



AIR Control Display 57

Pilot's Manual

Document: MAN0010A0001
Version: 4.0
Date: 2024/07/08

Document Information

Document Revision History

<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Changes</i>	<i>Approved</i>
1.0	2017/04/06	Release	M. Förderer	Initial release	J. Garrecht
1.1	2017/06/27	Release	H. Hoeth	Revised list of limitations	J. Garrecht
1.2	2017/08/25	Release	H. Hoeth	Inactivity timeout in menus Squelch on/off button for Becker radios Startup time of connected devices	J. Garrecht
1.3	2018/01/19	–	H. Hoeth	Preset VFR squawk softkey QNE softkey	
2.0	2018/03/29	Release	H. Hoeth	Update manual for SW version 0.42: Explain new features Update softkey menu diagram Emphasize 8.33 channel selection Clarify transponder mode selection	J. Garrecht
2.1	2018/07/12	Release	H. Hoeth	Added trouble shooting chapter Clarify “channel spacing” setting	J. Garrecht
3.0	2021/06/30	Release	H. Hoeth	Updated manual for SW version 0.44: Added AIR COM related information Added TRIG TY9x as compatible device Changes to intercom settings menu Improved channel selection behaviour	J. Garrecht
4.0	2024/07/08	Release	M. Förderer	Updated manual for SW version 45: Added FUNKE ATR833-II as compatible device	J. Garrecht

Covered Articles

<i>Article Name</i>	<i>Product P/N</i>	<i>FW Version</i>
AIR Control Display	ACD-57	45

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IMPORTANT

Please carefully read this manual before using the ACD-57 in flight. Take special care in reading and understanding the limitations of the device. If you are unsure, please contact with AIR Avionics product support for clarification.

This manual is an essential ressource. It should be stored within the aircrafts operating documentation so that it is available to any flight crew operating the aircraft.

Product Support

If you have questions, our product support team will be happy to help you. Contact us via support@air-avionics.com or by phone. Please find details about our hotlines and availability online at <https://www.air-avionics.com>

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1.1 Introduction

ACD-57 is a small multi-function control display intended for controlling ATC radar beacon systems (transponder, XPDR) and airborne VHF transceivers (COM). Furthermore the system is capable of determining and displaying a precise pressure altitude (altimeter). The system is connected to external transponder and COM devices using standardized interfaces.

The small outline and multifunctional software of the device allow for better system integration in space constrained environments. The pilot-centered user interface aims at reducing crew workload, increasing crew efficiency, and improving flight safety.

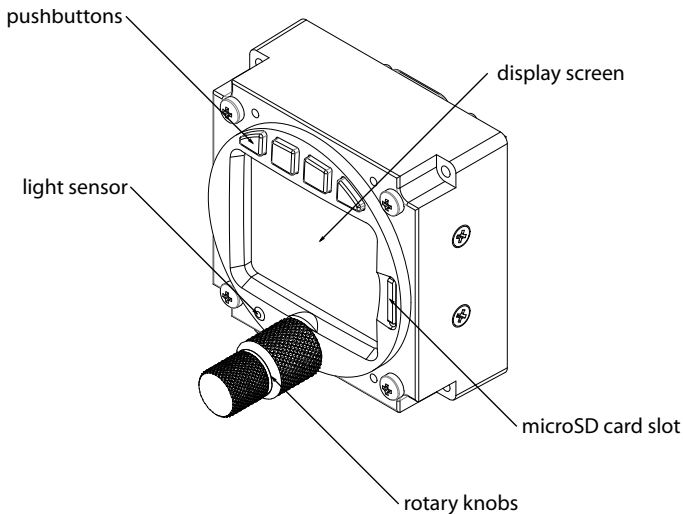


Figure 1.1.: ACD-57 front panel overview

1.2 Limitations and Safety Instructions

1.2.1 Safety

Using the ACD-57 shall never distract from general practices of safe airmanship. Using ACD-57 may impose a significant workload on the flight crew if they are not adequately familiar with the ACD-57 and trained on its operation. To use ACD-57 effectively, being familiar with the unit is essential.

We recommend thoroughly studying this manual and extensively familiarizing yourself with the ACD-57 on the ground.

Do not fly with ACD-57 if you are unfamiliar with its operation and limitations

Installations in which ACD-57 devices are used may be complex. Familiarization of specific installation conditions in an aircraft, for example, the number, type, and configuration of connected systems is essential before using ACD-57.

ACD-57 installation requires several forms, such as checkout forms and configuration logs, to be filled out by the installation personnel. These documents are stored in the aircraft's documentation and are a viable resource for pilots who wish to study the installation specifics of an ACD-57 in an aircraft.

1.2.2 Regulatory Requirements

It is the responsibility of those using this article to determine that the installation and working conditions are within required standards.

Independently from ETSO authorizations, depending on aircraft type and certification base, ACD-57 may not be suitable as a primary altimeter, COM control, or XPDR control unit.

1.2.3 Screen Shots

All screen shots used in this document are current at the time of publication.

Screen shots are intended to provide visual reference only. All information depicted in screen shots, including software file names, versions, and part numbers, is subject to change and may not be up to date.

1.2.4 Function Licensing and Database Expiry

Certain functionality is subject to a software licensing model and has to be unlocked during installation. This manual assumes that all required licenses have been installed during installation. Details can be found in the ACD-57 Installation Manual [1].

Some software features, such as databases, have expiration dates and may become unavailable as they expire. Validity is checked regularly. After the underlying database has expired, some functions may become unusable.

1.2.5 Liability

IN NO EVENT WILL AIR AVIONICS BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, WHETHER RESULTING FROM THE USE, MISUSE OR INABILITY TO USE THE PRODUCT OR FROM DEFECTS IN THE PRODUCT.

1.2.6 Limitations

1. Using the alticoder of ACD-57 is limited to 40,000ft (FL400).
2. Using the altimeter of ACD-57 is limited to 40,000ft (FL400).
3. Use of the device is limited to class II aircraft (MRE, MTE and STE), which includes class I aircraft (SRE), both with MTOW of 6000 pounds or less as per definition of AC23.1309-1E.
4. Use of ACD-57 as primary and only altitude measurement device of the aircraft is excluded, if loss of functions or misleading information is assessed higher than Minor.
5. The operator must verify that the installation meets the airspace requirements where the flights are intended.
6. The device does not provide static error correction. Therefore installation is limited to aircraft where static error correction is not required.

1.2.7 Low Temperature Operations

If the temperature is below -10°C , the ACD-57 must be powered on at least 5 minutes before flight, in order to warm up the display.

1.3 Pilot Controls

Inner and outer knobs have 16 detents per revolution and can be rotated clockwise and counter-clockwise. The inner knob has a pushbutton. Four softkey pushbuttons are located on the bezel along the top of the TFT display screen.

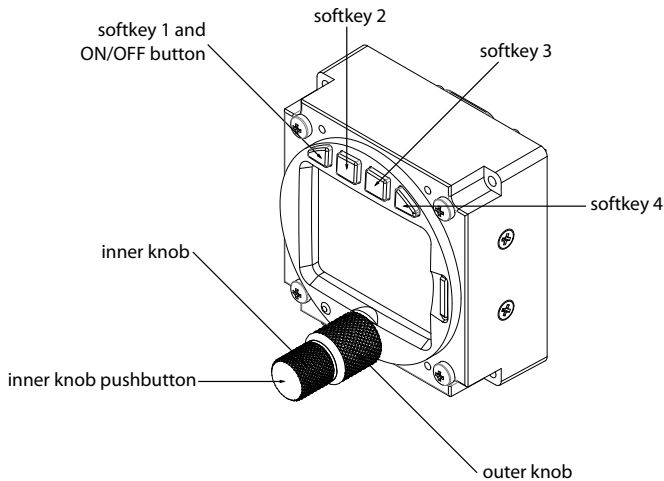


Figure 1.2.: ACD-57 pilot controls

1.3.1 Inner Knob Functions

- In the menu, the **inner knob** controls the position of the menu focus.
- On the main page, the **inner knob** opens the volume control page if a VHF transceiver is controlled.
- If only a Mode-S transponder system is controlled (and no VHF transceiver), on the main page, the **inner knob** opens the XPDR page.
- If only altimeter functions are used (and no VHF transceiver or XPDR is controlled), on the main page, the **inner knob** opens the barometric reference selection page.
- On the COM channel selection page, the **inner knob** adjusts kHz in the smallest increments¹. To move in 25 kHz steps, push and turn the **inner knob**.
- On the volume control page, the **inner knob** controls the ACTIVE channel volume.
- On text input pages, the **inner knob** controls the text character.

¹Steps can be setup to 8.33 kHz channels and 25 kHz frequencies and 8.33 kHz or 25 kHz only

1.3.2 Inner Knob Pushbutton Functions

- On the main page, the **inner knob pushbutton** is used to toggle ACTIVE and STANDBY channels of a connected COM unit (short push) and for opening the menu (long push).
- In the Menu, the **inner knob pushbutton** is used for menu item execution/ENTER (short push), for toggling ON/OFF setting menu items (short push), or for closing the menu (long push).

1.3.3 Combined Inner Knob and Inner Knob Pushbutton Functions

By simultaneously pushing/holding the **inner knob pushbutton** and rotating the **inner knob**, special functions are controlled.

- On the COM channel memory page, stored channels can be sorted.
- On the COM channel selection page, frequencies are changed in 25 kHz steps. If the ACD-57 is set to 8.3kHz in the configuration menu, channels are changed in 25 kHz steps.

1.3.4 Outer Knob Functions

- In the menu, the **outer knob** controls the position of the menu focus as well.
- On the main page, the **outer knob** opens the volume control page if a VHF transceiver is controlled.
- If only a Mode-S transponder system is controlled (and no VHF transceiver), on the main page, the **outer knob** opens the XPDR page.
- If only altimeter functions are used (and no VHF transceiver or XPDR is controlled), on the main page, the **outer knob** opens the barometric reference selection page.
- On the volume control page, the **outer knob** controls the STANDBY channel volume.
- On the COM channel tuning page, the **outer knob** controls the channel (MHz).
- On text input pages, the **outer knob** controls the input position (cursor).

1.3.5 Inactivity Timeout

The user interface consists of several different screen views (pages). If on any page (other than the main page or the configuration menu) no user input occurred for more than 10 seconds, the ACD-57 automatically switches back to the main page.

1.3.6 Softkeys

Four “softkey” pushbuttons are located on the top of the front bezel of the device. The softkey designators on top of the TFT display screen show the softkey’s current function. Softkey functions change depending on menu level and context.

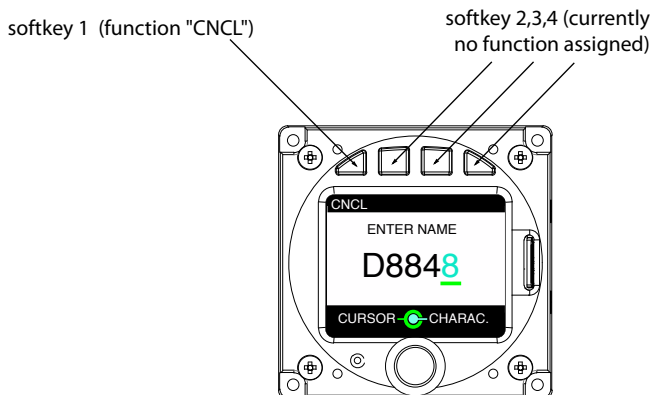


Figure 1.3.: Text input page. The leftmost softkey has a function (CNCL means cancel)

As an addition to its normal softkey functions, **softkey 1** can be used for switching ACD-57 on or off with a long push. This function has to be activated by setting a configuration parameter during installation (not the default configuration).

1.3.7 Display Color Coding

If visible, all functions the **outer knob** controls are kept in the color *green*, all functions the **inner knob** controls are kept in the color *cyan*.

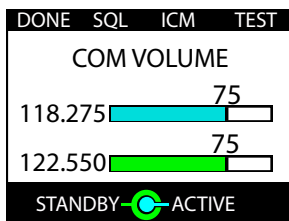


Figure 1.4.: COM volume control page. The **inner knob** always controls the cyan-colored elements, **outer knob** the green-colored elements.

1.3.8 Light Sensor

A sensor detecting ambient lighting conditions is placed on the left side of the concentric rotary knobs. User interface illumination, that is display backlight and softkey illumination, can be automatically adjusted using information from the light sensor. This function has to be activated by setting a configuration parameter during installation.

A filter is used to slow down changes in user interface illumination. This prevents the

illumination level from changing too quickly, for example when shadowing the sensor with your hands during operation of the knobs.

If the user interface illumination is controlled by the aircraft's lighting bus, the ACD-57 uses the light sensor for plausibility checks to prevent blinding the flight crew at night. If the light sensor detects low ambient lighting conditions, but the lighting bus is set to a high brightness, the ACD-57 issues a warning and switches into manual illumination override mode. Details on the illumination override mode can be found in the section "Illumination Override" on page 33.

1.4 General Considerations

1.4.1 User Interface and Softkeys

The ACD-57 system software is configurable and can be adapted to the requirements of an individual installation. For example it is capable of interfacing and controlling different COM and XPDR systems from various manufacturers and optionally displaying altitude functions. Hence the user interface, softkey structure, and configuration menu are flexible and dynamic.

This manual covers the operation of COM control, XPDR control, and altimeter separately. Yet these functions can be combined. Chapter ?? shows user interfaces for all combinations possible.

Appendix C holds a diagram of all available softkeys depending on device configuration.

1.4.2 Limitations of Connected Devices

Please be aware that not all functions supported by the ACD-57 may be supported by the connected COM/XPDR devices. Carefully observe the limitations and functions of the connected COM devices in order to assess system limitations that apply to your aircraft. The following table gives an overview of functions not supported by all connectable COM systems and other limitations thereof:

Function	AIR COM (AC-1) VHF Transceiver	Becker 620X VHF Transceiver	Dittel/TQ KRT2 VHF Transceiver	TRIG TY91/TY92 VHF Transceiver
Say Again Function	●	–	–	–
Standby COM channel independent volume level possible	●	–	–	–
VHF transceiver system configuration during installation	●	●	–	●
Interface speed from ACD-57 to VHF transceiver	fast (nearly in real time)	normal (sometimes delays are recognizable)	slow (up to half a second delay)	normal (sometimes delays are recognizable)

Function	F.U.N.K.E. ATR-833S VHF Transceiver
Say Again Function	–
Standby COM channel independent volume level possible	–
VHF transceiver system configuration during installation	•
Interface speed from ACD-57 to VHF transceiver	slow (up to half a second delay)

1.4.3 Connected Devices Parameter Changes

Whenever a parameter in an external system such as a COM or XPDR device is changed, ACD-57 sends a change request to the COM or XPDR device through a data interface. The information is only updated on the display screen of the ACD-57 if the change has been acknowledged by the COM or XPDR device.

Therefore a delay (normally less than half a second) can be visible, depending on the type of the connected device, the data interface, and the parameters changed.

Some elements of the user interface, for example on the volume control page, present the value the parameter shall be changed to and the current value active in the connected system.

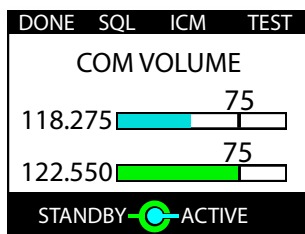


Figure 1.5.: Volume control page. The cyan colored bar indicates the value currently active in the connected COM unit, the little black pointer and numerical value show the value currently set in ACD-57. Normally this discrepancy disappears within half a second.

1.4.4 Connected Devices Startup Time

Some connected devices may need a significantly longer time than ACD-57 to power up. For example, a connected KRT-2 COM unit needs up to 20 seconds before it starts to send data to the ACD-57. While the ACD-57 is not yet receiving data from a connected system, the connected system's status is not known and, therefore, red crosses are shown on the parts of the display referring to the connected system.

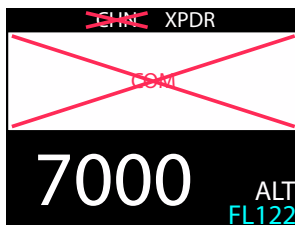


Figure 1.6.: No data from connected COM system after power up. This condition may last up to 30 seconds after power up.

1.5 Switching On and Off

1.5.1 Power On

By default the ACD-57 switches on automatically if a sufficient power supply is present. ACD-57 switches on at 9V DC.

In order to switch ACD-57 on manually, *POWER ON MODE* can be deactivated in the *CONFIGURATION MENU*. For details, please consult the ACD-57 Installation Manual [1]. If *POWER ON MODE* is deactivated and if the ACD-57 has been manually switched off before, ACD-57 is powered on by pushing **softkey 1** for at least 0.5 seconds.

The boot phase of ACD-57 takes less than one second. No special boot screen is shown.

When turned on, ACD-57 powers up all connected avionics systems (such as COM or XPDR) if they have not been powered up already.

1.5.2 Power Off

If *POWER ON MODE* is active (default), ACD-57 is switched off by taking away power. ACD-57 switches off if the supply voltage drops below 8V DC. In this mode, ACD-57 can not be switched off manually using **softkey 1**.

If *POWER ON MODE* is deactivated, push **softkey 1** longer than 4 seconds to switch ACD-57 off.

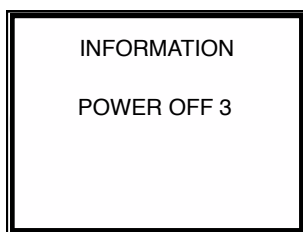


Figure 1.7.: Power off screen. The countdown timer on the right (here 3 seconds) counts down until the unit is switched off.

2.1 Introduction

ACD-57 is capable of controlling a connected VHF transceiver (COM). ACD-57 can serve as primary means for control of a COM unit including COM unit setup, channel selection, and audio control.

Multiple ACD-57 can be installed on one COM unit and control the COM unit simultaneously. This is especially used in large aircraft or aircraft with tandem seating configurations.

2.1.1 COM User Interface

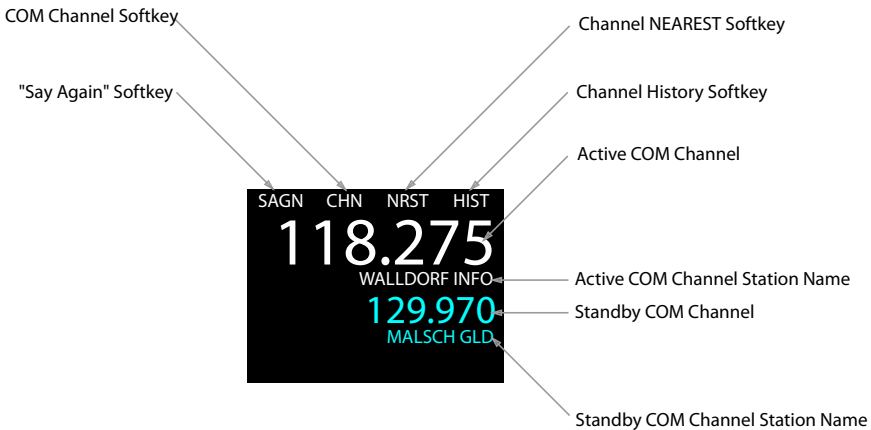


Figure 2.1.: COM user interface on main page explained.

ACTIVE and STANDBY channels are displayed on the main page.

Depending on configuration and database/position availability, channel names may be displayed on the main page. The name of the nearest station will be shown.

Station names are only shown for stations within a distance of approx. 20 miles from the aircraft's current position.

The display of station names in ACD-57 requires GPS position data from an external source that needs to be connected and configured during installation. Furthermore, a valid station database (microSD card) is required. If no GPS position data or no station database is present, the function is not available and station names are not shown.

2.2 Audio Control

2.2.1 Volume Control

To enter the volume control page, rotate the **inner knob** or the **outer knob** on the main page.

In the volume control page, you can use the **inner knob** to adjust ACTIVE channel volume. Use the **outer knob** to adjust STANDBY channel volume.

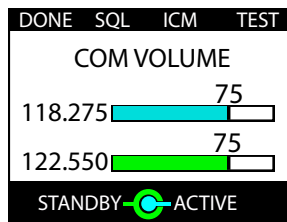


Figure 2.2.: Volume control page

If the connected COM unit does not support individual volumes for ACTIVE and STANDBY channel (Dittel/TQ KRT2 or Becker 620X), **outer knob** switches DUAL/SCAN mode on or off.

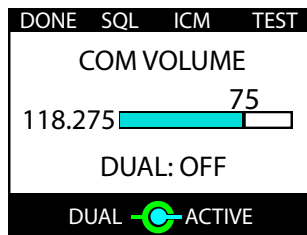


Figure 2.3.: Volume control page for KRT2 COM unit. **outer knob** switches DUAL mode on or off.

On the volume control page, as long as pushed the **TEST softkey** will open the squelch for some seconds in order to test the audio output. Testing the audio output before each flight is recommended.

If the *KNOB USE* parameter in the configuration menu is set to *CHANNEL*, rotating the knobs changes channels. To access the volume control page in this configuration, please push the **VOL softkey** on the main page. Details on the *KNOB USE* parameter can be found in the section “Knob Use” on page 37.

2.2.2 Monitoring the STANDBY COM Channel

The STANDBY COM channel monitoring function (also known as “DUAL WATCH” or “SCAN”) is always active, when the STANDBY channel volume is set to a value above zero. If set to zero, the STANDBY COM channel monitoring is deactivated.

Some COM units (currently only DITTEL/TQ KRT2) do not support individual values for the volume of the standby COM channel. If such a COM unit is used, the volume value for the standby COM channel is synced with the value for the active COM channel. In this case, rotating the **outer knob** only activates or deactivates standby COM channel monitoring entirely.

2.2.3 Squelch Level Control

The squelch level control page is accessed by pushing the **SQL softkey** on the volume control page. It is recommended to keep the squelch level at the lowest value required for filtering white noise.

If the connected COM system doesn't completely open the squelch at the “zero” setting (e.g. Becker radios), the squelch can be turned on and off with the **softkey 4**.

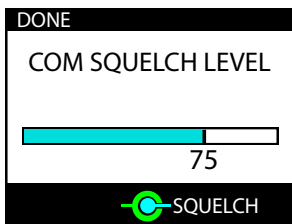


Figure 2.4.: Squelch control page

2.2.4 Intercom Control

The volume of the intercom function and the intercom VOX level can be individually configured for both intercom inputs. Intercom volume is the audio volume of the intercom audio output. Intercom VOX level is the sound level at which the intercom function is engaged / opened.

The intercom volume control page can be accessed by pushing the **ICM softkey** on the volume control page. Use the **inner knob** to adjust the intercom volume for input 1 and the **outer knob** to adjust the intercom volume for input 2.

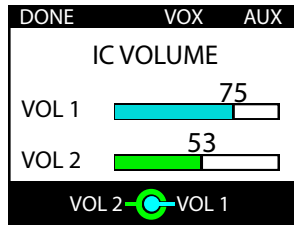


Figure 2.5.: Intercom volume control page

The intercom VOX level control page can be accessed by pushing the **VOX softkey** on the intercom volume control page. Use the **inner knob** to adjust the VOX level for input 1 and the **outer knob** to adjust the VOX level for input 2.

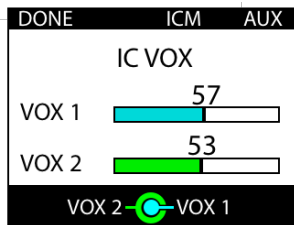


Figure 2.6.: VOX level control page

2.2.5 AUX Volume Control

A maximum of two AUX volumes can be individually adjusted. The aux inputs can, for example, be used to connect an audio player, mobile phone, or external avionics system to the connected COM unit. The number and logic behind the AUX inputs depends on the connected radio. Please familiarize yourself with the installation conditions before using the AUX inputs.

The aux input level control page can be accessed by pushing the **AUX softkey** on the intercom control page.

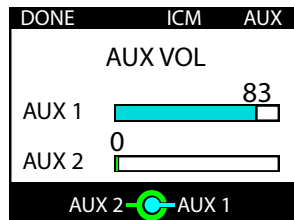


Figure 2.7.: Aux input level control page

2.3 Selecting a COM Channel

Channel selection always selects the STANDBY channel. In order to change the ACTIVE channel, the STANDBY and ACTIVE channel must be toggled.

2.3.1 Toggling STANDBY and ACTIVE Channel

To switch between ACTIVE and STANDBY COM channel (toggle), push the **inner knob pushbutton** on the main page.

2.3.2 Manual Channel Selection

To open the channel selection page, push the **CHN softkey**.

If the *KNOB USE* parameter in the configuration menu is set to *CHANNEL*, you can rotate the **inner knob** or the **outer knob** on the main page to access the channel selection page. Details on this parameter can be found in the section “Knob Use” on page 37.



Figure 2.8.: Channel Selection Page

1. To open the channel selection page, push the **CHN softkey** on the main page.
2. To select a channel, use the **inner knob** for kHz selection and the **outer knob** for MHz selection. The **inner knob** tunes both 8.33 kHz and 25 kHz channels. For a quicker channel selection you can push the **inner knob pushbutton** and simultaneously turn the **inner knob**.
3. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the channel selection and to exit the channel selection page to the main page.

You can exit the selection process, discard the selection, and return to the main page by pushing the **CNCL softkey**.

2.4 Nearest and History Functions

2.4.1 Nearest Station Selection

The selection of nearest stations in ACD-57 requires GPS position data. Furthermore, a station database on the microSD card is required. If no position is available or no database is installed, the function is not available.

The database may contain errors. Always cross-check the correctness of station names and channels.

The nearest station list can be opened by pushing the **NRST softkey**. The **NRST softkey** is available on the channel selection page. In COM-only configuration, the **NRST softkey** is also available on the main page.

1. To open the channel selection page, push the **CHN softkey** on the main page.
2. To access the NEAREST station list, push the **NRST softkey**.
3. Use the **inner knob** to select a station.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to select the channel of the selected station and to exit the channel selection page to the main page.

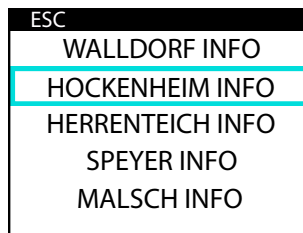


Figure 2.9.: NEAREST station list

You can exit the selection process, discard the selection, and return to the last page by pushing the **ESC softkey**.

2.4.2 Channel History

ACD-57 stores a history of selected channels in a channel history list. Channels can be selected from this list.

The channel history list can be opened by pushing the **HIST softkey**. The **HIST softkey** is always available on the channel selection page. In COM-only configuration, the **HIST softkey** is also available on the main page.

1. To open the channel selection page, push the **CHN softkey** on the main page.
2. To access the history list, push the **HIST softkey**.
3. Use the **inner knob** to select a channel from the recently-selected-channels list.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the channel selection and to exit the channel selection page to the main page.

ESC
118.275
123.650
129.975
118.150
119.800

Figure 2.10.: Channel History List

You can exit the selection process, discard the selection, and return to the last page by pushing the **ESC softkey**.

2.5 Channel Memory

ACD-57 features a user-configurable channel memory. Fifteen COM user channels can be saved including an optional text name/identifier.

2.5.1 Select a Channel from Memory

The channel memory list can be opened by pushing the **MEM softkey**. The **MEM softkey** is available on the channel selection page.

1. To open the channel selection page, push the **CHN softkey** on the main page.
2. To access the memory list, push the **MEM softkey** on the channel selection page.
3. Use the **inner knob** to select a position / identifier from the memory list.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the selection and to exit to the main page.

ESC	EDIT	ADD	DEL
COMP 1			
SWEET HOME			
ATIS			
GROUND			
TEAM			

Figure 2.11.: Channel memory list

You can exit the selection process, discard the selection, and return to the last page by pushing the **ESC softkey**.

2.5.2 Store a Channel in Memory

1. To store a channel, enter the channel memory list and push the **ADD softkey**.
2. Select the desired channel using the **inner knob** (kHz) and **outer knob** (MHz). Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the channel selection and to get to a text input page where you can enter an identifier for the stored channel.
3. Use the **outer knob** to select a position in the text and the **inner knob** to select a character. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the identifier text input and to store the channel to the memory list.

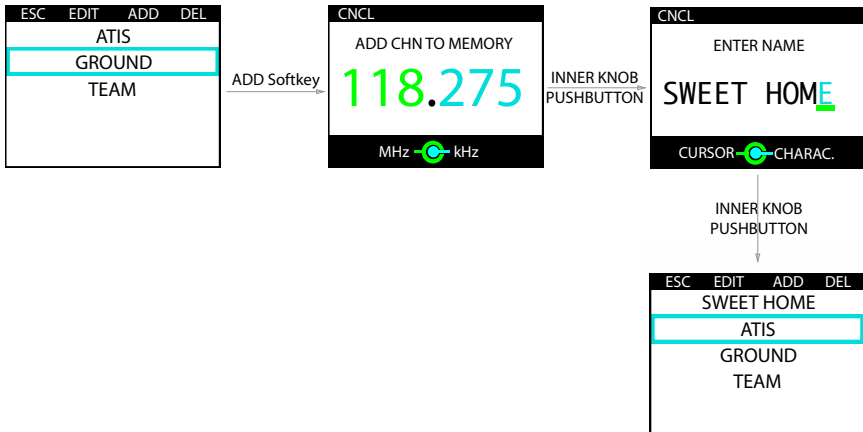


Figure 2.12.: Channel storing process in channel memory list

You can undo the storing process and return to the last page by pushing the **CNCL softkey**.

2.5.3 Editing a Stored Channel

1. To edit a stored channel, enter the channel memory list, use the **inner knob** to select a position/identifier, and push the **EDIT softkey** to edit the selected position/identifier.
2. Select the desired channel by using the **inner knob** (kHz) and **outer knob** (MHz). Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the channel selection and to get to a text input page where you can edit the name for the stored channel.
3. Use the **outer knob** to select a position in the name and the **inner knob** to select a character. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the name selection and to store the channel in the memory list.



Figure 2.13.: Channel editing process in channel memory list

You can undo the selection/editing process and return to the main page by pushing the **CNCL softkey**.

2.5.4 Sorting the Channel Memory List

1. To sort the channel memory list, enter the channel memory list, use the **inner knob** to select a position/identifier that shall be repositioned in the list.
2. Push the **inner knob pushbutton**, hold and simultaneously rotate **inner knob** to move the position/identifier within the list.
3. Release the **inner knob pushbutton** as soon as the position/identifier is in the desired place in the list.

2.5.5 Deleting a Stored Channel

1. To delete a stored channel, enter the channel memory list, use the **inner knob** to select a position, and push the **DEL softkey** to delete the selected position.

The position is instantly deleted, there is no way to undo the process.

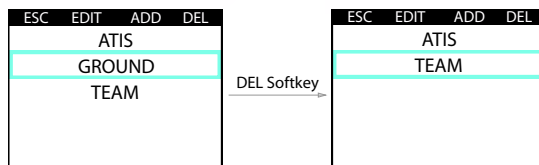


Figure 2.14.: Channel deletion process in channel memory list

2.6 RX/TX Indication and Stuck PTT Function

2.6.1 RX/TX Indication

The current receiver/transmitter status is shown on the main page. If radio messages are sent or received, a little indicator is shown.

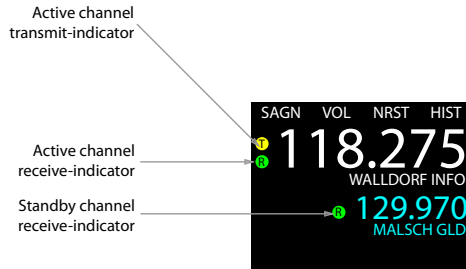


Figure 2.15.: RX and TX indicators explained

2.6.2 Last RX Indication

To indicate the channel on which the last transmission was received, a little indicator is shown next to that channel for a duration of 50 seconds after the end of the last incoming transmission or until another transmission is received.

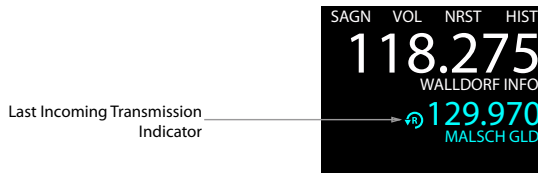


Figure 2.16.: Last RX indicator

2.6.3 Stuck PTT Indication

If the connected COM unit features a “stuck PTT detection” or a “stuck PTT timeout”, the status of a “stuck PTT” being detected is indicated on the main page by a crossed-out transmitter symbol as shown below or by an COM error message (depending on the type of the connected COM device).

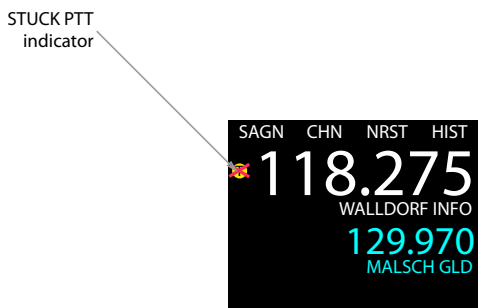


Figure 2.17.: Stuck PTT indicator

2.7 Say Again Function

If the connected COM unit features a recording or “say again”-function, the function is accessed through the **SAGN softkey** on the main page.

If the **SAGN softkey** on the main page is pushed (short push), the last recorded transmission is replayed. A replay indicator appears on the main page while the replay is active.

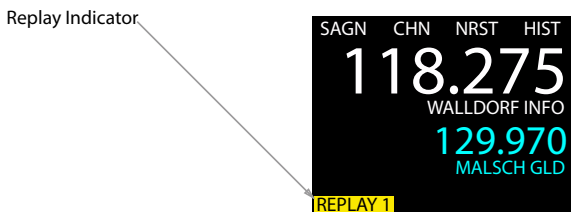


Figure 2.18.: **SAGN softkey** has been pushed, replay function is active

The replay can be interrupted by a received transmission. Actual transmissions normally have priority. This however depends on the setup of the connected COM system. Please inform yourself on ground about the configuration and behavior of the connected COM system before using the function in flight.

ACD-57 supports replay of several transmissions (depends on capacity of connected COM system). By pushing the **SAGN softkey** again, you can replay earlier transmissions. The number on the replay indicator shows the current position.



Figure 2.19.: SAGN softkey has been pushed, replay function is active and SAGN softkey is pushed again to replay an earlier transmission.

3.1 Introduction

ACD-57 is capable of controlling a connected XPDR unit. ACD-57 can serve as primary means for control of a XPDR unit including XPDR unit setup, squawk code selection and mode control.

Multiple ACD-57 can be installed on one XPDR unit.

Familiarization of specific installation conditions in an aircraft, e.g. number of connected devices and topology is recommended before using ACD-57.

3.1.1 XPDR user interface

Squawk code¹, XPDR mode and transferred altitude (i.e. the altitude sent out by the connected XPDR system when replying) are displayed on the main page. Additionally a reply indicator shows if the transponder is currently replying to an interrogation.

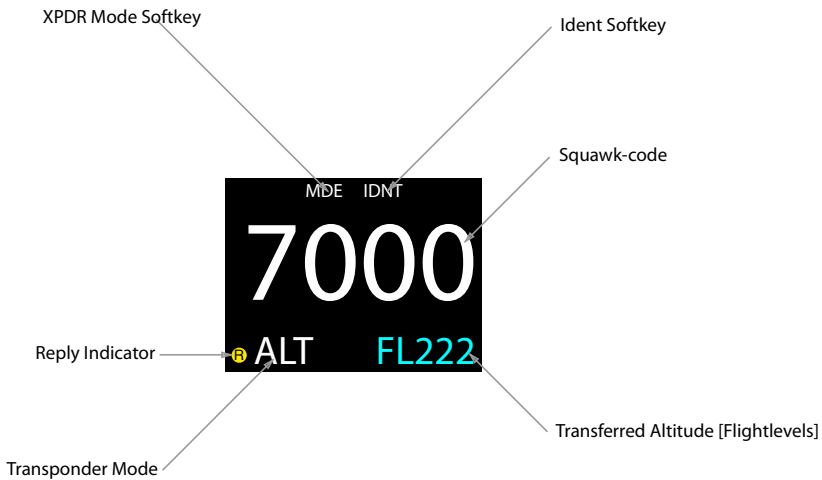


Figure 3.1.: XPDR user interface on Main Page

¹“Squawk Code” here refers to the ATCRBS 4096 reply code. Details on the terminus “squawk” can be found here: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transponder_\(aeronautics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transponder_(aeronautics))

3.2 Selecting a Squawk Code

To enter the XPDR page, rotate the **inner knob** or the **outer knob** on the main page (in XPDR-only configuration) or push the **XPDR softkey** (in a configuration with VHF transceiver and XPDR).

1. on the main page, rotate the **inner knob** or push the **XPDR softkey** to enter the XPDR page.
2. Use the **outer knob** to select a position in the squawk code and use the **inner knob** to adjust the selected position's value.
3. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute the selected squawk code and to exit to the main page.

Alternatively, you can use the **softkey 2** to toggle between the preset VFR squawk and the last non-VFR squawk. Then push the **inner knob pushbutton** to confirm the squawk code.

You can undo the squawk code selection and return to the main page by pushing the **CNCL softkey**

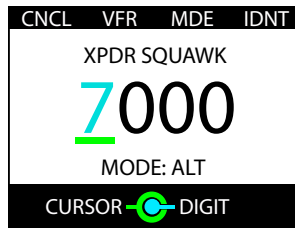


Figure 3.2.: XPDR page: Squawk code selection and other options for the transponder

3.3 Using the Ident Function

Push the **IDNT softkey** to initiate the ident function. This also confirms the currently selected squawk code. The **IDNT softkey** is always available on the XPDR page. In XPDR-only configuration, the **IDNT softkey** is also available on the main page.

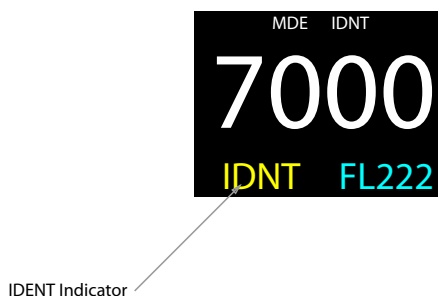


Figure 3.3.: Ident function is active. *IDNT* is shown instead of the normal mode indication as long as the ident feature is active.

3.4 Changing XPDR Mode

ACD-57 supports selection of the following XPDR Modes by the flight crew:

- SBY – XPDR is inactive. In this mode it does not draw power.
- ALT – Active Mode, also called “Altitude Mode”. This is the normal mode in flight.
- ON – Alt Inhibit Mode, no altitude data is transmitted.

3.4.1 Normal Mode Selection

A short push on the **MDE softkey** switches between SBY (Standby Mode) and ALT (Active Mode). It also confirms the currently selected squawk code. The **MDE softkey** is always available on the XPDR page. In XPDR-only configuration, the **MDE softkey** is also available on the main page.

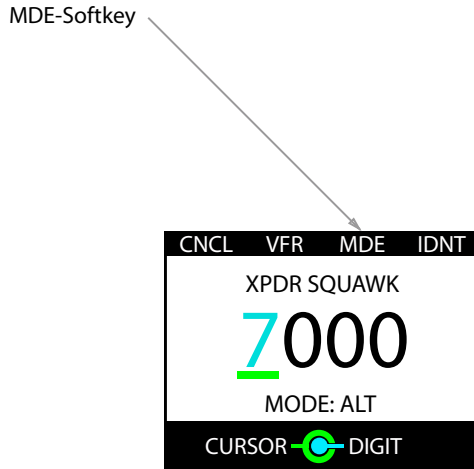


Figure 3.4.: MDE softkey on the XPDR page

3.4.2 Altitude Inhibit Mode

A long push on the MDE softkey switches to ON (ALT Inhibit Mode). In this mode, no altitude information is transmitted.

The use of this mode is only recommended if requested by air traffic control.

Another long push on the MDE softkey switches from ON (ALT Inhibit Mode) to SBY (Standby).

3.4.3 GND Mode

GND mode (All Call Inhibit Mode) is an optional, special XPDR mode that is automatically engaged if the aircraft is on ground. The installation and correct configuration of an On-Ground-Switch is required. To indicate this mode, a special GND flag is shown.

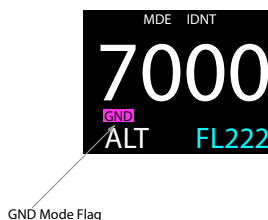


Figure 3.5.: GND mode flag. On-Ground-Switch is required. Due to regulatory requirements, GND mode can not be selected manually.

ACD-57 is capable of determining and displaying a precise pressure altitude and can be used as primary means of altimetry.

4.1 Altimeter User Interface

The current altitude is displayed numerically and with a tape-style indicator, or trend indicator. Depending on device configuration and other display content, the size of the altitude display may vary.

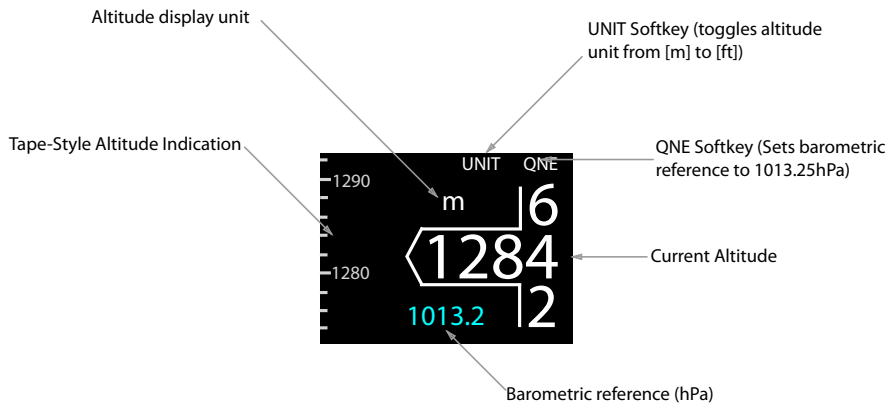


Figure 4.1.: Altimeter user interface

Units to display altitude and barometric pressure are user configurable. Altitude can be displayed in feet or meters, barometric pressure can be displayed in inches mercury or hectopascals (which equals millibars).

4.2 Adjusting Barometric Reference

To enter the barometric reference selection page, rotate the **inner knob** or the **outer knob** on the main page (In altimeter-only configuration) or push the **BARO softkey** (if additionally a VHF transceiver and/or a XPDR is controlled).

1. on the main page, rotate the **inner knob** or push the **BARO softkey** to enter the barometric reference selection page.
2. Use the **inner knob** and **outer knob** to adjust the current barometric reference.

3. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to save the setting and to exit to the main page.

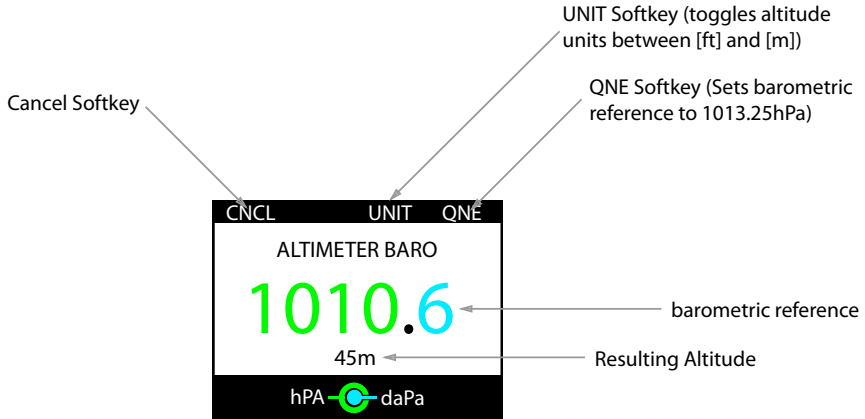


Figure 4.2.: Barometric reference selection page

The **QNE softkey** can be used to set the barometric reference to standard pressure (1013.25 hPa or 29.92 inHG). If the altimeter is already set to standard pressure, the **softkey 4** will instead show the last non-standard barometric reference, so that the pilot can quickly toggle between standard pressure and some other reference.

4.3 Altitude Display Unit

With the **UNIT softkey** it is possible to toggle quickly between feet and meters as altitude display unit.

ACD-57 can be used to control a VHF transceiver and an ATC Radar Beacon System (XPDR) at the same time. Additionally it can display altitude. Any combination of these three functions is possible and depends on configuration and connected subsystems.

5.1 COM, Transponder, and Altimeter Combined

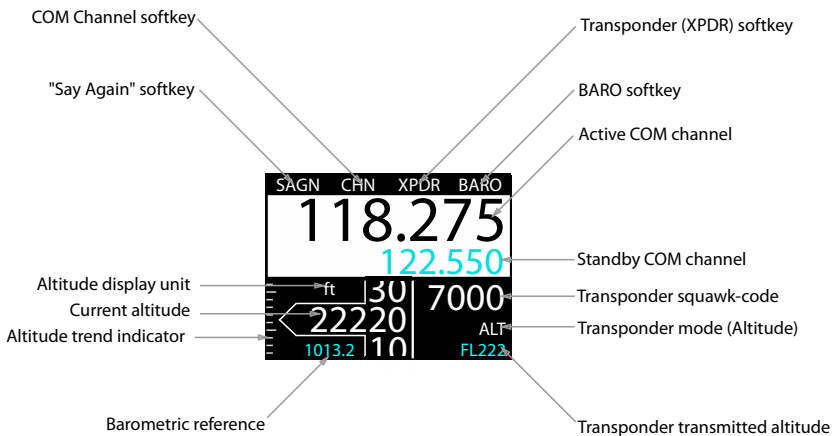


Figure 5.1.: User interface with COM, transponder, and altimeter functions combined.

5.2 COM and XPDR Combined

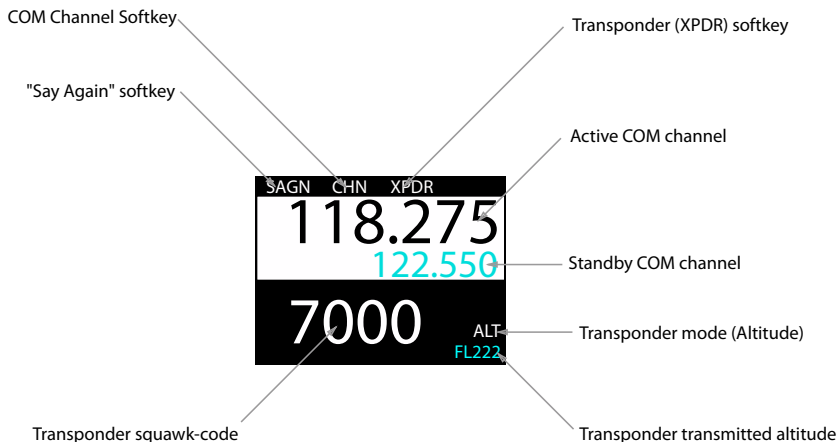


Figure 5.2.: User interface with COM and transponder functions combined.

5.3 COM and Altimeter Combined

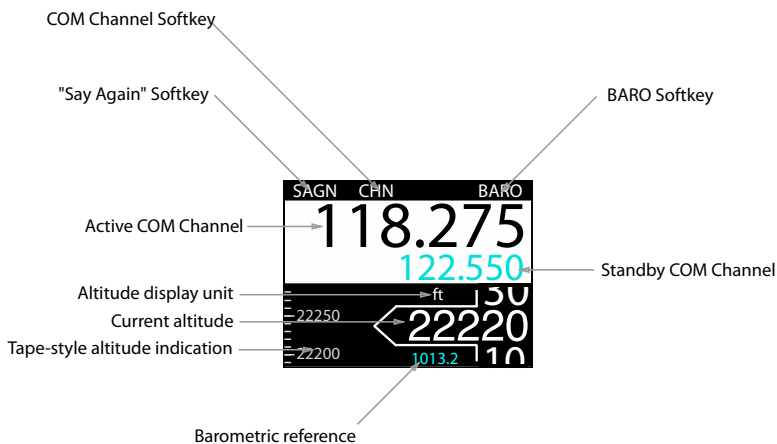


Figure 5.3.: User interface with COM and altimeter functions combined.

5.4 XPDR and Altimeter Combined

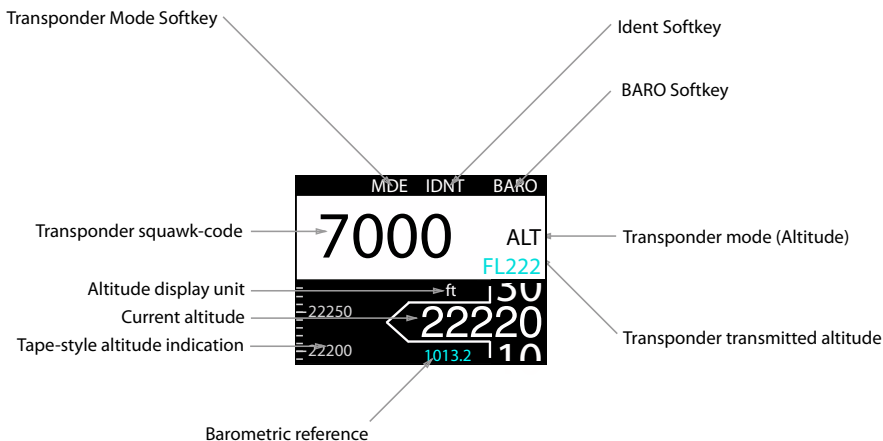


Figure 5.4.: User interface with transponder and altimeter functions combined.

6.1 Configuration Operations

6.1.1 Configuration Menu

ACD-57 is configured in the configuration menu. To enter the configuration menu, push the inner knob pushbutton for at least 2 seconds (long push). The menu contains several configuration options and informations about ACD-57 and connected systems.

Please find a menu diagram in appendix B

6.1.2 Pin Code Protection

This manual contains only a few configurable parameters. These parameters are always accessible to the flight crew. The ACD-57 has many more configurable parameters and a large configuration menu. Due to safety reasons and regulatory requirements, not all configuration parameters are readily accessible. Many configuration menu levels require the entry of a pin code before they can be accessed. Pin codes can be entered in *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *PIN CODE*.

For a detailed overview of all configurable parameters and their recommended values, please consult the ACD-57 installation manual.

In the configuration menu, *DEVICE* contains information about the ACD-57 device itself.

7.1 Device Parameters

7.1.1 Info

In the *DEVICE* menu, *INFO* contains specific information about the ACD-57 device such as hardware and software version information.

7.1.2 Status

In the *DEVICE* menu, *STATUS* contains information about the power supply voltage, the position data source, and the pressure data source.

7.1.3 Illumination Override

In the *DEVICE* menu, *ILLUMIN OVERRIDE* the current display and knob illumination level can be manually set, for example, when the lighting sensor fails and a wrong illumination is applied.

Until the next restart of the ACD-57, this setting overrides the current illumination configuration that has been entered during the installation. After a restart, the illumination configuration that has been entered during the installation is restored.

To override the illumination configuration, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *DEVICE* → *ILLUMIN OVERRIDE*
3. Once the illumination override page is entered, the illumination configuration is shown. Use the **inner knob** to override the illumination configuration and to enter a manual value.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
5. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

To reset the override and get back to the illumination configuration entered during installation, push the **RESET softkey**.

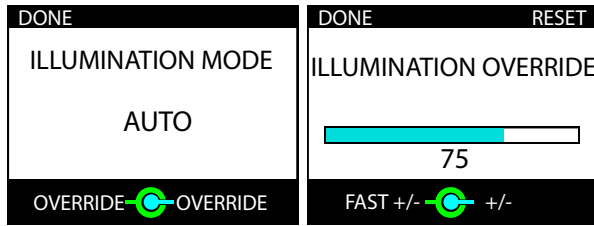


Figure 7.1.: Illumination override page. On the left the automatic illumination configuration is active, current illumination mode is shown. On the right the override is active.

7.1.4 Control Interface Override

In the *DEVICE* menu, *CTRL IF OVERRIDE* the external control interface, where COM and XPDR functions can be controlled by external devices like EFIS systems, is disconnected.

Until the next restart of the ACD-57, this setting overrides the inputs from an external control interface, for example, in case of a fault in the external control system software. After a restart, the control interface configuration that has been entered during the installation is restored.

To override the Control Interface, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *DEVICE* → *CTRL IF OVERRIDE* Use the **inner knob** to switch the override ON.
3. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
4. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

To reset the override and get back to the control interface configuration entered during the installation, repeat the process to switch the override OFF.

The *ALTIMETER* menu section contains specific configuration parameters for the integrated altimeter.

8.1 Altimeter Parameters

8.1.1 Units

Units for altitude and pressure are user configurable.

- Altitude units configurable to meters or feet
- Pressure units configurable to hectopascals (millibars) or inches of mercury

The default settings are *meters* and *hectopascals*. To change the altimeter units configuration, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *ALTIMETER* → *UNITS*.
3. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to a unit category, use the **inner knob pushbutton** to enter the menu.
4. Use the **inner knob** to select the desired unit.
5. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
6. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

9.1 COM Control Parameters

The *COM CONTROL* menu section contains setup parameters for the control of a connected COM system by the ACD-57.

9.1.1 Station Names

This parameter can be switched to *ON* in order to show station names on the main page of the COM user interface. If set to *OFF*, station names are not shown on the main page, but are still shown and used on other pages. The default setting for this parameter is *ON*.

The display of station names in ACD-57 requires GPS position data and an installed station database (microSD card). If no GPS position data or no station database is available, station names are not shown and position based radio channel selection is disabled.

Station names are only shown for stations within a distance of approx. 20 miles from the aircraft's current position.

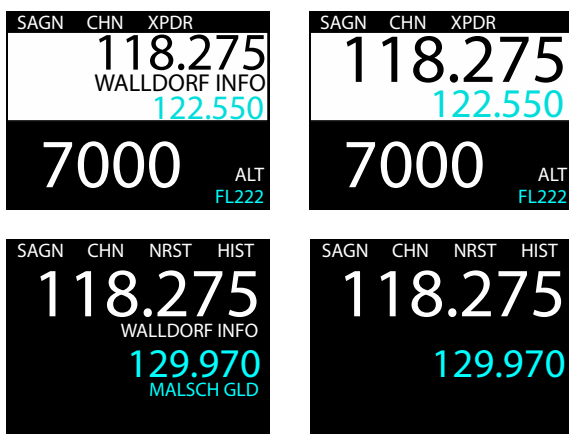


Figure 9.1.: COM main page with *STATION NAMES* parameter set to *ON* on the left and to *OFF* on the right. Please note that in COM only configuration, station names for both standby and active channel are shown. In all other configurations, only the active channel station name is shown.

To change this configuration, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *COM CONTROL* → *STATION NAMES*.
3. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to toggle between YES and NO.
4. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

9.1.2 Knob Use

With this parameter the primary use of the **inner knob** and **outer knob** on the main page can be selected. The **inner knob pushbutton** function remains unaffected of this setting (always toggles active/standby channels). The default setting for this parameter is *VOLUME*.

It can be set to *VOLUME* in order to open the volume control page when turning the **inner knob** or the **outer knob**. In this case **softkey 2** will have the function to open the channel selection page.

It can also be set to *CHANNEL* in order to open the channel selection page when turning the **inner knob** or the **outer knob**. In this case **softkey 2** will have the function to open the volume control page.

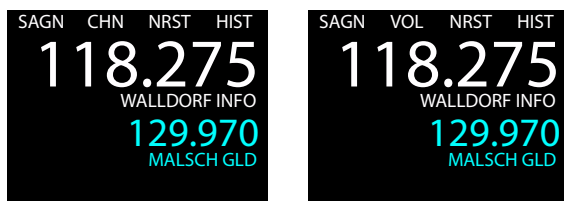


Figure 9.2.: COM main page with *KNOB USE* parameter set to *VOLUME* on the left and to *CHANNEL* on the right.

In aircraft with no audio panel or intercom, we recommend to use the default setting (*KNOB USE* set to *VOLUME*). If an audio panel/intercom is used, it may not be required to change COM volume frequently. In this case, setting the *KNOB USE* parameter to *CHANNEL* is recommended for easier channel selection.

To change the knob use configuration, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *COM CONTROL* → *KNOB USE*.
3. Use the **inner knob** to select a desired option (*VOLUME* or *CHANNEL*).
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
5. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

9.2 COM System Parameters

The *COM SYSTEM* section contains setup parameters of the connected VHF transceiver itself. Depending on the type of connected VHF transceiver, different parameters are available. Where possible, menu parameter names are consistent to parameter names in the VHF transceiver's documentation.

In installations with multiple ACD-57, if a Becker 620X, TRIG TY9x, FUNKE ATR833Box, or a Dittel/TQ KRT2 is controlled, the *COM SYSTEM* menu section is only available on the ACD-57 where the VHF transceiver is physically connected to.

Please consult the VHF transceiver's documentation for details on parameters and recommended values.

10.1 XPDR Control Parameters

The *XPDR CONTROL* section contains setup parameters for the control of a connected XPDR system by the ACD-57.

10.1.1 VFR Preset

Here a preset value for the VFR squawk code can be entered. This value is used when the *VFR Softkey* is pressed on the XPDR page.

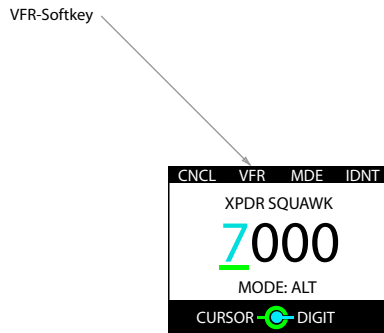


Figure 10.1.: **VFR softkey** on the XPDR page. The squawk code entered in the *VFR PRESET* parameter is set if the softkey is pushed.

To change the VFR squawk code preset, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *XPDR CONTROL* → *VFR PRESET*.
3. Use the **outer knob** to select a position/digit and the **inner knob** to change the value at this position.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
5. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

10.2 XPDR System Configuration

The *XPDR SYSTEM* section contains setup parameters of the connected XPDR system itself. Depending on the type of connected transponder, different parameters are available. Where

possible, menu parameter names are consistent to parameter names in the transponder's documentation.

In installations with multiple ACD-57, if a TRIG transponder is controlled, the *COM SYSTEM* menu section is only available on the ACD-57 where the VHF transceiver is physically connected to.

Note that for the VT-01, transponder the system state, software versions, and configuration is not known to the ACD-57 unless the VT-01 has been set to ALT mode at least once during the runtime of the ACD-57.

10.2.1 Flight ID

In this menu, a flight ID can be entered. The flight ID must correspond to the aircraft identification specified in item 7 of the ICAO flight plan, or, when no flight plan has been filed, the aircraft registration.

To enter a flight ID, please carry out the following steps:

1. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
2. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *XPDR SYSTEM* → *FLIGHT ID*.
3. Use the **outer knob** to select a position/digit and the **inner knob** to change the value at this position.
4. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to execute your selection.
5. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

11.1 Version Identification

The software version can be reviewed in *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *DEVICE* → *INFO*.

11.2 Software/Database Loading

Software updates and the station database are loaded using the integrated microSD card slot and a microSD memory card.

While the software is actually loaded onto the device, the station database remains on the microSD card. Therefore database information is only accessible if the microSD card is installed.

If the microSD card is not installed, database functions will not be available.

Never remove the microSD card while the device is in operation. If the microSD card is removed from the device during runtime, the device's software may stop working. In this case a system restart would be required.

11.2.1 microSD Card Slot

A microSD card slot is located on the right side of the unit's front panel. A microSD memory card can be inserted and removed from the device.

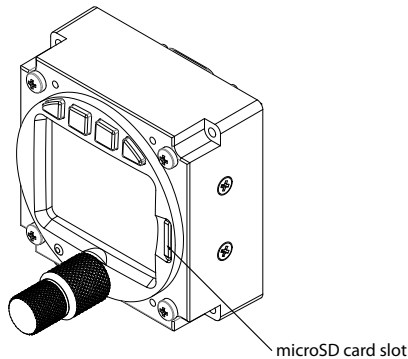


Figure 11.1.: microSD Card Slot

To insert a microSD card, insert the card into the slot, print facing to the display, little nose facing upwards and gently push the card until it clicks in.

Inserting the microSD card in the wrong orientation may damage the slot.

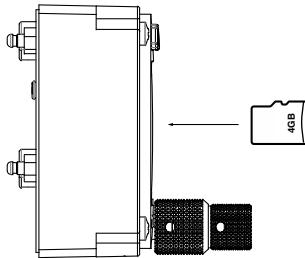


Figure 11.2.: microSD card in correct orientation

To remove an inserted microSD card, use your fingernail to gently push on the card until a click is audible. The card will be released following the click. Use your fingernail to remove the card.

Be careful. Application of too much force may damage the slot.

ACD-57 is compatible to all FAT or FAT32 formatted microSD cards. It has been successfully tested with microSD cards with a storage size of 2 to 64 gigabytes.

11.2.2 Using a Station Database

To use a database, please carry out the following steps:

1. Purchase a valid station database file in the *AIR Avionics License Store*. Please visit <https://www.air-avionics.com/license> for details.
2. Load the station database file onto a microSD card.
3. Insert the microSD card into the ACD-57.
4. Power the unit on.
5. Open the menu with a long push on the **inner knob pushbutton**.
6. Use the **inner knob** to navigate to *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *DEVICE* → *INFO* → *DATABASES*.
7. Verify correct installation in the databases list.
8. Push the **ESC softkey** to leave the menu.

When the database license expires, the database can no longer be used and database functions are no longer available.

The station database and related functions are only available while the microSD card holding the station database file is inserted. If the microSD card is removed, the database and all related functions are unavailable.

11.2.3 Loading Software to ACD-57

For details on loading new software onto ACD-57, please consult the ACD-57 Installation Manual [1].

ACD-57 features a range of built-in self test features that continuously monitor system state and the state of connected systems to detect failures.

12.1 Failures

The detection of a failure is always annunciated to the flight crew on the display.

Depending on detected failure and failure severity, the system may seize to function or functionality may be limited. Failure messages either close automatically, can be closed by the flight crew, or can not be closed at all depending on failure severity.



Figure 12.1.: Major internal failure annunciation

12.2 Insufficient Data Failure Modes

12.2.1 No data from connected systems or internal systems

ACD-57 continuously monitors data from connected systems or its own internal hardware and software systems. If data is not regularly updated, it is no longer displayed. Instead the corresponding value is “crossed out” by a red cross (in case of entire systems that fail to respond) or yellow crosses (if single datasets in the menu expire).

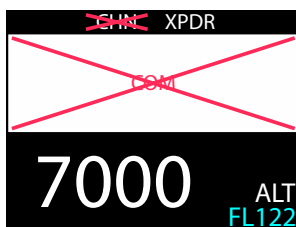


Figure 12.2.: No data/communication with connected COM system.

12.2.2 No GPS Data and/or No Database Installed

Some functions require a Database on an inserted microSD memory card and valid GPS position data. These are:

- Display of station names on the main page or the channel selection page.
- Nearest station list functions

If no GPS position data or database is available, station names are not displayed on the main page or the channel selection page. If trying to access the nearest station list by pushing the **NRST softkey**, an information message appears indicating that this function is not available. The message can be acknowledged by pushing the **inner knob pushbutton**.

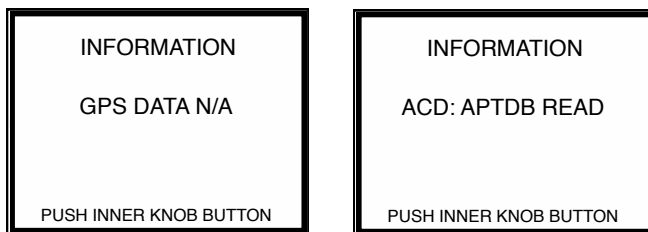


Figure 12.3.: Message indicating that database is not available (right) and GPS data is not available (left)

12.3 Illumination and Control Interfaces Overrides

Familiarize yourself with the override functions. These are important safety features in case of malfunctions that could prevent you from using the ACD-57 properly in flight.

12.3.1 Illumination

If the display and knob illumination control malfunctions, the display may be too bright or too dark. It may blind the flight crew (during flights at night) or become so dark, that it is unreadable.

You can override the current illumination regulation in the *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *DEVICE* → *ILLUM OVERRIDE*. The override function allows to manually adjust the brightness. After a power cycle, the previous settings will be restored.

12.3.2 Control Interface

If the external control interface or the external device that controls the ACD malfunctions, the COM and XPDR controls may be rendered unusable, for example, because of erroneous channel or volume changes.

You can override the external control interface in the *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *DEVICE* → *CTRL IF OVERRIDE*. The override function disconnects the external device temporarily. After a power cycle, the previous settings will be restored.

12.4 ACD System Failures

12.4.1 Failure Condition Classification

Depending on the failure severity and its consequences for the operational state of the system, the ACD-57 distinguishes between two following failure classifications:

- Fatal Failure
- Reduced Function Failure

12.4.2 Fatal Failures

In case of a fatal failure, the failed system has seized operation. This can not be recovered during runtime, a restart is required.

A fatal failure message is displayed in *red* color and will remain visible for the rest of the runtime of the system.



Figure 12.4.: Connected COM system has detected a fatal failure, failure code is displayed. Unaffected systems remain functional.

12.4.3 Reduced Function Failures

In case of a reduced function failure, the failed system has an issue and functionality is limited/reduced. Some functions of the system may still be available.

A reduced function failure message is displayed in *amber* color and will disappear within 5 seconds. After that, the failed system will be enframed by an *amber* colored rectangle.

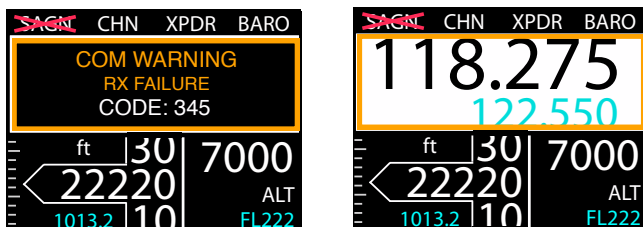


Figure 12.5.: Reduced function failure message (left) and system with reduced function after failure message has disappeared (right)

12.5 Failure Codes

Whenever available, failure codes of the ACD and all connected subsystems are shown. All current failure codes and the system state of the ACD and connected subsystems such as radios or transponders can be reviewed in *CONFIGURATION MENU* → *FAILURES*.

For failure code identification, please consult the manual of the affected systems.

13.1 I am unable to tune in some 8.33 kHz or 25 kHz channels

In earlier software versions, it was possible to limit the available channels to 25 kHz frequencies.

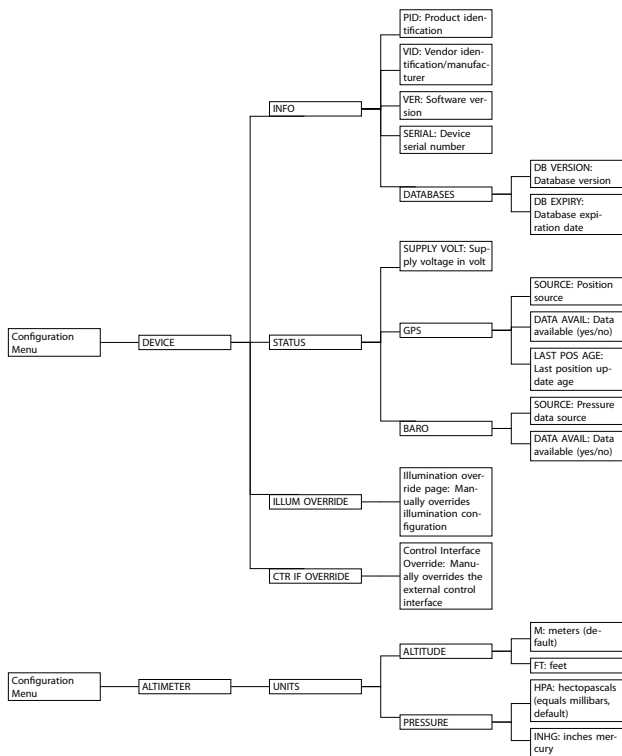
Newer software versions (45 and later) do not offer this parameter any longer. If the setup was wrong and an update to version 45 has been performed, it is possible that the wrong setup persists. For a solution, please contact AIR Avionics support if you experience issues after an update to version 45 or later.

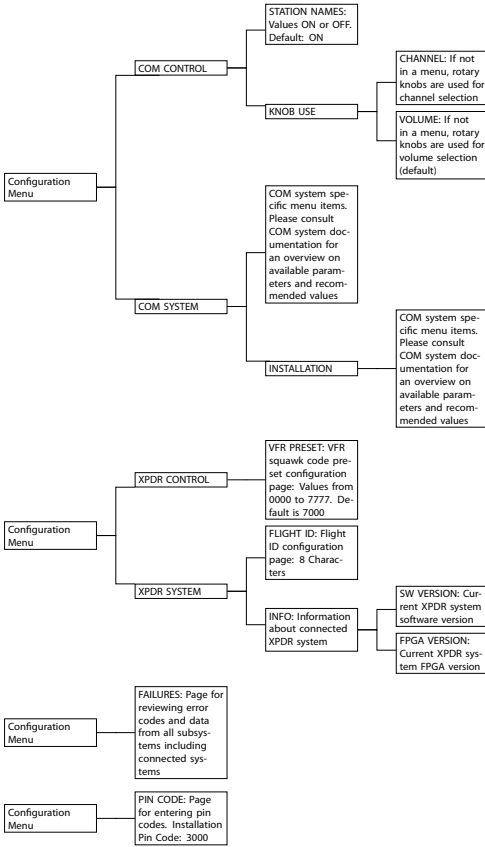
- [1] AIR Avionics, *ACD-57: Installation Manual*, rev 4.0, July 2024.

B

Configuration Menu Diagram

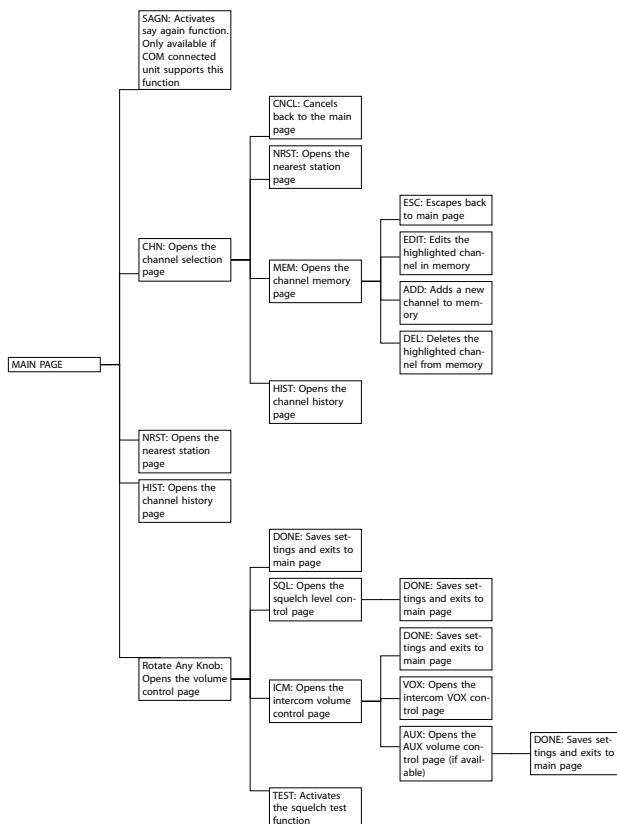
This menu diagram only shows the basic configuration parameters accessible to the flight crew. For a complete menu diagram including all pin code protected parameters, please consult the ACD-57 Installation Manual [1].





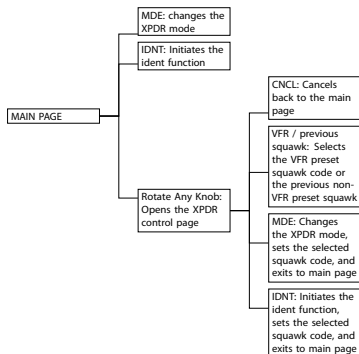
Softkey Menu Diagram

C.1 COM Control Only Softkeys

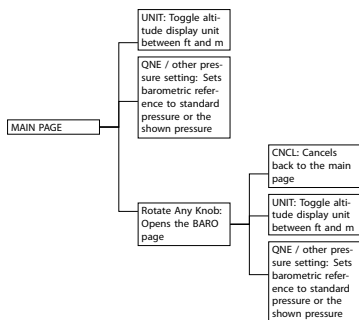


Please note that depending on the setup of the *Knob Use* parameter, the **CHN softkey** on the main page may be replaced by a **VOL softkey** (volume control) and rotation of **inner knob** or **outer knob** will open the channel selection page.

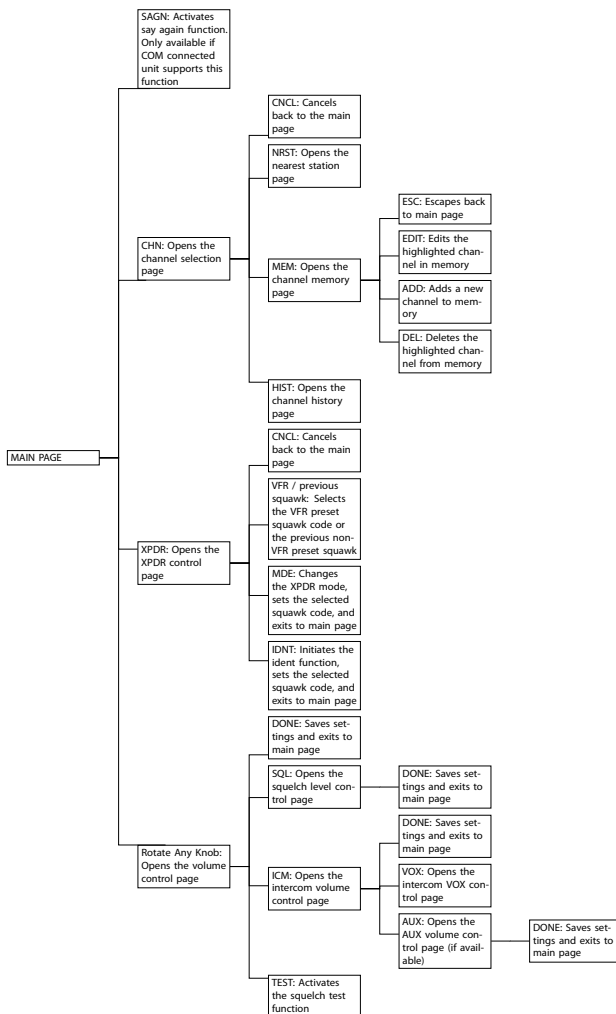
C.2 XPDR Control Only Softkeys



C.3 Altimeter Only Softkeys

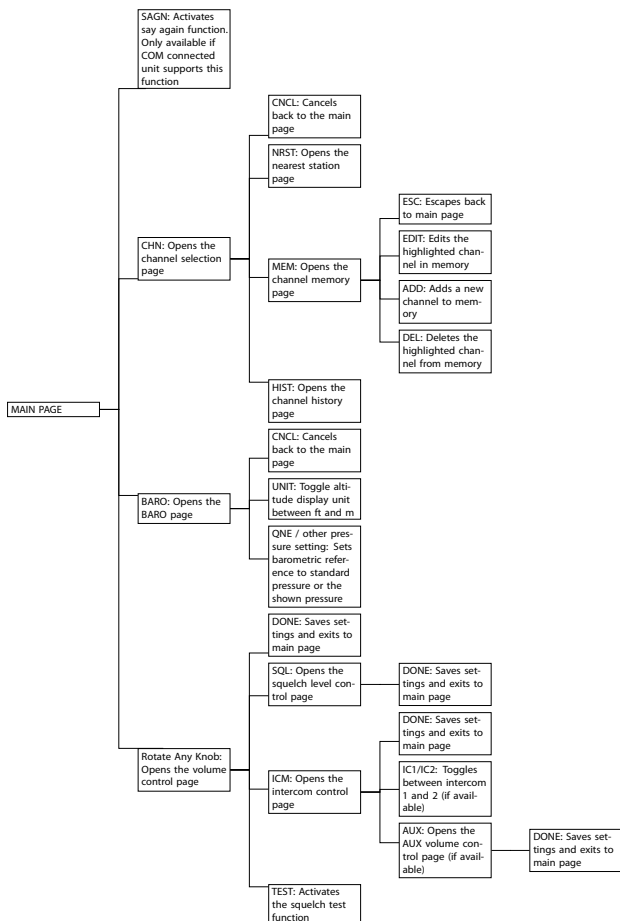


C.4 COM and XPDR Control Softkeys



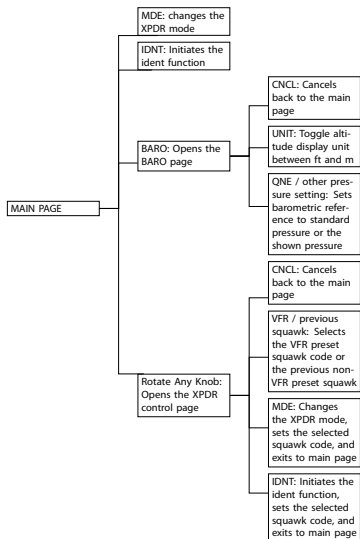
Please note that depending on the setup of the *KNOB USE* parameter, the **CHN softkey** on the main page may be replaced by a **VOL softkey** (volume control) and rotation of **inner knob** or **outer knob** will open the channel selection page.

C.5 COM and Altimeter Control Softkeys

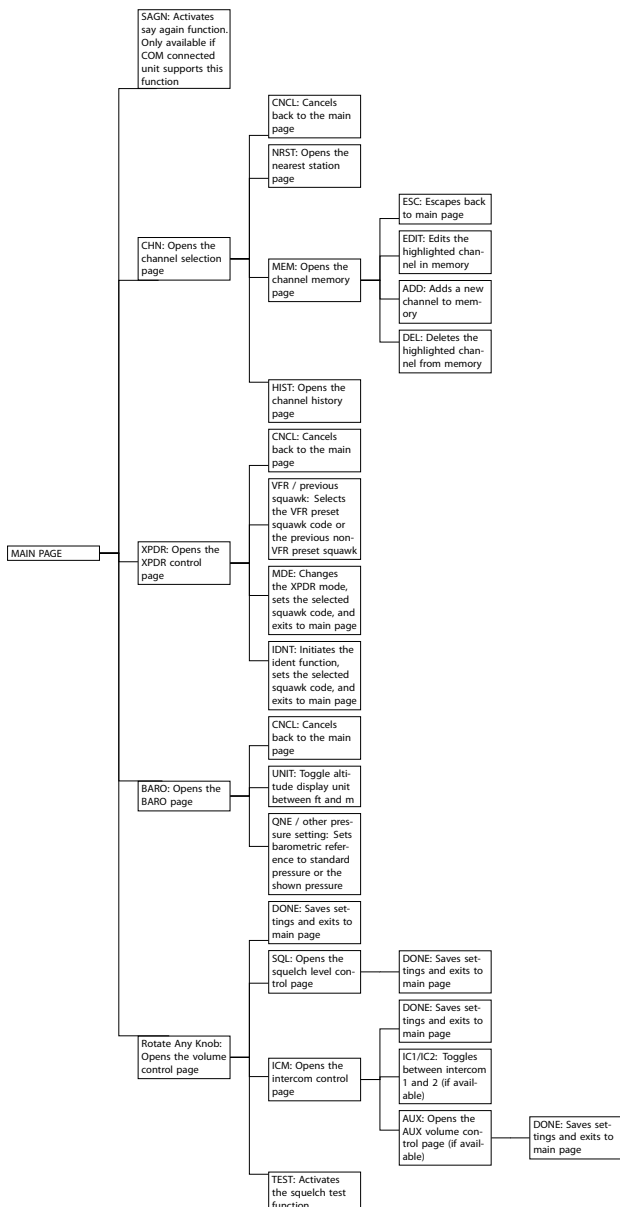


Please note that depending on the setup of the *KNOB USE* parameter, the **CHN softkey** on the main page may be replaced by a **VOL softkey** (volume control) and rotation of **inner knob** or **outer knob** will open the channel selection page.

C.6 XPDR Control and Altimeter Softkeys



C.7 COM, XPDR Control, and Altimeter Softkeys



Please note that depending on the setup of the *KNOB USE* parameter, the **CHN** softkey on the main page may be replaced by a **VOL** softkey (volume control) and rotation of **inner knob** or **outer knob** will open the channel selection page.

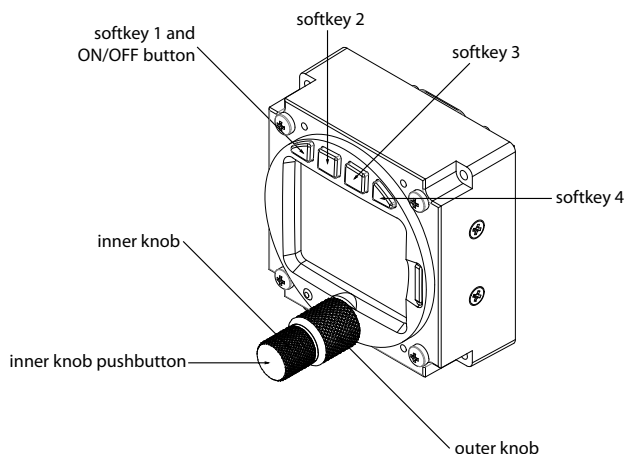


Figure D.1.: ACD-57 pilot controls

D.1 Switch On or Off

If not switching on automatically, push **softkey 1**, the leftmost button on top of the display, to switch the unit on. To switch the unit off, push **softkey 1** longer than 4 seconds.

D.2 COM Operation

D.2.1 Volume Control

On the main page, the **inner knob** opens the volume control page. On the volume control page, the **inner knob** controls the ACTIVE channel volume, the **outer knob** controls the STANDBY channel volume.

D.2.2 Channel Selection

On the main page, a short push on the **CHN softkey** opens the channel selection page. On the channel selection page, the **inner knob** controls the kHz, the **outer knob** controls the MHz.

To select 8.33 kHz channels, push and turn the **inner knob**.

D.3 XPDR Operation

D.3.1 Squawk Code Entry

The squawk code is entered in the XPDR page. The XPDR page is opened by pushing the **XPDR softkey** on the main page. On the XPDR page, use the **outer knob** to select a position in the squawk code and use the **inner knob** to adjust the selected position's value. Push the **inner knob pushbutton** to confirm the squawk code.

D.3.2 XPDR Mode Change

To change the XPDR mode from SBY (Standby) to ALT (Active) or back, please push the **MDE softkey** on the XPDR page. This also confirms the currently selected squawk code.

D.3.3 XPDR Ident Function

To use the XPDR ident function, please push the **IDNT softkey** on the XPDR page. This also confirms the currently selected squawk code.

D.4 Altimeter Operation

To adjust the barometric reference, please push the **BARO softkey** on the main page. On the baro input page, use the **outer knob** to adjust hPa and the **inner knob** to adjust daPa. Push the **QNE softkey** to use standard pressure.

To toggle between feet and meters, use the **UNIT softkey**.