80 km/h. The Radar Alert will therefore stay muted.

FalseList
If you prefer for this specific alert to stay muted subsequent times you drive by (irrespective of the speed you will be going), press this button.

* Optional: available where allowed