
Errata

In this manual, the sections describing “Linear Amplifier Interfacing” (page 10) and “Rear Panel ACC Jack” (page 18) are incorrect. The correct descriptions are:

PAGE 10: LINEAR AMPLIFIER INTERFACING

The **FT-897** provides the switching and drive-control lines required for easy interfacing to most all commonly-available amplifiers sold today.

These include:

- The Antenna Jacks (“HF/50MHz” and “144/430MHz”);
- A T/R control line (open circuit on RX, closure to ground on TX); and
- A negative-going ALC jack (control voltage range: 0V to -4V DC).
- When interfacing to the **VL-1000** Solid State 1 KW Linear Amplifier, the optional CT-58 Interface Cable provides for easy interconnection (requires that the Menu Mode **No-020** [CAT/LIN/TUN] setting be changed to “LINEAR”).

The rear-panel **CAT/LINEAR** jack is an 8-pin, miniature DIN type, with the “TX GND” pin providing a closure to ground on transmit, for T/R control of your linear amplifier. The **ACC** jack is a miniature stereo type, with external ALC input capability on the tip connection. The main shaft is the ground return. The ring connection of the **ACC** jack, when closed to ground, places the **FT-897** into the transmit mode, and sends a steady CW carrier, for amplifier (or antenna tuner) adjustment purposes.

Note that some amplifiers, particularly VHF or UHF “brick” amplifiers, offer two methods of T/R switching: application of +13V *or* a closure to ground.

Be sure to configure your amplifier so that it switches via a closure to ground, as provided by your **FT-897**'s **CAT/LINEAR** jack (“TX GND” pin). Alternatively, many of these amplifiers use “RF Sensing” to control their relays; if yours is in this category, you may then use the T/R control line from the “TX GND” pin of the **CAT/LINEAR** jack for control of your HF linear amplifier, and RF sensing for your VHF or UHF amplifier.

The “TX GND” T/R control line is a transistor “open collector” circuit, capable of handling positive amplifier relay coil voltages of up to +50V DC and current of up to 400 mA. If you plan on using multiple linear amplifiers for different bands, you must provide external band-switching of the “TX GND” relay control line from the **CAT/LINEAR** jack.

Important Note!

Do not exceed the maximum voltage or current ratings for the “TX GND” line at the **CAT/LINEAR** jack. This line is not compatible with negative DC voltages, nor AC voltages of any magnitude.

Most amplifier control relay systems require only low DC voltage/current switching capability (typically, +12V DC at 25 ~ 75 mA), and the switching transistor in the **FT-897** will easily accommodate such amplifiers.

PAGE 18: REAR PANEL CONNECTORS

⑤ ACC Jack

This 3.5-mm 3-pin jack accepts external ALC (Automatic Level Control) voltage from a linear amplifier on the tip connection, and accepts a “Transmit Request” command on the ring connection. The main shaft is the ground return.

The “TX Request” connection, when shorted to ground, puts the **FT-897** into the transmit mode, and sends out a steady CW carrier, for linear amplifier or manual antenna tuner adjustment.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused by these errors.