

## TMS Toolkit User Manual

V 1.2.4  
June 2011

### Release V 1.2.4

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# About This Document

## Release Information

Document Name	Document ID	Release Number	Publication Date
TMS Toolkit User Manual		V 1.2.4	June 2011

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## Symbol Definitions

The following table lists those symbols used in this document to denote certain conditions.

Symbol	Definition
	<b>ATTENTION:</b> Identifies information that requires special consideration.
	<b>TIP:</b> Identifies advice or hints for the user, often in terms of performing a task.
	<b>REFERENCE - EXTERNAL:</b> Identifies an additional source of information outside of the booklet.
	<b>REFERENCE - INTERNAL:</b> Identifies an additional source of information within the booklet.
<b>CAUTION</b>	Indicates a situation which, if not avoided, may result in equipment or work (data) on the system being damaged or lost, or may result in the inability to properly operate the process.
	<b>CAUTION:</b> Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. It may also be used to alert against unsafe practices. <b>CAUTION</b> symbol on the equipment refers the user to the product manual for additional information. The symbol appears next to required information in the manual.
	<b>WARNING:</b> Indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in serious injury or death. <b>WARNING</b> symbol on the equipment refers the user to the product manual for additional information. The symbol appears next to required information in the manual.
	<b>WARNING - RISK OF ELECTRICAL SHOCK:</b> Indicates a potential shock hazard where HAZARDOUS LIVE voltages greater than 30 Vrms, 42.4 Vpeak, or 60 VDC may be accessible.
	<b>ESD HAZARD:</b> Indicates danger of electro-static discharge to which equipment may be sensitive. Observe precautions for handling electrostatic sensitive devices.
	<b>Protective Earth (PE) terminal:</b> Provided for connection of the protective earth (green or green/yellow) supply system conductor.

Symbol	Definition
	<p><b>Functional earth terminal:</b> Used for non-safety purposes such as noise immunity improvement. NOTE: This connection shall be bonded to Protective Earth at the source of supply in accordance with national local electrical code requirements.</p>
	<p><b>Earth Ground: Functional earth connection.</b> NOTE: This connection shall be bonded to Protective Earth at the source of supply in accordance with national and local electrical code requirements.</p>
	<p><b>Chassis Ground:</b> Identifies a connection to the chassis or frame of the equipment shall be bonded to Protective Earth at the source of supply in accordance with national and local electrical code requirements.</p>

# Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>9</b>
1.1	System Requirements .....	9
<b>2.</b>	<b>MODES OF OPERATION .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>INSTALLATION .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>INITIAL CONFIGURATION .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>NORMAL USER MODE .....</b>	<b>19</b>
5.1	<b>Window Sections.....</b>	<b>19</b>
	Communications .....	19
	Device Information .....	20
	Packet Counts.....	21
	Traffic.....	22
	Immediate Window .....	23
	Error List .....	23
5.2	<b>Multi-Dropped TMS .....</b>	<b>23</b>
5.3	<b>Parameters Tab .....</b>	<b>26</b>
	Button Functions .....	28
	Test Comms Tab .....	29
	System Zero Tab .....	32
	Quality Test Tab.....	33
<b>6.</b>	<b>CALIBRATION USER MODE .....</b>	<b>35</b>
6.1	<b>ToolKit Shortcut .....</b>	<b>35</b>
	Create a New Shortcut.....	35
	Edit the New Shortcut .....	36
6.2	<b>CAL User - Parameters Tab.....</b>	<b>36</b>
	CAL User - Button Functions .....	38
6.3	<b>Cal User - System Zero Tab .....</b>	<b>39</b>

<b>7.</b>	<b>TROUBLESHOOTING .....</b>	<b>41</b>	
7.1	Cannot Communicate .....	41	
7.2	Error Messages – “Cannot connect to Local TMS!” .....	41	
7.3	Error Messages – “An error occurred while attempting to identify device!” .....		43
7.4	Error Messages – “Broadcast ID Information” .....	43	
<b>8.</b>	<b>APPENDIX .....</b>	<b>45</b>	
8.1	Appendix A – Commands and Parameter Descriptions .....	45	
8.2	Appendix B – ASCII XP Protocol .....	50	
	ASCIIXP Protocol.....	50	
8.3	Appendix C - Software License .....	53	
	INTRODUCTION .....	53	
	END-USER LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR TMS TOOLKIT .....	53	
	SOFTWARE PRODUCT LICENSE.....	53	
	GRANT OF LICENSE .....	54	
	DESCRIPTION OF OTHER RIGHTS AND LIMITATIONS. ....	54	
	UPGRADES.....	54	
	COPYRIGHT.....	55	
	DUAL-MEDIA SOFTWARE. ....	55	
	LIMITED WARRANTY; WARRANTY DISCLAIMER.....	55	

## 1. Overview

The **TMS Toolkit** is a software tool that allows communication with the TMS 9250 system.

This software can be used to:

- See a list of supported parameters and commands
- Read back the values of readable parameters
- Write values to writeable parameters
- Execute commands
- Retrieve a list of readable parameter names and values which can then be copied to a file
- Calibrate the device
- Perform simple repetitive communications requests

You would use this software to:

- Test communications with devices
- Configure devices
- Calibrate devices

### 1.1 System Requirements

- Operating system –Windows XP or Windows 7
- The screen must support and be set for a resolution of 800 x 600 or higher



**NOTE:**

Ensure that WinXP users have “write” permissions for the relevant program files folder (usually **\\Program Files\\TMS Toolkit**)

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## 2. Modes of Operation

The TMS Toolkit offers two modes of user access: the “normal” user mode and the “calibration” (or “cal”) user mode. These modes differ in the level of accessibility to system functions such as calibration and scaling.

The “normal” user mode is the default mode and in this mode the user can set up communications with a TMS 9250 system and can also set zero and change filter settings.

The “calibration” user mode requires a special command to gain access and then all commands and settings become available for edit/recall.

For ease of reference, all of the functions associated with the “calibration” user mode are arranged at the end of this document. All of the sections at the beginning of this document apply equally to both user modes.



**NOTE:**

This dual-mode functionality is intended as a means to reduce the incidence of unintentional access to key parameters and is not intended as a high security protection system

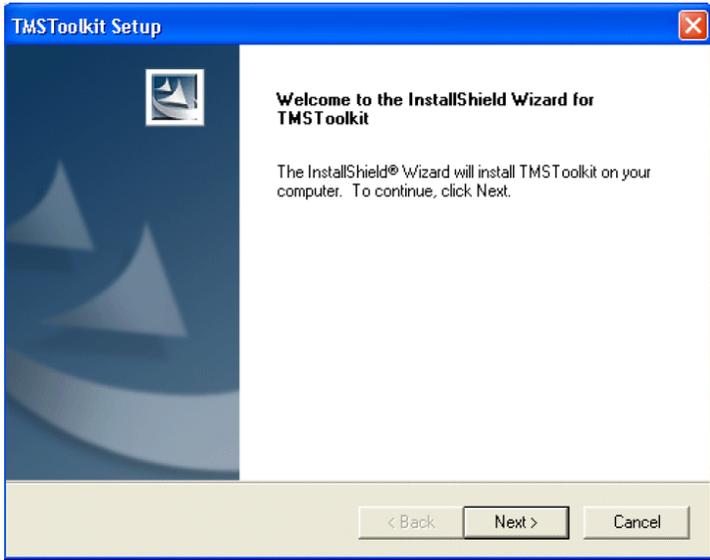
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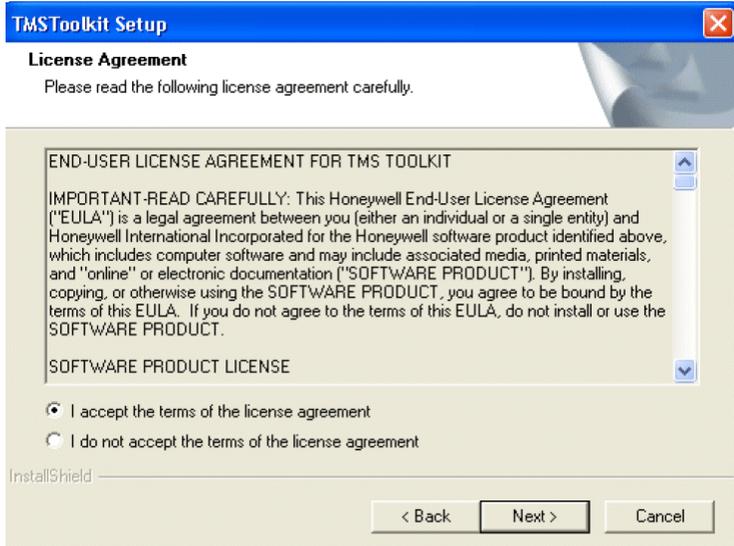
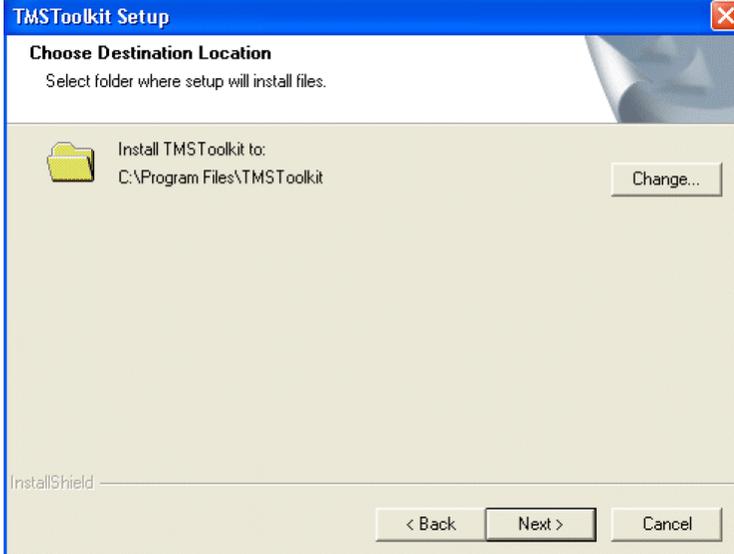
### 3. Installation

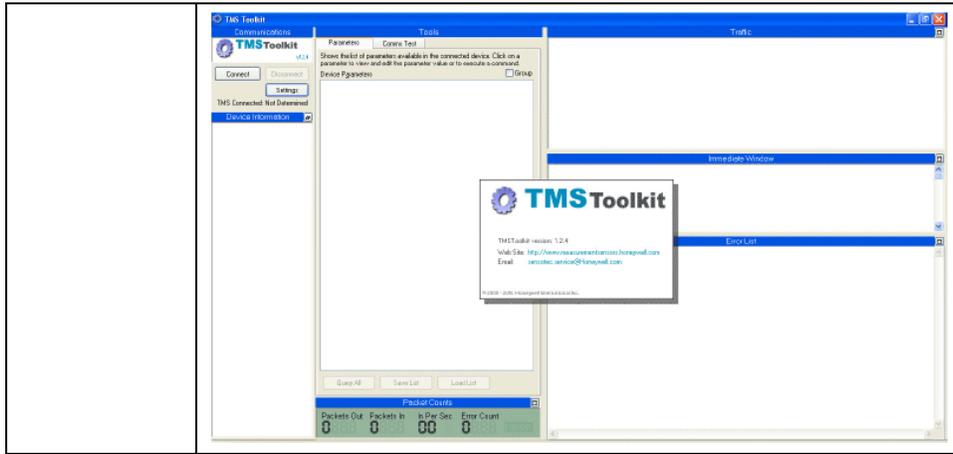
The TMS Toolkit is supplied on DVD or alternatively, may also be downloaded from the Honeywell website: <http://measurementsensors.honeywell.com>. Before installing, be sure to remove any earlier versions by using the Uninstall programs feature on your computer.

	<p><b>NOTE:</b>          Some earlier versions were named SPM Toolkit.</p>
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**To install:**

Step	Action
a	Unzip the file 009-4689-00_exec.zip from the DVD and copy the files onto the hard disk.
b	Double-click on <b>Setup.exe</b> .
c	TMS Toolkit Setup Wizard Screen will appear. Click the <b>Next</b> button.
	
d	Check the radio button " <b>I accept the terms of the license agreement</b> " and click the <b>Next</b> button.

	
<p><b>e</b></p>	<p>Select the folder where the installation files should be copied and click the <b>Next</b> button.</p>
	
<p><b>f</b></p>	<p>Click the <b>Install</b> button to start the installation.</p>
<p><b>g</b></p>	<p>Click the <b>Finish</b> button to complete the installation.</p>
<p><b>h</b></p>	<p>Launch the program from <b>Start &gt; Programs &gt; TMS Toolkit</b>. Desktop short cut icon will also be placed.</p>



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## 4. Initial Configuration

To test the serial port setting and the TMS 9250 itself, connect the TMS 9250 to one of the PCs serial ports. If using a PC which does not have a RS232 serial port, then a high quality USB-to-RS232 converter may be used instead. (For example, Uport 1150 from Moxa - [http://www.moxa.com/product/UPort\\_1150\\_1150I.htm](http://www.moxa.com/product/UPort_1150_1150I.htm) )

**NOTE:**

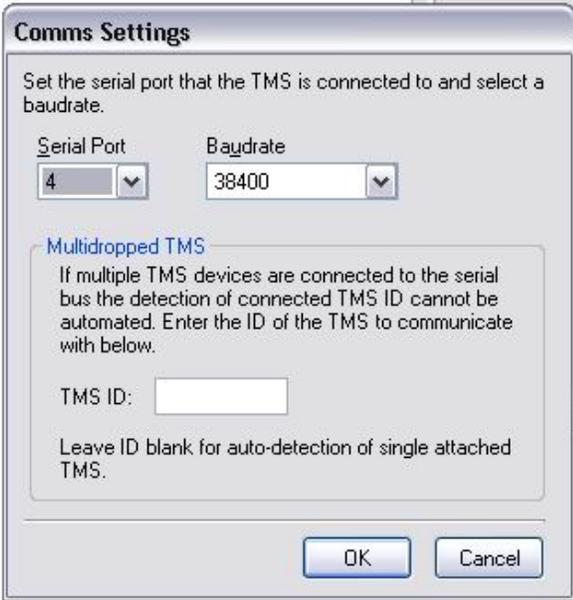
Such converters may have limitations such as the use of short cable lengths or special cable types to ensure reliable communications at 38400 baud. If in doubt, use a PC that has a true RS232 serial port built in to confirm communications, then try a laptop afterwards.

This example will assume that there is only one TMS 9250 connected to the serial bus. See the Multi-Dropped TMS section on page 23 of this manual for more information when using more than one TMS 9250 system on the same serial bus.

4. Initial Configuration

Rev: A

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Step	Action
a	Click the <b>SETTINGS</b> button. This will open the <b>Comms Settings</b> dialog window as shown.
	
b	Select the <b>SERIAL PORT</b> that the TMS is connected to (can be found from Windows Control Panel, System, Hardware, Ports) and select the <b>BAUD RATE</b> . The default Baud Rate for standard TMS 9250 systems can be found from the Windows <b>Control Panel &gt; System &gt; Hardware &gt; Ports</b> . Select the BAUD RATE as shown in the above image.
c	Ensure that the <b>TMS ID</b> field is left blank unless there are multiple TMS 9250 devices connected to the same serial bus, in which case the ID must be set to correspond with the ID of the device of interest.
d	Click <b>OK</b> when changes have been made, then click the <b>CONNECT</b> button.
e	The TMS Toolkit searches the designated serial port to find the connected device. The software takes care of configuring the port to suit the requirements of the TMS 9250.

## 5. Normal User Mode

### 5.1 Window Sections

#### Communications

Step	Action
a	<p><b>Settings</b> - This button will allow the serial port and baud rate to be configured.</p> <p><b>Connect</b> - This will automatically connect to the local <b>TMS</b> device if the TMS ID can be determined.</p> <p><b>Disconnect</b> - This will stop the communication between the connected device and the serial port.</p>
	
	<p><b>NOTE:</b>        All of the windows can be re-sized by clicking and dragging on the dividing borders.</p>

**Device Information**

Step	Action
a	<p>After successfully connecting, the Toolkit will display the serial number of the connected system along with the model, software version, and default parameter name. The default parameter is the one that will be selected for display on the <b>TEST COMMS</b> tab until over-ridden by a selection from the drop-down parameter table.</p> <p>Clicking the button on the header will copy the information to the clipboard as shown below.</p>
	

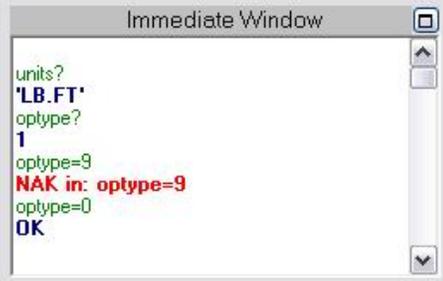
**Packet Counts**

Step	Action
a	Each time the software communicates with the remote device, the Packet Counts section is updated. This lists the number of packets sent out and received, and also indicates the number of packets received per second and the number of errors that have occurred. When an error occurs, details are given in the <b>ERROR LIST</b> .
	 A screenshot of a software interface titled "Packet Counts". It displays four columns: "Packets Out" with the value "5338", "Packets In" with the value "5338", "In Per Sec" with the value "03", and "Error Count" with the value "1388". The background of the display is green.
b	Clicking the button on the header will reset the counts.

**Traffic**

Step	Action
a	All communications to and from the remote device are listed in the Traffic window. The outgoing data is colored green and the incoming data is colored blue.
	 <p>The screenshot shows a window titled "Traffic" with a list of network packets. Each line represents a packet with a timestamp, source and destination MAC addresses, and a value. The packets are:         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;6A0:0.000000</li> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;;6A0:ZeroOK?</li> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;E58:-1500.000</li> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;;E58:SysZero?</li> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;A0A:-3000.000</li> <li>07:16:33 FFEE2F;;A0A:Value?</li> <li>07:16:32 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;A63:-3000.000</li> <li>07:16:32 FFEE2F;;A63:Value?</li> <li>07:16:31 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;86:-3000.000</li> <li>07:16:31 FFEE2F;;86:Value?</li> <li>07:16:30 FFEE2F;FFEE2F;F3:-3000.000</li> <li>07:16:30 FFEE2F;;F3:Value?</li> </ul> </p>
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>When packets are retried, this is a hidden function of the TMS device and only one packet will be displayed in this window.</p>
b	<p>This is very useful for inspecting the construction of data packets when writing your own communications software. It can also serve as a short-term data logging facility because the data can be copied to the clipboard and pasted into Microsoft® Excel for analysis.</p> <p>Clicking the button on the header will clear the window. Clicking the button on the header will reset the counts.</p>

**Immediate Window**

Step	Action
a	<p>Type the data directly into the window (you will not need to use any special addressing or special characters), then press the enter/return key. The list of valid commands/queries can be found in Appendix A of this manual.</p> <p>If the device responds, the data will be displayed in blue and any errors will be indicated in red.</p> <p><b>Example:</b> To query the current torque value, enter <b>VALUE?</b></p> <p>To set the current torque value to zero, enter <b>ZERONOW</b></p>
	
b	Clicking the button on the header will clear the window.

**Error List**

Step	Action
a	Any errors that are encountered when sending commands or queries, and errors in communications such as timeouts etc will be reported in the Error List in red
	
b	Clicking the button on the header will clear the window.

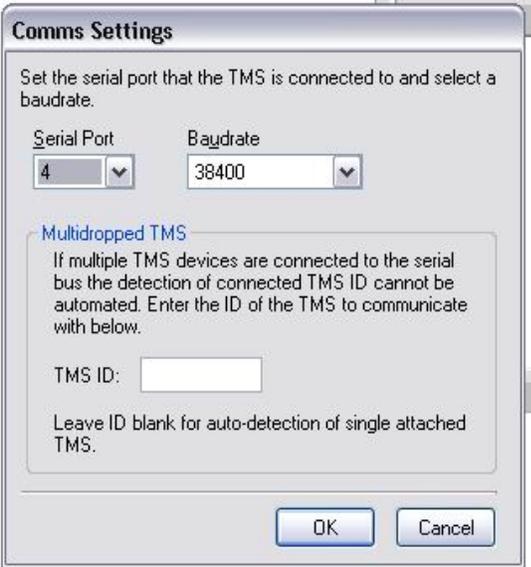
**5.2 Multi-Dropped TMS**

Multiple TMS 9250 devices can be connected to the same serial bus and port when that port is either an RS485 port or has an RS232 to RS485 converter attached.

When more than one TMS 9250 is present, the auto detection of TMS ID will not work. It is necessary to declare the ID of the TMS 9250 device that the communication is intended to be routed to that particular device.

This is done in the **COMMS SETTINGS** window by entering the ID of the TMS 9250 system (in the form XXXXXX) in the field labeled TMS ID.

Step	Action
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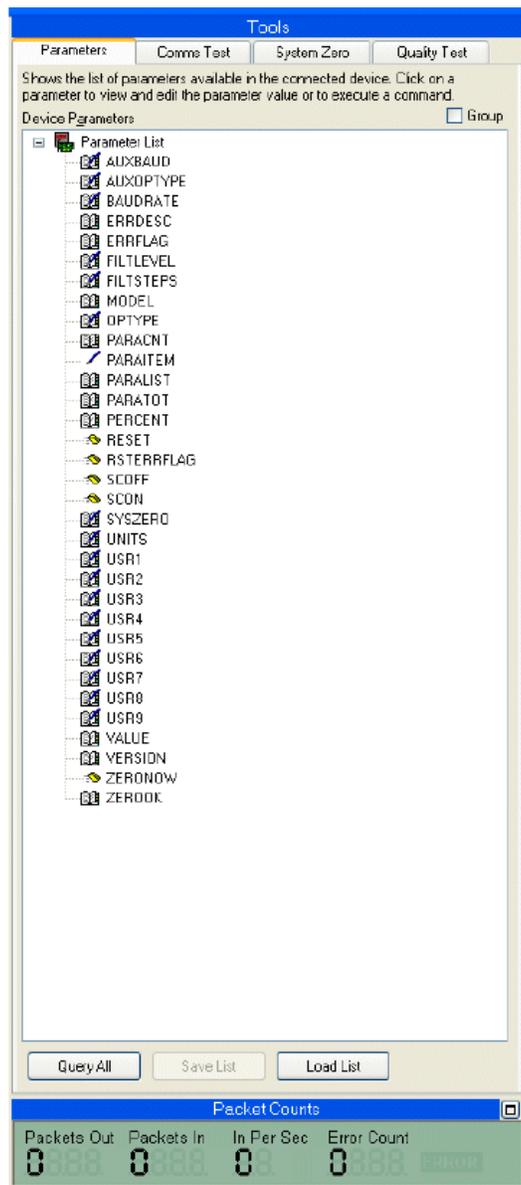
<p><b>a</b></p>	<p><b>Settings</b> - This button will allow the serial port and baud rate to be configured.</p> <p><b>Connect</b> - This will automatically connect to the local <b>TMS</b> device if the TMS ID can be determined.</p> <p><b>Disconnect</b> – This will stop the communication between the connected device and the serial port.</p>
	
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>All of the windows can be re-sized by clicking and dragging on the dividing borders.</p>
<p><b>b</b></p>	<p>Click the <b>SETTINGS</b> button. This will open the <b>COMMS SETTINGS</b> dialog window as shown.</p>
	
<p><b>c</b></p>	<p>Select the <b>SERIAL PORT</b> that the TMS is connected to (which can be found from the Windows Control Panel / System / Hardware / Ports) and select the <b>BAUD RATE</b> as pictured above. The default</p>

	<b>BAUD RATE</b> for standard TMS 9250 systems is 38400 (non-standard systems will be delivered with appropriate special instructions).
<b>d</b>	Enter the <b>TMS ID</b> (printed on the yellow label attached to the motherboard inside the signal processing module) in the form FFFFFFFF, to correspond with the ID of the device of interest.
<b>e</b>	Click the <b>OK</b> button when changes have been made, then click the <b>CONNECT</b> button.
<b>f</b>	The TMS Toolkit searches the designated serial port to find the connected device. The software takes care of configuring the port to suit the requirements of the TMS 9250.

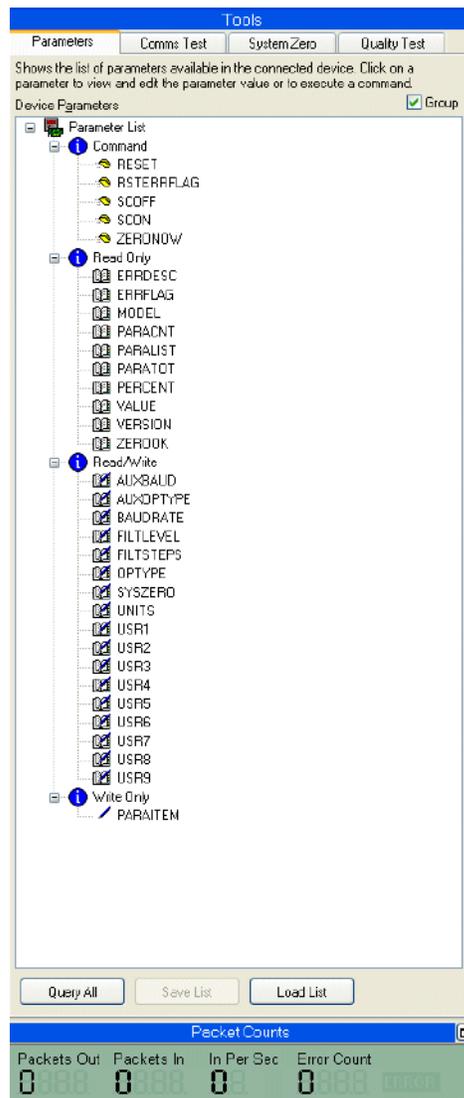
## 5.3 Parameters Tab

This tab shows a list of commands and parameters that the connected device supports.

When the TMS Toolkit first connects to a device it does not recognize, the software will ask if you want to query the device for a list of parameters. Once a successful query has taken place the toolkit will display the parameter list automatically the next time a connection is made to the same device. Note that the display is not refreshed dynamically so it is necessary to either click **QUERY ALL** periodically or double-click on the parameter of interest to refresh it with the current value.



The **GROUP** checkbox at the top right (as pictured above) will sort the parameters and commands into groups of similar types when checked or just alphabetically when unchecked.



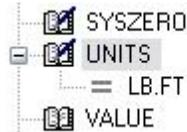
Double-clicking on a command in the tree list will cause a message dialog to appear requesting that you confirm whether the command should be sent to the device.

Double-clicking on a parameter will query the parameter value from the device then display the value in a new branch in the tree under the parameter name.

Every time the parameter name is double-clicked, the value will be re-queried and displayed. If the parameter is writeable it can be changed by double-clicking on it.

The new value can then be typed in. Pressing **Enter** on the keyboard or clicking elsewhere on the tree list will then cause the new value to be written to the device then re-queried and displayed in the tree branch.

In all the above directions, a double-click can be replaced by pressing **Enter** on the keyboard. In other words, you can use the cursor keys to move the highlight around the tree list then press **Enter** to activate the branch.



**Button Functions**

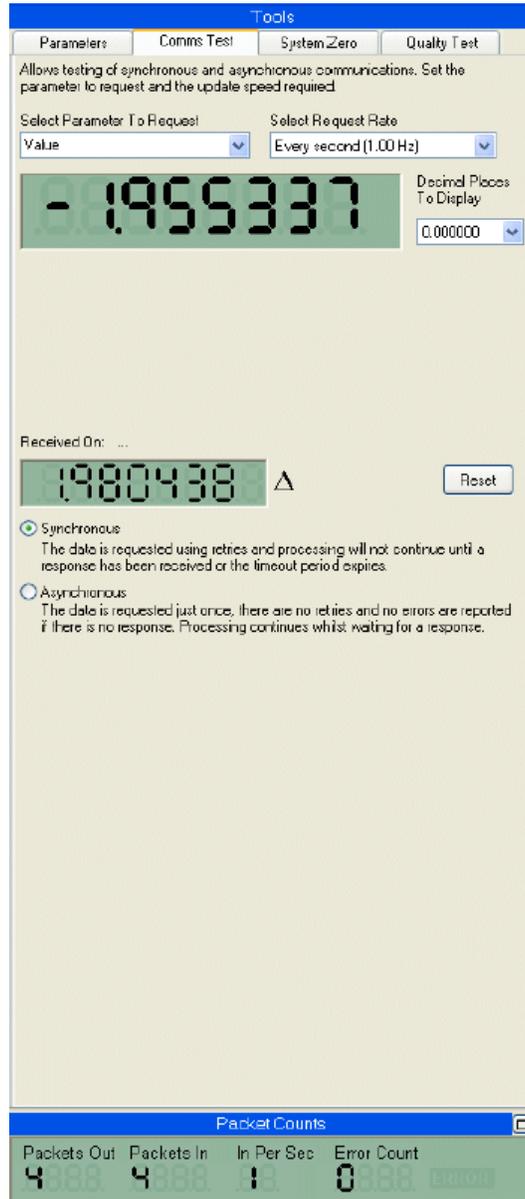
Query All	
Step	Action
a	<p><b>Query All</b> - Clicking this button will cause the available parameters to be queried from the device and displayed in the tree list. This will also enable the <b>Save List</b> button.</p>
Save List	
Step	Action
a	<p><b>Save List</b> - Clicking this button, which is only available after a <b>Query All</b>, will prompt for a filename to which the parameter data will be saved.</p> <p>The parameter values are saved to a text file (.ttp file extension) and can be used as a record of settings used within a device and also used to re-configure the same device at a later date or another device.</p>
	<p><b>NOTE:</b> Calibration and scaling data will not be saved unless the TMS Toolkit is being operated in "Cal" user mode.</p>

Load List	
Step	Action
a	<b>Load List</b> - Clicking this button will prompt for a filename (.ntp file extension) which will be used to load previously saved or edited data back into the system.
	
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>Calibration and scaling data will not be loaded unless the TMS Toolkit is being operated in "Cal" user mode.</p> <p>Also note, the parameter files are actually text files which can be edited, using a text editor such as NOTEPAD, to remove any parameters that are not required to be written to a device and also to modify parameter values. When using NOTEPAD, be sure to save the file with a .ntp file extension otherwise TMS Toolkit will not recognize it as being a valid parameter file.</p>

#### Test Comms Tab

This tab allows simple repetitive communications to be established. You can select a readable parameter from the **Select Parameter to Request** dropdown list and an update rate from the **Select Request Rate** dropdown list.

Note that you can also type directly into the **Select Parameter to Request** dropdown list and the color of the list will change to red indicating that the parameter to be requested is currently being changed. The communications will continue to request the previous parameter until either the **Return/Enter** key is pressed on the keyboard or focus moves to another control.



**Synchronous**

You can choose whether to send synchronous or asynchronous requests by clicking the appropriate option on the lower part of the task window.

The data is requested using retries (handled by the TMS device) and processing will not continue until a response has been received or the timeout period expires. This option may not be able to request data at the rate selected above, because this depends on the speed of the PC and the quality of the transmission line.

The device response will be displayed in the simulated Liquid Crystal Display (LCD). This is only useful for numeric parameters (some characters such as M cannot be displayed in the simulated LCD so they will appear as blanks).

The required number of decimal places to display can be selected from the dropdown list next to the LCD.

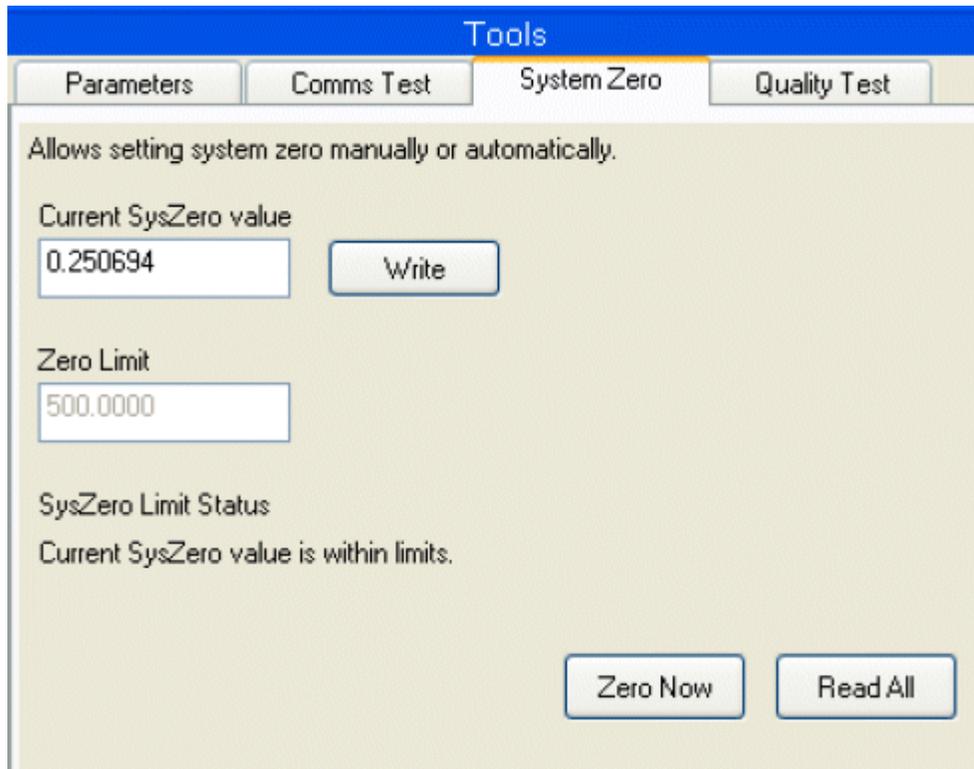
Below the main LCD there is a smaller LCD (the DELTA window) which displays the change in the main reading LCD since the last reset. This display can be reset as required by clicking the **Reset** button.

### ***Asynchronous***

The data is requested just once. There are no retries and no errors are reported if there is no response. If and when the response packet arrives, the packed ID (PID) is inspected and if it matches the PID in the request, the data will be displayed in the LCD. Processing continues while the data is being waited for. In this mode the 'Received On' label will indicate the date and time that the packet arrived. This option will usually appear to run faster than the synchronous option because it is not necessary to wait for a response before sending the next command. However, the data collected may contain gaps.

### sssSystem Zero Tab

This task tab allows the system zero to be viewed and set.



**ZERONOW** - Click this button to perform an automatic system zero.

Note that the action of the **ZERONOW** command is restricted by the hidden parameter called ZeroLimit as a means of preventing the repetitive use of the **ZERONOW** command in situations where physical damage is occurring within the torque sensor (for example overloading or shock loading). The value of the hidden parameter ZeroLimit is determined by the Calibration User during the calibration process.

In the event that a **ZERONOW** command is limited by ZeroLimit, then a warning message “**Current SysZero value was clipped to conform to limits set**” is displayed in red and the zero is adjusted as close to zero as is allowed by ZeroLimit.

**Current SysZero Value** - Shows the current value stored for the **SysZero** parameter, which is the difference between the current zero and the zero that was determined and stored during the calibration process. It is automatically updated by clicking on the **ZeroNow** button or it can be edited and written to the device by clicking the **Write** button next to the field.

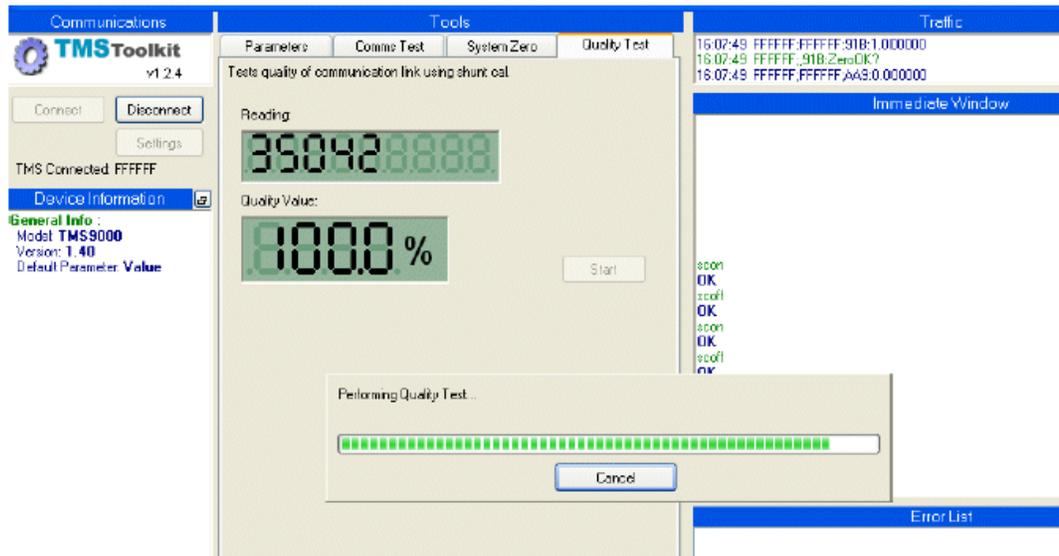
Note that any attempt to set a **SysZero** value which is beyond the limits set by ZeroLimit will result in the zero being adjusted as close to zero as is allowed by ZeroLimit and the display of a red warning message “**Current SysZero value was clipped to conform to limits set**”.

**SysZero Limit Status** - Indicates whether the last attempt at writing **SysZero** (or clicking **ZeroNow**) was successful within preset limits.

**Read All** button - Reads back current device settings and refreshes the display.

### Quality Test Tab

This tab allows you to perform a quality test, which checks the integrity of the electronic circuits by sending shunt calibration commands multiple times.



Click the **START** button to activate the test. Reading window displays raw A-D counts and Quality Value displays the % result. When the test is performed final value should be 97% or above for the system to function correctly.

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## 6. Calibration User Mode

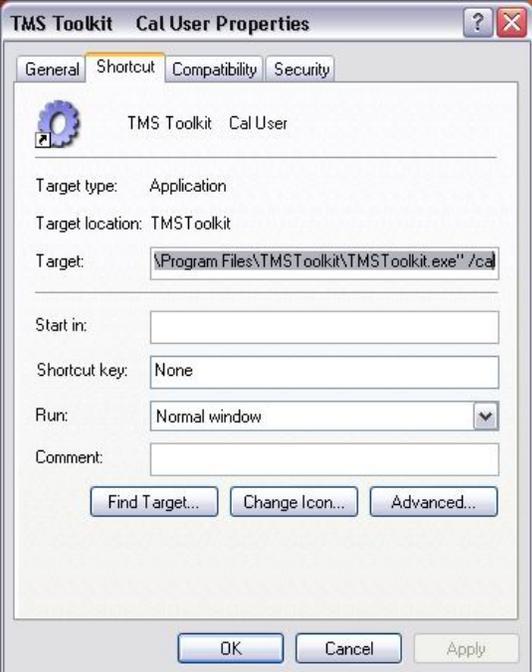
### 6.1 ToolKit Shortcut

To access the higher-level functions such as calibration and scaling settings, it is necessary to start the TMS Toolkit in “**Cal**” mode.

#### Create a New Shortcut

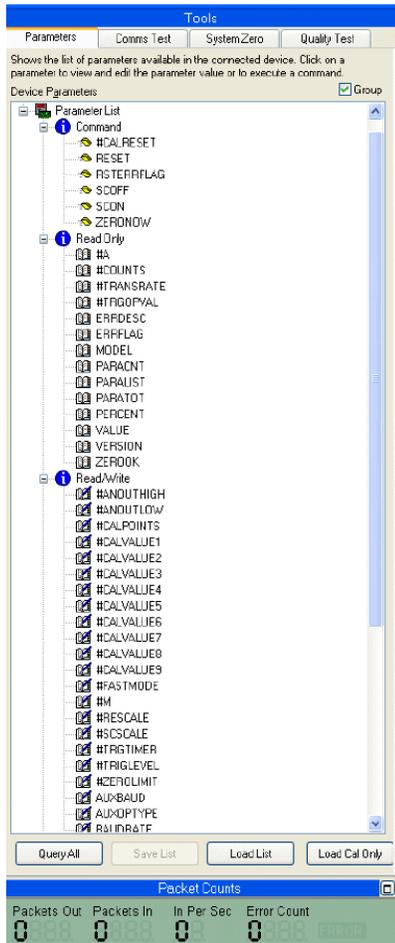
Step	Action
a	Create a copy of the TMS Toolkit shortcut on the desktop (such as by using the control-click-drag-drop sequence or by clicking the right mouse button to choose the Copy then Paste command).
	
b	Right-click on the new shortcut and rename it to represent the “Calibration” user mode.
c	Right-click on the new shortcut and select <b>PROPERTIES</b> .

**Edit the New Shortcut**

Step	Action
a	Edit the <b>TARGET</b> line by adding <b>/cal</b> after the quote marks (note – a space is required between the quote mark and the /cal text), as pictured below.
	
b	Click the <b>OK</b> button and then test that the modified shortcut calls up the <b>CALIBRATION</b> mode of the TMS Toolkit. The header line which previously showed TMS Toolkit should now show <b>TMS Toolkit – CALIBRATION</b> .
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>If the header line continues to show TMS Toolkit then close TMS Toolkit and return to the shortcut properties dialogue box. Check that the space exists between the quote marks (") and the forward slant character (/).</p>

**6.2 CAL User - Parameters Tab**

This tab now shows a complete list of commands and parameters that the connected device supports. The parameters that are “reserved” for “Cal” user access are prefixed with the # character. Security Note - the # commands and parameters can be entered via the Immediate Window regardless of the mode of use of TMS Toolkit.



The “Cal” user mode exposes the calibration and scaling parameters which can then be accessed and edited as required.

The scaling parameters **#ANOUTHIGH** and **#ANOUTLOW** determine the scaling of the standard outputs (analog voltage, current or frequency), and operate independently of the calibration settings. Therefore, a sensor can be re-scaled at any time to represent a different full scale value.

The calibration parameters consist of the 9 calibration data values **#CALVALUE1** through **9** and the parameter **#CALPOINTS** that sets the number of calibration points that are active.

The **#CALRESET** command performs a purge of the calibration memories and should be used whenever the number of **#CALPOINTS** is changed.

**CAUTION NOTE** – all calibration and scaling data including the settings of the analog outputs will be erased whenever **#CALRESET** is performed.

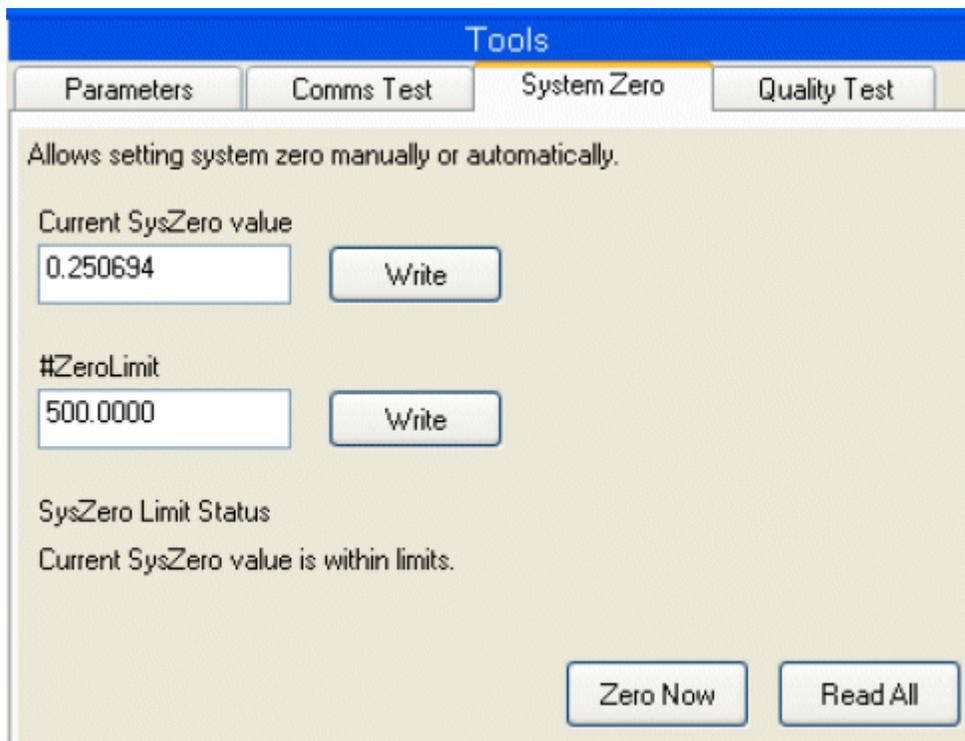
**CAL User - Button Functions**

<b>Cal user - Query All</b>	
<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Query All</b> - Clicking this button will cause <b>all</b> parameters to be queried from the device and displayed in the tree list. This will also enable the <b>Save List</b> button.</p>
	
<b>Cal user - Save List</b>	
<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Save List</b> - Clicking this button, which is only available after a <b>Query All</b>, will prompt for a filename to which the parameter data will be saved. Note that <b>all</b> data including calibration and scaling data will be saved when in “Cal” user mode.</p> <p>The parameter values are saved to a text file (.ttp file extension) and can be used as a record of settings used within a device and also used to re-configure the same device at a later date or another device.</p>
	
<b>Cal user - Load List</b>	
<b>Step</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Load List</b> - Clicking this button will prompt for a filename (.ttp file extension) which will be used to load previously saved or edited data back into the system.</p>
	
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>The parameter files are actually text files which can be edited, using a text editor such as NOTEPAD, to remove any parameters that are not required to be written to a device and also to modify parameter values. When using NOTEPAD, be sure to save the file with a .ttp file extension otherwise TMS Toolkit will not recognize it as being a valid parameter file.</p>
<b>Cal user - Load Cal Only</b>	
	<p><b>Load Cal Only</b> - Clicking this button will prompt for a filename (.ttp file extension) which will be used to load previously saved or edited Cal data back into the system.</p>

	
	<b>NOTE:</b> A warning message will be displayed advising the user that the calibration data is about to be over-written.

### 6.3 Cal User - System Zero Tab

This tab allows the system zero to be viewed and set.



**ZERONOW** - Click this button to perform an automatic system zero.

Note that the action of the **ZERONOW** command is limited by the parameter **#ZeroLimit**, as a means of preventing the repetitive use of the **ZERONOW** command in situations where physical damage is occurring within the torque sensor (for example overloading or shock loading). The parameter **#ZeroLimit** is hidden from the “normal” user.

**READ ALL Button** - Reads back current device settings and refreshes the display.

**Current SysZero Value** - Shows the current value stored for the **SysZero** parameter, which is the difference between the current zero and the zero that was determined and stored during the calibration process. It is automatically updated by clicking on the **ZERONOW** button or it can be edited and written to the device by clicking the **WRITE** button next to the field.

**SysZero Limit Status** - Indicates whether the last attempt at writing **SysZero** was successful within preset limits.

In the event that a **Zero Now** or a **SysZero** value is limited by **#ZeroLimit**, then a warning message “**Current SysZero value was clipped to conform to limits set**” is displayed in red and the zero is adjusted as close to zero as is allowed by **#ZeroLimit**.

**#ZeroLimit** - Shows the limits (+ and - ) within which the current value is allowed to be set to zero. This limit can be edited and written to the device by clicking the **Write** button next to the numeric field. The limit is set in engineering units (the same as the calibration units) and is used as a way of preventing repetitive use of the **ZeroNow** command in cases where physical damage may be occurring within the torque sensor (for example overloading or shock loading).

The factory setting for this parameter is 50% of the value used for the analog output (**#ANOUTHIGH**) of the sensor and there is no test for polarity so the limit will apply either side of the “true” zero that was automatically determined by the system during the calibration process. The user may wish to set tighter limits after installing and exercising the sensor.

	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p><b>#ZeroLimit</b> is only displayed when operating TMS Toolkit at the “Cal” user access level.</p>
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## 7. Troubleshooting

### 7.1 Cannot Communicate

- Check all wiring
- If using the RS232 port, check that the Rx pin of the host computer is connected to the Tx pin of the TMS 9250 and vice versa
- Check that the communications cable being used is of high quality or try a shorter length of cable (RS232 is sensitive to cable length and grounding issues, especially when used with laptop computers where grounding is uncertain)
- Check that the correct serial port is selected in the software or TMS Toolkit. When using Windows, the serial port in use can be found by using the CONTROL PANEL > SYSTEM > HARDWARE > DEVICE MANAGER > COM ports functions
- On older desktop PCs, the COM1 port is already in use for the mouse, so a different COM port should be selected
- If using a USB to Serial adapter, Windows assigns the COM port designations dynamically so they may change whenever the system is rebooted
- The serial port settings are automatically modified by TMS Toolkit so there is no need to change any of the settings in Windows
- The baud rate setting in TMS Toolkit should always be 38400 because that is the default baud rate of the TMS 9250
- The “TMS ID” should be left blank because TMS Toolkit will search the connected port for any TMS device and will commence the communication automatically if present

	<b>NOTE:</b> Do not attempt to change baud to any non-standard values.
---	---

### 7.2 Error Messages – “Cannot connect to Local TMS!”

This message appears whenever TMS Toolkit attempts to connect to a TMS device and fails to receive a response.



Possible reasons are as follows:

- No TMS device is connected
- A TMS device is connected but is powered off
- A bad or broken connection exists at the PC end or at the TMS end

## 7. Troubleshooting

Rev: A

008-0737-00

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- The TMS device is connected to the wrong communications port at the PC end (should be the same as was selected on the **Settings** tab) or at the TMS end (should be J7)
- If trying to connect for the first time, the connections may be incorrect (RS232 requires a crossover between devices, so Rx should connect to Tx and vice versa)
- Check all of the above and try again

### 7.3 Error Messages – “An error occurred while attempting to identify device!”

This message appears whenever TMS Toolkit attempts to connect to a TMS device and receives an unexpected or invalid response.



Possible reasons are as follows:

- The connected device is not a TMS
- The connection between the PC and the TMS is too long for reliable RS232 communications
- Check all of the above and try again

### 7.4 Error Messages – “Broadcast ID Information”

This message appears whenever TMS Toolkit sends an XXXX response.



Possible reasons are as follows:

- No TMS device
- TMS ID is entered as 000000 in settings
- Check all of the above and try again

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## 8. Appendix

### 8.1 Appendix A – Commands and Parameter Descriptions

**Introduction** - The TMS 9250 system uses a simple ASCII-based communications protocol that is both easy to use and easy to memorize. Some repetitive tasks such as setting a new zero point can be performed with less key strokes by making use of the Immediate Window and keying the command directly.

The complete list of valid parameters and commands and their functions are included below. Note that any parameters or commands that are prefixed with # will not be displayed in the parameter list when in “normal” user mode. However, all commands and settings can be accessed via the Immediate Window in either the “normal” user mode or the “Cal” user mode.

If communicating with the TMS 9250 via HyperTerminal or some other communications channel, then the full ASCII-XP message protocol must be provided, as detailed in Appendix B.

Below is the list of commands and parameters supported by the TMS 9250 (corresponding to software version v1.2.1 and above).

Parameter Name	Description	Data Type
#A	Mode reporting access used by TMS Toolkit software to extract parameter information from the device.	Read only
#AnOutHigh	Sets or returns the value in engineering units applied to the input that will give 100% (maximum positive full scale) output on the analog outputs. To invert the output polarity, enter the required negative full scale output value.	Read/write
	<b>NOTE:</b> Any change to #AnOutHigh will result in the cancellation of any zero offset value stored in #SysZero.	
#AnOutLow	Sets or returns the value in engineering units applied to the input that will give 0% (minimum negative full scale) output on the analog outputs. To invert the output polarity, enter the required positive full scale output value.	Read/write
	<b>NOTE:</b> Any change to #AnOutLow will result in the cancellation of any zero offset value stored in #SysZero.	
AuxBaud	Not yet supported.	Read/write
AuxOPType	Not yet supported.	Read/write
BaudRate	Not yet supported.	Read only
	<b>NOTE:</b> Please do not attempt to change this parameter from the Parameters tab.	
*CalCnts1- *CalCnts9	Internal calibration data. This is read only via TMS Toolkit and is viewable only in “CAL” level access. These parameters are exposed to enable the saving and loading of calibration data only.	Read only

<b>#CalPoints</b>	Sets the number of calibration points in use. Value must be between 2 and 9. Any change in <b>#CalPoints</b> should be followed by a <b>#CalReset</b> command to clear the previous unwanted calibration data from the memories. For correct system operation, the number of active calibration values ( <b>#CalValue 1~9</b> ) must be equal to the number of calibration points that are defined by the <b>#CalPoints</b> parameter.	Read/write										
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>All calibration data and all analog output setting data will be cleared by <b>#CalReset</b>. It is recommended to save the parameter list before invoking <b>#CalReset</b>.</p> <p>Any change to <b>#AnOutHigh</b> will result in the cancellation of any zero offset value stored in <b>#SysZero</b>.</p>											
<b>#CalReset</b>	Resets all calibration information. When the reset command is issued, all calibration data and all settings of the analog outputs ( <b>#AnOutHigh</b> and <b>#AnOutLow</b> ) are cleared so no reliable output will be available until all of the calibration points specified by the <b>#CalPoints</b> parameter and the required values of <b>#AnOutHigh</b> and <b>#AnOutLow</b> have been entered.	Command										
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>All calibration data and all analog output setting data will be cleared by <b>#CalReset</b>. It is recommended to save the parameter list before invoking <b>#CalReset</b>.</p> <p>Any change to <b>#AnOutHigh</b> will result in the cancellation of any zero offset value stored in <b>#SysZero</b>.</p>											
<b>#CalValue1</b> to <b>#CalValue9</b>	These values are written in engineering units when the appropriate load is applied. Each of the nine parameters can be written at any time. See Calibration section later in this document. NOTE – the values entered MUST be in ascending order, starting with <b>#CalValue1</b> (negative values count as lower than positive values). The number of calibration points entered must be equal to the number of calibration points activated by <b>#CalPoints</b> .	Read/write										
	<p><b>NOTE:</b></p> <p>The existing calibration data is overwritten by any new input of <b>#CalValue1~9</b>. It is recommended to save the parameter list before entering new values.</p> <p>Any change to <b>#CalValue1~9</b> will result in the cancellation of any zero offset value stored in <b>#SysZero</b>.</p>											
<b>#Counts</b>	Returns the raw A-D counts value derived from the ADC on the rotating sensor.	Read only										
<b>ErrFlag</b>	<p>The ErrFlag parameter will indicate any errors that have occurred by returning a numeric value that is comprised of binary values representing the various error states. i.e. the binary values for each error are added together to produce the ErrFlag value.</p> <p>The error states are not retained between power cycles.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1602 1016 1837"> <thead> <tr> <th>Decimal Value</th> <th>Error Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>No error.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Power cycled.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Output clamped.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Watchdog reset.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Decimal Value	Error Description	0	No error.	1	Power cycled.	2	Output clamped.	4	Watchdog reset.	Read only
Decimal Value	Error Description											
0	No error.											
1	Power cycled.											
2	Output clamped.											
4	Watchdog reset.											

	Once the errors have been read they can be reset using the RstErrFlag command.	
<b>#FastMode</b>	Used to initiate raw throughput of data without scaling or filtering. Set this parameter to 1 to enable fast mode. This setting is volatile so the device will revert to normal mode after the next Reset command or after the next power-up. Set to zero to disable fast mode. When in fast mode, the internal raw A-D counts results are fed directly to the analog output (voltage or current) without any scaling or filtering, giving a data throughput rate of 8.8 kHz (regardless of FiltLevel or FiltSteps settings).	Read/write
	<b>NOTE:</b> The frequency output is not supported in fast mode. The fast mode can be scaled in the user's data acquisition system by using the shunt cal facility, and is intended to be used for dynamic measurements only.	
<b>FiltLevel</b>	Used to set the threshold of operation of the digital filter. Values are set as parts per 10000, meaning that to set a threshold of 10% of the sensor rated capacity, then FiltLevel=1000.  For a % step change in input which is greater than $(\text{FiltLevel} / 10000 * 100\%)$ , the new input value will be passed immediately to the output. For a step change in input which is below the threshold set by FiltLevel, the output is filtered according to the setting of FiltSteps. Permissible values are 1 through 10000.	Read/write
	<b>NOTE:</b> When FiltLevel is set to 1, digital filtering is disabled and the unfiltered data is passed to the analog outputs at a rate of 2.2 kHz. When FiltLevel is set to 2, the digital filter update rate is set to be 1.1 kHz and the filter characteristic is set by FiltSteps. Factory default value is 100, representing a threshold of 1% of sensor rated capacity (refer to the factory calibration data sheet or the rating plate attached to the sensor to confirm the rated capacity).	
<b>FiltSteps</b>	Used to set the response time of the digital filter. Used in conjunction with FiltLevel to control the digital filtering behavior. Permissible values are 1 through 10000.  Filtering takes the form of an RC equivalent, where a change in input value which is greater than the threshold set by FiltLevel causes the output value to be incremented in the number of steps set by FiltSteps. The filter refresh rate is 1100 Hz. Factory default setting is 10, which in conjunction with the factory default setting of FiltLevel=100 provides for an output increment in the form of $(x/2, x/3, x/4, x/5, x/6 \dots x/10)$ where $x$ =step change in input of more than $((\text{FiltLevel}/10000)*\text{rated capacity})$ . Given the filter update rate of 1100 Hz, the settling time to 63% final value will be 9 ms $(\text{Update rate} \times \text{FiltSteps})$ and to 1% final value will be 45 ms $(\text{Update rate} \times \text{FiltSteps} \times 5)$ . The settling time to 0.1% final value will be 64 ms $(\text{Update rate} \times \text{FiltSteps} \times 7)$ .	Read/write
<b>#M</b>	Mode reporting access used by TMS Toolkit software to extract parameter information from the device.	Read only
<b>Model</b>	Returns the model name (TMS)	Read only string

<b>OpType</b>	Sets or returns the currently selected analog output where 0=current; 1=voltage; 2=frequency 10 kHz; 3=frequency 60 kHz, 4=current and frequency 10 kHz, 5=voltage and frequency 10 kHz, 6=current and frequency 60 kHz, 7=voltage and frequency 60 kHz.	Read/write												
	<b>NOTE:</b> Data throughput performance can be affected by using multiple outputs. For high speed dynamic data analysis applications (>500Hz), select the voltage output (OpType=1).													
<b>ParaCnt</b>	Returns the number of parameters in the device.	Read												
<b>Paraltem</b>	Set to the index number of the required parameter.	Write												
<b>ParaList</b>	<p>Returns the information on the parameter indexed by Paraltem. Format: 'index,paraname,type' a string.</p> <p>The value of <i>type</i> indicates the parameter's properties by the addition of the following numerical values:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="462 793 885 1075"> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Readable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Writeable</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Command</td> </tr> <tr> <td>32</td> <td>String</td> </tr> <tr> <td>64</td> <td>Numeric</td> </tr> <tr> <td>128</td> <td>Boolean</td> </tr> </table> <p>Example: '1,MODEL,33'            In the above example where <i>type</i> = 33. This means the parameter <i>MODEL</i> is a readable string, i.e. 1 + 32 = 33.            Example: '3,UNITS,35'            In the above example where <i>type</i> = 35. This means the parameter <i>UNITS</i> is a read/writeable string. i.e. 1+2 + 32 = 35.</p>	1	Readable	2	Writeable	4	Command	32	String	64	Numeric	128	Boolean	Read string
1	Readable													
2	Writeable													
4	Command													
32	String													
64	Numeric													
128	Boolean													
<b>Percent</b>	Returns the value of the applied torque in percentage terms (0-100) where this range is the selected range over which the analog outputs work and is set by #AnOutLow and #AnOutHigh.	Read only												
<b>#ReScale</b>	Internal system command, for factory use only.	Command												
<b>Reset</b>	Reset command to restart device and to implement parameter changes that require a reset.	Command												
<b>RstErrFlag</b>	Reset all error flags.	Command												
<b>#ScScale</b>	Scaling factor applied to the Shunt Calibration value. Can be used to force the shunt calibration value to any desired value. A setting of 1 causes the shunt calibration value to be delivered at its raw level, which could be any value (refer to calibration data sheet for the relevant sensor for the actual value), but is generally set during manufacture to be between 50% and 99% of the sensor capacity.	Read/Write												

<b>SysZero</b>	Allows manual setting of the current Value or querying of the current zero offset being applied. The returned value is the amount of zero offset being applied to the true Value. To zero the system, this parameter should be set in engineering units to the value read when the system is supposed to be displaying zero. The action of SysZero may be limited by #ZeroLimit as described above, in which case the flag ZeroOK will be set to 0. Note that when any calibration parameter (#CalValue1~9, #CalReset) is changed, the value of SysZero is set to 0 and any zero offset is cancelled. This function, when used with #ZeroLimit, allows the current Value to be offset to any desired level (remember to consider the dynamic loading range of the sensor itself when applying large offsets).	Read/write
<b>Units</b>	Text memo field in which the name of the engineering units used for calibration can be stored for recall later. Note that when reading some characters via a 7-segment display (TMS Toolkit uses a virtual 7-segment display), some characters such as M will not display correctly.	Read/Write
<b>Usr1~9</b>	Free format, text memo fields for general purpose. Example is the storage of calibration data and place information, the name of the calibration technician, etc. Allowable characters are alphanumeric only.	Read/Write
<b>Value</b>	Returns the value of the applied torque in calibrated engineering units.	Read only
<b>Version</b>	Returns the software version.	Read only
<b>ZeroNow</b>	Sets the current value to zero unless limited by #ZeroLimit as described above. The action performed by ZeroNow is to clear any previous zero offset then compare the true value to #ZeroLimit, then, to the extent allowable by #ZeroLimit, write the true Value to SysZero, resulting in a new current value of zero.	Command
<b>ZeroOK</b>	Returns indication of 1 if the previous ZeroNow command was successful in setting the current Value to zero and returns 0 if the action was limited by #ZeroLimit.	Read only
<b>#ZeroLimit</b>	The limit in engineering units at which the ZeroNow command will be allowed to operate, relative to the computed Value at zero load that was stored during the calibration process. Therefore #ZeroLimit represents the maximum allowable difference between the "calibration" zero and the "current" zero. If the ZeroNow command is issued when the current Value is greater than #ZeroLimit, then the current Value will be moved to the extent allowed by #ZeroLimit and the flag ZeroOK will be set to 0. Factory setting is 50% of the calibrated range. Note that #ZeroLimit is a bipolar setting, so it will be applied to both directions (+ and -) around the calibration zero value.	Read/Write
<b>*ZeroPVal</b>	Internal system zero data. This is read only via TMS Toolkit and is viewable only in "CAL" level access. This parameter is exposed to enable the saving and loading of calibration and zero data.	Read only

## 8.2 Appendix B – ASCII XP Protocol

**Introduction** - Communications with the TMS 9250 is carried out using a protocol, **ASCIIXP** (**ASCII eXtended Protocol**), which has been developed for multi-drop telemetry products.

Each TMS 9250 device has a unique device ID that must be used for all communications. The ID is fixed at production and is referred to in hexadecimal format. The range covered is from **000001** to **FFFFFF** which gives an address range of **1** to **16777215** decimal. With 16 million addresses it can be guaranteed that no two devices will have the same ID.

Device ID **000000** is reserved as a **'Broadcast'** ID. Data transmitted to this ID will be acted on by all receiving devices. However, devices will **not** respond with data to a broadcast command.

All devices communicate using the **ASCIIXP** protocol, which has been designed to be humanly readable. Another advantage of this protocol is that with its optional parameter structure, it can just as easily be used from a simple serial terminal program such as HyperTerminal (typed manually in real-time) as well as a high level device such as a PC or PLC. A driver is available for use with any programming system that can utilize OCXs. Source code, written in Visual Basic, is also available.

### ASCIIXP Protocol

ASCIIXP is an ASCII protocol designed to be routable over radio, Ethernet or serial links and is easily programmed and parsed (split into sections). Only ASCII characters are used and the suffix 'Carriage Return' (ASCII value 13, hexadecimal value 0xD) is used as the framing character. This enables ASCIIXP to be used with common serial terminal applications such as HyperTerminal. The 'Enter/Return key' on a standard keyboard is used to write the framing character. In the following document **<13>** will be used to represent the ASCII character 13.



#### NOTE:

A checksum can be included for integrity but it is optional. If a checksum exists in a received data packet then a checksum will be included in the returned packet.

The full syntax for the ASCIIXP protocol is:

ToID[;FromID[:PID]]:Data[:Checksum]<13>

Or, in its simplest form:

ToID:Data<13>



#### NOTE:

Note that the packet is divided into fields by the colons. Square bracketed sections indicate optional parameters. The first field is the address, the second is the data and the third (optional) field is the checksum.

All packets must have a ToID, i.e. the ID of the intended target device, but can also have an optional FromID, (the ID of the device that transmits the packet) and a PID packet identifier (see below).

It is not necessary to include the FromID in the transmitted packet unless multiple TMS 9250 devices reside on the same serial port. In this case the FromID is used to indicate which TMS 9250 should handle the data. In single TMS 9250 systems the TMS 9250 device can extract this data from the underlying transport protocol since all devices include their FromID in all their transmitted data resulting in unambiguous identification of the sender. The PID is also optional. This is the Packet IDentifier and can be up to 6 alphanumeric characters.

If a PID is used then a FromID should be used or at least a placeholder for a FromID i.e. FFFF; abcd: xxxxxxxxxxxx. The function of the PID is to enable a received packet to be matched with

the packet that requested the data. When programming a PC to talk to a device a PID should be used. This enables the user to determine that the device has responded as a result of a specific request by checking that the PID in the response matches the PID of the request. This inclusion of a PID is even more important in an environment where a device is periodically pushing data out to a PC due to one or more of its Events being triggered. In this case the data arriving as a result of an Event occurring would have a PID of  $Ev_n$  where  $n$  is the number of the event that sent the data. Thus, by including a PID in a request for data, the PID of incoming data packets can be checked to determine if the data is a response to this request or alternatively, an unrequested transmission that has been triggered by a remote device's Event.

Spaces should not be used in the ASCII protocol. When devices communicate with each other they always include a FromID and a PacketID. Checksums are optional. In order to not use a checksum the colon preceding the checksum and the checksum itself must be omitted i.e. Address:command<13> If no checksum is present in a request, the reply will be sent without a checksum. Examples of valid packet constructions:

ToID;FromID;PID:Data:Checksum<13>

ToID;;PID:Data:Checksum<13>

ToID:Data:Checksum<13>

ToID;FromID;PID:Data<13>

ToID;;PID:Data<13>

ToID:Data<13>

### Definitions

<b>ToID</b>	A 6 character maximum address which is a HEX representation of the device address. All telemetry devices will be manufactured with a unique 3 byte address. Example: FEDCAB.
<b>FromID</b>	<i>Optional.</i> A 6 character hex address which is the sender's device address. This is only required when multiple TMS 9250 devices are connected to the same serial bus.
<b>PID</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Up to six characters of numbers or letters to identify the packet. If the PID is prefixed with a '!' character the packet will be sent asynchronously i.e. there will be no retries on transmission and no ACK is required on any underlying transport protocols. The programmer will be responsible for catching the returned data packet and handling it. This is useful for periodically 'prompting' a device for a value without having to wait and see if it has acknowledged the prompt. When the result arrives it can be identified by inspecting its PID.
<b>Data</b>	Data is the information sent to the remote device and can be for requesting data, changing a parameter value or executing a command.
<b>Checksum</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Is a 2 character ASCII representation of the hex value of <b>ALL</b> the XOR'ed bytes in the transmitted packet from the first address byte up to and including the colon preceding the checksum digits. A typical checksum may be C7.
<b>&lt;13&gt;</b>	The single byte, ASCII value 13 always suffixes a data packet.



**NOTE:**

The TMS 9250 uses the ASCIIXP protocol which can be utilized by radio devices and as such contains routing data which consists of the sender ID and the receiver ID.

The TMS 9250 does not require a gateway device to enable connection to a serial port so the ToID and the FromID will be identical!

**Communications Examples**

For the next section of this document we will assume that no checksum is used to simplify explanation. Each device supports a range of parameters that are either readable, writeable, read/writeable or commands. The next simple examples will assume that the transmitted data is sent to AAAAAA.

- To read a parameter synchronously:

AAAAAA:Value?<13>

**Value** is the parameter name followed by a question mark.

The response would be

AAAAAA;AAAAAA:123.456<13>

If the parameter returns a string value it may look like this... Note the single quote delimiters around the string data.

AAAAAA;AAAAAA:'TMS 9250'<13>

If the device does not recognize the command then it will return

AAAAAA;AAAAAA:?'<13>

- To read a parameter asynchronously:

AAAAAA;!pid:Value?<13>

**Value** is the parameter name followed by a question mark. We have now specified a **PID** and indicated that this is an asynchronous transmission by prefixing the **PID** with a '!'

An asynchronous transmission allows the driver to not wait for a response and also not apply any retries in the low level transport protocol. This feature can be used to regularly transmit a request for data where the receiving device may or may not be activated. The user is responsible for receiving the response when it occurs and to determine how to handle the data by inspecting the **PID**.

The response would be:

AAAAAA;AAAAAA;!pid:123.456<13>

If the parameter returns a string value it may look like this:

AAAAAA;AAAAAA;!pid:'TMS 9250'<13>

Note the single quote delimiters around the string data.

If the device does not recognize the command then it will return

AAAAAA;AAAAAA;!pid:?'<13>

- To write a parameter

AAAAAA:CaIValue1=123.456<13>

Where **CalValue1** is the parameter name followed by an **equals** sign then the **data** in engineering units. To write to a parameter that expects a string value you must enclose the string in single quotes:

```
AAAAAA:StringVal='GROSS'<13>
```

The device will respond with:

```
AAAAAA;AAAAAA:OK<13>
```

If the device does not recognize the command or the data is invalid then it will return:

```
AAAAAA;AAAAAA:??<13>
```

- To issue a command

```
AAAAAA:Reset<13>
```

Where **Reset** is the command name.

The device will respond with:

```
AAAAAA;AAAAAA:OK<13>
```

If the device does not recognize the command or the data is invalid then it will return:

```
AAAAAA;AAAAAA:??<13>
```

- Multiple parameters

Multiple commands or requests must be separated with semicolons i.e.

```
FFFFFF:Model?;#CalValue1=99;Reset<13>
```

The device will respond with all the values normally returned but separated by semicolons, i.e.:

```
AAAAAA;AAAAAA:'TMS 9250';OK;OK<13>
```

## 8.3 Appendix C - Software License

### INTRODUCTION

The use of the TMS Toolkit software is governed by the license conditions contained in the text below. The software installation procedure repeats the agreement text as below and requires that the license conditions are accepted before the software will load.

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