

Useful Tips

Finding a lost PTT

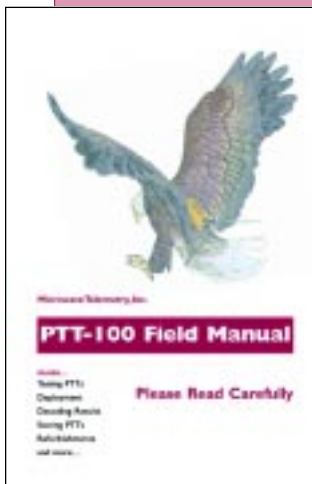
Unfortunately, a PTT is sometimes dropped in the field after becoming detached from a bird or the bird dies. Depending on its orientation on the ground, it may or may not be received well, if at all, by the satellites. We are often asked how to find such a lost PTT. There are several possible techniques depending on how well it is being located by ARGOS and what equipment you have available.

Assuming that ARGOS is providing enough data to give locations, you may be able to enhance the accuracy of the locations by setting the altitude of the PTT in the ARGOS system to the altitude of the location where it is lost. Do this by either calling the ARGOS user office and asking them to set it, or interactively using the "MOD" command – see your ARGOS user manual.

If you have a series of locations, simply mathematically average the latitudes and longitudes. Do this first for the highest class locations and work down to the lowest class. Plot these on a map and if a searchable area is defined, you can organize a search using a GPS receiver as a reference.

ARGOS-CLS has a direction finding receiver known as a "Gonio" that can be used to track down a PTT on the ground and also receive data from PTTs locally. Using a Gonio you can direction find on a lost PTT that is transmitting too weakly to be received by the satellites. Contact ARGOS for more information about these receivers.

Next issue: using a scanner receiver on the ground to find a PTT.



Now Available!

We have two new instruction manuals— one for our bird transmitters and one for fish pop-up tags.

If you would like a copy, please e-mail us (microwt@aol.com) with your address and we will be glad to mail you one.



Returning PTTs to Us

Occasionally, PTTs need to be returned for battery change, reprogramming, etc. Please notify us if you plan to return your PTTs to us for refurbishment or any other reason. Package the PTTs well, preferably in the original boxes. Ship via Federal Express, our preferred carrier, or U.S. Priority Mail.

International Returns

International customers must first contact us for specific instructions before returning PTTs. In the past, we have been levied duties and taxes because the paperwork accompanying the PTTs did not state that the goods were manufactured in the United States by us. Dealing with the Customs Clearance Department of certain carriers (e.g., Federal Express, DHL, etc.) takes up a lot of our valuable time. **ANY PACKAGE CONTAINING PTTs BEING RETURNED TO US WITHOUT THE PROPER PAPERWORK WILL BE RETURNED TO THE SENDER AT THE SENDER'S EXPENSE.**

A sample 'Declaration of Origin' is reproduced in our product manuals now included with every order. Type or print this sample on your letterhead and include

it with commercial invoices on the box. This Declaration of Origin lists all the specific information that Customs requires to allow shipments of our PTTs to return to the United States duty free. **INCLUDE THE COMPLETED DECLARATION OF ORIGIN EACH TIME YOU RETURN PTTs FOR REFURBISHMENT.**

If you need further assistance in completing this required form or need further information please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be glad to fax you a copy of the Declaration of Origin form or send a copy of our product manual upon request (see ad on this page).

In Brief...

Notify us that you will be returning PTTs

Package PTTs well—preferably in original boxes

Use Federal Express

Include Declaration of Origin with paperwork on the box (international customers only)