

TT21 and TT22 Mode S Transponder Operating Manual



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Front Panel



Display

The display shows the operating mode of the transponder, the reported pressure altitude, and the current squawk code and Flight ID. The reply indicator is active when the transponder replies to interrogations.

The pressure altitude is displayed as a Flight Level, which is the pressure altitude in hundreds of feet. When non-standard atmospheric conditions apply, this may not match the altimeter indicated altitude, but will be correctly displayed by the ATC radar.

Mode Selector Knob

The left hand knob controls the power to the transponder and the operating mode.

- OFF Power is removed from the transponder.
- SBY The transponder is on, but will not reply to any interrogations.
- GND The transponder will respond to Mode S ground interrogations from surface movement radar.
- ON The transponder will respond to all interrogations, but altitude reporting is suppressed.
- ALT The transponder will respond to all interrogations.

When airborne, the transponder should always be set to ALT unless otherwise directed by Air Traffic Control. When you are taxiing on the ground, the transponder should be set to GND unless your installation

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includes a gear squat switch. Aircraft installations that include a gear squat switch will automatically select GND on landing.

Push Buttons

- IDT Press the IDT button when ATC instructs you to "Ident" or "Squawk Ident". This activates the SPI pulse in the transponder replies for 18 seconds. IDT will appear in the display.
- FN Pressing the FUNC button provides access to changing the Flight ID.
- VFR Pressing the VFR button sets the transponder to the preprogrammed conspicuity code. Pressing the button again restores the previous squawk code.
- ENT The ENT button enters a digit in the code selector.

Code Selector Knob

The right hand knob is used to set squawk codes and the Flight ID. The FN button selects which will be updated. Turning the knob will highlight the first digit on the display, and the digit can be changed as required. Press the ENT button to advance to the next digit. When ENT is pressed on the last digit, the new squawk code or Flight ID will replace the previous value. If the code entry is not completed within 7 seconds, the changes are ignored and the previous code restored.

- 1200 VFR code in the USA
- 7000 VFR code commonly used in Europe.
- 7500 Hijack code
- 7600 Loss of communications
- 7700 Emergency code

The Flight ID should correspond to the aircraft call sign entered on your flight plan. If no flight plan is active, the aircraft registration should be used as your Flight ID. Use only letters and digits. If the Flight ID is less than 8 characters long, entering a blank character will end it.

Altitude Encoder Warm Up

The built in altitude encoder uses a sensor that is temperature dependent. A small internal heater circuit keeps the sensor at the correct temperature. When the ambient temperature is below 0C there may be a delay between switching on the transponder and seeing an altitude reported. In very cold weather this delay can be several minutes. You should always switch on the transponder

(usually to GND mode) before taxiing to the runway, to ensure that the sensor is operating before you become airborne.

General Low Temperature Operation

The transponder is certified to operate correctly down to -25C, but at low temperatures the display may be impaired. On a cold day you may need to wait for the cockpit to warm up to ensure normal operation.

Warning Messages

If the transponder detects a problem, the screen will indicate WARNING and a brief statement of the problem. Depending on the nature of the problem, your transponder may not be replying to interrogations. Note the message on the screen and pass that information to your avionics maintenance organisation. Press ENT to clear the message; if the fault is still present the message will reappear.

Fault Annunciation

If the transponder detects a catastrophic internal failure, the screen will indicate FAULT and a brief statement of the problem. No replies will be made to interrogations when a fault has been detected. Some FAULT indications can be recovered by switching the transponder off and back on again, although in all cases a FAULT code implies that there is a fault with the transponder or the installation. Note the FAULT message at the bottom of the screen and pass that information to your avionics maintenance organisation.

Configuration Mode

The system is configured when it is first installed by your avionics supplier. Configuration items include the Mode S aircraft address, the interface to the other aircraft systems, the aircraft category, and the pre-programmed values for VFR squawk code. To view or change these settings you must use Configuration Mode.

Do not use Configuration Mode in flight. Check with your avionics installer before changing the configuration.

To enter configuration mode, hold down the FN button whilst switching on the transponder. Configuration items can be changed using the Code Knob and the ENT button. Pressing FN advances to the next configuration item.

When configuration is complete, switch the transponder off. When it is switched back on the transponder will use the new configuration.

The configuration data is stored in the controller unit, not in the remote transponder. In the event that you have exchanged the remote transponder unit, but have not changed the controller, no further configuration will be required. If you change the controller unit in an aircraft, you must re-program all the configuration data as described above.