

Z-Xtreme™ GPS Receiver

Operation & Reference Manual

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Printed in the United States of America.

Part Number: 630843-01 Revision B

February, 2001

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Chapter 1. Introduction | 1 |
| Overview | 2 |
| Functional Description | 2 |
| Memory Options | 3 |
| Technical Specifications | 4 |
| Performance Specifications | 5 |
| Receiver Options | 5 |
| Option B - RTCM Base | 6 |
| Option U - RTCM Remote | 6 |
| Option E - Event Marker | 7 |
| Option X - External Frequency Reference | 7 |
| Option M - Remote Monitoring | 7 |
| Option F - Fast Data Output | 7 |
| Option T - Point Positioning | 7 |
| Option 3 - Observables—1, 2, 3 | 7 |
| Option J - RTK Rover | 8 |
| Option K - RTK Base | 8 |
| Option I - Instant RTK | 8 |
| Chapter 2. Equipment Description | 9 |
| Z-Xtreme Front Panel | 9 |
| Rear Panel | 11 |
| Pinouts | 13 |
| Power | 13 |
| Port (Fischer) Connectors | 14 |
| PCMCIA Card | 15 |
| Battery/Charger | 16 |
| Conditioning | 17 |
| Charging | 18 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Calibration..... | 18 |
| Disposition | 19 |
| Chapter 3. Getting Started | 21 |
| Memory Card | 21 |
| Installation..... | 21 |
| Removal | 22 |
| Internal Battery | 23 |
| Installation..... | 23 |
| Removal | 25 |
| Hardware Setup | 25 |
| Applying Power | 26 |
| Receiver Initialization | 26 |
| PCMCIA Card | 26 |
| Monitoring | 27 |
| Monitoring via the Front Panel | 27 |
| Satellite Tracking | 27 |
| Position | 28 |
| Remaining Memory..... | 28 |
| Remaining Power | 28 |
| Monitoring via the Serial Ports | 28 |
| Satellite Monitoring | 29 |
| Position | 29 |
| Available Memory | 29 |
| Remaining Power | 29 |
| Setting Receiver Parameters | 29 |
| Saving Parameter Settings | 30 |
| Chapter 4. Operations | 31 |
| LED Display Interface | 31 |
| Menus..... | 32 |
| System Information (SysInfo) | 33 |
| Receiver Status (Survey:mode) | 34 |
| STATIC Mode | 35 |
| KINEMATIC Mode | 35 |
| RTK BASE Mode | 36 |
| Survey Configuration (SURVCONF)..... | 37 |
| STATIC Mode | 38 |
| KINEMATIC Mode | 38 |
| RTK BASE Mode | 39 |
| Data Recording (Sessions)..... | 39 |
| Miscellaneous Parameter (Settings)..... | 41 |
| Warning Messages | 42 |
| Data Recording | 45 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Reformatting the PC Card. | 45 |
| PCMCIA File Structure and File Names | 46 |
| Data Modes. | 48 |
| Downloading Data | 48 |
| Index | 51 |

List of Figures

| | | |
|-------------|--|----|
| Figure 1.1. | Z-Xtreme GPS Receiver | 1 |
| Figure 2.1. | Z-Xtreme Front Panel Closed | 9 |
| Figure 2.2. | Z-Xtreme Front Panel Open | 10 |
| Figure 2.3. | Z-Xtreme Rear Panel. | 11 |
| Figure 2.4. | Power Connector Pin Layout. | 13 |
| Figure 2.5. | Serial Port Pin Layout | 14 |
| Figure 2.6. | PCMCIA Card | 15 |
| Figure 2.7. | Lithium-ion Battery. | 16 |
| Figure 2.8. | Battery in Battery Charger with AC Adapter | 18 |
| Figure 3.1. | Memory/Battery Door | 22 |
| Figure 3.2. | Installing an Internal Battery | 24 |
| Figure 3.3. | Removing an Internal Battery | 25 |
| Figure 4.1. | Display Menu Tree | 32 |
| Figure 4.2. | File Naming Convention | 47 |

List of Tables

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| Table 1.1. | Technical Specifications | 4 |
| Table 1.2. | Accuracy as Function of Mode. | 5 |
| Table 1.3. | Z-Xtreme Options. | 5 |
| Table 2.1. | Controls and Indicators | 10 |
| Table 2.2. | Z-Xtreme Rear Panel Description | 11 |
| Table 2.3. | Power Connector Pinouts | 13 |
| Table 2.4. | Serial Port Pinout Description | 14 |
| Table 2.5. | PCMCIA Specifications | 15 |
| Table 2.6. | Battery Indications | 16 |
| Table 4.1. | Control Buttons | 31 |
| Table 4.2. | Main Menu Description | 33 |
| Table 4.3. | Survey Status Information | 35 |
| Table 4.4. | Time Parameters | 35 |
| Table 4.5. | Selectable Recording Intervals | 38 |
| Table 4.6. | Selectable Data Types. | 39 |
| Table 4.7. | Selectable Languages | 41 |
| Table 4.8. | Front Panel Warnings | 42 |
| Table 4.9. | Z-Family Recording Modes | 48 |
| Table 4.10. | File Types | 49 |

Introduction

The Z-Xtreme GPS receiver, Figure 1.1, is a powerful and economical alternative to conventional surveying equipment for the GPS community. Designed to support an expanding variety of surveying applications, including land/boundary/cadastral surveys, route surveys, construction, and as-built surveys, the 12-channel, dual-frequency receiver integrates technological advances in microprocessor design, data storage, and power management. Retaining the functionality of a complete surveying system, the Z-Xtreme fits into an improved, lighter, and more ergonomic enclosure. Incorporating Ashtech's patented Z-Tracking™ technology to mitigate the effects of Anti-Spoofing (AS), the Z-Xtreme provides increased tracking ability under adverse satellite visibility conditions such as under tree canopy, in canyons, or between buildings.



Figure 1.1. Z-Xtreme GPS Receiver

The Z-Xtreme operates on just 6 watts and includes an internal battery capable of 10 hours of continuous operation. For longer operations, the Z-Xtreme offers an external power input. The receiver also includes internal memory in the form of a removable standard 16Mb PCMCIA card expandable up to 85 Mb. Due to performance and popularity, many third-party application software companies have developed their application-specific packages to work directly with the receiver. The Z-Xtreme receiver works with a wide choice of controller software and data collectors, and provides a full range of accessories to make surveying simple and efficient.

Incorporating an integrated, optimized keyboard/display, the system supports collection and post-processing of static, rapid static, and kinematic data without the need for an external handheld display/controller. The unit functions as a base station and/or rover for real-time code and code/carrier RTCM differential GPS usage. To support the requirement for real-time centimeter-level surveying solutions, an optional UHF or spread spectrum radio is incorporated into the receiver, providing a configured portable and integrated real-time GPS surveying system. The receiver can be configured as a continuous operating reference station (CORS) for surveying, GIS, geological, or other scientific monitoring applications.

Overview

The Z-Xtreme processes signals from the GPS satellite constellation, deriving real-time position, velocity, and time measurements. Twelve dedicated separate and parallel channels extract Coarse/Acquisition (C/A) code-phase, and carrier-phase measurement on the L1 (1575 MHz) band, and Precise (P) code phase and carrier phase measurement on the L1 and L2 (1227 MHz) bands.

The Z-Xtreme receives satellite signals via an L-band antenna and low-noise amplifier (LNA). The receiver operates stand-alone and as a base (reference) station or remote (rover) station providing real-time differential GPS operation for code, and real-time kinematic (RTK) operation for carrier phase. The unit implements the RTCM SC 104 V2.2 standard for differential and RTK operation. These features allow the Z-Xtreme to achieve centimeter accuracy while being compatible for differential and RTK operation with any other receiver that implements the RTCM standard.

Functional Description

The receiver is activated when either an internal battery has been inserted, or an external power supply has been connected to the power connector, and the

power push-button is pushed to ON. After self-test, the receiver initializes its 12 channels and begins searching for all space vehicles (SV) within the field of view of the antenna. The receiver can track all Block I and Block II GPS SVs. All 32 PRN numbers as specified in Navstar GPS Space Segment/Navigation User Interfaces, ICD-GPS-200, Revision B are internally coded. As the receiver acquires (locks onto) each SV, it notes the time and collects the ephemeris data about the orbit of that SV, and almanac data about the orbits of all the SVs in the constellation.

The receiver features 12-parallel channel/12-SV all-in-view operation; each of up to 12 visible SVs can be assigned to a channel and then continuously tracked. Each SV broadcasts almanac and ephemeris information every 30 seconds, and the unit automatically records this information in its non-volatile memory. The unit has an L1/L2-band radio frequency (RF) port and four RS-232 serial input/output (I/O) ports. Ports A, B, and C are capable of two-way communication with external equipment. Port D is capable of RTCM operation when using the optional internal radio link.

The RF circuitry receives satellite data from a GPS antenna and LNA via a coaxial cable, and can supply +5V to the antenna/LNA by means of that cable. No separate antenna power cable is required. Typical power consumption is approximately 6.0 watts even when powering an LNA.

The receiver incorporates three multi-colored LEDs. A radio data status LED blinks green when valid radio data has been received. A memory storage status LED blinks green when data is stored to the memory card. A satellite/power status LED blinks green for each satellite tracked, and blinks red between satellites tracked count to depict power-on status.

The receiver collects Coarse Acquisition (C/A) code-phase (pseudo-range) and full wavelength carrier phase measurement on L1 frequency (1575 MHz), Precise (P) code phase (pseudo-range) and full wavelength carrier phase on L1 and L2 frequency (1227 MHz). All data can be stored on the internal PCMCIA card. The receiver permits uninterrupted use even when Anti-Spoofing (AS) is turned on. When AS is on, the receiver automatically activates Ashtech's patented Z-tracking mode that mitigates the effects of AS. The accuracy when AS is on is the same as when AS is off.

Memory Options

The amount of data the Z-Xtreme can retain depends upon the PCMCIA card and the recording interval. You can verify the amount of memory by going to the Memory Status (**MEM:***%**) menu under the **SYSINFO** menu displayed on the front panel. You can also verify the amount of memory by sending the \$PASHQ,FLS,0

command (for more information on commands, refer to the *Z-Xtreme Technical Reference Manual*).

Technical Specifications

Table 1.1 lists the technical specifications of the Z-Xtreme.

Table 1.1. Technical Specifications

| Characteristic | Specifications |
|---|--|
| Tracking | 12 channels L1 CA/PL1 and PL2 |
| Size | 3."H x 7.75"W x 8.75"D |
| Weight | 3.5 lb |
| Operating temperature | -20° to +55°C (without internal battery) |
| Storage temperature | -30° to +75°C (without internal battery) |
| Humidity | 100% |
| Environment | Resistant to wind-driven rain and dust to MIL-STD-810E |
| Power consumption, operating with internal battery, at room temperature (25° C), display disabled | 6.0 watts |
| Power input | 10 - 28VDC |
| Data storage | From 16Mb up to 85 MB dependent upon PCMCIA card |
| Interface | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight-character alphanumeric LED display • Three dual-color LED • Three external RS-232 ports via Fischer connectors • One antenna connector • Event marker and 1PPS via serial port connector • Optional radio antenna connector |
| MEASUREMENT PRECISION | |
| C/A (>10° elevation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pseudo-range (raw/smooth) • Carrier Phase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25cm/3.6cm • 0.9mm |
| P-Code AS off (>10° elevation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L1 Pseudo-range (raw/smooth) • L1 Carrier Phase • L2 Pseudo-range (raw/smooth) • L2 Carrier Phase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15cm/0.9cm • 0.9mm • 21cm/1.3cm • 0.9mm |

Performance Specifications

One of the most important functions of the receiver is providing real-time position with accuracy ranging from less than 10 meters to centimeter level. Table 1.2 summarizes the positioning modes and expected accuracy.

Table 1.2. Accuracy as Function of Mode

| Positioning Mode | Typical Horizontal Accuracy (2drms), 5 SVs, PDOP<4 | Maximum Update Rate | Maximum Operating Range |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---|
| Static, Rapid Static | Horizontal: 5mm + 1 ppm Vertical: 10 mm + 1 ppm | 5Hz (10 Hz optional) | Several hundred kilometers depending upon satellite geometry. |
| Post-Processed Kinematic | Horizontal: 1 cm + 1 ppm Vertical: 2 cm + 1 ppm | 5 Hz (10 Hz optional) | Several hundred kilometers depending upon satellite geometry. |
| Real-Time Code Differential | < 1 m | 5 Hz (10 Hz optional) | Several hundred kilometers depending upon data link. |
| Real-time Z Kinematic (Fine Mode) | Horizontal: 1 cm + 2 ppm Vertical: 2 cm + 2 ppm Azimuth (arc sec): 0.4 + 2.0/baseline (km) | 5 Hz (10 Hz optional) | Recommended: < 10 km Maximum: 40 km |



Specifications assume operation follows all the procedures recommended in the product manuals utilizing Instant-RTK, post processing with Ashtech Solutions or Ashtech Office Suite for Survey. High-multipath areas, high PDOP values, low satellite visibility, and periods of adverse atmospheric conditions and/or other adverse circumstances will degrade system performance. All accuracy specifications are RMS values.

Receiver Options

Table 1.3 lists the available options.

Table 1.3. Z-Xtreme Options

| Option | Description |
|--------|--------------------------|
| B | RTCM differential base |
| U | RTCM differential remote |

Table 1.3. Z-Xtreme Options (continued)

| Option | Description |
|---------|-----------------------|
| E | Event Marker |
| X | External Frequency |
| M | Remote monitor option |
| F | Fast Data Output |
| T | Point Positioning |
| 1, 2, 3 | Observables |
| J | RTK Rover |
| K | RTK Base |
| I | Instant RTK |

Each option is represented by a letter or number presented in a certain order. You can verify the installed options by going to the options table under the System Information (SYSINFO) menu on the front panel. You can also verify the installed options by issuing the **\$PASHQ,RID** command to the receiver using an external handheld controller or PC, as described in the *Z-Xtreme Technical Reference Manual*. The **\$PASHQ,RID** command displays the options on the external handheld controller or PC. For example:

\$PASHR,RID,UZ,30,UC00,BUEXMFT3JK,0A13*75

If the letter or number is displayed in the response message, the option is installed. If the letter/number is not displayed, the option is not installed.

Option B - RTCM Base

The receiver can set as an RTCM differential base station and can output real-time differential corrections when this option is enabled. The output will be in RTCM-104, Version 2.2 format message types 1, 3, 6, 16, and 22, as well as RTCM Carrier Differential 18, 19, 20, and 21. For messages 18, 19, 20, and 21, the K option is also required.

Option U - RTCM Remote

The real-time differential corrections are available when this option is enabled. The receiver will decode the RTCM-104, Version 2.2 format message types 1, 3, 6, 9, 16, and 22 as well as types 18, 19, 20 and 21. For messages 18, 19, 20, and 21, the J option is also required.

Option E - Event Marker

The E option enables the storage of event times created from a trigger signal. The receiver measures and records event times with high accuracy (down to one microsecond). The receiver stores an event time at the rising edge of the trigger signal (or the falling edge on command) and the time is recorded in the receiver's PC memory card and/or output through the TTT NMEA message.

Option X - External Frequency Reference

The external frequency option X allows you to input an external frequency so you can synchronize receiver data to an external clock. When enabled, its installation disables the internal oscillator and uses the external frequency input only.

Option M - Remote Monitoring

The remote monitoring option allows you to use the **REMOTE.EXE** utility to access and control the receiver via a modem from a remote location.

Option F - Fast Data Output

This option enables the receiver to be programmed to output both raw position data and NMEA messages or record data (if a PCMCIA card is present in the receiver) at user-selectable frequencies up to 10Hz. Without this option, only frequencies up to 5Hz are available.

Option T - Point Positioning

The T option allows you to put the receiver into point positioning mode using the \$PASHS,PPO command. Point positioning mode improves the accuracy of an autonomous position of a static point.

Option 3 - Observables—1, 2, 3

This option determines the observables available in the receiver where:

- 1—CA code and P-code on L1/L2 (no carrier)
- 2—CA code and carrier, P-code on L1/L2 (no carrier)
- 3—CA code and carrier, P-code on L1/L2 and carrier

Option J - RTK Rover

The J option allows the receiver to act as a rover station that utilizes the carrier phase differential (both DBEN and RTCM message 18, 19, 20, and 21) data transmitted from the base to compute differentially corrected positions. This option requires the observables option to be 3. For RTCM messages type 18, 19, 20, and 21, the U option is required in addition to the J option.

Option K - RTK Base

The K option allows the receiver to act as a real-time Z base station which will output carrier phase differential data. This option requires the observables option to be 3. For RTCM 18/19 or 21/22, the B option is also required.

Option I - Instant RTK

The I option, an extension of the J option, allows the receiver to use the new RTK system - Instant RTK™ which uses a new data processing strategy for integer ambiguity initialization. The initialization time using Instant RTK typically requires a single epoch of data if there are 6 or more satellites available with reasonable open sky and low multipath. The baseline length should be 7 km or less.

Equipment Description

This chapter provides a detailed description of the internal features of the Z-Xtreme.

Z-Xtreme Front Panel

The Z-Xtreme front panel, Figure 2.1 and Figure 2.2, allows you to control basic receiver options as well as perform Static, Rapid Static, and Kinematic surveys. Table 2.1 describes the functions of the front-panel controls and indicators.



Figure 2.1. Z-Xtreme Front Panel Closed

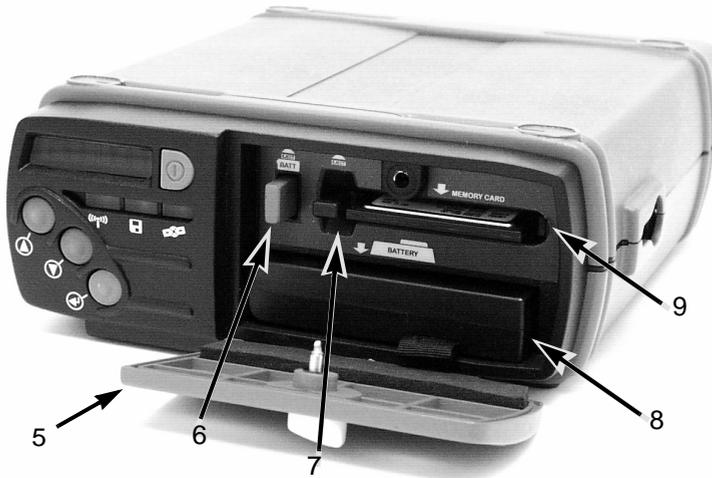


Figure 2.2. Z-Xtreme Front Panel Open

Table 2.1. Controls and Indicators

| Number | Component | Function |
|--------|---|---|
| 1 | LED Display | Display and input screen for receiver. Displays messages, parameters, equipment status, and warning messages. The screen displays eight characters at one time, while scrolling messages larger than eight characters from right to left. |
| 2 | Up/Down/Enter buttons | Operate these buttons for use with the LED display. |
| 3 | LED Indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UHF/SS Radio Indicator • Memory Storage Indicator • Satellite Tracking/Power Indicator | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flashing green light indicates radio activity. • Flashing green light indicates data stored to memory activity; flashing red indicates data card full. • Flashing green indicates satellites tracked; flashing red indicates power applied to receiver. |
| 4 | On/Off Power button | Turns unit on and off. Press and hold for 3 seconds to turn off receiver. |
| 5 | Memory/Battery door | Allows access to the memory card and battery. |
| 6 | Battery Eject button | Ejects battery from internal battery connector. |
| 7 | Memory Card Eject button | Ejects memory card from the memory card connector. |
| 8 | Internal battery | Internal removable battery. |
| 9 | Memory card | Internal removable memory card. |

Rear Panel

The rear panel of the Z-Xtreme, Figure 2.3, contains all the connectors for connection to external equipment. Table 2.3 describes the rear panel components.

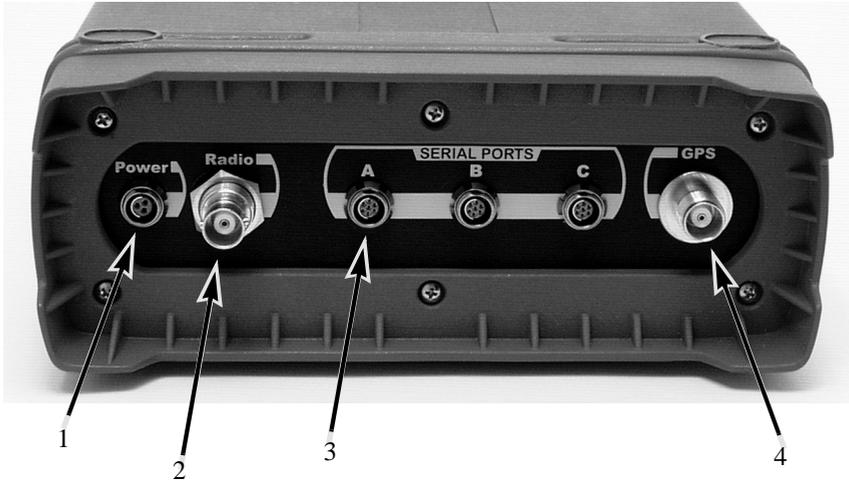


Figure 2.3. Z-Xtreme Rear Panel

Table 2.2. Z-Xtreme Rear Panel Description

| Number | Component | Function |
|--------|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Power connector | Allows connection to external power source (refer to Table 2.3) |
| 2 | Radio connector | Allows RF connection of the embedded radio modem. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• BNC for UHF radio modems• Reverse polarity TNC for spread spectrum radio modems |

Table 2.2. Z-Xtreme Rear Panel Description (continued)

| Number | Component | Function |
|--------|--|---|
| 3 | <p>Serial Ports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•A <li>•B <li>•C <li>•D | <p>Each port delivers a 12V output on pin 1 for radio modem power up. The total power delivered by all connectors is 1A, at 50% duty cycle, 250ms duration. In case of a short-circuit, the power is internally fused—the fuse has been tripped requiring the removal of the short-circuit prior to activation of this power.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A complete RS-232 port with full-handshaking. Port A can be used for communications with a hand-held computer, an IBM compatible PC, or a radio. Port A is used for transferring data from the receiver to a computer, from a receiver to a receiver, and all other communications to and from the receiver. <li>• A complete RS-232 port with full-handshaking. Port B can be used for communication with the hand-held computer, an IBM compatible PC, or a radio. Port B is used for transferring data from the receiver to a computer, from a receiver to a receiver, and all other communications to and from the receiver. This port also carries an event marker input on pin 7. <li>• A complete RS-232 port with full-handshaking. Port C can be used for communication with the hand-held computer, an IBM compatible PC, or a radio. Port C is used for transferring data from the receiver to a computer, from a receiver to a receiver, and all other communications to and from the receiver. This port also carries a 1PPS output on pin 7. <li>• A complete RS-232 port with full-handshaking. Port D is used internally for communication with the optional internal radio modem. |
| 4 | GPS antenna connector | <p>The RF connector is a standard TNC female receptacle wired for connection via 50-ohm coaxial cabling to a GPS antenna with an integral LNA. The connector shell is connected to the Z-Xtreme common ground. The TNC connector center pin provides +5VDC (to power the LNA) and accepts 1227 and 1575.42 MHz RF input from the antenna; the RF and DC signals share the same path.</p> |

CAUTION

The current for the GPS antenna connector is limited to 150mA out of the RF center conductor. It is short-circuit protected. If using a splitter or other RF network, use an inner DC block suitable for 1-2 GHz, 50 ohms; maximum voltage back to the Z-Xtreme cannot exceed 15V.

Pinouts

Power

The voltage input range is 10-28 volts, with a power rating of 10 watts. One 3-pin Fischer connector provides the power input interface. Figure 2.4 shows the pin layout of the power connector. Table 2.3 describes the pinout of the power connector.

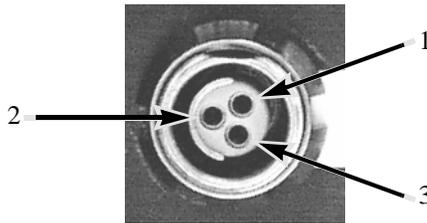


Figure 2.4. Power Connector Pin Layout

Table 2.3. Power Connector Pinouts

| Pin | Signal | Description |
|-----|---------|-----------------------|
| 1 | EXT_GND | External Ground |
| 2 | EXT_INP | Power input 10-28 Vdc |
| 3 | NA | Not connected |



Chassis ground and external ground are not the same for EMI purposes.

Port (Fischer) Connectors

Figure 2.5 shows the pin layout for all the serial ports.

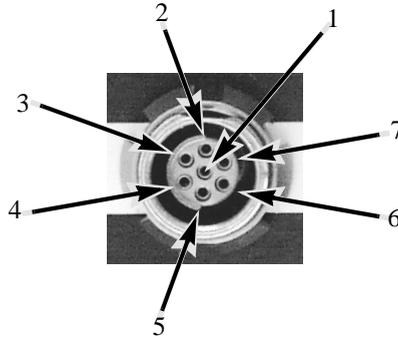


Figure 2.5. Serial Port Pin Layout

Table 2.4 describes the serial port pinout description.

Table 2.4. Serial Port Pinout Description

| Pin | Description |
|-----|--|
| 1 | 12 volts output |
| 2 | Ground |
| 3 | Clear To Send input |
| 4 | Request To Send Output |
| 5 | Receive Data input |
| 6 | Transmit Data output |
| 7 | This pin has the one-pulse-per-second output and the event marker input for ports B and C respectively. For port A, do not connect any signals; this pins is for factory use only. |

CAUTION

Do not connect or disconnect power or signal cables from the Z-Xtreme while power is applied. Possible injury and/or equipment damage may occur.

PCMCIA Card

The PCMCIA card, Figure 2.6, can be accessed through the front panel door of the Z-Xtreme.



Figure 2.6. PCMCIA Card

The PCMCIA card is a high-capacity, solid-state, non-volatile flash memory device which complies with PC Card ATA and IDE standards. It provides plug-and-play compatibility with IDE rotating disk drives. Table 2.5 describes the specifications for the card.

Table 2.5. PCMCIA Specifications

| Characteristic | Specification |
|--|--|
| Type | PCMCIA Type II |
| Electrical: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interface• Capacity | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATA True IDE Mode• 16MB, 32Mb, 85Mb |
| Physical: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Length• Width• Depth• Weight | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3.370 in (85.6mm)• 2.126 in (54.0 mm)• 0.1968 in (5.0 mm) Max• 1.52 oz. (43g) Max |
| Environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Temperature (operating)• Temperature (storage)• Vibration (operating)• Vibration (storage)• Shock | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• -25 C to +75 C• -40 C to +85 C• 15G peak-to-peak (max)• 15G peak-to-peak(max)• 1000G max |



When using a new PCMCIA card, make sure to reformat it within the receiver. This optimal formatting can be done through the “DELETE ALL” command under the “SESSIONS” menu of the front panel display, or by sending the \$PASHS,CLM command on one of the serial ports.



The PC card can be used inside the receiver without restrictions, over the receiver’s full operating and non-operating temperature range.

Battery/Charger

The Z-Xtreme uses a 10.8Vdc lithium-ion rechargeable battery, similar to the one shown in Figure 2.7.



Figure 2.7. Lithium-ion Battery

This battery has a push button on the top which indicates percent of power remaining. Table 2.6 lists percentage indicators and their corresponding power remaining.

Table 2.6. Battery Indications

| Indication | Power Remaining |
|------------|-----------------|
| Red 25 | <25% |
| Green 50 | <50% |
| Green 75 | <75% |
| Green 100 | <100% |



For a more accurate representation of the power remaining in an internal battery, use the front panel interface.

CAUTION

Operation of the battery above 50°C can cause leakage of hazardous materials as well as permanent damage to the battery.



Before using the battery for the first time, it needs a full charge followed by a full discharge and full charge again. This conditioning is necessary to ensure proper calibration of the power remaining in the battery.

Conditioning

When you charge your battery for the first time, your charger may indicate that charging is complete after just 10 to 15 minutes. This is normal and can happen with all rechargeable batteries when first charged. To condition a new battery, remove the battery and then repeat the charging procedure.



Unless conditioning is performed, the power remaining percentages given through the front panel and through the serial ports will be inaccurate.

CAUTION

Do not disassemble or attempt to open the battery under any circumstances. The battery can explode, leak or catch on fire if heated or exposed to fire or high temperatures. When discarding the battery, be sure to follow the battery manufacturer's disposal procedures. Do not short circuit the battery by directly connecting the metal terminals. Be certain that no metal objects such as coins, paper clips, etc., touch the terminals.

Upon first use, or after prolonged periods of storage, you need to completely charge and discharge your battery two or three times before obtaining optimum performance. It is best to charge the battery at room temperature between 59° F (15° C) and 85° F (30° C). It is normal for the battery to become warm during charging or after use. It is not necessary to fully discharge your battery before charging. You can top-off the charge at any time. A charged battery will gradually lose its charge if left in storage. Deep discharge of the battery causes permanent damage resulting in a shorter life.



Remove your battery from the receiver, charger, or AC adapter when not in use. Store at room temperature in a dry place.

The battery charger is a dual-slot, sequential smart charger for both dumb and smart battery applications. The input voltage is 24 Vdc. The AC/DC adapter delivers 24 Vdc for the charger from a power source 100-240 Vac. Figure 2.8 shows an internal battery placed in the battery charger.



Figure 2.8. Battery in Battery Charger with AC Adapter

Charging

Charging of an internal battery takes about four hours. Remove battery from receiver and place battery(s) in charger bay(s), plug charger into AC adapter, and then plug AC adapter into 100-240VAC, 3-prong AC source. The status lights on the charger indicate the following:

- Yellow—Standby
- Red—Charging
- Green—Charged
- Blinking Red - Error

 The charger and battery communicate capacity and charge level information. The charger will terminate the charge cycle when the calculated charge time has expired to protect the battery from being over-charged. The battery memory and the actual charge state of the battery do not match. The battery needs to be calibrated.

Calibration

The battery circuitry stores and communicates charge capacity and charge level information. The accuracy of the charge level indicator relative to the actual charge level of the battery will degrade over time. The charger supports the ability to calibrate the battery to the actual charge level. Calibration is a three-

step process. The first step charges the battery to capacity. The second step discharges the battery at a 1-A rate. The third step charges the battery to capacity. This process may take over 12 hours to complete. Calibrating the battery is recommended after 10 charge/discharge cycles. The status lights on the charger indicate the following:

- Blinking Yellow -- Calibrate mode is in progress
- Blinking Green -- Calibration completed

Disposition

Dispose of the internal batteries in accordance with manufacturer's directions. These batteries are recyclable.

Getting Started

This chapter describes receiver operations controllable through the front panel.

Memory Card

While you may use the Z-Xtreme without a memory card, one is required for internal data storage.

Installation

Perform the following steps to properly insert the PCMCIA card.

1. Orient the Z-Xtreme so that you are looking at the front panel.

2. Open the memory/battery door (Figure 3.1).



Figure 3.1. Memory/Battery Door

3. Orient the PCMCIA card so the arrow on the label is on the bottom side of the card and pointing towards the memory card slot.
4. Insert the card (side with insertion arrow face down) into the memory slot.
5. Slide the PCMCIA card all the way into the memory slot of the Z-Xtreme.

CAUTION

All PCMCIA cards are keyed so they only seat into the card connector one way. While this feature assists in the insertion of the card, it is possible to force the card into the connector improperly. Improper installation of the PCMCIA card may damage the Z-Xtreme.

6. Ensure the PCMCIA card properly seated.
7. Close and latch the memory/battery door.

Removal

Perform the following steps to remove the PCMCIA card.

1. Ensure recording has stopped (either issue a “stop session” through the front panel, or issue a \$PASHS,REC,S command, or turn the receiver off).
2. Orient the Z-Xtreme so that you are looking at the front panel.

3. Open the memory/battery door on the front of the Z-Xtreme.

CAUTION

Attempting to extract a PCMCIA card while the receiver is recording might result in loss of up to five minutes of recorded data. Disable data recording or power the receiver off prior to removing the card.



Whenever you stop data recording to insert a new PCMCIA card, data recording will resume as soon as the new card has been inserted, recognized as valid, and the system has verified there is enough memory to continue data recording.

4. Depress the PCMCIA ejection button to eject the card from its slot.
5. Grasp the PCMCIA card and remove it.
6. Close and latch the memory/battery door.

Internal Battery

Using the Z-Xtreme in a field environment requires a battery (internal and external models are available—the receiver will default to the external battery if it is connected). This section covers only the internal battery.

Installation

1. Orient the Z-Xtreme so that you are looking at the front panel.

2. Open the memory/battery door (Figure 3.2).



Figure 3.2. Installing an Internal Battery

3. Orient the battery so the connector is on the right side while pointing towards the battery bay.
4. Slide the battery into the battery slot until it seats into the battery connector.

CAUTION

The battery connector is keyed so it only seats into the battery bay connector one way. While this feature assists in the insertion of the battery, it is possible to force the battery into the bay improperly. Improper installation of the battery may damage the Z-Xtreme.

5. Close the memory/battery door.

CAUTION

Operation of the receiver on internal battery, with the radio or other peripheral device connected to the external 12V on the serial ports, will shorten battery life.

Avoid a deep discharge of the battery below 9V as permanent damage to the battery can result.

Removal

Perform the following steps to remove the battery from the Z-Xtreme.

1. Orient the Z-Xtreme so you are looking at the front panel.
2. Open the memory/battery door on the front of the Z-Xtreme.
3. Push the battery eject button. The battery will unseat from the battery connector.
4. Grasp and pull the battery pull-tab and remove the battery (Figure 3.3).



Figure 3.3. Removing an Internal Battery

5. Close the memory/battery door.

Hardware Setup

Perform the following steps before turning on the receiver:

1. Connect the antenna cable from the GPS antenna to the antenna connector on the rear of the receiver.
2. Verify that a memory card has been correctly inserted.
3. Ensure that a fully charged battery (internal or external) is connected to the receiver. If operating with an external battery, connect the battery to the PWR connector on the rear panel of the receiver.



The receiver is internally protected in case the battery connections are unintentionally reversed.

Applying Power

After your equipment has been properly cabled and a memory card correctly inserted, press the **On/Off** button to apply power.

Receiver Initialization

It is good practice to reset the receiver prior to operating it for the first time or when a system malfunction occurs. A reset of the internal memory clears the memory and restores the factory defaults. This reset does not affect data stored on the PCMCIA card.

- Front Panel

You can reset the receiver one of two ways:

- With the receiver powered off, hold down the **ENTER** button while depressing the power button.
- Performing a Memory Reset from the **SETTINGS** menu of the LED interface.
- Using Ports

Send this command to execute the initialization:

```
$PASHS,INI,5,5,5,5,1,0
```

For more information about this command, refer to the *Z-Xtreme Technical Reference Manual*.

PCMCIA Card

When using the PCMCIA card, be sure to reformat the card consistently (biweekly for receivers used regularly). Reformatting can be done through the **DELETE ALL** command under the **SESSIONS** menu of the front panel display or by sending `$PASHS,CLM` command to one of the serial ports. This allows the receiver to format the card using a special File Allocation Table algorithm that allows recovery of data from a corrupted card.

Monitoring

Monitoring via the Front Panel

Apply power to the receiver by pressing the **On/Off** button. The unit displays CHECK

and then the main menu:

SYSINFO

With this message displayed, press \uparrow for less than two seconds. Every time you press \uparrow , the unit displays a different main menu in the following order:

- SYSINFO
- SURVEY: mode
- SURVCONF
- SESSIONS
- SETTINGS

If the display is in one of the submenus and you press the \uparrow arrow button for more than two seconds, the display returns to the top level parent menu. The receiver can monitor activity while collecting data. The following paragraphs present step-by-step instructions regarding access to important receiver status information such as:

Satellite Tracking

Position

Remaining Memory

Remaining Power

Satellite Tracking

If you wish to monitor the satellites that the receiver is tracking, perform the following steps:

1. From the main menu, press $\uparrow < 2$ seconds until SURVEY: MODE is selected (mode can be static, kinematic, or RTK Base).
2. With SURVEY: MODE selected, press $\downarrow > 2$ seconds.
3. Within the SURVEY: MODE submenu, press $\uparrow < 2$ seconds repeatedly until STATUS appears on the screen.
4. With STATUS selected, press $\downarrow > 2$ seconds.
5. Within the STATUS submenu, press $\uparrow < 2$ seconds repeatedly until #USED:** appears on the screen.

Position

If you wish to view the current position of the receiver, perform the following steps:

1. From the main menu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds until SURVEY: MODE is selected.
2. With SURVEY: MODE selected, press \downarrow >2 seconds.
3. Within the SURVEY: MODE submenu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until STATUS appears on the screen.
4. With STATUS selected, press \downarrow >2 seconds.
5. Within the STATUS submenu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until
LAT:N/S**0**1**.******" LON:E/W**0**1**.******" ALT:*****.***
scrolls across the screen.

Remaining Memory

The receiver can check the amount of memory remaining on the PCMCIA card. To view the remaining memory, perform the following steps:

1. From the main menu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds until SYSINFO is selected.
2. With SYSINFO selected, press \downarrow >2 seconds.
3. Within the SYSINFO submenu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until
MEM:xxx%
appears on the screen.

Remaining Power

To view the remaining power of the internal battery, perform the following steps:

1. From the main menu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds until SYSINFO is selected.
2. With SYSINFO selected, press \downarrow >2 seconds.
3. Within the SYSINFO submenu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until
BAT:**MIN
is selected.

 This display, exclusively used for an internal battery, is only accurate when battery conditioning has been performed.

Monitoring via the Serial Ports

Receiver status may also be monitored through the serial ports. To communicate with the receiver via the serial ports, the receiver must be correctly connected to a PC running communication software such as Magellan's RCS or commercial PROCOMM. Set and query commands can then be sent to the receiver, and the receiver responds with data or status messages. Refer to the *Z-Xtreme Technical*

Reference Manual for more details about serial port communication and for command descriptions and formats. The following is a partial list of commands that return information on the receiver status.

Satellite Monitoring

The following commands return information on satellite tracking and status:

\$PASHQ,SAT
\$PASHQ,STA

Position

The following commands return information on the current receiver position:

\$PASHQ,POS
\$PASHQ,GGA

Available Memory

The following command will return information on the amount of available memory and the files stored on the PC card:

\$PASHQ,FLS

Remaining Power

The following command will return information amount of power remaining in the internal battery:

\$PASHQ,POW

Setting Receiver Parameters

You can find many of the receiver parameters accessible by the front panel. You can modify any of these parameters. Additional parameters can be set using the serial port commands (Refer to the *Z-Xtreme Technical Reference Manual*).

Saving Parameter Settings

Ordinarily, receiver parameters that have been changed will return to their default status after a power cycle. The receiver allows you to save changed receiver settings so they will be saved through a power cycle. Perform the following steps to save receiver settings:

1. From the main menu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until **SETTINGS** is selected.
2. With **SETTINGS** selected, press \downarrow >2 seconds.
3. Within the **SETTINGS** submenu, press \uparrow < 2 seconds repeatedly until **SAVE** is selected.
4. Press \downarrow <2 seconds and the message "Save settings?" is displayed.
5. Press **ENTER** <2 seconds to save the receiver settings.
6. Receiver displays "Done."

4

Operations

LED Display Interface

The LED interface allows you to monitor, query, and control several receiver surveying functions. All functions are organized in a menu tree which is accessed by using the up/down/enter buttons. Table 4.1 describes the basic functions of the up, down, and Enter buttons on the front panel.

Table 4.1. Control Buttons

| Mode | Button Combination | Function |
|---------|------------------------------|---|
| Display | ↑ arrow pressed <2 seconds | Scrolls through the submenu options |
| | ↑ arrow pressed >2 seconds | Returns display to upper level menu |
| | ↓ arrow pressed <2 seconds | Places display in edit mode |
| | ↓ arrow pressed >2 seconds | Sends display to lower level menu |
| | Enter key pressed <2 seconds | No action |
| | Enter key pressed >2 seconds | Cancel and exits. |
| Edit | ↑ arrow pressed <2 seconds | Scrolls display upward through available values |
| | ↑ arrow pressed >2 seconds | Scrolls display upward quickly |
| | ↓ arrow pressed <2 seconds | Scrolls display downward through available values |
| | ↓ arrow pressed >2 seconds | Scrolls display downward quickly |
| | Enter key pressed <2 seconds | Accepts parameter setting |
| | Enter key pressed >2 seconds | Cancel parameter setting |

If the display is inactive for more than 20 seconds, the display enters sleep mode to save power. Press any key to restore the display to its original state prior to sleep mode.

Menus

Figure 4.1 depicts the menu tree for the front panel display.

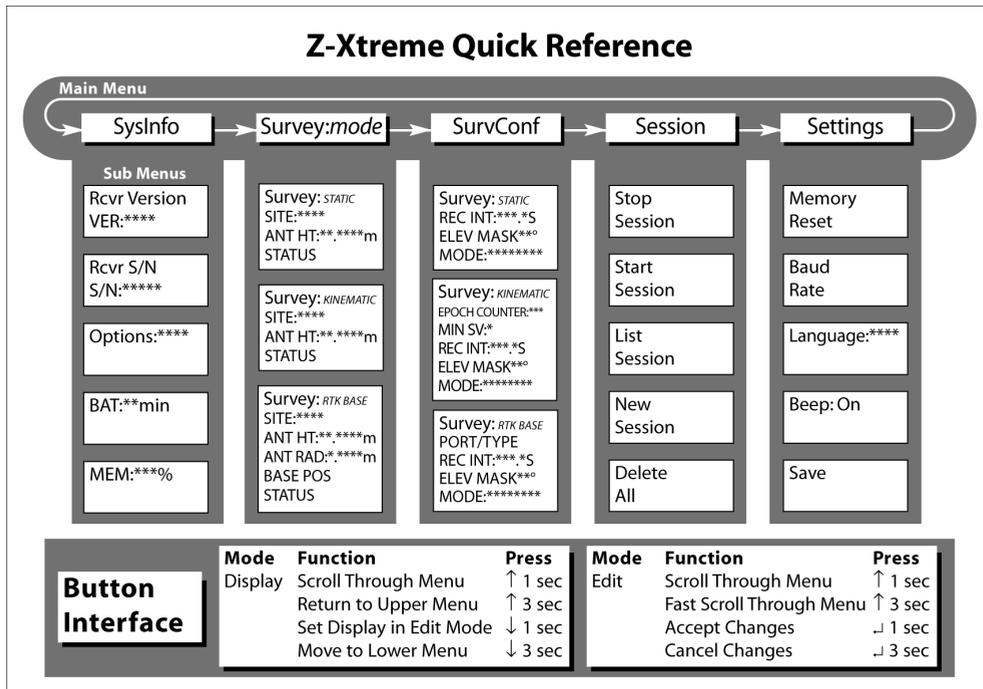


Figure 4.1. Display Menu Tree

Table 4.2 describes the five main menus.

Table 4.2. Main Menu Description

| Category | Menu Name | Description |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| System Information | SYSINFO | Information about the receiver |
| Survey parameters and status | SURVEY: <i>mode</i> | Parameters that may need to be changed several times per survey type and current status: Coordinate, time, and satellite information (mode dependent) |
| Survey configuration | SURVCONF | Operational settings users need to modify only once per survey type (mode dependent) |
| File management | SESSIONS | File management/data recording functions |
| Receiver control parameters | SETTINGS | Receiver settings that users can modify |

The following sections describe each menu. The text within the parentheses matches the text on the display.

System Information (SysInfo)

This menu lets you obtain basic receiver information such as serial number, options currently loaded, power and memory status, etc.

- **Receiver software version number (VER:****)**
Version of firmware installed within the receiver. Record this information in case you need to contact Customer Support.
- **Receiver serial number (S/N:*****)**
This is the serial number of the receiver. Record this information in case you need to contact Customer Support.
- **Options table (Options:*****)**
This string of letters/numbers represents the receiver options loaded in the

receiver (refer to Table 1.3). Record this information in case you need to contact Customer Support.

- **Power Status (BAT:**min)**

Indicates the amount of power left in the internal battery, expressed in remaining time (minutes) based on the current power consumption.

- **Memory Status (MEM:***%)**

Indicates the percentage of memory left on the PCMCIA card.

Receiver Status (Survey:mode)

This menu allows you to set receiver parameters and obtain basic receiver status such as current position, number of satellites locked, PDOP, current time, etc. dependent on the type of survey being conducted. There are three modes:

STATIC

KINEMATIC

RTK BASE

The display shows only the items that are significant for the mode selected. The mode is selected through the **SURVCONF** main menu.

STATIC Mode

- **SITE (SITE:****)**
Sets the four-character SITE name.
- **Antenna Height (ANT HT:**.****m)**
Sets the height of the GPS antenna
- **Survey Status (STATUS)**
STATUS is a submenu with the information described in Table 4.3.

Table 4.3. Survey Status Information

| Menu Item | Indication | Description |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Current Position | LAT:N/S**0**1** ***** LON:E/W**0**1** ***** ALT:****.***m | The position displayed is the autonomous position or the RTCM code differential position, but not the RTK or CPD position. |
| Position Dilution of Precision | PDOP: **.* | Displays PDOP of current constellation used for position solution. |
| #Satellites recorded (on L1 and L2) | #USED: ** | Number of satellites being recorded on PCMCIA card (healthy and above the recording elevation mask). |
| Time | CNT/GPS/UTC **:*** | Displays current time. Table 4.4 describes the different types of time the receiver can display. |

Table 4.4. Time Parameters

| Time | Description |
|------|---|
| CNT | Time of the receiver's internal clock. Displayed until receiver locks to first satellite. |
| GPS | Time displayed after receiver locks to first satellite. |
| UTC | Time displayed after receiver collects UTC corrections from satellite. |

KINEMATIC Mode

- **SITE (SITE:****)**
Sets the four character SITE name.
- **Epoch Log counter (LOG #:***)**
If the epoch counter in the SURVCONF menu has been set to a value other than 0 and the SITE has been entered (which must be done after you have set the antenna on the desired point), the display enters the LOG # screen and the log counter begins decrementing starting from the epoch

counter value (at the rate of the recording interval set in the SURVCONF menu).

- **Incremented SITE (Site:****?)**

Once the log counter reaches 0 (when enough epochs have been recorded for the current site), the receiver beeps and the B-file reverts to ????. The display automatically increments the SITE while waiting for the user to set up at the new point. You can then accept or reject the proposed SITE.

The SITE is automatically incremented only if the last character (on the right) is a number. When this number reaches 9, it rolls back to 0. If the character on the left is also a number, it gets incremented, and so on. The characters which are not incremented and the ones on the left of the first character which are not numbers, are ignored (the same SITE is used for the new point).



Even if all the SITE characters are letters, the display will still go to the accept/refuse menu. You will need to refuse before being able to enter a new SITE. If you accept, the same SITE will be used for the new point.

- **Antenna Height (ANT HT:**.****m)**

Sets the height of the GPS antenna

- **Survey Status (STATUS)**

STATUS is a submenu with information listed in Table 4.3.

RTK BASE Mode

- **SITE (SITE:****)**

Sets the four-character SITE name.

- **Antenna Height (ANT HT:**.****m)**

Sets the height of the GPS antenna

- **Antenna Radius (ANT RAD:* .****m)**

Sets the radius of the GPS antenna.

- **Base Position (BASE POS) (submenu)**

The base position is associated with the following information:

- **Latitude (LAT:N/S**0**'**. *****)**

- **Longitude (LON:E/W***0**'**. *****)**

- **Altitude (ALT:****. **m)**

- **Set to current position (HERE)**

Sets the base position to the position currently computed by the receiver (the stand-alone position).

- **Survey Status (STATUS)**

STATUS is a submenu with information listed in Table 4.3.

Survey Configuration (SURVCONF)

This menu lets you set or change the display item while conducting specific surveys, dependent on the type of survey being conducted (e.g. the epoch counter in kinematic mode). There are three modes:

STATIC

KINEMATIC

RTK BASE

The display shows only the items that are significant for the mode selected.

STATIC Mode

- **Recording Interval (REC INT:***.s)**

Table 4.5 lists the values for which you can set the second and subsecond recording intervals.

Table 4.5. Selectable Recording Intervals

| Subsecond | Second * |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| 1.0 † | 1 |
| 0.2 | 2 |
| 0.3 | 3 |
| 0.4 | 4 |
| 0.5 | 5 |
| 0.6 | 6 |
| N/A ‡ | 7 |
| 0.8 | 8 |
| 0.9 | 9—999 (default is 20) |

*Only integer number of seconds are allowed (e.g. 1.5 is rejected).
†Only accepted if the fast output option is enabled (F option).
‡0.7 is not accepted because the resulting time tag will not be aligned with the GPS hour.

- **Recording Elevation Mask (ELEV MASK**0)**

Data from satellites under the elevation mask will not be recorded to the PCMCIA card.

- **Display Mode (MODE:***** STATIC/KINEMATIC/RTK BASE)**

Receiver displays the parameters relevant to the survey mode selected.

KINEMATIC Mode

- **Epoch Counter (EPOCH COUNTER:***)**

Number of epochs to record on each point.

- **Minimum SV required for Kinematic Operation (MIN SV:*)**

Receiver beeps indicating there are not enough satellites to continue a kinematic survey; independent from the minimum number of SVs required to record any data.

- **Recording Interval (REC INT:***.s)**

Refer to Table 4.5 for information on available recording intervals.

- **Recording Elevation Mask (ELEV MASK**0)**
Data from satellites under the elevation mask will not be recorded to the PCMCIA card.
- **Display Mode (MODE:***** STATIC/KINEMATIC/RTK BASE)**
Receiver displays the parameters relevant to survey mode selected.

RTK BASE Mode

- **Base Port and Data Type (PORT/TYPE) submenu**
This submenu displays/sets the RTK data type sent by the RTK Base on each of the four ports available.

Table 4.6 lists the possible data types.

Table 4.6. Selectable Data Types

| Data Type | Description |
|-----------|--|
| DBEN | Ashtech RTK base compact binary format |
| RTCM | RTCM type 18/19 and 3/22 are enabled |
| OFF | No RTK base data sent on that port |

- **Recording Interval (REC INT:***. *s)**
Refer to Table 4.5 for information on available recording intervals.
- **Recording Elevation Mask (ELEV MASK**0)**
Data from satellites under the elevation mask will not be recorded to the PCMCIA card.
- **Display Mode (MODE:***** STATIC/KINEMATIC/RTK BASE)**
Receiver displays the parameters relevant to survey mode selected.

Data Recording (Sessions)

This menu lets you control the data recording sessions.

- **Stop Session**
Closes the session and stops recording (this function is performed automatically when the receiver is powered off). This command must be entered prior to extracting the PCMCIA card if the receiver is recording data. Failure to do so may cause loss of data and card corruption.
- **Start Session**
Opens session and begins recording (the action is performed automatically when inserting a new PCMCIA card or applying power to the

receiver). This command must be entered if a session was stopped and the PCMCIA card was not removed.

- **List Sessions**

Lists all of the data recording sessions on the PCMCIA card in the order of recording up to 100. If the data recording sessions exceed 100, the receiver lists the first 99 as well as the most recent session. If in the "edit" mode (i.e., the ↓ button was pressed for <2 seconds), the receiver deletes the session. Pressing "enter" (i.e., pressing the enter button <2 seconds)

confirms the deletion while pressing “cancel” (i.e., pressing the enter button >2 seconds) cancels the deletion.

- **New Session**
Closes current data file and opens a new one (data recording does not stop during this operation).
- **Delete all**
Deletes all data on the PC card by formatting the FAT directory area.

Miscellaneous Parameter (Settings)

These are receiver settings that you are able to set.

- **Memory Reset**
Resets internal memory and user parameters back to default (does not affect PC card).
- **Baud Rate**
Displays the baud rate submenu allowing you to select a baud rate for each port. Default is 9600. The selectable baud rates include:
 - 300
 - 600
 - 1200
 - 2400
 - 4800
 - 9600
 - 19200
 - 38400
 - 57600
 - 115200
- **Language**
Allows you to select the language of the screen messages. Table 4.7 lists the available languages.

Table 4.7. Selectable Languages

| Language | Display |
|----------|----------|
| English | ENGLISH |
| French | FRANCAIS |
| German | DEUTSCH |
| Italian | ITALIANO |
| Spanish | ESPANOL |



If warnings were generated before changing the language, they will remain in the original language even after the language is changed. Only new warnings will be displayed in the selected language.

- **Beep**
Allows you to turn the beeper on or off (default is on).
- **Save**
Saves the current values of the user parameters to the battery backed-up memory so they can be restored when powering the receiver back on.

Warning Messages

The receiver checks a number of conditions that are of interest to the user. Whenever one of these conditions is true, the display is interrupted to show a message, called a warning, stating what the condition is. The warning message flashes to distinguish it from a regular menu, and the beep comes on for 1 second every 10 seconds (unless disabled). When you have acknowledged the warning (by pressing any key), the display returns to whatever it was displaying before being interrupted, and the beep stops. At times, the receiver can generate several warnings at once. In this case, the receiver displays the highest priority warning until it is acknowledged. The receiver then displays the remaining warnings in sequence, according to their priority.

Table 4.8 describes the possible warnings the receiver may issue.

Table 4.8. Front Panel Warnings

| Warning | Description | Action |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Int. Battery Error : SMBus | The SMBus controller (for the internal battery communication) is not working | Remove battery and reinsert it. If problem persists, insert a different battery. If problem still persists, contact customer support. |
| Int. Battery Error : Access | Can't access the internal battery | Remove battery and reinsert it. If problem persists, insert a different battery. If problem still persists, contact customer support. |
| Battery Conditioning Required | Internal battery efficiency is down, it requires a conditioning cycle. | Perform battery reconditioning (depends on the battery, but typically means full charge, full discharge and full charge again) |
| Low Int. Battery: < 10 min | Internal battery remaining life is < 10 min, the battery needs to be changed | Replace battery with a charged one. |

Table 4.8. Front Panel Warnings (Continued)

| Warning | Description | Action |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Low Ext. Battery : < 30 min | External battery remaining life is < 30 min, the battery needs to be changed. This is only available if you have entered the parameters of the external battery via the \$PASHS,POW command. | Replace battery with a charged one. |
| †Memory Test Error : RAM | RAM error | Perform a receiver initialization. If problem persists, contact customer support. |
| †Memory Test Error : BBRAM | Battery backed | Perform a receiver initialization. If problem persists, contact customer support. |
| †Memory Test Error : ROM | ROM, i.e. Flash | Perform a receiver initialization. If problem persists, contact customer support. |
| †Memory Test Error : BOOT | Boot section of the flash | Perform a receiver initialization. If problem persists, contact customer support. |
| No Data Card Detected | There is no card in the PCMCIA drive or it cannot be detected; no recording will be done | Insert or reinsert data card in slot. |
| Data Card Full | No space left on the PC card, therefore data recording is stopped | Replace current data card with a card containing available memory, or delete some older sessions. |
| †Data Card Full <5 min | Not enough space on the PC card to record more than five minutes of data under current conditions (satellite number, recording period, output information). | Replace data card with one containing available memory or delete older sessions. |
| Data Card Error : Access | Can't read or write to the PC card | Power cycle the receiver. If problem persists, issue command \$PASHS,CLM (card will be reformatted and all data erased, so download data prior to issuing the CLM command). If problem persists, replace the PC card. |
| Data Card Error : Update | Can't update the FAT (file allocation table) | Power cycle the receiver. If problem persists, issue command \$PASHS,CLM (card will be reformatted and all data erased, so download data prior to issuing the CLM command). If problem persists, replace the PC card. |
| Data Card Error : Create | Can't create the files for new session, can not record data | Power cycle the receiver. If problem persists, issue command \$PASHS,CLM (card will be reformatted and all data erased, so download data prior to issuing the CLM command). If problem persists, replace the PC card. |

Table 4.8. Front Panel Warnings (Continued)

| Warning | Description | Action |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Data Card Error : Rename | Can't rename the files of session | Power cycle the receiver. If problem persists, issue command \$PASHS,CLM (card will be reformatted and all data erased, so download data prior to issuing the CLM command). If the problem persists, replace the PC card. |
| Data Card Error: Corrupted FAT | File Allocation Table on PCMCIA card has been corrupted and could not be recovered by the receiver. | Issue command \$PASHS,CLM to reformat the card. If critical data is on the PC card, call Customer Support before issuing the CLM command to recover data. |
| Not Receiving Base Data | Not receiving RTK Carrier Phase measurements from the base receiver | Check serial/radio link with the base. Ensure base is computing a position. Ensure a valid position was entered into the base. |
| Not Receiving RTCM Base Data | Not receiving RTCM code phase corrections from the base receiver | Check serial/radio link with the base. Ensure a valid position was entered in the base. Verify that base is computing a position. |
| Bad Base Coordinates | The position entered in the base receiver for CPD operation is not correct (too far from computed position) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Base position was entered wrong on the rover side. Reenter it. • The mode in the base receiver was set to not send BPS, set base to send BPS (\$PASHS, CPD,UBP,1). • If rover is in "entered base station" (\$PASH,CPD,UBP,O). Enter the base position in the rover via \$PASHS,BPS,POS. • If rover is in "receiver base position" mode (default or \$PASHS,CPD,UBP,1), check link with base. • Make sure the base sends base coordinates (\$PASHS,BPS,PER,O) |
| Bad RTCM Base Position | The position entered in the base receiver for RTCM code operation is not correct (too far from computed position) | Enter correct base position. |
| †‡Not Enough Satellites | Tracking fewer than the minimum number of satellites required for kinematic survey | The kinematic survey must be reinitialized on last point. |
| Low Backup Battery | The battery powering the non-volatile memory and the real-time clock is low and needs to be changed | Contact Customer Support. Back-up battery must be replaced. |
| Antenna Overload | Antenna installation problems, i.e. the setup is drawing more than 150 milliamps (short on antenna cable or LNA drawing too much current) | Check antenna connection for bad cable or bad LNA. |

Table 4.8. Front Panel Warnings (Continued)

| Warning | Description | Action |
|---|--|--|
| No Antenna Detected | Does not sense any antenna: WARNING, this will be the case if a DC block is installed somewhere between the receiver and the antenna | Check antenna connection for bad cable or bad LNA. There may be another receiver connected to the same antenna with no DC block, or this receiver is connected to the antenna via a DC block. |
| MODEM Communication Error | Cannot communicate with the modem | Check serial connection to the modem. Check power on modem. Check baud rate of modem-it should match baud rate of receiver. Reinitialize modem. |
| MODEM Initialization Error | Cannot initialize the modem | Check serial connection to the modem. Check power on modem. Check baud rate of modem-it should match baud rate of receiver. Reinitialize modem. |
| High Receiver Temperature | Inside receiver temperature > 80 deg Celsius: the receiver will turn off automatically at 82 deg Celsius (this message might be seen when the external ambient temperature is >55 degrees Celsius) | Shield the receiver from the sun. Increase air flow around receiver. NOTE: If the receiver's temperature is still going up, the receiver automatically switches to the sleep mode, in reduced power consumption mode as a safety measure. To recover, cycle the Power, after having eliminated the source of overheating. |
| Download in Progress | Receiver is currently downloading data from the PCMCIA card to a PC. No session management operations can be conducted at this time. | Wait for Download to complete operation before performing the command. If Download is not running, run Download again, perform proper shutdown routine. Do not disconnect serial link to PC before exiting Download. |
| † Indicates warning is permanent (the warning will NOT go away if the condition disappears, but only if it is acknowledged). ‡ Indicates error will only display if antenna is present | | |

Data Recording

Reformatting the PC Card

PC cards are normally pre-formatted. If the card is not pre-formatted, it may be formatted through a PCMCIA drive in the PC, using the DOS format command. In addition, prior to initial use in the receiver, the PC card must be reformatted inside the receiver using the \$PASHS,CLM (clear external memory) command. This allows the receiver to optimally format the card using a special File Allocation Table

(FAT) algorithm. PC cards should also be reformatted regularly (bi-weekly for receivers in constant use) inside the receiver to ensure minimum fragmentation of the card.

The receiver can reformat the card using one of two methods:

- Via the serial command \$PASHS,CLM, which formats all tracks in the card. This includes the FAT area, directory area, and data area. This process, requiring approximately 5 seconds per MB, is the optimum and recommended method.
- Via the serial command \$PASHS,FIL,D,999, or via the DELETE ALL option under the SESSION menu from the front panel display, which formats only the FAT and directory areas. The data area is not physically cleared. This process takes one or two seconds, and is independent of the card size.

PCMCIA File Structure and File Names

The PC card is formatted as a standard DOS drive and can be accessed using any DOS-compatible computer with a PCMCIA card drive. The receiver stores files in the root directory and it creates a single file per session. Sessions are created after:

- cycling the receiver power
- by selecting the NEW SESSION option in the SESSIONS menu of the front panel display
- issuing the \$PASHS,FIL,C command
- by selecting the STOP/START option in the SESSIONS menu of the front panel display
- issuing the \$PASHS,REC,S/R command

Although the receiver is capable of creating a number of different records that cover a wide variety of information, the session file, called the U-file, contains all available types of data records (almanac records, ephemeris records, raw data records, position records, site information records, site attribute records, event marker records). The U-file is decoded into different files during the download process. See “*Downloading Data*” on page 48 for more information.

The U-file is automatically named according to a naming convention that includes the site name, session, and day of the year. Figure 4.2 outlines the file naming convention.

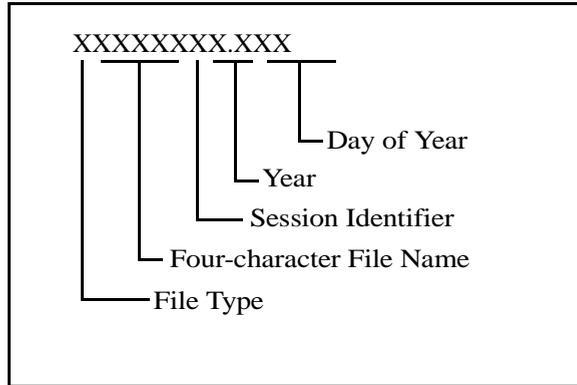


Figure 4.2. File Naming Convention

- The first letter is the file type.
- The next four characters indicate the site information. If you have not entered a site, then these four characters are replaced by underscores ("_____"). If you have not entered a site during the course of the session, the last site information entered in the previous session is used. If the site has been entered several times during the course of the session, the last entered site information is used.
- The next character is the session identifier. This field automatically increments from A with each new session, ending with Z. After 26 sessions are created, the session identifier resets to A, and the first character of the

year changes to A. Then, once again the session identifier increments one letter with each new session.

- The next two characters indicate the last two digits of the year when the session was terminated (e.g., 00).
- The file extension indicates the day of the year when the session was terminated (e.g. Jan. 1 is day 001; Dec. 31 is day 365).

Data Modes

The receiver can record data in three different modes, called data modes or data types. Each mode records different combinations of data records and can only be changed using the serial port command \$PASHS,RNG. Table 4.9 describes these modes. The default is mode 0.

Table 4.9. Z-Family Recording Modes

| Recording Mode | Typical Application | Records Created | File Type After Conversion |
|----------------|---|---|---|
| 0 | Raw data, full code and carrier phase | Raw data records Ephemeris records Session Information records Almanac records | B-file E-file S-file ALMyy.ddd |
| 2 | Position data only | Position records Session information records Almanac records | C-file S-file ALMyy.ddd |
| 4 | Raw data, full code and carrier phase, position data file | Raw data records Position records Ephemeris records Session Information records Almanac records | B-file C-file E-file S-file ALMyy.ddd |

Downloading Data

GPS data stored on the PC card can be transferred to a computer for post-processing using three different methods. In all cases, the **Download** program is required.

- Data can be downloaded directly through one of the serial ports on the receiver into any destination directory in the PC. **Download** handles the

protocol required to transfer data from the receiver via the serial port into the PC.

- With the PC card installed in a PCMCIA card drive, data can be downloaded from the PCMCIA drive into any destination directory in the PC.
- The PC card is a standard DOS storage device, therefore files can be transferred directly from the PC card in a PC card reading drive to a computer using the standard DOS commands or the Windows file manager. Then files need to be downloaded from the source directory (C:\Data) into any destination directory in the PC.



Files copied from the PC card reader into the computer are in a compressed format and will NOT be usable until downloaded using the Download software.

When transferring PC data from the receiver or the PCMCIA drive into the PC, **Download** reads the U-files records from the PC card and converts them into different data files, creating one set of data files per each session. Data files are named using the U-file name for that session, however the first letter corresponds to the file type. The one exception is the almanac file, which is named ALMyy.ddd where yy represents the last two digits of the year and ddd represents the day of the year. Table 4.10 lists the file types.

Table 4.10. File Types

| File Type | Description | Format |
|-----------|---|--------|
| B-file | Generated from raw data - generally code and carrier phase data | Binary |
| E-file | Generated from satellite ephemeris data | Binary |
| S-file | Generated from site information data | ASCII |
| C-file | Generated from position data | ASCII |
| M-file | Generated from event marker files (photogrammetry) | ASCII |
| D-file | Generated from site attribute files | ASCII |
| ALMyy.ddd | Generated from almanac data | Binary |

Index

Symbols

\$PASHQ,FLS, 29
\$PASHQ,FLS,0, 3
\$PASHQ,GGA, 29
\$PASHQ,POS, 29
\$PASHQ,POW, 29
\$PASHQ,RID, 6
\$PASHQ,SAT, 29
\$PASHQ,STA, 29
\$PASHR,RID, 6
\$PASHS,CPD,UBP, 44
\$PASHS,BPS,PER, 44
\$PASHS,BPS,POS, 44
\$PASHS,CLM, 16, 26, 43, 44, 45, 46
\$PASHS,FIL,C, 46
\$PASHS,FIL,D,999, 46
\$PASHS,INI, 26
\$PASHS,POW, 43
\$PASHS,PPO, 7
\$PASHS,REC,S, 22
\$PASHS,REC,S/R, 46
\$PASHS,RNG, 48
????, 36

Numerics

1227 MHz, 2, 3, 12

1575 MHz, 2, 3, 12
1PPS, 4, 12

A

accuracy, 2
adverse satellite visibility, 1
all-in-view operation, 3
almanac, 48
almanac data, 3, 49
almanac file, 49
antenna connector, 4
antenna power cable, 3
Anti-Spoofing, 1
AS, 1, 3
ASCII, 49
Ashtech format, 39
ATA, 15

B

backed-up memory, 42
base (reference) station, 2
base station, 2
battery calibration, 17
battery damage, 17
B-file, 36, 48
binary, 49

Block I, 3
Block II, 3

C

C/A, 2, 3
CA code, 7
card corruption, 26, 39
carrier phase, 2, 3, 8, 48
carrier phase differential, 8
C-file, 48, 49
clear external memory, 45
close current data file, 41
Coarse/Acquisition, 2
code/carrier, 2
code-phase, 2
compressed format, 49
compute differential, 8
continuous operation, 2
controller software, 2
CORS, 2
current position, 34
current time, 34

D

data capacity, 3
data card full, 10
data collectors, 2
data modes, 48
data storage, 4
data types, 48
day of year, 48
DBEN, 8, 39
DC block, 12, 45
default settings, 41
default status, 30
destination directory, 48
D-file, 49
differential data, 8
DOS commands, 49
DOS format command, 45

download files, 49

E

edit mode, 40
E-file, 48, 49
EMI, 13
entered position, 44
ephemeris, 48
ephemeris data, 3, 49
ephemeris records, 46
epoch counter, 35
event marker, 4, 49
event marker records, 46
event times, 7
external clock, 7
external frequency input, 7
external power, 2

F

factory defaults, 26
FAT, 41, 43, 46
file extension, 48
file types, 49
firmware version, 33
Fischer, 4, 13
fragmentation, 46
full code, 48

G

GIS, 2

H

hand-held computer, 12
handshaking, 12
hazardous materials, 17

I

I/O ports, 3
 ICD-GPS-200, 3
 IDE, 15
 initialization, 3
 initialize modem, 45
 internal memory, 2, 41
 internal oscillator, 7
 internal radio link, 3

J

J option, 6

K

kinematic, 2

L

L1, 2, 7
 L2, 2, 7
 L-band antenna, 2
 lithium-ion, 16
 LNA, 2, 3, 12, 44, 45
 loss of data, 39
 low-noise amplifier, 2

M

memory activity, 10
 memory card, 10
 memory left, 34
 memory status, 33
 message types, 6
 M-file, 49
 MIL-STD-810E, 4
 modem, 7, 11

N

new session, 47
 NMEA message, 7
 non-volatile memory, 3

O

observables, 8
 options, 6
 options loaded, 33
 overheating, 45

P

PCMCIA, 15, 26, 38, 40, 45, 49
 P-code, 3, 7
 PDOP, 34
 point positioning mode, 7
 position data, 49
 position records, 46, 48
 post-processing, 2, 48
 power remaining, 16
 power requirement, 2
 power status, 33
 Precise (P) code, 2
 pseudo-range, 3

R

rapid static, 2
 raw data, 48, 49
 raw data records, 46
 raw position data, 7
 real-time, 8
 real-time code, 2
 real-time differential, 2
 real-time kinematic, 2
 real-time position, 2
 receiver temperature, 45
 recording interval, 3, 36

recovery of data, 26
reformat, 26
reformat PCMCIA, 16, 26
remaining time, 34
remote (rover) station, 2
remote location, 7
reset receiver, 26
response message, 6
RF port, 3
rover, 2
RS-232, 3, 4, 12
RTCM, 8, 39, 44
RTCM differential, 2
RTCM SC 104 V2.2, 2
RTCM-104, 6
RTK, 2
RTK base data, 39

S

satellites locked, 34
save receiver settings, 30
scientific monitoring, 2
searching for space vehicles, 3
self-test, 3
serial number, 33
serial port commands, 29
session file, 46
session identifier, 47
session information, 48
set antenna, 35
S-file, 48, 49
site attribute files, 49
site attribute records, 46
site information data, 49
site information records, 46
sleep mode, 32
spread spectrum, 11
spread spectrum radio, 2
stand-alone, 2
static, 2
synchronize receiver data, 7
SYSINFO, 3, 6

T

third-party software, 2
time, 3
time measurements, 2
TNC, 11
transferring data, 12
trigger signal, 7
TTT, 7
two-way communication, 3

U

U-file, 46, 49
UHF/SS radio, 10
user parameters, 41, 42
UTC, 35

V

velocity, 2
verify memory, 3
voltage input range, 13

Z

Z base station, 8
Z-Tracking, 1, 3