



DEM TC

DEM TRANSVERTER CONTROL

The DEM Transverter Control (DEM TC) is the circuit board that controls all transverter functions in the DEMI 2.3 GHz. -10 GHz. transverters. It was designed with many options and depending on the configuration you have ordered (see configuration page of main transverter document), the options may or may not be enabled in your transverter. This document will cover all of the features available for understanding and make it possible to change the configuration at any time to suit your requirements.

Circuit Description: (All functions mentioned may or may not be enabled in your transverter)

The DEM TC circuit board is mounted in the front of the transverter. It includes the DC power switch and both the "Power On" and the "Transmit On" LED's. The TC contains a 1.5 amp, 9 Volt regulator that supplies the transverter with all of the regulated DC voltage it requires and allows some head room for other external circuits. The TC controls all of the IF switching functions utilizing a high isolation RF relay that is rated through 1 GHz. It allows the use of any frequency of IF up to 1300 MHz. On transmit it will allow the use of up to a maximum of 10 watts of drive depending on configuration. The TC also incorporates adjustable attenuators for both transmit and receive and has a provision for adding additional receive IF gain. The TC allows either a PTT High or Low for keying the transmit and receive circuits. Another feature included on the TC circuit board is a 24 Volt relay driver designed to operate most SMA relays used for Transmit and Receive switching of the RF frequencies. This circuit may not work with certain types of relays but will operate with any SMA relay supplied by DEMI. Other options include different auxiliary DC switching schemes, keying the transverter through the IF coax, and supplying PTT keying signals to external equipment. Connection and use of each circuit is explained below. Refer to schematic and component list for all component designations.

RXIF Gain and Adjustment:

The installation of the receive IF gain stage is the most asked about device in the transverter. If the transverter is to be installed at the antenna with a long run of coax for the IF line, you may wish to install IC1. Understand that installing this gain stage will not improve the system noise figure and in most cases it will slightly degrade it. If you wish to improve the system noise figure, you should add a LNA at the RF frequency. Then depending on the gain of the additional RF LNA, you may not need the RXIF gain stage even if the transverter mast mounted. If you wish to install IC1, refer to the component placement to determine where it is installed along with its bias resistor R9. Any low frequency MMIC may be used but select it for the correct amount of gain required. Also consider the noise figure unless you have a RF LNA in the system. Select the value of R9 for the MMIC to be used for 13.8VDC operation. To bypass the gain stage, install a leaded 120pF capacitor in place of IC1. Keep the leads short.

The RXIF gain can be adjusted with R7. There should be approximately 20 dB of range. With your system completely connected, R7 may be adjusted to an acceptable level determined by your ear. For best results, keep the gain to a minimum. Only a slight noise increase should be noticed by cycling the power switch of the transverter. If your "S" meter of your IF radio is at half scale, you have lost half of the dynamic range of your system. For the same reasoning, adding the gain stage and then adjusting the RXIF to maximum will degrade the dynamic range further.



TXIF Drive Level and Adjustment.

The TXIF drive level adjustment (R2) has approximately 20 dB of range. Depending on the configuration ordered, this adjustment range may not be acceptable. If so the fixed attenuator may need to be installed, removed, or adjusted. If you wish to use less than 50 milliwatts of IF drive power, install a short jumper wire in the R4 position and remove the large 50 ohm termination that may be installed on the front panel. If you wish to use up to 2 watts, install R4 as shown with the large 50 ohm termination. If you plan to use 1 - 10 watts of IF drive, install a 1pF capacitor in the R4 position with the 50 ohm termination. If you need to experiment with other drive levels, any combination of variable capacitor or resistor may be used in the R4 position. You may also adjust the values of R1 and R3 as needed. Input power to the TXIF adjustment is dependent on the attenuation installed on the C3 side of the K1 relay. The 50 ohm load resistor is designed to handle 35 watts with proper heat sinking. When mounted to the front panel of the transverter, it will not tolerate more than 10-12 watts reliably for a long period of time. You may experiment with external heat sinking if you desire. External attenuation may also be used in the transceive path. Remember that the added attenuation is also on the receive signal but may be overcome by the additional gain of the RXIF gain stage. The level then may be adjusted with the RXIF adjustment.

Split Transmit and Receive or Common IF Configuration:

If you wish to use your transverter with separate TX and RX ports, first remove C3 and C5. Then attach coax from the IF connectors to the corresponding TXIF and RXIF connections at the C3 and C5 locations. If you are converting a split IF to a common IF, C3 and C5 may or may not be already installed. Select the coax you wish to keep as the common and connect it to the common input of K1.

PTT-H and PTT-L

The TC has the option of either using a PTT-H or PTT-L keying circuit. The PTT-H requires +1.5 to +18VDC to activate it and will sink up to 2 mA. If using this circuit, be certain that the sink current will not exceed your transceivers rating. The PTT-L circuit requires a connection to ground to be activated. It is connected to the K1 relay and will source up to 25 mA to ground when keyed. If this exceeds your transceivers rating you may modify the TC as shown in our design note DN0?? Found in our library on our web site or call for a copy.

PTT Keying Through the IF Coax:

Some transceivers such as certain models of the Yeasu FT290 supply a positive voltage on it's RF output connector during transmit or receive. This voltage may be used for keying the transverter. After verifying or modifying your transceiver for this function, the transverter may have the option installed. Select a choke of 1.0 μ h or larger and install it in the L1 position of the TC. Then connect a short wire jumper from the DC side of L1 to the PTT-H connection. When the transceiver is keyed, the voltage in the coax will key the PTT-H of the transverter. This is the most fool proof connection of the PTT line that can be made with any transceiver and is highly recommended by DEMI.

If the PTT-L connection is connected to the PTT connector, it will not affect the operation of the system. Just do not key both lines at the same time! If you will never use it, it may be disconnected and the external connector may be used for any other auxiliary connections.



+DC Switching Functions:

Relay K2 controls all of the +DC switching functions in the transverter. One side of the relay switches the raw +DC supply voltage to the transverter and the other side switches the regulated +9 volts. There are extra connection holes on the PCB if you require any additional switched voltage. Be sure not to exceed the 1.5 amp limit on the 9 volt regulated supply. The transverter's current drain is listed on it's configuration page and allow for some overhead when the oscillator is not warmed up.

The switched voltages may be used for external LNA's, switching circuits for power amplifiers or relays. You may need to add an extra hole for a connector if the AUX connector is used. Be sure to fuse any external connections. The relay's contacts (K2) are rated for 3 amps.

24 Volt Relay Driver:

The TC is designed with a 24 Volt relay driver. A brief explanation of the circuit is as follows. When the TC is in the receive mode, a 330 μ F capacitor is charged to the raw input voltage of the transverter (12-14 VDC). When the PTT circuit is activated, K3 switches this charged capacitor in series with the TXON voltage and outputs a brief spike of 24-28 VDC at the +R connection on the TC board. Depending on the current drain of the connected circuit (or relay), the charged capacitor bleeds off down to the raw input voltage of the transverter. The spike is enough to energize most SMA relays and the raw transverter voltage is enough to keep the relay energized. This circuit will not work with all relays but will operate with all relays supplied by DEMI in the optional WTR kit. If you wish to use a relay with a higher current drain, the 330 μ F capacitor may be increased. Just be sure that the relay being used will stay energized with +12 VDC. This circuit will not operate latching relays unless additional circuitry is installed.

PLEASE NOTE! Even though this connection will bleed down to the raw voltage of the transverter, the circuit should never be used on any electronic circuit that will not tolerate a **+28VDC input!** It will damage most +12VDC circuits. It will also not operate any circuit requiring voltage greater than the transverter's supply voltage other than a relay.

If a switched +VDC is required, move the wire from the +R connection (if installed) to either the +VTX, +RX, +9, +13RX, +13TX, or +13.8SW. Refer to the schematic for their functions.

RF Sensing Transverter Keying

The TC is not designed to be a RF sensed switch. It has 3 relays and it may be connected to external mechanical relays. If any RF sensing scheme is added to the circuit, it will cause excessive relay chatter that will not only wear out the relays prematurely, but could cause other failures to external preamplifiers and or power amplifiers if used in your system. RF sensing circuits are not recommended with any circuit the contain mechanical relays at RF frequencies!!



DEM TC Component List

C1 0.01 μ F	C10 2.2 μ F elect.	Q1 PN2222	R9 330 Ω
C2 0.01 μ F	C11 2.2 μ F elect.	R1 220 Ω	R10 5.1K Ω
C3 0.01 μ F	C13 330 μ F elect.	R2 1K pot	R11 5.1K Ω
C4 0.01 μ F	D1 -D6 1N4000	R3 220 Ω	R12 330 Ω
C5 0.01 μ F	IC 1 MAR6 ❶	R4 220 Ω ❸	2 - Red LED
C6 0.01 μ F	K1 G6Y relay	R5 1K Ω	VR1 78S09
C7 0.01 μ F	K2 G5V relay	R6 220 Ω	50 Ω load
C8 0.01 μ F	K3 G5V relay	R7 1K pot	1 pF ❸
C9 100 μ F elect.	L1 1.0 μ h ❷	R8 220 Ω	

- ❶ To by-pass IF gain stage, install 120pF in place of IC1.
- ❷ L1 is used with transceivers that have + DC voltage on RF line during transmit
- ❸ Depending on the drive level used, R4 may be replaced with a short, a 1pF capacitor, or a variable capacitor. See text for description.

