

Subject: FT727 CAT programming question

Near as I can tell the CAT interface on the Yaesu FT-727 handheld duplicates keypushes. I can't find any way to push the keys to get it to go to a particular band. The u/d key toggles between bands, but that isn't much help when you're using it remotely and can't see the display.

Any ideas?

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Yes I have the official 200,000th generation photocopy faxed from Yaesu support and this is what it reports:

1 - Wiring: The tip of the phone jack is the serial output from 0x0 to 0x0f to represent signal strength. All data to and from this little beast is TTL levels 4800 baud two inverted stop bits and one inverted data bit. My, I would like to meet the engineer that came up with that one :-)

The ring of the phone jack is the serial data input.
The body of the phone jack is +12 volts. You are supposed to get a ground from the body of the earphone jack. DO NOT SHORT the BODY of the CAT port to the EAR or MIC jacks. If you accidentally do this you let the smoke out of the IC's and everyone knows that IC's stop working if you let the smoke out!

2 - Software:

Control consists of duplicating the keystrokes that can be made on the receiver keypad by sending the corresponding key codes to the CAT jack. The MSD (Most Significant four bits) select the key column and the LSD (not to be confused with C14H15N2CON(C2H5)2 lysergic acid diethylamide) forms the key row. The function key is simulated by setting bit 7. Serial output from the "S" meter is sent about every 100 ms

FUNCTION KEY	0x0f	0x0e	0x0d	0x0c	0x0b
0x0e	+RPT	SIMP	-RPT	PMS	PSET
0x0d	SAVT	TDEC	TSET	TXM	S/CH
0x0b	SAVE	TENC	SCAN	MC	SHIFT
0x07	LOCK	BATT	BEEP	DUP	STEP

NORMAL	0x07	0x06	0x05	0x04	0x03
0x0e	1	2	3	v	^
0x0d	4	5	6	M	MR
0x0b	7	8	9	C	=
0x07	*	0	#	VU	D

So to press in a direct frequency you would first press "D" then enter the frequency.

- D = 0x037
- 1 = 0x07e
- 4 = 0x07d

6 = 0x05d
5 = 0x06d
2 = 0x06e
D = 0x037
SIMP = 0x0ee

I do admit it seems a little awkward at first but it does work. To start always go to a known spot. If you are unsure of the current setting of the V/U status set it to a programmed frequency and then start. If you lose sync of the V/U switch I guess your beat!