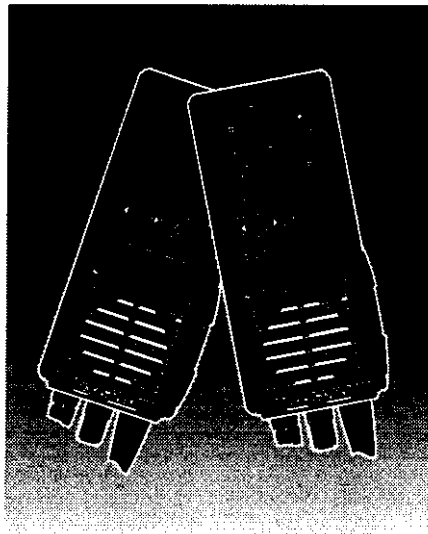


KENWOOD CORPORATION  
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09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00

VHF FM TRANSCEIVER  
**TK-280**  
UHF FM TRANSCEIVER  
**TK-380**



INSTRUCTION MANUAL

# KENWOOD



98.12.16.15:08

98.12.16.15:08

**WARNING:**  
**EXPLOSIVE ATMOSPHERES (GASES, DUST, FUMES, etc.)**  
 Turn off your transceiver while taking on fuel, or while parked in gasoline service stations.

**SAFETY:** It is important that the operator is aware of and understands hazards common to the operation of any transceiver.

- ◆ **GOVERNMENT LAW PROHIBITS THE OPERATION OF UNLICENSED RADIO TRANSMITTERS WITHIN THE TERRITORIES UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL.**
- ◆ **ILLEGAL OPERATION IS PUNISHABLE BY FINE OR IMPRISONMENT OR BOTH.**
- ◆ **REFER SERVICE TO QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS ONLY.**

## NOTICES TO THE USER

- TK-380: UHF FM Transceiver
- TK-280: VHF FM Transceiver

## MODELS COVERED BY THIS MANUAL

We are grateful you chose **KENWOOD** for your land mobile radio applications. We believe this easy-to-use transceiver will provide dependable communications to keep personnel operating at peak efficiency.

**KENWOOD** transceivers incorporate the latest in advanced technology. As a result, we feel strongly that you will be pleased with the quality and features of this product.

**THANK YOU**

One or more of the following statements may be applicable:

**FCC WARNING**

This equipment generates or uses radio frequency energy. Changes or modifications to this equipment may cause harmful interference unless the modifications are expressly approved in the instruction manual. The user could lose the authority to operate this equipment if an unauthorized change or modification is made.

**INFORMATION TO THE DIGITAL DEVICE USER REQUIRED BY THE FCC**

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation.

This equipment generates, uses and can generate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that the interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment to an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer for technical assistance.



**ATTENTION (U.S.A. only):**  
Nickel-cadmium batteries must be recycled or disposed of properly. State laws vary regarding the handling and disposal of nickel-cadmium batteries.  
Please contact your authorized **KENWOOD** dealer for more information.

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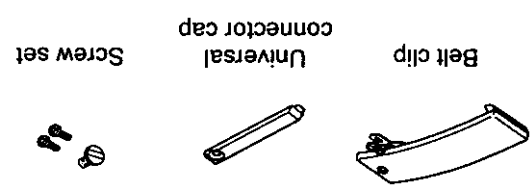
UNPACKING AND CHECKING EQUIPMENT

**Note:** The following unpacking instructions are for use by your KENWOOD dealer, an authorized KENWOOD service facility, or the factory.

Carefully unpack the transceiver. We recommend that you identify the items listed in the following table before discarding the packing material. If any items are missing or have been damaged during shipment, file a claim with the carrier immediately.

■ Supplied Accessories

| Item                    | Part Number | Quantity |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|
| Belt clip               | J29-0618-XX | 1        |
| Universal connector cap | B09-0363-XX | 1        |
| Screw set               | N99-2004-XX | 1        |
| Warranty card           | —           | 1        |
| Instruction manual      | B62-0967-XX | 1        |



## PREPARATION

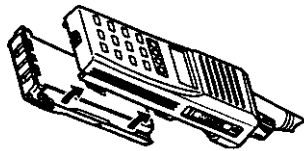
### ■ Installing/Removing the (Optional) NiCd Battery Pack

#### CAUTION:

- ◆ DO NOT RECHARGE THE BATTERY PACK IF IT IS ALREADY FULLY CHARGED. DOING SO MAY CAUSE THE LIFE OF THE BATTERY PACK TO SHORTEN OR THE BATTERY PACK MAY BE DAMAGED.
- ◆ AFTER RECHARGING THE BATTERY PACK, DISCONNECT IT FROM THE CHARGER. IF THE CHARGER POWER IS RESET (TURNED ON AFTER BEING TURNED OFF), RECHARGING WILL START AGAIN AND THE BATTERY PACK WILL BECOME OVERCHARGED.
- ◆ DO NOT SHORT THE BATTERY TERMINALS OR DISPOSE OF THE BATTERY BY FIRE.
- ◆ NEVER ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE CASING FROM THE BATTERY PACK.

#### 1 Match the four grooves

of the battery pack with the corresponding guides on the back of the transceiver.

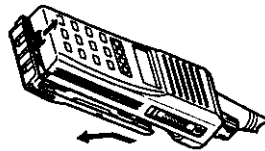


#### 2 Slide the battery pack

along the back of the transceiver until the release latch on the base of the transceiver locks.

#### 3

To remove the battery pack, pull back on the release latch and slide the pack away from the transceiver.

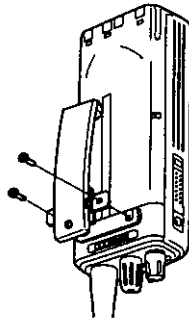


3



If necessary, attach the belt clip using the two supplied 3 x 6 mm screws.

**Note:** If the belt clip is not installed, its mounting location may get hot during continuous transmission or when left sitting in a hot environment.



### ■ Installing the Belt Clip

Screw the antenna into the connector on the top of the transceiver by holding the antenna at its base and turning it clockwise until secure.

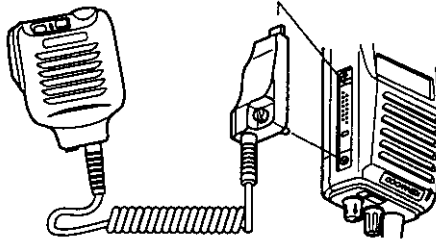


### ■ Installing the (Optional) Antenna

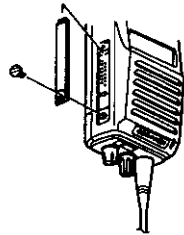


■ ■ ■ 4 ■ ■ ■

- 2 Secure the connector in place using the attached screw.



- 1 Insert the guide of the speaker/microphone connector into the groove of the universal connector.
- Installing the (Optional KMC-25) Speaker/Microphone

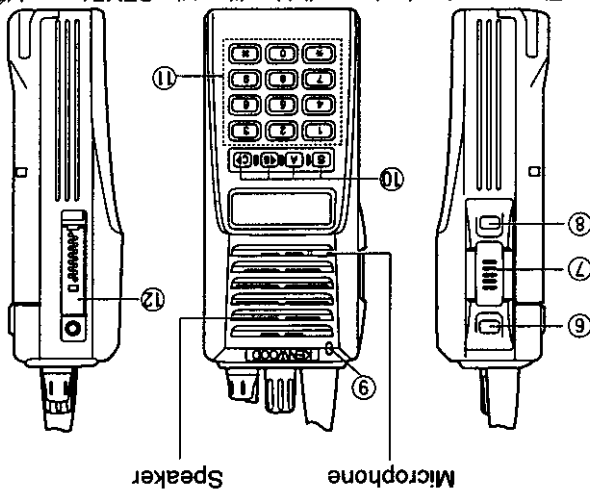
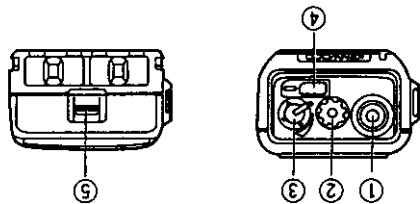


- Installing the Cover over the Universal Connector

If you are not using the optional KMC-25 speaker/microphone, install the cover over the universal connector using the supplied 4 x 6 mm screw.



## GETTING ACQUAINTED



**Note:** The transceiver is also available without the DTMF keypad (11).

### ① Antenna connector

Connect an (optional) antenna here.

### ② Rotary encoder

Rotate this encoder to activate its programmable function. (System or Group Up/ Down in Trunking Format, and Group or Channel Up/ Down in Conventional Format.) For further details, contact your dealer.

**③ POWER switch/ VOLUME control**  
Turn clockwise to switch ON the transceiver. Rotate to adjust the volume. Turn counterclockwise fully to switch OFF the transceiver.

**④ Auxiliary (orange) key**  
Press to activate its auxiliary function {page 8}.

**⑤ Battery pack release latch**  
Pull back on this latch to release the battery pack. See "Installing/ Removing the (Optional) NiCd Battery Pack" on page 2.

**⑥ PF (Programmable Function) key**  
Press to activate its auxiliary function {page 8}.

**⑦ PTT (Push-To-Talk) switch**  
Press this switch, then speak into the microphone to call a station.

**⑧ PF (Programmable Function) key**  
Press to activate its auxiliary function {page 8}.

**⑨ Transmit/ Battery low indicator**  
This red LED lights during transmission. If programmed by your dealer, when the battery pack power is low, the LED flashes during transmission. Replace or recharge the battery pack.

**⑩ S, A, B, and C keys**  
Press to activate their auxiliary functions {page 8}.

**⑪ DTMF keypad (keypad models only)**  
Press the keys on the keypad to send DTMF tones.

**⑫ Universal connector**  
Connect the (optional KMC-25) speaker/ microphone here. Otherwise, keep the supplied cover in place.

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| Indicator                                                                             | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | Displays the system, channel, and group numbers. Also displays various functions which have been programmed by your dealer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|  | Appears when the selected channel is programmed as priority.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| MON                                                                                   | Appears when the key programmed as <b>Monitor</b> is pressed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| SVC                                                                                   | This icon is not used on this transceiver.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| SCN                                                                                   | Appears when you are using Scan mode.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| LO                                                                                    | Appears when the key programmed as <b>RF Power Lo</b> is pressed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|  | In Trunking Format, appears when the selected group is programmed as telephone IDs. In Conventional Format, appears when you are using the Operator Selectable Tone function.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|    | This icon is not used on this transceiver.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|     | Displays the system, group, and channel numbers. Your dealer can program system, group, and channel names with up to 10 characters, in place of numbers. The left most display is used as a delete indicator (◀) in Trunking Format and an add indicator (▶) in Conventional Format. The right most display is used for the Selective Call (*:) or Scrambler ( _ ) function. The delete/ add indicators show the systems/ channels that are locked/ not locked out of the scanning sequence. Selective Call and Scrambler are optional functions that can be programmed by your dealer. |

■ Display



# PROGRAMMABLE AUXILIARY FUNCTIONS

Keys ④, ⑥, ⑧, and ⑩ (pages 5 and 6) can be programmed with the auxiliary functions listed in the following table. The keys can only be programmed with functions, depending on whether you are using Conventional Format or Trunking Format. Please contact your dealer for further details on these functions.

*Note: If "Function" is programmed onto one of the above mentioned keys, the DTMF keypad (keypad models only) can also be used for additional programmable keys.*

| Function          | Conventional Format | Trunking Format |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Auto Tel          | No                  | Yes             |
| AUX 1             | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Channel Down      | Yes                 | No              |
| Channel Up        | Yes                 | No              |
| Connect ID        | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Disconnect ID     | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Display Character | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Emergency 2       | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Function          | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Group Down        | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Group Up          | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Home Channel      | Yes                 | No              |
| Home Group        | No                  | Yes             |
| Key Lock          | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Lamp              | Yes                 | Yes             |
| Memory (RCL/STO)  | Yes                 | Yes             |

| Function                               | Conventional | Trunking |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Memory (RCL)                           | Yes          | Yes      |
| Memory (STO)                           | Yes          | Yes      |
| Monitor A (Monitor Unmute (Momentary)) | Yes          | Yes      |
| Monitor B (Monitor Unmute (Toggle))    | Yes          | Yes      |
| Monitor C (Carrier Squech (Momentary)) | Yes          | Yes      |
| Monitor D (Carrier Squech (Toggle))    | Yes          | Yes      |
| Operator Sel Tone                      | Yes          | No       |
| Redial                                 | Yes          | Yes      |
| RF Power Lo                            | Yes          | Yes      |
| Scan                                   | Yes          | Yes      |
| Scan Del/Add                           | Yes          | Yes      |
| Scan Temporary Delete                  | No           | Yes      |
| System Down                            | No           | Yes      |
| System Up                              | No           | Yes      |
| Scrambler <sup>3</sup>                 | Yes          | Yes      |
| Talk Around                            | Yes          | No       |
| TEL Disconnect                         | No           | Yes      |

<sup>1</sup> This function can be selected only when the Scrambler/ ANI board has not been installed.  
<sup>2</sup> This function can be programmed only on key ④, the Auxiliary (orange) key.  
<sup>3</sup> This function can be selected only when the Scrambler board has been installed.



## OPERATION OVERVIEW

Your dealer can program your transceiver for either Trunking Format or Conventional Format.

### ■ Trunking Format

This format can handle up to 32 systems with up to 250 groups in each system. The transceiver can be used in both trunked mode and conventional mode. Systems, groups, and their functions are programmed by your dealer.

### ■ Conventional Format

This format can handle up to 250 groups with 250 channels in each group. The transceiver can be used only in conventional mode. Groups, channels, and their functions are programmed by your dealer.

## OPERATING BASICS

### ■ Switching Power ON/OFF

Turn the **Power switch/ Volume control** clockwise to switch the transceiver ON.

Turn the **Power switch/ Volume control** counterclockwise to switch the transceiver OFF.

If the Radio Password function is programmed, "PASSWORD" will appear on the display when the power is turned ON. To unlock the transceiver, enter the password, then press the **S** key. If you enter the wrong password, an error tone sounds and the transceiver remains locked. The password can contain a maximum of 6 digits.

### ■ Adjusting the Volume

Rotate the **Power switch/ Volume control** to adjust the volume. Clockwise increases the volume and counterclockwise decreases it.

### ■ Selecting a System/ Group/ Channel

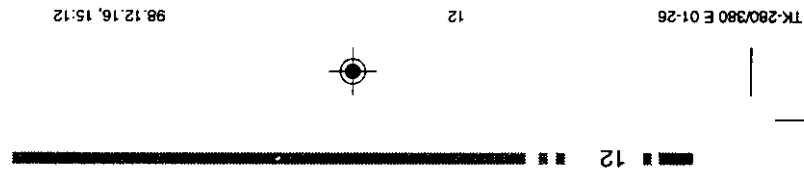
Select the desired system and group (Trunking Format) using the encoder and the keys programmed with **System** or **Group Up/ Down**.  
Select the desired group and channel (Conventional Format) using the encoder and the keys programmed with **Group** or **Channel Up/ Down**.

The purpose of the Time-out Timer is to prevent any caller from using a channel for an extended period of time.

If you continuously transmit for a period of time that exceeds the programmed time, the transceiver will stop transmitting and an alert tone will sound. To stop the tone, release the **PTT** switch.

Your dealer can program the TOT time in the range of 15 seconds to 10 minutes.

### ■ Time-out Timer (TOT)



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## TRUNKED OPERATION (Trunking Format)

### ■ Placing a Dispatch Call

- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys.
- 2 Press the **PTT** switch.
- 3 If a tone does not sound, communication is possible; start speaking into the microphone. Release the **PTT** switch to receive.

- For best sound quality at the receiving station, hold the microphone approximately 1.5 inches (3 ~ 4 cm) from your mouth.

### ■ Receiving a Dispatch Call

- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys. (If the Scan function has been programmed, you can switch it ON or OFF as desired.)
- 2 When you hear the dispatcher's voice, readjust the volume as necessary.

### ■ Placing a Telephone Call (Keypad Models Only)

- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys.
- 2 Press and hold the **PTT** switch for approximately 1 second to ensure a connection.
- Confirm that there is a dial tone after you release the **PTT** switch.

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- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys. (If the Scan function has been programmed, you can switch it ON or OFF as desired.)
    - A ringing tone will sound when a call is received.
  - 2 Press and hold the **PTT** switch to speak, and release it to receive.
  - 3 To end the call, press and hold the **PTT** switch, then press the # key or the key programmed as **Tel Disconnect**.
- **Receiving a Telephone Call (Keypad Models Only)**
- 3 Press and hold the **PTT** switch, then dial using the front panel keypad.
    - After dialing, release the **PTT** switch and wait for a response from the called party.
  - 4 When the called party responds, press the **PTT** switch and speak into the microphone. Release the **PTT** switch to receive.
    - Only one person can speak at a time.
  - 5 To end the call, press and hold the **PTT** switch, then press the # key or the key programmed as **Tel Disconnect**.

## CONVENTIONAL OPERATION (Trunking Format)

### ■ Transmitting

- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys.
- 2 Press the key programmed as **Monitor** to check whether or not the channel is free.
  - If the channel is busy, wait until it becomes free.
- 3 Press the **PTT** switch and speak into the microphone. Release the **PTT** switch to receive.
  - For best sound quality at the receiving station, hold the microphone approximately 1.5 inches (3 ~ 4 cm) from your mouth.

### ■ Receiving

- 1 Select the desired system and group using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys. (If the Scan function has been programmed, you can switch it ON or OFF as desired.)
- 2 When you hear the dispatcher's voice, readjust the volume as necessary.

## SYSTEM SCAN (Trunking Format)

If the Scan function is programmed, systems can be scanned by pressing the key programmed as **Scan**. When the **Scan** key is pressed, the SCN indicator and "-SCAN-" or the revert system/group number, appear on the display and scanning starts. The systems not locked out of the scanning sequence are scanned.

When a call is received, scanning stops and the system and group digits appear. Press the **PTT** switch and speak into the microphone to respond to the call. The transceiver will continue scanning after a predetermined time delay if the **PTT** switch is released and no further signal is received.

### ■ Scanning Trunked Systems

When scanning trunked systems, the revert groups and the groups not locked out of the scanning sequence are scanned. See "GROUP SCAN" on page 18.

### ■ Scanning Conventional Systems

When scanning conventional systems, the revert groups and the groups not locked out of the scanning sequence are scanned. See "GROUP SCAN" on page 18.



## ■ Scan Lockout

If a programmable auxiliary key is programmed with **Scan Del/Add**, each system can be locked out of the scan sequence manually. The delete indicator (D) will appear on the display when the selected system is locked out.

## ■ Scan Revert

You can select revert systems and groups using the encoder and the **System** or **Group** keys. Three types of Scan Reverts which can be programmed by your dealer are available:

- **Last Called Revert:** The last system/group received is assigned as the new revert system and group.
- **Last Used Revert:** The last system/group responded to is assigned as the new revert system and group.
- **Selected:** The last system/group selected is assigned as the new revert system and group.



## GROUP SCAN (Trunking Format)

Group Scan is available for both trunked and conventional systems. This feature is useful when more than one group is programmed in a system. Group Scan is set by your dealer on request. It scans the revert groups as well as groups that are allowed to be scanned.

When a call is received, the group indicator shows the group number, and that group becomes the revert group. Simply press the **PTT** switch to respond to the call.

You can also perform Group Scan while using a priority channel. Please contact your dealer for information concerning Priority Scan.

## CONVENTIONAL OPERATION (Conventional Format)

### ■ Transmitting

- 1 Select the desired group and channel using the encoder and the **Group** or **Channel** keys.
- 2 Press the key programmed as **Monitor** to check whether or not the channel is free.
  - If the channel is busy, wait until it becomes free.
- 3 Press the **PTT** switch and speak into the microphone. Release the **PTT** switch to receive.
  - For best sound quality at the receiving station, hold the microphone approximately 1.5 inches (3 ~ 4 cm) from your mouth.

### ■ Receiving

- 1 Select the desired group and channel using the encoder and the **Group** or **Channel** keys. (If the Scan function has been programmed, you can switch it ON or OFF as desired.)
- 2 When you hear a caller's voice, readjust the volume as necessary.

## SCAN (Conventional Format)

If the Scan function is programmed, groups or channels can be scanned by pressing the key programmed as Scan. Scan can be used as either Single Scan or Multi Scan. Single Scan monitors only the channels of a single group. Multi Scan monitors all channels of every group. When the **Scan** key is pressed, the SCN indicator and "-SCAN-" or the revert group/channel number, appear on the display and scanning starts. When a call is received, scanning stops and the group and channel digits appear. Press the **PTT** switch and speak into the microphone to respond to the call. The transceiver will continue scanning after an adjustable time delay, if the **PTT** switch is released, and no further signal is received.

When the displayed group is not locked out of the scanning sequence, the add indicator (▼) will appear on the display.

### ■ Priority Scan

The priority channel must be programmed in order for Priority Scan to function.

The transceiver will automatically change to the priority channel when a signal is received on it, even if a signal is being received on a normal channel. The **P** indicator appears when the displayed channel is the priority channel.

## 2-TONE SIGNALLING (Conventional Format)

2-Tone Signalling is either activated or deactivated by your dealer.

2-Tone Signalling only opens the squelch when the transceiver receives two tones corresponding to those set up in the transceiver. When the squelch opens, you will be able to hear the caller without any further action. After a correct 2-Tone signal is received and the squelch opens, pressing the key programmed as **Monitor** will cancel the connection.

If your dealer programmed Transpond for 2-Tone Signalling, your transceiver will automatically send an acknowledgment signal to the station that called you with the correct 2-Tone signal. Transpond does not function when you are called as a Group call.

If your dealer programmed Tone Alert for 2-Tone Signalling, your transceiver will emit a beep when the correct 2-Tone signal is received.

*Note: This transceiver is only capable of decoding 2-Tone Signals. It cannot encode a 2-Tone Signal.*

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## DTMF (DUAL TONE MULTI FREQUENCY) CALLS

### ■ Making a DTMF Call (Keypad Models Only)

There are two methods of making a DTMF call:

- Manual dialing
- Store and sending

To make a call by dialing manually:

- 1 Press and hold the PTT switch.
- 2 Enter the desired digits using the front panel keypad.

- The corresponding DTMF tones sound each time you press a key.
- If you release the PTT switch, transmit mode will end even if the complete number has not been sent.
- If your dealer has activated the Keypad Auto PTT function, you need not hold down the PTT switch while pressing the keys on the keypad in Conventional systems. The DTMF code will be sent automatically when you press a key.

*Note: Keypad Auto PTT does not function in Trunking systems.*



To make a call by storing and sending:

- 1 Enter the desired digits using the front panel keypad.

- The digits appear on the display as you enter them.

## 2 After entering the complete number, press the

**PTT** switch.

- If you are using the transceiver in a Conventional system, the DTMF code is transmitted after pressing the **PTT** switch.

- If you are using the transceiver in a Trunking system, the DTMF code is transmitted after a connection is established. Releasing the **PTT** switch before a connection is established will stop the transmission from occurring.

- If you are using the transceiver in a RIC (Repeater Inter-Connect) Trunking system, the DTMF code is transmitted after a connection with the telephone system is established. If you press the key programmed as **Auto Tel** instead of the **PTT** switch, the call will automatically connect to the repeater, and the DTMF code will be transmitted.

### **Note:**

- ◆ You can only store up to 16 digits before sending. Entering more than 16 digits will cause an error tone to sound.
- ◆ If you switch the power **OFF** before sending the number, the number will be cleared from memory.

## ■ DTMF Signalling

Your dealer can program a group with a DTMF signalling code. When you receive a call with a code that matches yours, the signalling indicator will flash and a tone will sound. Squelch opens and you will hear the call.

Squelch will close when you receive a call with a code that matches your signalling reset code.

When making a call on a group programmed with a DTMF signalling code, the signalling indicator will light and the squelch will open.

## ■ DBD (Dead Beat Disable)

Depending on how your dealer programs your transceiver, when you receive a call containing a DBD code, either transmit mode or receive and transmit modes will be disabled. When a DBD code is received, a tone will sound.

DBD is cancelled when you receive a call with a DBD cancel code.

# AUDIBLE USER FEEDBACK TONES

The transceiver emits various tones to indicate the transceiver's operating status. Contact your dealer for further information on these tones.

| Tones                                             |           |          |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Conventional                                      | Emergency | Priority |
| Alert                                             | Yes       | Yes      |
| Busy                                              | Yes       | Yes      |
| DBD On                                            | Yes       | Yes      |
| DBD Off                                           | Yes       | Yes      |
| Delay                                             | No        | Yes      |
| Deny                                              | No        | Yes      |
| Free System Ring Back Mode/<br>System Search Mode | No        | Yes      |
| Group Call                                        | Yes       | Yes      |
| Individual Call                                   | Yes       | Yes      |
| Intercept                                         | No        | Yes      |
| Key Input Error                                   | Yes       | Yes      |
| Key Press [A]                                     | Yes       | Yes      |
| Key Press [B]                                     | Yes       | Yes      |
| Key Press [C]                                     | Yes       | Yes      |
| Password Agreement                                | Yes       | Yes      |
| Power ON                                          | Yes       | Yes      |
| Pre Alert                                         | Yes       | No       |
| Proceed                                           | No        | Yes      |
| PTT Release                                       | Yes       | Yes      |
| Queue                                             | No        | Yes      |

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|                   |              |        |
|-------------------|--------------|--------|
| Transpond         | Yes          | Yes    |
| System Search End | No           | Yes    |
| System Search     | No           | Yes    |
| Roll Over         | Yes          | Yes    |
| Ringling          | No           | Yes    |
| Form              | Conventional | Formal |