

## The TR500 Terminal – In Use!

Last newsletter (No. 2) we discussed the icons on the TR500, this week we discuss the use of the TR500.

The TR500 is nothing more than a display and keyboard and has been designed to make the control of System 500 as simple as possible. But do you know of all the features?

## Less Well Known TR500 Features

Many users still ask about the following:

- The TR500 can be detached from any sensor (reference or rover) at ANY time – the sensor will continue to operate normally. When you re-attach the terminal you will see the same screen panel as before.
- In some panels, further options are available on the “SHIFT” level. This is shown by an arrow in the bottom right-hand screen corner.
- If CAPITALS are selected, a “C” appears in the bottom right-hand screen corner.
- When entering data into a text line, you can easily append data to any existing text. Simply press ENTER when the text line is highlighted. The existing text will remain and you can edit or add to it. (This may be particularly useful to add extra text to the end of point Ids).
- Additional character types can be entered when entering data in a field by pressing the up or down

arrow to scroll around the available character types. (May be useful to enter question marks to prompt for attribute values).

## List Boxes

There are 2 types of list boxes: fixed list boxes and editable list boxes. Both are indicated as being a list box by a triangle at the right side of line. Pressing the left or right arrow buttons scrolls around the choices in the list box.

Pressing enter will expose all choices. With a fixed list box, the list box is shown in the same screen panel. With an editable list box, a new panel is displayed. This type of list box contains a search facility. It is possible to “jump” to a choice by entering the first letters of your choice.

## The Search Facility And Saving Key Strokes

The example below applies to the code list box, but the ideas behind it can be applied to any list box to save key strokes.

Imagine you are surveying with an existing code list but also creating new codes as you work.

The quickest way to choose an existing code is to highlight the code line and then type the first letter of the code. This exposes the list of codes and moves the focus in the list box to the code beginning with that letter. A second entered letter moves the focus to the code with those 2 entered letters.

e.g. Your codelist contains codes such as CB, CF, CONT and CUL. You wish to code a

point as CUL. In the Survey panel, highlight the code line and type C. This will expose the codelist and point the focus to the CB (the first code beginning with C). Note how a



C has also been entered between the 2 arrow heads in the top right of the screen (this is the search functionality).

You could now press the arrow down 3 times to highlight CUL. A quicker way is to now type “U”. The search functionality now



shows the entry “CU” and the focus has moved to the code CU. Press F1(CONT) or ENTER to select the code and return to the survey panel.

You now wish to enter a new code “CH”. In the survey panel, highlight the code line and type CH. (The codelist will be exposed and the focus will move to the code CONT - this is because it is trying to find a code beginning with CH).

Press F2(NEW), and the new code CH is created and selected as the chosen code and you are returned to the survey panel.

## Remember...

Surveyors do not like any more keys strokes than necessary. Use every feature to minimise key strokes when using System 500.

