

RD4000PL

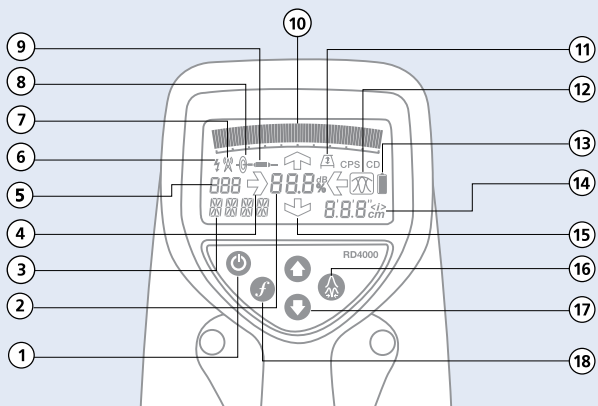


Power Industry – advanced location and fault finding

The RD4000PL cable and pipe locator has been introduced to meet the demand for an advanced locator dedicated to the power industry. This guide provides a quick, step by step reference to the applications of the RD4000PL and the T3 transmitters.



Radiodetection



Display Features

- 1 On/Off Key, Menu Select:** Receiver on/off. Press and hold for off.
- 2 Numeric Signal Display:** Indicates signal response and measurement units being used.
- 3 Frequency/Mode Indicator:** Displays the selected frequency or operating mode.
- 4 Left/Right Arrows:** Indicates direction of target line (automatic in Null mode).
- 5 Numeric Display:** Displays the current gain value.
- 6 Power Mode:** Power mode selected.
- 7 Radio Mode:** Radio mode selected.
- 8 Line Selected Indicator:** Line mode selected.
- 9 Sonde Indication:** Sonde mode selected.
- 10 Bar Graph:** Displays signal strength (dB or %). Peak is indicated by a lone bar
- 11 Fault Find (FF) mode:** '8k Fault Find' via the A-Frame.
- 12 Antenna Display:** Narrow Peak (twin horizontal antenna), Null (vertical antenna).
- 13 Battery Level:** Displays battery level. No locate is possible at minimum (zero bars).
- 14 Depth or Current Display:** Displays depth or current as applicable.
- 15 Fault Find Arrows:** Indicates the direction along the pipe/utility to the measured fault.
- 16 Antenna Select Key/Depth & Current:** Press and release selects Peak or Null mode. Sustained press displays depth (manual mode) or switches between depth and current (auto mode).

17 Gain Controls: Signal strength is indicated on bar graph (50% is suitable). Unit automatically servos to mid-scale gain if signal outside useful operating zone. Sustained hold of gain-up or gain-down = steps of 1dB increment/decrement.

18 Function Key: Press and release to select the required frequency/operating mode.

Selectable Features

Enter by momentary press of on/off key (1)

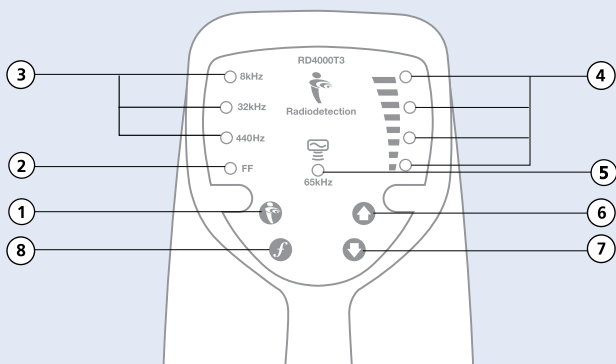
Use the up/down key (17) to scroll through available features. To select required feature, momentarily press the on/off key (1) use the up/down key (17) to scroll through the available options. A further momentary press of the on/off key (1) will select the required option.

Features

- **Volume:** 4 levels (vol 0, vol 1, vol 2 + vol 3)
- **Battery type:** Alkaline or NiMH
- **Depth on power:** On or off
- **Mode:** Selectable frequency and accessory (defaults to all selected)
To change a frequency use the up/down key (17) to select required frequency. Momentarily press on/off key (1) and use the up/down key (17) to select on or off. Momentarily press on/off key (1) to confirm selection.

WARNING POWER MODE DEPTH CAN BE HIGHLY INACCURATE PARTICULARLY ON 3-PHASE POWER FEEDS.

RD4000T3(F) TRANSMITTER



Display Features

- 1 On/Off Key:** Switches the transmitter on and off. The T3(F) will self-test for 2 secs, then switch to induction mode, or direct connection mode if connection leads are present.
- 2 Fault Find Indicator (FF):** LED indicates that FF mode is selected.
- 3 Frequency Indicators:** LED's indicate the selected frequency.
- 4 Power Output:** LED's indicate the selected output level.
- 5 Induction indicator:** LED indicates when induction mode is selected.
- 6 Up Key:** Press to increase power output.
- 7 Down Key:** Press to reduce power output.
- 8 Frequency Key:** Press repeatedly to scroll through and select the required frequency. Before doing this ensure that a connection lead is fitted.

LOCATING

Passive Frequencies

These rely on signals already present on buried metal utilities and do not require the use of a Radiodetection transmitter. There are two types of passive frequency.

Power

Power cables and some other utilities radiate a signal at 50/60Hz.

Radio

In addition to power signals, some utilities re-radiate ambient radio signals.

Active Frequencies

These require the use of a Radiodetection transmitter to provide the locate signal, and give very good depth and current readings. These frequencies also travel greater distances and can help to identify individual lines. Remember the transmitter and receiver must be set to the same frequency.

There are three methods of applying an active signal using a Radiodetection transmitter.

Induction

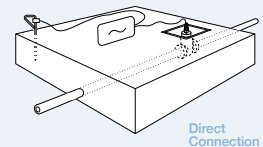
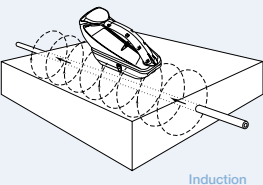
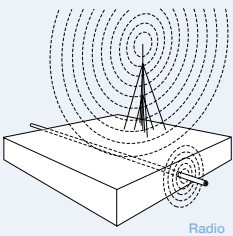
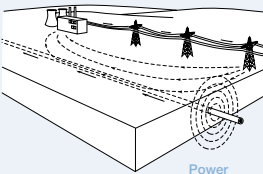
The transmitter is placed over or near the area to be located and switched to the appropriate frequency. A signal will then be induced on to any line(s) below or close to the transmitter. Higher frequencies are normally used in this method as they induce more effectively.

Direct Connection

Electrical connection leads are plugged into the transmitter and attached directly to the line, the circuit is completed by connection to a ground stake (typically at 90° to the line). This method ensures a strong clear signal on an individual line and enables the use of lower frequencies, for example current direction.

Signal Clamp

A Signal Clamp is plugged into the transmitter and clamped around the line to couple the signal to it. A range of Signal Clamps is available to accommodate most conductors.



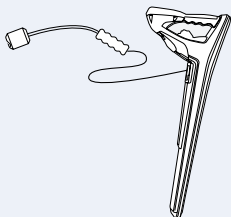
Stethoscopes

The RD4000PL supports the stethoscope antennas shown on the next page.

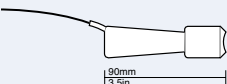
When to use a stethoscope

At times, it may not be possible to put a clamp around a cable because of congestion or because of inaccessibility. A stethoscope antenna should be used in the place of the clamp to identify cables.

LOCATING



Large stethoscope



Small stethoscope

How to use a stethoscope

Plug the stethoscope into the receiver accessory socket. Select Stethoscope (Probe) using the Function key (18); mode shows P and frequency e.g. P640. Press the concave head against each cable in turn to detect a maximum signal.

Types of stethoscope

Small stethoscope antenna

The small stethoscope antenna has a 25mm/1in concave head at the end of a 2m/6ft lead.

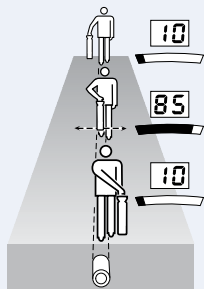
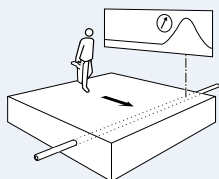
The small stethoscope can be screwed into an extension rod or used at the end of several extension rods joined together for identifying individual cables in bundles.

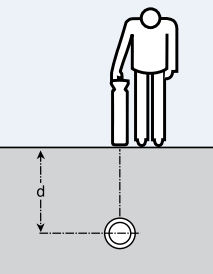
Large stethoscope antenna

The large stethoscope antenna, which plugs into the receiver accessory socket, is used for cable identification in situations where the cable is exposed. It is particularly useful for identifying heavy cables lying in a tray where it is not possible to fit a clamp. The concave detector head on the end of the insulated, flexible gooseneck is placed firmly against the cable to be identified. If there are a number of cables, the stethoscope antenna will give the strongest response from the cable to which the transmitter signal has been applied.

Peak Mode

- Select Peak mode (16).
- Set the Gain (17) so that the bar graph is at approximately 50%.
- Hold the receiver vertical and sweep the area with a steady and deliberate motion. If necessary adjust the gain to keep the bar graph on scale.
- When a signal is detected continue along the search route until it reduces, then move back to where the signal is strongest (Peak).
- Rotate the receiver until the signal is at its weakest. The receiver handle will now be aligned with the target line.
- Move the receiver from side to side using small movements until a clear maximum is observed. The receiver is now directly over the target line.
- Depth and Current, once selected, is automatically displayed.
- You can follow the line by moving forward while at the same time moving the receiver from side to side, observing the maximum response.
- Signal overload eg. Near a substation transformer. Bar graph will flash. Depth and Current not displayed.





Depth and Current Measurement (CM)

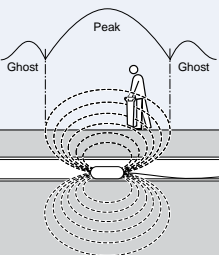
The RD4000PL has manual or auto depth. Depth or power can be enabled or disabled.

- Auto: Depth and current is displayed automatically where applicable.
- It is important to position stationary over located line.
- Manual: Press and hold antenna key (16), depth and current are shown cyclically where applicable.

Note: The cm feature measures the actual current on the line regardless of its depth. Therefore the receiver's strongest response may not come from the target line; it may come from a shallow line to which the signal has coupled.

Locating a Sonde

A sonde is a small self contained transmitter that, when inserted in a non-metallic drain, sewer, pipe or duct, can be located by the receiver.



- Select sonde (18).
- Select Peak mode (16).
- Hold the receiver vertically with the blade in line with the sonde.
- Move from side to side over the suspected position of the sonde, to obtain a peak response. Ghost peaks will be found on either side of a main peak response.
- With the centre peak pinpointed move the receiver back and forth across the line of the sonde to obtain a second peak.
- Rotate the receiver to obtain a third peak response. The receiver is now directly over the sonde and a depth measurement will automatically be displayed.
- Current measurement is not applicable to sondes.

Safety Information

The transmitter rechargeable battery packs can be recharged via a vehicle cigarette lighter. Rechargeable battery packs must not be recharged whilst attached to transmitter or locator units, if the vehicle is being driven.

Transmitter variants can be powered via the vehicle cigarette lighter of a stationary vehicle. The RD4000 is designed for use by suitably trained personnel, following procedures and instructions described in the full user manual. For comprehensive approval, warning and safety information, refer to the full RD4000 user manual.

NIMH batteries can be used in the Receiver as an alternative to alkaline.

Note: Depth reading on power can be confused on 3-phase cables or where signals are distorted.

Fault Find (FF)

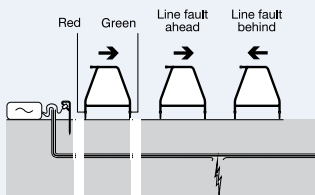
An A-Frame is used with RD4000 receiver and transmitter to locate cable sheath-to-ground faults on power and telco lines. See below.

1. Taking a reference reading

- Pinpoint the line and trace its route for a short distance.
- Connect the A-frame to the receiver. Select 8KFF (18) FF mode selected and A-frame symbol displayed.
- Select FF mode on the transmitter and ensure the ground stake is connected.

RD4000T10

- Switch on
- Press on/off (1) to select the menu and scroll using the down arrow (16) to select FF.
- Press on/off (1) again to confirm the selection.



RD4000T3F

- Press the frequency key (8) until the FF LED is lit.
- Place the A-frame spikes in the ground approx. 2 meters from the ground stake and with the green spike facing it.
- Ensure the receiver is in line with the A-frame and facing the green spike. The FF arrows should point away from the ground stake.
- Make note of the dB reading. During fault find, if the dB reading is approx. equal to the reference there is a single fault. If the dB reading is less than the reference there are multiple faults, in this case the sum of all dB readings should be approx. equal to the reference.

2. Fault Finding

- Place the A-frame spikes in the ground with the red spike nearest the ground stake.
- The FF arrows will display the fault direction. The arrows should point away from the ground stake and the bar graph should read zero.
- Follow the cable pushing the A-Frame spikes into the ground at regular intervals and checking for FF arrows. With no fault, the arrows will flicker on and off and the dB readings will be erratic.
- Keep the red spike facing the ground stake and keep the receiver in line with the A-Frame. Near a fault, the arrows will lock on and the dB reading will increase.
- Move in the direction of the arrows. Find the point at which the arrows change direction.
- Rotate through 90° and move back and forth to locate the fault in this direction, the intersection point will be directly over the fault.
- Should the location of the cable become uncertain the mode select key (18) can be used to change between locate mode and FF mode.

V Ω readings (RD4000T10 only)

This function can be used to confirm the presence of a fault.

Note: All earth bonds **MUST** be removed from the cable.

- Press on/off (1) to select the menu and scroll using the down arrow (16) to select Measure.
- Press on/off (1) again to confirm the selection
- Press the measurement key (17) to select ohms and take a resistance reading. A low resistance (typically less than 2M Ω) indicates a fault.

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