

UAT1 VERSION 3.03 and up - Starting July 2019



## UAT1 PROFESSIONAL RAMP TESTER USERS MANUAL

### POWER

The UAT1 is powered by (4) AA batteries. For battery operation, please install the (4) AA batteries. Remove four rubber feet using small phillips screwdriver. Use care to install batteries in correct orientation (neg battery to springs). When shipping or when storing it is recommended to remove the batteries.

Due to customs problems we are unable to send batteries out of the USA.

### TESTING PROCEDURE

The transmit power of the UAT1 is very low - at approximately 1/4 of one thousandth of a watt (0.25 milliwatt) - so you will need to be close (15-40 ft) to the aircraft for most testing. The power was designed to be very small so that the likelihood of interference is low and so that the sensitivity of the aircraft receivers can be checked. However, when using the UAT1, remember the aircraft transmits at much higher power. Be sure that you do not interfere with any other aircraft or ATC system.

**\*\*\*\*\* 20 dbm = 0.1 watt is the MAX allowed input \*\*\*\*\***

To test a transponder using direct connection, you must use an external attenuator to reduce the 54dbm, or so, power out to +20dbm or less into the UAT1. An optional 40db

attenuator kit is available. Exceeding the 20dbm input level will cause damage to the UAT1.

**Note 1;** when testing do not overload the UAT1 front end. The UAT1 was designed for input signals to the antenna port of **+20db or less**. When testing with the UAT1, stay 3 foot or more away from the DME and transponder antennas, and a couple feet or more from Comm antennas. To perform direct connect transponder testing, 40 db or more, of power appropriate, attenuation **MUST** be used. Sun offers an optional 25 watt 40 db attenuator kit.

## **FRONT PANEL OPERATION**

To operate the UAT1, turn on unit and wait for its self test to finish. It will display the software version then;

**PUSH TO SEL MODE**  
**< TRANSPONDER >**

The UAT1 is controlled using the 3 keys just below the 2 line LCD display. The center key has two functions based on how long the key is pressed. A short normal press is used to select the currently displayed menu item. A long (approx 2 seconds) press causes the unit to stop the current operation and jump back to the < TRANSPONDER > beginning menu item. The Left and Right keys just move you through the menu's or adjust selection values.

NOTE; The menu's are circular. From the TRANSPONDER item, a left key press will move to the 1090 TRAFFIC SIM While a right key press will move you to UAT.

The LED just above the 2 line LCD display will turn on to indicate that the UAT1 is transmitting. Connect the antenna to the BNC connector that is above the display. During UAT1 operation collapse the antenna to its shortest length.

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## **UAT1 OPERATION:**

The UAT1 aircraft avionics ramp tester provides test functions for the following aircraft avionic equipment:

### **1. TRANSPONDER A/C**

- a) Generates MODE-A test** signal and display's squawk code and reply percentage. Also allows side lobe suppression check. If the transponder IDENT is activated then the UAT1 will display IDENT. The UAT1 sends about 235 MODE-A interrogations per second. The UAT1 sends 1030MHz P1 and P3 pulses spaced 8.0uS apart. The P2 side lobe suppression pulse can be selected off, the same amplitude as P1-P3, or -9db. The suppression pulse is sent 2.0uS after the P1 pulse if enabled. No P4 pulse is sent. The top LCD line display's the squawk code then F1=nn. The hex number nn is the approx transponders F1 pulse width. The hex number times 50nS equates to the measured F1. If the transponder is sending ident then the word IDENT replaces the F1 display. Reply percent is on the bottom LCD line.

Example; After turning on the UAT1 and waiting for the self

test to run, the display will read

**PUSH TO SEL MODE**  
**< TRANSPONDER >**

push left push button so that display line 2 reads;

**< 1090 TRAFFIC SIM >**

Push the right key to go back to transponder.

now push center button to select transponder testing.  
The display will now show

**SEL TXPDR MODE**  
**MODE A SQUAWK**

If we wanted to do a different transponder test we would use the right or left buttons to step through the tests available. Since we wish to do the Mode-A test we press the center button to select it. The display will show

**SIDELOBE SUPPRES**  
**NO SLS P2 OFF ?**

If we wish to do Mode-A with the SLS off then press center select button. If you wish to send a P2 pulse that is equal in amplitude or -9db to the P1 pulse then use the right or left buttons. Once the center button is pressed the UAT1 will begin sending Mode-A interrogations and looking for replies. The UAT1 will display something like;

**SQ=1200 F1=08**  
**Reply%=100**

Line 1 displays the Squawk code and the F1 shows the pulse width of the reply F1 pulse where a Hex number between 7 to B is normal. Line 2 displays the reply percentage. If all interrogations result in a good reply to the UAT1 then 100% is shown. To stop Mode-A testing and select a different test, press and hold the center button down until the blue LED goes off or blinks. The power switch will also work but any saved info will be lost. To calculate received pulse width (hex number)\*50nS. For example; Hex A=10 so 10\*50nS=500nS or 0.5uS width.

- b) Generates MODE-C test** signal and displays the altitude and reply percentage.  
Also allows sidelobe suppression check.  
The UAT1 sends about 235 MODE-C interrogations per second.  
The UAT1 sends 1030MHz P1 and P3 pulses spaced 21.0uS apart.  
The P2 sidelobe suppression pulse is the same amplitude or -9db from P1-P3 and sent 2.0uS after the P1 pulse if enabled.  
No P4 pulse is sent. The top LCD line displays the raw received code in hex and the calculated altitude. The bottom line gives reply percentage.
- c) Generate signals to allow the uavionix "SKY BEACON" and "TAIL BEACON" 978MHz UAT ADS-B units to sync to its aircraft Mode-A/C transponder. While this command is running the LED will be on to signify that the UAT1 is sending mode A and C requests.

**d) Checks the Aircraft Transponders Transmit carrier frequency.**

The UAT1 sends MODE-A requests and displays a number that is representative of the magnitude of the received reply. By moving a filter about the nominal 1090MHz receive frequency the approximate transponder transmit frequency is determined. The filter can be moved +/- 15MHz from 1090MHz in 1MHz steps. Use the left button to move down and the right key to move the offset up in frequency. The bottom LCD line shows the offset and the filter output magnitude. The MAG=(number) will be largest at the transmit frequency. For example, if you get -2 MHz MAG=(77), -1 MHz MAG=(122), 0 MHz MAG=(85). Then the acft transponder Tx freq is a bit less than 1 MHz lower than the 1090 MHz nominal transmit frequency.

**e) Aircraft transponder receive frequency check.**

To determine where the transponder is most sensitive to ATC requests, this feature allows you to step the UAT1 transmitted frequency +/- 15 MHz from the nominal 1030 MHz. For example if you find that by moving the frequency, your getting 100% reply from -3 MHz up to +5 MHz that would indicate that your transponders IF filter is a bit high. For best reception the transponder may need alignment, especially if the MTL value needs improvement.

**f) All ATCRBS transponders are required to go inactive or suppress**

for 35 +/- 10 microseconds (uS) after receiving the P1-P2 side lobe suppression signal. This ATCRBS suppression feature is now also used by the mode-s system. The ground stations mode-s interrogation begins with two pulses spaced 2.0 uS apart just like the SLS pulses. The mode-s message then continues while the ATCRBS transponders are in suppression. Therefore it is nice to know if your transponder is being suppressed as it should.

The UAT1 provides this "SLS TIME CHECK ?" function to measure the actual suppression time. The UAT1 sends out a SLS pulse pair then sends a mode A inquiry after the variable delay time. The time between the SLS pulse pair and the inquiry is adjustable by you. So by decreasing the delay time until the reply percentage begins to fall, the transponder suppression time is determined. The top LCD line display's the squawk code and reply percentage. The bottom line display's the delay time in microseconds. Use the left and right keys to change the delay time.

## **2. UAT mode**

This new UAT menu allows you to read UAT 978MHz ADS-B squitter from your Test aircraft or generate UAT simulated traffic to test the aircrafts receiver and traffic display.

**a) UAT ADS-B READ ?**

Select with center key. The UAT1 will display "DOING UAT INPUT" on line 2. When a message is received and an error free decode is done, the results will be displayed. Two types of messages are displayed.

- The short message contains type code=0. The UAT1 will decode and display the following information on the LCD display.

Line 1= N or S Latitude, the NIC code and then the hex aircraft address,  
Line 2= E or W Longitude, A/G for air or ground, P/G for pressure or GPS altitude  
Source, and the altitude in feet.

The NIC code character is a hex digit 0-F. The containment radius, Rc is given;

NIC=0 Rc $\geq$ 20NM  
NIC=1 Rc<20NM  
NIC=2 Rc<8NM  
NIC=3 Rc<4NM  
NIC=4 Rc<2NM  
NIC=5 Rc<1NM  
NIC=6 Rc<0.6NM  
NIC=7 Rc<0.2NM  
NIC=8 Rc<0.1NM  
NIC=9 Rc<112 meter  
NIC=A Rc<37.5 meter  
NIC=B Rc<11 meter  
NIC=C,D,E,F Reserved for future needs

\* The long type message with type code=1 or 3. The UAT1 will decode and display the following mode status information on the LCD display.

Line 1= Aircraft call sign / ID, two digit emitter category, NIC baro char, UAT in capability, 1090 in capability, TCAS capability.

two digit emitter category;  
00=no aircraft information  
01=Light acft  
02=Small acft  
03=Large acft  
04=Large high vortex  
05=Heavy  
06=Highly maneuverable  
07=Rotorcraft  
08=unassigned  
09=Glider  
10=Lighter than air  
11=Parachutist  
12=Ultra light  
13=unassigned  
14=Unmanned aerial vehicle  
15=Space vehicle  
16=unassigned  
17=Surface vehicle emergency  
18=Surface vehicle service  
19=Point obstacle  
20=Cluster obstacle  
21=Line obstacle  
22 to 39 reserved

NIC baro indicates if the barometric altitude has been cross checked with another altitude source. If 0 then no if 1 then yes cross checked. The three capability digits equal 1 if true.

[Vn, space, En, space, Snh or s, space, Dn, space, n, space, n]

Line 2= Version number, Emergency status, SIL code and SIL supp h or s, SDA value, NACp, and finally NACv.

The emergency status number;  
0=No emergency  
1=General emergency  
2=Medical  
3=Minimum fuel  
4=Lost communications  
5=Unlawful interference  
6=Downed aircraft  
7=reserved

The SIL number;  
0 unknown  
1  $\leq 1 \times 10^{-3}$  per SIL-sup  
2  $\leq 1 \times 10^{-5}$  per SIL-sup  
3  $\leq 1 \times 10^{-7}$  per SIL-sup  
SIL-sup is h for per hour, or s for per sample.

The SDA number;  
0 unknown  
1 Minor  
2 Major  
3 Hazardous

The NACp number;  
0 >10NM  
1 <10NM  
2 <4NM  
3 <2NM  
4 <1NM  
5 <0.5NM  
6 <0.3NM  
7 <0.1NM  
8 <0.05NM  
9 <30 meter  
A <10 meter  
B <3 meter  
C to F reserved

The NACv number;  
0  $\geq 10$  M/S  
1 <10 M/S  
2 <3 M/s  
3 <1 M/s  
4 <0.3 M/S  
5,6,7 reserved

## b) UAT TRAFFIC SIMULATION

This function will simulate an aircraft sending 978 MHz UAT squitter as it fly's an south-north-south path. You control the center Lat, Lon, and Altitude. This function can be used to test your aircrafts ADS-B receiver and traffic display system.

After the UAT TRAFFIC SIM mode is selected, you are prompted to change location and altitude. The UAT1 will automatically save latitude, longitude and altitude as data is read by UAT, Mode-C transponder functions. Mode-C saves altitude info and UAT READ saves Lat Lon data.

When this function is selected, you are allowed to modify the saved values.

To modify Latitude for example. When the UAT1 displays;

**LAT=N 32.45 deg**

**MODIFY LAT ? NO**

use the left or right key to change the NO to yes, then use the center key to select.

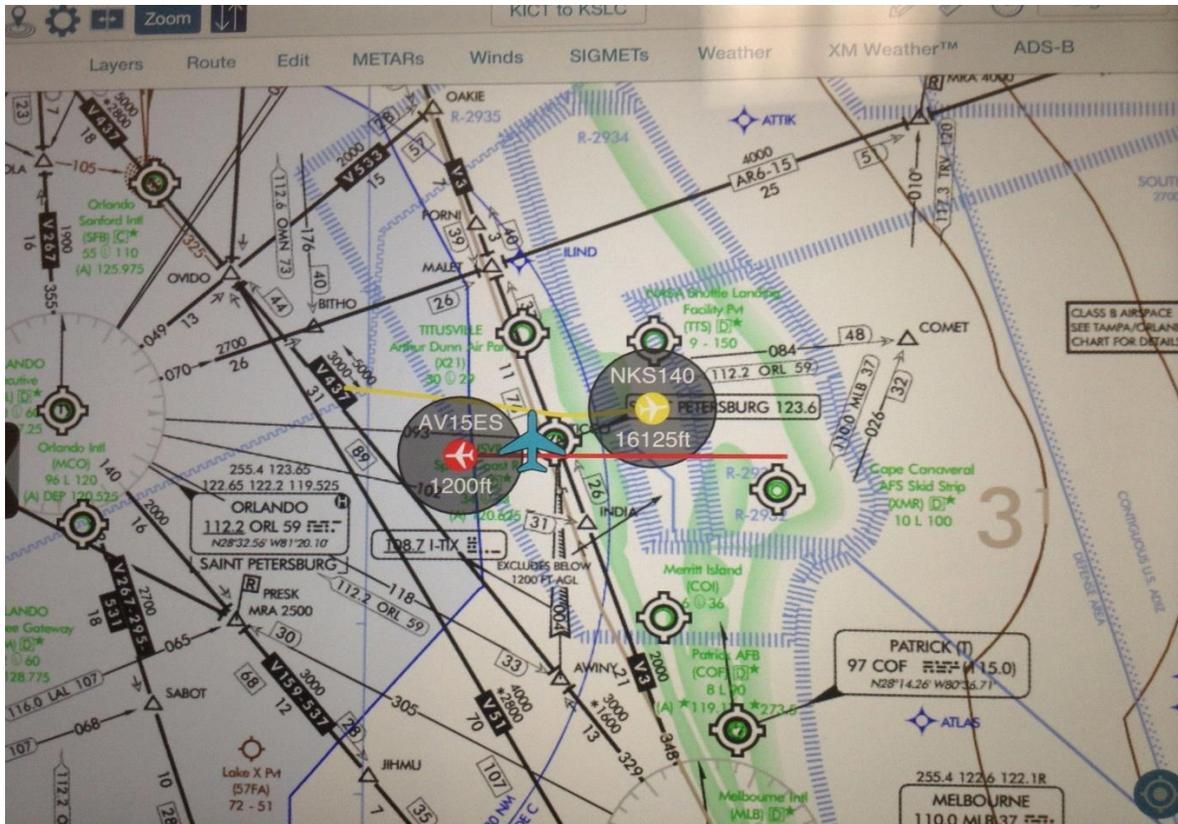
The LCD will then display;

**LAT=N 32.45 deg**

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the pointer is pointing at the N for North. To change to South press the left/right key. Then to accept the change and go to the next element press the center key. The LCD line 2 pointer will then move under the 10's place 3 digit. Change it using the right/left keys and accept using the center key. If a value element doesn't need to be changed, just press the center key to keep it as is. When you are done changing location and altitude the UAT1 will send UAT squitters at every step;

The UAT1 will start at a position about  $\frac{1}{4}$  degree (15 mile) south of the set location and each time you short press the center key the simulated aircraft will step north until it is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  degree north then turn around and step back south. The north-south-north-south stepping will continue until the center key is given a long press to take you back to the main menu. 16 step points are generated for each direction. The transmitted altitude will be within 100 foot of the adjusted altitude. AV17UAT is the aircraft ID and 123456 is the HEX code sent. Remember the UAT1 transmits a very low output power so its signal will only be heard within a 25 foot or so radius.



### 3. 1090 TRAFFIC SIMULATION

This function will simulate an aircraft sending 1090MHz ADS-B squitter as it fly's an east-west-east path. You control the center Latitude, Longitude, and Altitude. This function can be used to test your aircrafts ADS-B receiver and traffic display system.

After the 1090 TRAFFIC SIM mode is selected, you are prompted to change location and altitude. The UAT1 will automatically save latitude, longitude and altitude as data is read by UAT READ and transponder functions. you are allowed to modify the saved values.

To modify Latitude for example. When the UAT1 displays;

```
LAT=N 32.45 deg
MODIFY LAT ? NO
```

use the left or right key to change the NO to yes, then use the center key to select.

The LCD will then display;

```
LAT=N 32.45 deg
^
```

the pointer is pointing at the N for North. To change to South press the left/right key. Then to accept the change and go to the next element press

the center key. The LCD line 2 pointer will then move under the 10's place 3 digit. Change it using the right/left keys and accept using the center key. If a value element doesn't need to be changed, just press the center key to keep it as is. When you are done changing location and altitude the UAT1 will send the following ADS-B squitters at every step;

Even Airbourne location ADS-B squitter

Odd Airbourne location ADS\_B squitter

Aircraft Velocity squitter

Aircraft ID squitter

Short Acquisition squitter message

The UAT1 will start at a position about ¼ degree (15 mile) west of the set location and each time you short press the center key the simulated aircraft will step east until it is about ¼ degree east then turn around and step back west. The east-west-east-west stepping will continue until the center key is given a long press to take you back to the main menu. 16 step points are generated for each direction. The transmitted altitude will be within 100 foot of the adjusted altitude. AV17ES is the aircraft ID and 123456 is the HEX code sent. Remember the UAT1 transmits a very low output power so its signal will only be heard Within a 25 foot or so radius.

## END OF COMMANDS

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## ABOUT CALIBRATION

The UAT1 factory calibration is valid for 1 year and we offer a 2 day turn Re-cal service at the factory for \$100 US plus shipping and any repairs if required.

## BATTERY REPLACEMENT and USB POWER

The UAT1 is powered by (4) AA batteries. Heavy duty alkaline or equivalent should provide over 2 hours of continuous operation. To replace the batteries, remove the four rubber feet using a #1 phillips Screw driver to access the battery holder. Make sure battery negative goes to spring end of holder positions. Before long term storage it's best to remove the batteries to prevent battery leakage damage. Also promptly replace expended batteries.

## REGULATIONS

Sun Avionics has done its best to provide a useful piece of test equipment; Please understand your requirements when using the UAT1. Your country's aviation authority has rules that determine who may work on or repair avionic equipment. Please understand and follow those requirements.

For updated information, questions, or to send your comments please see our web site:

[www.sunavionics.com](http://www.sunavionics.com) <<http://www.sunavionics.com>>

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**Thank you for selecting Sun Avionics**