

Chapter 7

TRANSCEIVER CONTROLS

ACMA Foundation Syllabus 4.10

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Transceiver Controls

Power On/Off – Controls the power to the radio.

AF volume or AF gain – Volume control

Squelch – Mutes the background noise. If this is set to high, weak signals may not be heard.

RF Gain – This adjusts the amplification level of the incoming signal from the antenna. Helps to hear weaker signals. The downside is that the noise is amplified as well.

Band switch – This control changes the transmission and reception band.

Frequency control (VFO) – The frequency control adjusts the variable frequency oscillator (VFO) in the transceiver and a sweep across the frequencies in the band you are operating in.

Mode switch – This control allows the operator to select the mode such as CW, SSB, AM or FM.

RIT – RIT is the Receiver Incremental Tuning or Clarifier. This controls the receiver oscillator so if a received signal is drifting off frequency, the operator can use the RIT to follow the received signal.

This is a better option than following the signal with the VFO.

Selectivity (Wide/Narrow) – This is the application of filters to narrow the band onto the incoming signal.

Power output – Some transceivers display the power output level. If not, an external meter should be installed to ensure the 10 W limit is not exceeded.

Carrier or Drive control – When tuning the transceiver, ensure the carrier or drive control does not exceed the limited output power of 10 W.

Microphone gain – This drives the amplification level of the audio frequency fed into the transceiver. Do not over drive this gain as the signal will be distorted and may over modulate the carrier.

Tune / Load – This control allows for adjustment to the output impedance of the transceiver. This is tuned to maximum for optimum power transfer.

Go to Chapter 7 Questions.

Have fun and stay safe.