

ARE YOU FULLY CONFIGURED?

The last newsletter briefly touched on configuration sets and how choosing a configuration set can be thought of as answering the question **“how do I want my instrument to behave?”**

As described last week, the basic idea of a configuration set is that it stores all the settings and parameters which define how an instrument functions.

For example, one particular TPS configuration set may contain the necessary settings that (amongst other things) make the instrument work in RCS mode with a 360° prism suitable for typical one-man survey work. A second TPS configuration set may contain the necessary settings that make the instrument work with reflectorless EDM and the red laser pointer turned on which is more suitable for an indoor building survey.

For GPS, a typical GPS configuration set may mean that the instrument works as a RTK rover logging auto points every 3m. A second GPS configuration set may contain the necessary settings that make the instrument function as an RTK reference station logging raw data every 2 seconds.

System500 users will already be familiar with configuration sets, but for TPS1100 users the use of configuration sets is completely new. On the TPS1100, if you wanted to change between the 2 ways of working described above, this would mean accessing a number of different configuration panels and changing a variety of settings. This was time consuming and not so easy to remember all the settings which need to be changed.

This newsletter focuses on the use of configuration sets, why they are so useful and also explains some tips and tricks which may not be so well known...

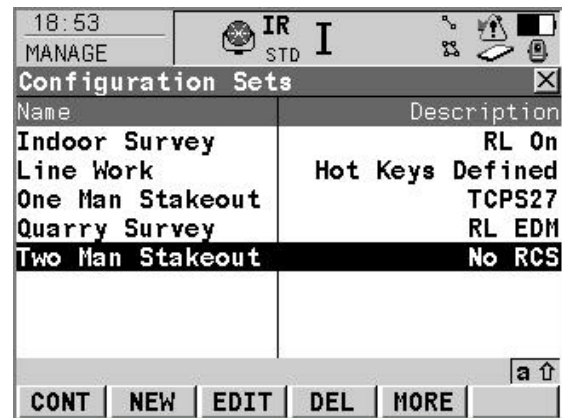
CONFIGURATION SETS

It is possible to create new configuration sets or edit existing configuration set using the configuration wizard, or to only make specific changes to individual settings within a configuration set...

CREATING NEW CONFIGURATION SETS

Creating a new configuration set is easy using the **Configuration Wizard**. It is probably only necessary to create new configuration sets when you first receive your instrument and are setting it up for the first time in the ways in which you wish to work or when you need a “new” way to work.

From the main menu, choose **3 Management...** and then choose **5 Configuration Sets**. You are now in the **MANAGE Configuration Sets** panel and all configuration sets stored on the instrument are alphabetically displayed. This panel can also be accessed by opening the **Config Set** closed list box in any application begin panel.



Note, each System1200 instrument is delivered with a number of “factory default” configuration sets. These are “general” configuration sets and are probably do not configure the instrument in exactly the way in which you wish to work. But these “factory default” configuration sets can be used to as a “template” to create new configuration sets as described below.

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Press **F2(NEW)** to create a new configuration set. This actually makes a copy of the configuration set which was highlighted when you pressed **F2(NEW)** so it makes sense to choose a configuration set containing similar settings to the one you wish to make – this is also why each System1200 instrument is delivered with a number of “factory default” configuration sets. Enter a name for the configuration set and step through the configuration wizard which then shows all configuration panels needed to configure the instrument...

Pressing shift **F6(QUIT)** at any time during the wizard allows to exit the wizard – and still save the changes you made up to that point.

EDITING CONFIGURATION SETS

Existing configuration sets can be edited in one of 2 ways – either using the configuration wizard, or by accessing individual configuration panels.

If you need to make many changes in many configuration panels, it is probably easier to use the configuration wizard. Access the **MANAGE Configuration Sets** panel (as described above), highlight the configuration set to be edited and press **F3(EDIT)** – you are now in the configuration wizard and can access all configuration panels.

If you need to make only a few changes in one or two configuration panels it is probably easier to directly access the appropriate configuration panel. If you are in the main menu then press **5 Config...** and use the configuration menus to access the panel you need. Note, these are the same panels you will see when using the configuration wizard. If you are not in the main menu then press the **USER** key and then **F2(CONF)** – this again brings you to the configuration menus.

Of course, if you find that you are frequently accessing the same configuration panel then you should put this panel onto a **hot key** or in the **USER menu** – more on this later...

Note, any changes made to the configuration set are immediately and permanently stored – this is different to System500 where a change

to the configuration set was only remembered until the instrument was turned off.

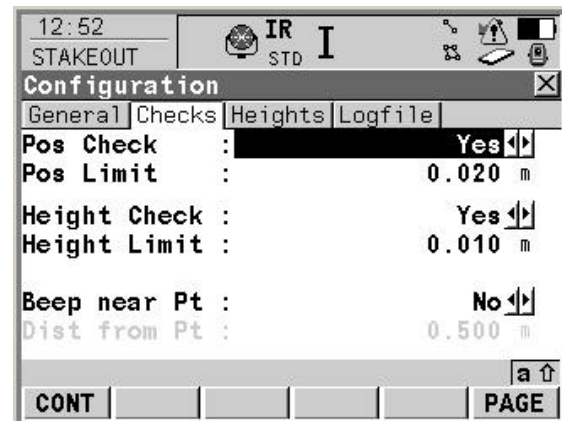
GET SURVEYING... QUICKLY!

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the whole reason for using configuration sets is that it is extremely easy to choose the appropriate configuration set in the “Begin” panel of each application and start working quickly. Again, these small time savings all lead to increased productivity.

And it is not only for the different ways of working that configuration sets should be made. If more than one user is using an instrument, then the individual users may wish to create their own personal configuration sets – then they know that when they use that configuration set, the instrument is ready to work in the way they want.

CONFIGURING INDIVIDUAL APPLICATION PROGRAMS

Within individual application programs (Survey, StakeOut, Setup, Reference Line etc) there are also individual configuration settings which are unique to that particular application.



In Stakeout for example, there are **application specific configuration settings**, which define the default orientation to be used when staking out or define the acceptable tolerance to which points must be staked out. In COGO, there are “application specific configuration settings”

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which define if the COGO calculations should be made on the grid, ground or ellipsoid etc.

Application specific configuration settings can be accessed by **F2(CONF)** in the begin panel of the individual application or, once the application has been started, these settings can still be accessed using **shift F2(CONF)**. This is common to all applications.

So it should now be clear that it is possible to create a number of different configuration sets, which are used when working with a particular application.

For example, when staking out points which define a fence line, a configuration set would be selected (maybe called **Fence Stake**) which has the settings which are appropriate for staking out a fenceline – the tolerance for the staked out points may be set to 0.2m. However, when the same instrument is then used to stakeout pins for laying asphalt, a different configuration set would be selected (maybe called **Pins Stake**) – this configuration set has the settings which are appropriate for staking out a asphalt pins – the tolerance for the staked out points may be set to 0.006m.

Note also, that even format file used within application programs (which is used to create the logfile) are also part of the configuration set. So when you are staking out points for a client who needs a logfile in a particular format you would choose one configuration set. When you are then staking out points for a second client who needs a logfile in a different format you would choose a different configuration set.

HOT KEYS AND THE USER MENU

One of the best ways to ensure you are surveying as efficiently as possible with a minimum number of key strokes is to configure the hot keys (keys **F7** to **F12**) and the User menu (accessed by pressing the **USER** key) for the way you are working.

If you find that you are repeatedly accessing a particular panel, then assign that panel to a hot key or into the USER menu.

Additionally, it is also possible to put some commonly used “functions” onto hot keys or into the USER menu. For example, if you are constantly toggling between using infra-red EDM and reflectorless EDM then put this function onto a hot key – one key stroke now toggles between the two EDM modes.

The user below for example has really set up his USER menu to help in the way he works.



After turning on the instrument at the beginning of each day, he immediately presses the **USER** key and chooses menu option **1 Level & Laser Plummet** to level the instrument. After doing this he chooses menu option **2 Job Management** to create a new job and then menu option **3 Survey** to access the survey program.

Once inside survey, he then uses menu options **4, 5** and **6** to toggle between **Reflectorless/Reflector** measurements, to activate **PowerSearch** and to toggle the **Red Laser** on and off. Menu options **8** and **9** allow him to quickly open a **new line** or **area**.

And this is only the USER menu – on the hot keys, he has many more frequently used functions and access to panels. And remember, you can also use the shift hot keys!

Access the **CONFIGURE Hot Keys & User Menu** panel and take a look at all the panels and functions which can be assigned – you will be surprised. Remember, to quickly access the **CONFIGURE Hot Keys & User Menu** panel, hold down any hot key for 2 seconds...

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Configuring the hot keys and USER menu to the way you work can really speed up surveying leading to increased productivity...

TIPS AND TRICKS

COPYING CONFIGURATION SETS

If you do take the time to create a number of configuration set then you may want to copy these configuration sets onto all your instruments. This is possible by choosing **6 Tools...** from the main menu, then **2 Transfer Objects...** and then **06 Configuration Sets**. Simply transfer them via the CF card from one instrument to another.

It is also possible to create configuration sets on the simulator and transfer them to instruments – follow the procedure described above.

USER DEFINED DEFAULT CONFIGURATION SETS

It is possible to make your “favourite” configuration sets into default configuration sets. This means if you delete that configuration set or make many changes, then the original configuration set settings can be recalled.

In the **MANAGE Configuration Sets** panel, highlight the configuration set you wish to be a default and press **shift F4(SET-D)**. A copy of this configuration set is then saved away which can be later recalled should you delete or change the original. To recall the default configuration set, simply press **shift F5(DEFLT)** in the **MANAGE Configuration Sets** panel.

THE CONFIGURATION WIZARD

It is possible to view only a sub-set of all the panels shown when using the configuration wizard. In the first panel in the wizard – the **CONFIGURE Wizard Mode** panel – select **Reduced** for the **Wizard Mode**. Now you will view only the most important panels during the wizard.

You can quickly exit the configuration wizard at any time by pressing **shift F6(QUIT)** – you are

then asked if you want to change your changes.

It is also possible to quickly access specific panels within the configuration wizard. In the **CONFIGURE Wizard Mode** panel, press **F6(LIST)** to access the **CONFIGURE Quick Access** panel – all configuration panels are now listed and can be directly accessed with **F3(EDIT)**.

DISPLAY MASKS

It is not only how the functionality of the instrument which can be configured – remember it is also possible to configure how certain panels look.

Display masks can be configured to allow only the information you need to see when using application programs – even the name of the display can be configured.

Up to 3 display masks can be used for the survey application. Stakeout, Reference Line and other applications allow one display mask to be used.

REMEMBER

As with any PC software, where not many people really take time to “configure” the software (create extra toolbars with commonly used functions or create simple macros for often repeated functions), not many people take time to configure their System 1200 to ensure they are getting the most out of their instrument.

Take some time to see what can be configured - think about how different configuration sets could be created that would be appropriate for the type of survey work you are doing.

When you get to the field simply choose the correct configuration set and start surveying more quickly in the way you want to work...

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