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# APR250 User Manual



Firmware v0.35 and higher

V13/02/20



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#### 1 Introduction

The APR250 is a high quality, ruggedized portable RFID reader for tags complying with the ISO11784 / 11785 standard. It can read transponders with FDX-B and HDX technology. In addition to the reading functions, the device can store up to 100.000 records in several groups in the large internal memory. Each record also contains a timestamp plus a Visual ID and an Alert, if available. The data are transmitted via both interfaces (USB and Bluetooth) directly after reading.

The APR250 also supports the *Task-Mode*, if the appropriate definitions have been uploaded. This is usually done by 3<sup>rd</sup>-party Management Software. The reader does not support the *DBF* (*Data Base Function*) – this is reserved for the APR600 and the AWR300.

The reader has a large color display which can show many information at one glance. Together with the seven keys it allows the easy and convenient navigation through menus and data. In addition, the device has status LEDs above the display for indicating charging- and interface status plus the reading status. The integrated speaker provides acoustical feedback to the user and the vibrating motor is very useful in noisy environments.

# 2 Before you start

The internal Lithium-Polymer battery should be fully charged before the first use. The battery can be charged by using the provided Magnetic-USB cable and any USB power source. Please note that computers can usually not supply more than 500mA, hence charging the APR250 over a USB port of a computer takes longer than charging it from the Agrident USB power supply.





The internal fast charging takes about 4 hours maximum in case the battery was empty completely when using the Agrident USB power supply. Please note that the battery will only be charged within a temperature range of 0°C to 45°C (+32 to 113°F).

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# 3 Reader Hardware

This chapter describes the APR250 hardware including all accessories.

#### 3.1 Parts of the APR250

The dimensions of the APR250 are 190x98x40 millimeters and it has a weight of only 280 grams. It provides a good reading performance, a large 2.4 inch color TFT display, two status LEDs above the display, a speaker and a vibrating motor. The reader can be controlled with seven ergonomic keys below the display.



The APR250 is using a 3.7V Lithium-Polymer battery with a capacity of 3.400mAh. It is not replaceable in the field. The battery can be exchanged by authorized technical staff only, in case it has reached its end of life.

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#### 3.2 Accessories

The APR250 comes with a USB-A to Magnetic-Connector cable.



The USB-A plug can be connected to any USB-port of a computer. Please note that the appropriate USB driver has to be installed first. When it is necessary to use a USB extension, this should only be high quality cable and it should not be longer than two meter. The maximum cable length for USB is five meter and this can already lead to problems in practice (slower charging or USB failures).

The following optional accessories are available:

When it is required to take the APR250 to different sites very often, it makes sense to purchase the robust transport box 'ATB400' (p/n 4067). It can accommodate the reader and its accessories.



Transport box ,ATB400'

For charging the APR250 from the mains, Agrident offers the optional USB power supply 'APS500'. The optional car charger 'ACC500' allows charging of the APR250 from a cigarette lighter socket.



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# 3.3 Connecting the USB cable

The APR250 uses a Magnetic-USB connector. Because the magnets are polarized, the connectors 'find' the correct orientation almost automatically. When the magnetic connector of the cable is moved towards the plug at the bottom of the reader (1), the magnets will attract each other in the correct orientation (2). In the wrong orientation, the magnets will repel each other.









Please do not try to force a connection when the connector is in the wrong orientation – this might damage the reader and voids the warranty.

For disconnecting USB, just pull the connector away from the device (3).

# 4 Controlling the APR250

The APR250 has a large color display and seven keys which are used for controlling the device.

The Reader is activated by pressing the <a>I</a> key in the middle of the directional pad.

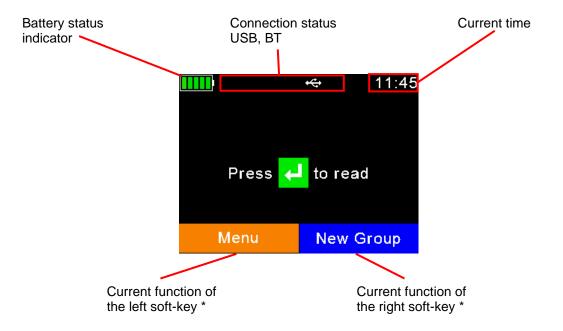
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## 4.1 APR250 Display

#### 4.1.1 Home Screen

After the reader is switched on, the following home screen appears:



<sup>\*</sup> A 'Softkey' is a key that performs different functions depending on the associated screen display.

The battery status indicator shows the approximate battery level. In this example the battery is fully charged. It would also display possible faults concerning the battery, in case charging is not possible.

In the screenshot above the only active connection is USB. The reader would also indicate a Bluetooth connection in this area.

The soft keys have different meanings depending on the current operation. In the home screen, the left soft key is used for entering the menu and the right one for creating a new group separator.

The 'new group' function is only the default action triggered by pressing the right soft key. Other 'quick menus' might be configured and uploaded to the reader from the PC and the action to be started can be changed on the reader by long pressing the right soft key.

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## 4.1.2 The status symbols at the top of the display

There is a status bar in the first display line. Beside the time (on the right side) it provides information about the battery status and the different interfaces.



The orange symbol is for Bluetooth. The color of this symbol depends on the current connection status.

### 4.1.2.1 Battery status

The battery symbol on the left side indicates the approximate battery capacity.

Status	Meaning Meaning
	Battery capacity is higher than 80 percent.
	Capacity is between 60 and 80 percent.
Capacity is between 40 and 60 percent.	
	Capacity is between 20 and 40 percent (no charger connected -> discharging)
	Capacity is between 10 and 20 percent (no charger connected -> discharging) When flashing, capacity is lower than 11 percent.
	Capacity is between 20 and 40 percent (only green when charging).
	Capacity is between 10 and 20 percent (only green when charging).
X	General charging error. There is a condition that prevents charging. Please check the external power supply. If this error is shown repeatedly, the battery might not work correctly any longer and should be replaced. This error also occurs, when the battery should be charged outside the allowed temperature range of 0°C to 45°C.

During charging, the battery symbol is constantly filling from the point of the remaining capacity. Charging is complete if no bars are flashing anymore. The USB cable can be disconnected in this case.

The menu item 'Show Battery Info' in the 'Setup' menu (chapter 7.6.5.1) shows an estimate of the remaining battery capacity in percent as well as the estimated remaining operating time in idle mode and in continuous read mode.

Navigation from the home screen:

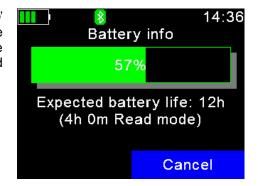












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#### 4.1.2.2 Bluetooth status

Status Meaning		
*	Slave Mode – APR250 can be connected from other devices	
*	Master Mode – APR250 is trying to connect to remote device.	
*	Connected (in either Bluetooth Mode)	
*	Bluetooth init: This symbol is displayed when the Bluetooth module is currently booting, being configured or a Firmware update is in progress.	

# 4.1.2.3 USB status

The USB status is shown in the middle at the top of the display:



When the APR600 is connected to the USB port of a computer or to a standard USB power supply, the white USB symbol is shown. Charging the battery takes longer here compared to using the Agrident USB power supply.



In case the APR600 is connected to an Agrident USB power supply, the symbol changes from white to red. In this case fast charging will be used.



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# 4.2 The status LEDs above the display

The APR250 has two status LEDs above the display.



The left LED is a multicolor type and is used for multiple purposes. When the display is switched off, it indicates the charging status of the battery. During the activation of the RFID engine it shows the reading status.

The LED on the right is blue and it is used for indicating the connection status with the display is switched off.

The RGB LED on the left side indicates the charging status of the battery pack with the display switched off:

Color	Interval	Meaning	
	Flashing, every second for 10ms	Battery is being charged	
	Solid	Battery is fully charged	

The multicolor LEDs are only used when the APR250 is in *Suspend-Mode* (display is switched off but the device is connected to USB and hence is being charged). When switched on, the battery symbol in the display indicates the charging status.

With activated RFID engine, the multicolor LED shows the reading status as follows:

Farbe	Intervall	Bedeutung
	Flashing slowly	RF is activated, ready to scan tags
	Flashing fast	Tag has been read the first time (new tag)
	Flashing fast *	Same tag has been read repeatedly *

<sup>\*</sup> only for continuous reading mode (see chapter 7.6.1.2)

The blue LED on the right side is only used when the display is turned off. Then it indicates the following operating modes:

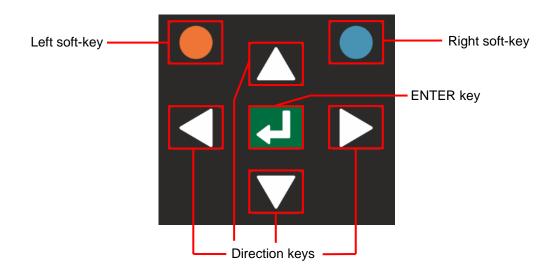
Color	Interval	Meaning
	Flashing every 3 seconds	APR250 is in SD-Card-Mode (MSC)
	Flashing once a second	APR250 is in Suspend-Mode (CDC)

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# 4.3 Using the keyboard

The APR250 has 7 keys in order to allow the easy and convenient operation of the reader. There is a directional pad with an ENTER key in the middle and there are two additional soft-keys below the display which change their function depending on the current action.



Key	<b>Operation</b>
	Enters the menu in the home screen. Moves up one menu level ('Back'), other functions depend on current operation – the current function is always displayed on the left side in the last display line (above the key).
	When in the home screen, the configured 'quick action' will be executed. Exits the menu completely and moves back to the home screen. Other functions depending on the actual operation are shown in the display on the lower right side.
	Switches on the APR250. Starts a reading attempt from the home screen. Enters menu items and confirms selections there. Moves to the next field in <i>Task-Mode</i> .
	No function in home screen *
	Switches off the APR250 on a long press (>2 seconds) *
	No function in home screen *
	No function in home screen *

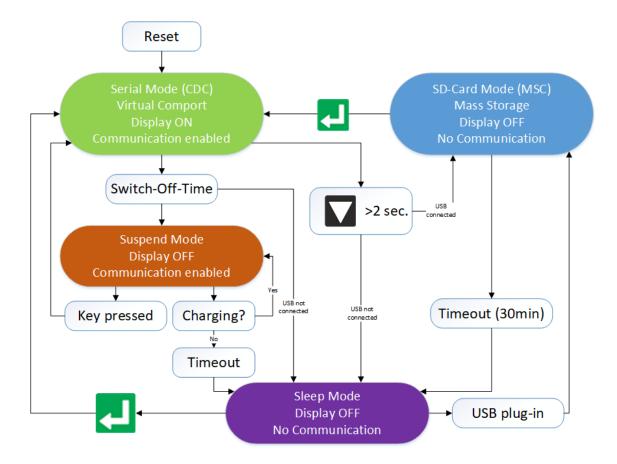
<sup>\*</sup> The directional keys are also used to navigate within menus (up, down, left and right), for scrolling through selection lists and for selecting characters in numeric or text input fields.

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# 5 Operating states

The APR250 has several operating states concerning display status and communication possibilities over USB. The following chart shows the different states.



When the reader is switched on and it is connected via USB, it works in *CDC-Mode*. That means a virtual comport is created on the computer and it is possible to send commands to the device via a serial port connection. In this state the mass storage mode is not activated, it is not possible to copy files to or from the APR250.

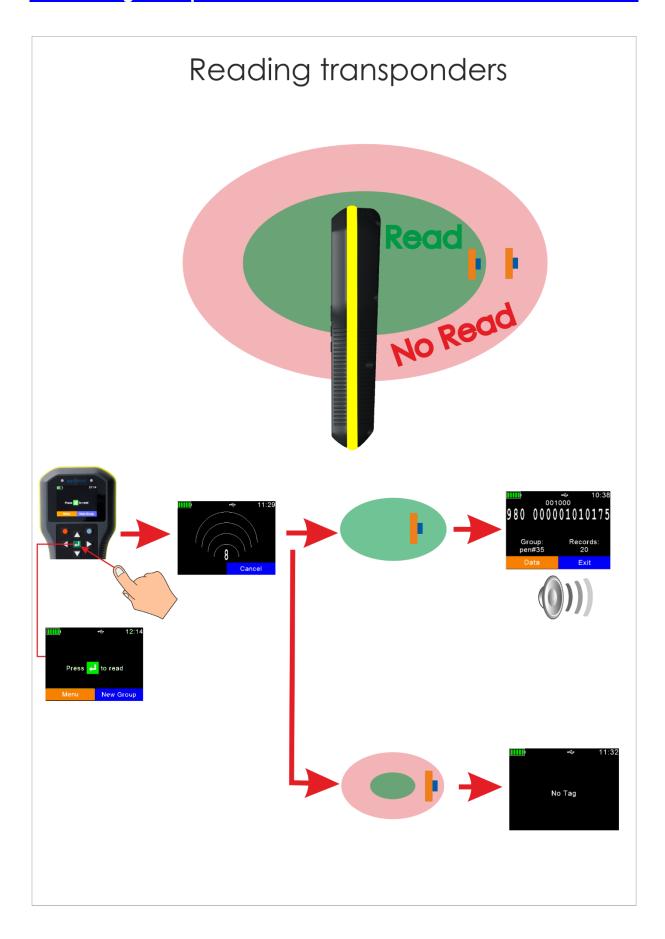
After the configurable switch-off-time (default = 60 seconds) has elapsed, the reader enters *Suspend-Mode* when a USB cable is connected. The display is switched off but communication is still possible. In this state the blue LED on the right above the display is flashing in cycles of one second. The device will not enter sleep mode as long as USB is connected and the battery is still charging. The red LED flashes in intervals of one second, indicating that the battery is being charged. After the battery has been charged completely, the reader enters sleep mode after a timeout of 60 seconds.

If the APR250 is connected to USB while it is switched off, the MSC mode is activated. Then the reader is attached to the computer as a mass storage device and file transfer is possible. Once the very key is pressed, the device will switch on and use CDC-Mode right away. When pressing for at least two seconds while USB is connected, the APR250 will enter SD-Card Mode as well.

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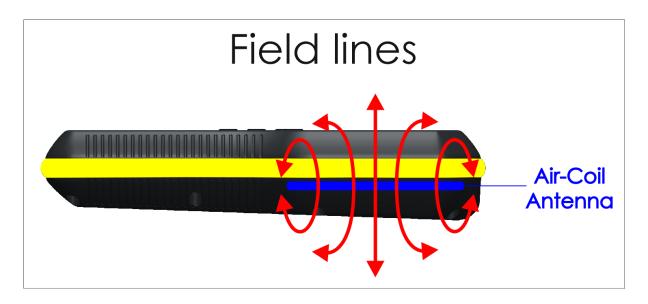


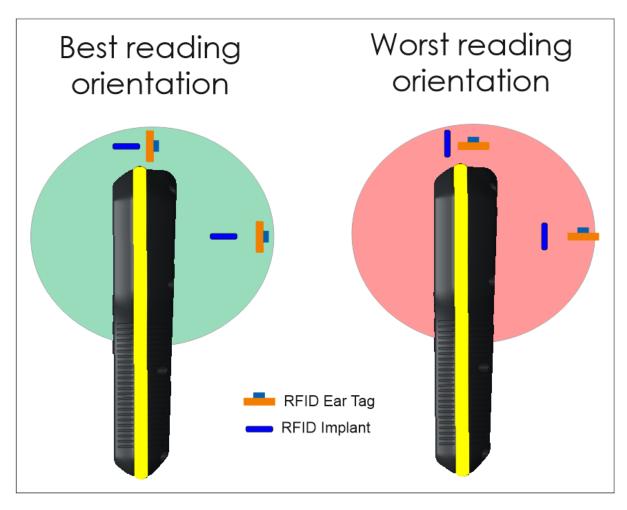
# 6 Reading Transponders



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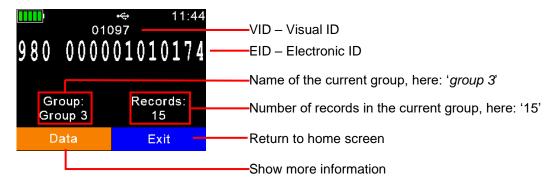




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After a tag has been read, the display will show the information as in the following screenshot:



If 'Data' was pressed, the screen on the left side is shown. It provides information about the EID, VID (if available), Date and Time of reading and the Alert text (if there is one for this tag).





If  $\square$  or  $\square$  is pressed, the screen on the right side is shown. It indicates the tag type (FDX or HDX) and displays the so called 'advanced ISO information'. You can move from one screen to the other by pressing any of these keys.



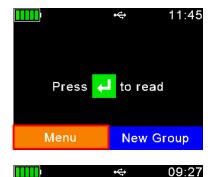
If an Alert is present for the transponder just read, the alert text is displayed continuously inverting and an alert sound is played. The alert can be disarmed (don't shown again after next reading of this tag) or it can be just skipped.

The Alert can be 'disarmed' and would then not be shown again if the tag is read the next time. When selecting 'Skip', the Alert remains activated.

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# 7 Menu items



In order to enter the APR250 menu, please press while in the home screen. In the lower left corner of the display you can also see the information that a press of the left soft key will force the device to enter the menu.



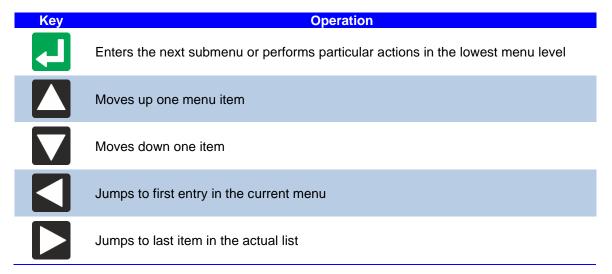
Exit

Back

This screenshot shows the highest menu level. It only contains the items 'New Group', 'Data', 'Print' and 'Setup'. If another language than the default one has been selected, the menu items will look different.

The entry 'Tasks' does only appear, if Tasks have been uploaded to the device — otherwise this item will be hidden. The Task-Mode is another operating mode of the APR250 that allows the collection of comprehensive data. For further information about this operating mode please contact your local distributor.

For the navigation through the APR250 menus, all seven keys might be used. The directional keys have the following functions here:



With exception of the lowest menu levels, the left (orange) soft key will force the device to move one menu level upwards and the right one (blue) will let the reader return to the home screen. In the lowest submenu the right soft key will cancel the action.

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# 7.1 Menu structure

The following table shows the menu structure of the APR250 including submenus and options. Options or actions are shown in *italic* and the default values for options are marked with '\*'.

Main Menu	1 <sup>st</sup> sub menu	2 <sup>nd</sup> submenu	3 <sup>rd</sup> submenu	4 <sup>th</sup> submenu
New Group	Start new group			
Tasks	Start New Control	1		
	Show Memory Info	1		
	Choose Another Task			
Data	Show Data	Select Group To Show		
	Clear Data	Clear Groups	Clear Last Group	
			Select Group	
			Clear All Groups	
		Clear Task Data	Select Task	
			Clear All Task Data	
	Memory Info			
Print	Print Last Group	1		
	Select Group	1		
	Print All Groups	1		
	Print Barcode	1		
	Setup Printer	Set Printer Type	1 - Generic Line Printer	1
		, , , ,	2- Able Systems AP 1300	1
			3 - Extech APEX 2	
			4 - Extech APEX 3	
			5 - Extech APEX 4	
			6 - Zebra QL220	
			7 - Zebra QL320	1
			8 - Zebra QL420	1
			9 - Zebra QLn220	
			10 - Zebra QLn320	1
			11 - Zebra QLn420	
			12 - Martel MCP	
			1880/7880	
			13 - MTP-3	
		Search BT printer		1
Setup	Reader Settings	Animal Counter On/Off	Animal Counter ON	
Cottap	Trouber Commigo		Animal Counter OFF *	
		Set Read Mode	Single Read *	
		Correda Modo	Continuous Read	†
			Auto	†
		Set Online Mode	Online Mode On/off	Online Mode ON *
		Cet Chime Mode	Still to Wode Still on	Online Mode OFF
			Set Output Format	ASCII
			Cot Gatpat i omiat	Byte Structure
				Compact Coding
				Custom Format
				ISO24631
				NLIS
				Raw data
				Short ASCII 15 *
				Short ASCII 16
				ASCII + SCP
			Read If Connected	Read always *
			Neau ii Connecteu	If buffer not full
		Wireless Sync On/Off	Wireless Sync. ON	Jane. Hot lan
			No Sync. *	1
	1	i e		i .

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Main Menu	1 <sup>st</sup> sub menu	2 <sup>nd</sup> submenu	3 <sup>rd</sup> submenu	4 <sup>th</sup> submenu
Setup	Reader Settings	Volume & Vibrator	Set Volume	0% (OFF)
•	J 3.			20%
				40%
				60% *
				80%
				100%
			Vibrator On/Off	Vibrator ON *
			Vibrator On/On	Vibrator OFF
	Display	Set Date/Time	[set values manually]	VIBIATOR OF T
	2.00.00	Set Switch Off Time	60 min	7
			30 min	
			20 min	7
			10 min	7
			5 min	7
			3 min	7
			2 min	7
			90 sec	7
			60 sec *	7
			30 sec	7
			20 sec	7
			10 sec	=
			5 sec	=
		Set Display Colors	Black *	╡
		Oct Display Colors	White	=
		Set language	[depends on uploaded	=
		Serianguage	languages]	
	Interface Setup	Setup Scale	Set Scale Type	1 - Tell *
	mionaco octup	Cottap Coalio	551 554.5 1,755	2 - Iconix FX15
				3 - TruTest XR3000
				4 - BWT BW(S) & JD-II
				5 - Gallagher
				6 - Dini Argeo DFWLB
				7 - Te Pari Scale
		Setup Printer	[same as setup printer	
		Cotap :to:	on the previous page]	
		Bluetooth	Set Bluetooth Mode	Master Mode
				Slave Mode
				Bluetooth OFF *
			Start BT Inquiry	
			BT Device History	7
			Set BT Profile	SPP *
				HID
				BLE
				HID Smart
			Set BT Passkey	[default = '1234']
			Show Bluetooth Info	[23/44]
	Configuration	Set Factory	S.ION BIGGOOM IIIIO	7
	2 Stilligaration	Configuration		
	Device Info	Show Battery Info	1	
		Show Firmware Info	1	
İ		Show Hardware Info	1	
	1	Show Hardware IIIIO	I .	I

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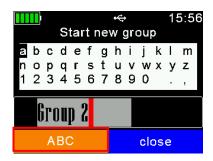


# 7.2 New Group

In the memory of the APR250, records are organized in groups. One group can contain up to 10.000 records maximum. A new record is created for every transponder which has been read. If you do not wish to create new records for duplicate reads, please enable the 'Animal Counter' – then duplicates will not be saved again within one group (see chapter 7.6.1.1)

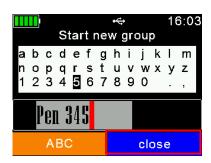


After 'New Group' was selected, the user will be prompted to insert a group name. At this stage the suggested name can be accepted by pressing ☑ or it can be deleted by pressing the left soft key character by character. A long press removes all digits in one step. By pressing ☑ or ☑ the device will open a soft keyboard which is shown in the display.



The user can navigate to letters, numbers or symbols and paste the desired character into the group name by using the 

key . By pressing the left soft key the keyboard content can be switched (capitals & special characters).



After the new group name has been entered completely, press the right soft key (here: 'close') in order to exit the soft keyboard. Now the name can be checked again and it will be confirmed by pressing . All transponders read from now on will be saved in this group (max. 10.000).



After 10.000 records within one group the device will force the user to create a new group – even if groups are not required for a particular application. But this only means one press of one key in the simplest case (confirm suggested group name by pressing ...).



If no group has been created manually before the first transponder was read, the device will insert a group with the default name '*Group 1*' automatically. If the name of the first group should be different, the user must insert a group **before** scanning for transponders.

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#### 7.3 Tasks

This submenu is only visible if Task-Definitions have been uploaded. Such definitions are usually very much dependent on the application and thus Agrident cannot provide them. They are normally created by distributors who also offer Management-Software that supports Agrident mobile readers. If no Task-Definitions have been uploaded, this menu item will not be shown at all. Please contact your local distributor for further details about *Task-Mode*.

If Task-Definitions are present on the APR250, this menu item will be visible automatically. When entering the submenu '*Tasks*', the following entries are shown:



**Start New Control:** Create a new record for the currently selected Task

**Show Memory Info:** Shows the amount of records for the currently selected Task and the number of possible remaining records (maximum 10.000 per Task)

Choose another Task: Select a different Task definition



If 'Choose Another Task' was selected, the reader is listing all available Tasks plus the amount of records in brackets for each Task.

Navigate to the desired Task by using the  $\triangle$  /  $\square$  keys and select the Task to use by pressing  $\square$ .

A new Task is started via 'Start New Control'. Basically the user can switch from one data field to the next one by simply pressing after the correct data have been inserted. The method for inserting data depends on the field types which are used in the Task-Definition. This manual will just show some examples. For further details please contact you distributor, who provided the Task-Definitions.



This is a List-Field.

✓ ... One item down△ ... One item up✓ ... Next page✓ ... Previous page✓ ... Select item



Here is a Numeric-Input-Field.

▲ ... Increase number▼ ... Decrease number基 ... Next digit■ ... Previous Digit

... Confirm input

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That is a Date-Field. The device suggests the current date but the user has the chance to edit it.

▲ ... Increase number
▼ ... Decrease number
基 ... Next field
基 ... Previous field
■ ... Confirm input



When this field is shown, the APR250 will start scanning for a transponder after <a>I</a> has been pressed.



After a tag has been read successfully, the display will show the EID and ask for a confirmation. By pressing 'OK' (left soft key) the EID will be stored and the Task is continued. If the EID was the wrong one it can be deleted by pressing the right soft key ('DELETE') and the reading process can be started again.



This example shows a 'Speed-Loop'. In this case there is nothing to enter but the RFID reader is activated and tags are read continuously until the right soft key ('Cancel') is pressed twice...



...then the device will ask for another confirmation. If the left soft key (here: 'YES') is pressed, the records made until now will be saved and the 'Control' is finished. By pressing the right soft key ('Cancel') the APR250 will return to the reading loop and more transponders can be read.



The sequence of a Task depends on the Task-Definition. In case there are 'logical' problems with the sequence or the collected data, please contact your local distributor. Agrident is not responsible for such definitions.

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#### **7.4** Data



The 'Data' menu contains items for showing and deleting data.

#### 7.4.1 Show Data

When the item 'Show Data' was selected, the device will show a list of all groups which are present in the memory at the moment. Each entry shows the group name and the number of records within the group in brackets.



... One group down

... One group up

... Scroll down 6 groups

... Scroll up 6 groups

... Select group

After a group has been selected, it will be opened and all records within this group are shown. The first display line shows the group name, here: 'Group 8'. The second line shows the record number (within the current group) plus date and time of reading for the selected record. A scroll bar on the right side shows the approximate position of the selected record in this group (here it is the last record).



... One record down

... One record up

☑ ... Scroll down 50 records☑ ... Scroll up 50 records

... Select record

... Switch between EID and VID view

If you press  $\square$  +  $\square$  simultaneously, the reader will directly switch to the last record within this group and when  $\square$  +  $\square$  are pressed again at the same time, you can switch back to the first record.



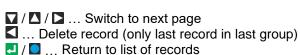
This screenshot shows the same list but instead of the EID, the VID is shown. Of course, VIDs must be available on the device, i.e. a Linklist has to be uploaded. If there is no VID available for particular records, the EIDs will be shown instead.

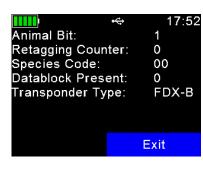
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The first page shows the EID, the VID, date and time of reading and the alert string, if there is one assigned.





Page two shows the so called 'advanced ISO information' like Animal Bit, Retagging Counter or Species Code. The transponder type (FDX-B or HDX) is shown as well.

#### 7.4.2 Clear data

It is possible to delete collected data on the APR250. There are different options for erasing data, also depending on the way they have been collected in. As already explained earlier in this manual, the standard records are saved in groups. These are the records which have been saved upon transponder reading started from the home screen. If *Task-Mode* is used on the device, it is also possible to delete collected Task-Data from the '*Clear-Data*' menu – if not, this menu is hidden.



After selecting 'Clear Data', two submenus are shown.

Clear Groups: refers to records made in groups

Clear Task Data: only applies for data collected in Task-Mode



Please note that deleted data are lost irreversibly. It is not possible to undo this action at all. I case of doubt, you should backup the data first.

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# 7.4.2.1 Clear Groups



Clear Last Groups: Erases the last group completely

**Select Group**: opens the list of groups in order to select a particular group to delete

**Clear All Groups**: Erases ALL groups from the device memory (no Task-Data)

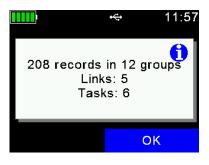
#### 7.4.2.2 Clear Task Data



**Select Task**: only the data of one particular Task will be erased

Clear All Task Data: erases the Task data of ALL Tasks which are present on the device

# 7.4.3 Memory Info



This menu item shows information concerning the amount of collected data (how many records in how many groups), the number of entries in the currently uploaded Linklist and how many Task definitions have been uploaded.

It does not show how many records are present for each Task definition. Therefore please enter the Task menu, select a Task and use 'Show Memory Info' (7.3)

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#### 7.5 Print

The APR250 allows to send the collected records to a mobile Bluetooth printer. There are different options available for the printing procedure, like only printing the last group, printing a particular group or printing all groups. It is also possible to change basic printer settings here.



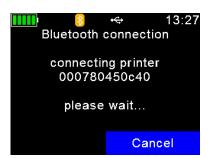
Please ensure that your printer is set up correctly before you try printing records.

The APR250 stores the printers Bluetooth address as a secondary address only. When no print jobs should be done, the APR250 would always try to connect to its primary Bluetooth partner, like a computer, smartphone, PDA or weighing indicator in Master Mode. When one of the printing actions is started, the reader drops the connection to the primary device and tries to connect to the configured Bluetooth printer.

After the 'Print' menu was left, the connection to the printer will be dropped and the APR250 tries to re-connect to the configured primary Bluetooth partner again (if in Master Mode). The huge advantage is that the user does not need to select a different Bluetooth device just for printing.

#### 7.5.1 Print Last Group

Once selected, the APR250 tries to connect to the configured printer. If connected, this connection remains active until the '*Print*' menu was left.



The reader is trying to connect to the Bluetooth printer. When the connection was established, printing will be started immediately.

If lots of data have to be printed, a progress bar is visible. When only a few datasets are sent to the printer, you might not see it at all.

The APR250 returns to the printer menu afterwards.

## 7.5.2 Select Group

This menu item allows to print a particular group instead of the last one or all groups.



Select the group to be sent to the printer using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .

If the Bluetooth connection has not been established yet, the APR250 will try to connect to the mobile printer now as explained in the previous chapter.

If the connection to the printer is established, printing will start right away.

After printing was finished, the reader returns to the screen shown above.

# 7.5.3 Print All Groups

This option should be used if the complete memory content, resp. all groups, should be printed. The procedure is similar to '*Print Last Group*', there are no further selections required.

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#### 7.5.4 Print Barcode

It is also possible to print a barcode of a particular EID. This can be useful if you want to label blood samples, for example. In order to be able to print the EID as a barcode, the APR250 has to read the transponder first. When you select '*Print Barcode*', the device will activate the RFID engine. After the tag has been read, the APR250 is sending an appropriate command to the mobile printer.



The barcode type is '2of5 interleaved'. Other barcode types are not supported at the moment.

### 7.5.5 Setup Printer

Before you can use the printer, the correct model has to be selected first. If this setting is incorrect, the printer feature will not work. There are much more options and configurations available, but this would be too much for including it into the APR250 menu. So all the additional options are only software configurable. For example, *AgriLink* can be used for configuring all possible printer options.

# 7.5.5.1 Set Printer Type

The APR250 Firmware supports several different printer types, like the Able Systems 'AP1300', the Datamax-O'Neil 'Apex' series (former Extech Apex), the Zebra QL-series and QLn-series, the Martel 'MCP 1880/7880' and the 'MTP-3' (GOOJPRT). The type 'Generic Line Printer' might work for particular printers as well, but there are no special control codes send for this printer type – so it can only work for simple ASCII printers.

Select the correct printer type from the list by using the directional keys and confirm by pressing the ... key.

#### 7.5.5.2 Search BT Printer

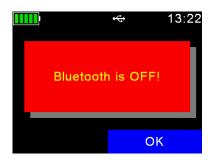
Before you can start printing via Bluetooth, the APR250 has to be paired with a printer. Therefore, the reader has to scan for available Bluetooth devices first. Once this menu item has been selected, the APR250 will start the scan.



Depending on how many devices are present, the scan can take a while, but at least 10 seconds.

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If Bluetooth is switched off, the APR250 shows the corresponding error message. In this case please activate Bluetooth first (see chapter 7.6.3.3)



After the scan has been completed, the available devices are listed. Please note that not only printers are listed here, but also other Bluetooth devices. So ideally you should know the device name of your Bluetooth printer.

Sometimes it might be useful to see the BD-address of the found devices instead of the names. You may switch between both views by using the key.



Now you can see the list of discovered devices with their BD-addresses instead of the device names. Very often, the BD-address can be found somewhere on a label of a Bluetooth device. Since this address is unique, it can quickly help to identify the correct device.

Choose a device from the list and select it by pressing . The APR250 will store this device as the Bluetooth printer and will try to connect to it for all coming print jobs until a different device has been selected.

#### 7.6 Setup

The APR250 is very flexible concerning its configuration. Several settings can be adjusted directly in the device menu. However, it does not make sense to allow the modification of all possible reader settings on the device itself – this would make the menu structure far too complicated. Settings which cannot be modified on the APR250 itself, are software-adjustable.

A possible software for altering all possible APR250 settings is *AgriLink*. A setup of this program is located on the internal memory card.

The setup menu is divided into several other menus and submenus, which will be explained in this chapter. The overview of the complete menu structure is explained in chapter 7.1.

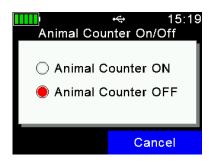
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#### 7.6.1 Reader Settings

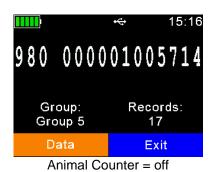
#### 7.6.1.1 Animal Counter On/Off

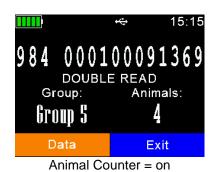
The animal counter decides about the question, if double reads are saved or not. A double read occurs if a tag with one and the same EID is read within the same group again. When the animal counter is activated, it is not possible to store the same EID within the same group again. If not activated, it is possible to do that - the APR250 does not check for double reads then.



Decide whether the Animal Counter should be activated or not using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .

The display also looks different after reading a transponder depending on how this setting is configured:



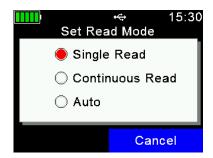


When the Animal Counter is not activated, the current group and the number of records in this group is shown but the records can also include duplicate EIDs. When the Animal Counter is activated, the displays shows 'Animals' instead of 'Records' – duplicates are not possible here.

#### 7.6.1.2 Set Read Mode

Per factory defaults, the APR250 is configured to 'Single Read'. This means that RFID is activated until a transponder has been detected or the 'Single Read Time' (default = 10 seconds) has elapsed. The Level key has to be pressed in order to scan for tags again.

The APR250 also allows to use the 'Continuous Read' mode. The RFID engine will not be deactivated after a tag has been read. It will continue scanning until the 'Continuous Read Time' (default = 60 seconds) has elapsed. Every new tag read resets this timeout.



Select the Read Mode using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .

The setting 'Auto' will start a Single Read on a short press of <a>I</a> and Continuous Reading on a long press ( > one second).

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#### 7.6.1.3 Set Online Mode

The Online Mode deals with the format used for sending the EID to the interfaces directly after a tag has been read. The interface can be USB or Bluetooth. Usually the EID is further processed on a third party device then, like a weighing indicator or a smartphone. It is important to know which format is expected by this other device and to configure the correct one.

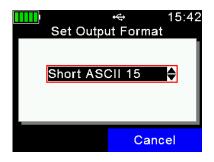


After selecting 'Set Online Mode' a new menu appears. The first menu item allows to activate or deactivate the Online Mode completely, the second decides about the format used for sending the EID.



The Online Mode is switched on per default. When switched off, the APR250 will not send the EID to the interfaces after reading a tag! So it is not recommended to disable it unless absolutely required.

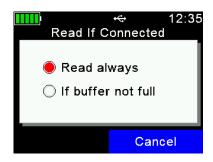
Select the desired setting using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .



Select the correct output format via  $\square$  or  $\square$  and confirm with  $\square$ .

The default output format is 'Short ASCII 15. This is sending the 3-digit country code directly followed by the 12-digit national ID (no space in between), terminated with <CR><LF>. This format is quite common and also accepted by most weighing indicators on the market.

There is a buffer of 20 IDs for sending the transponder number over Bluetooth. This buffer is used for bridging short-term interruptions of the wireless connection. If the connection drops, the IDs will be written into this buffer and sent in one go as soon as the connection has been established again.



You can select not to allow further readings if the buffer is full. Per factory defaults this setting is not activated and reading is always possible. In case the buffer is full, the oldest records in the buffer will be overwritten.

Select the desired setting using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .

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# 7.6.1.4 Wireless Sync On/Off

RFID readers according to ISO11784/11785 have activation and listening periods. If two or more readers operate in close vicinity, they should be synchronized in order to prevent interference and hence a reduction of reading performance, especially for HDX transponders.

Since it is not possible to synchronize mobile readers wired in the field, Agrident readers offer a feature called 'Wireless Synchronization'. This function was mainly invented in order to allow mobile devices the operation close to stationary readers without interfering with them. But also several mobile readers can synchronize wirelessly.

If you have other ISO11784/11785 readers operating close to the APR250, it is highly recommended to activate this function.



Select the desired setting using the  $\square / \square / \square / \square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .



If stationary readers are used, the Wireless Synchronization works best if everything is Agrident equipment because **A**grident **S**tationary **R**eaders (ASR) also offer Wireless Synchronization and hence fixed timings which also allow best possible performance for wirelessly synchronized mobile readers.

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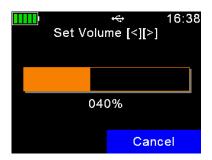


#### 7.6.1.5 Volume & Vibrator

The APR250 provides a speaker and a vibrating motor for signalization in addition to the LEDs and the display. These can be configured in this menu.



After selecting 'Volume & Vibrator', a new menu is shown. The first menu item allows to set the speaker volume, the second is used to activate the vibrating motor or to deactivate it.



Select the desired volume by using the \( \) \( \) keys. Each time a key is pressed a sound is played in order to indicate the currently selected volume.

Confirm the selected volume with <a>I</a>.



Select the desired setting via **□** or **□** and confirm with **□**.

# 7.6.2 Display

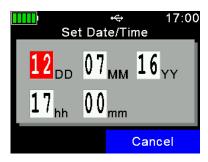


The Display menu contains the items shown on the left side. Use the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys to select a setting and enter the item via  $\square$ .

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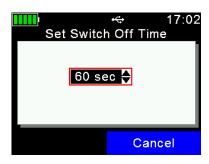
#### 7.6.2.1 Set Date/Time



DD ... Date - Day MM ... Date - Month YY ... Date - Year hh ... Time - Hour mm ... Time - Minute

✓ / ⚠ ... Modify value in the current field
✓ / ☒ ... Switch to previous / next field
☑ ... Apply the new settings

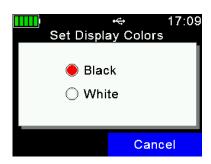
# 7.6.2.2 Set Switch Off Time



The 'Switch Off Time' determines after which period (of no action) the APR250 enters suspend mode. Any action, like a key press, will reset this timer. Please also see chapter 5 for further details. The maximum possible time is 60 minutes, but please keep in mind that this reduces the operating time.

✓ / ✓ ... Modify the *Switch Off Time*... Apply the new setting

# 7.6.2.3 Set Display Colors



Depending on the light conditions it can make sense to invert the background color. It can also be a question of the users personal preference. That can be done within this submenu.

✓ / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ ... Change the setting✓ ... Apply the setting





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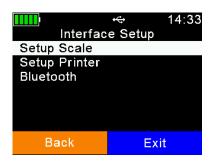
# 7.6.2.4 Set Language



The default display language is always English. It is possible to upload up to 9 custom languages. If the language you want to use is not available, please contact your local distributor for further details.

✓ / ▲ ... Select the desired language
... Set the selected language

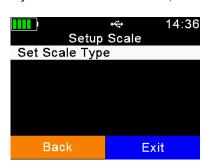
### 7.6.3 Interface Setup



The Interface Setup contains settings for configuring the APR250s Bluetooth interface. The scale and printer settings can be configured here as well.

# 7.6.3.1 Setup Scale

The APR250 is able to receive the weight from indicators which can send it via Bluetooth. There are different scale types supported, also from the major brands on the market. This function can only be used for *Task-Mode*, where the so called '*Weight-from-Scale*' field is available.



There is only one menu item where the correct scale model needs to be configured.



Choose the correct type depending on the model you have.

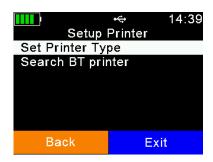
✓ / ✓ / ✓ / ✓ ... Select the scale type✓ ... Apply the setting

Scales without integrated Bluetooth might be upgraded by using an external adapter. Please contact your local distributor for further details.

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# 7.6.3.2 Setup Printer



The printer setup is the same as described in chapter 7.5.5, here is just another menu entry for configuring the same settings.

#### 7.6.3.3 Bluetooth

The APR250 always incorporates a Class1 Bluetooth module. The range is up to 80 meters in 'line of sight'. Inside buildings or when any other obstacles are present, it will be less. Please note that the range also depends on the Bluetooth partner. If the other device is only Class2, the range is much lower. This especially applies to devices like smart phones.

There are several menu items for Bluetooth, which will be explained in this chapter.



The Bluetooth menu contains the items shown on the left side.

☑ / ☑ ... One item down / up
☑ / ☑ ... Switch to first / last item
☑ ... Enter submenu resp. start action (*BT Inquiry*)

The Bluetooth Mode determines if the APR250 should initiate the connection to another device (Master Mode) or if other devices should be able to connect to the APR250. Per default, Bluetooth is not activated (OFF), so it must be switched on first. Then you have to decide whether the APR250 should be the device initiating the connection (Master) or the other device (Slave).



Select the desired Bluetooth Mode using the **□** / **□** / **□** / **□** keys and confirm with **□**.

When the APR250 is in Master Mode, it needs to 'know' the address of the intended Bluetooth partner, also called 'remote device'. An easy way to find out this address is to scan for Bluetooth devices in range. Make sure the other device has Bluetooth activated, that it is 'discoverable' and 'connectable' and that it is in range. For smart phones, for example, it is normally required to make them discoverable first, usually for a particular time. This can be done in the phones Bluetooth settings. If this has been done, select 'Start BT Inquiry' and press ...

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The APR250 starts scanning for other Bluetooth devices in range. This can take quite a long time, also depending on how many devices are found, but at least 10 seconds.



The discovered devices are listed after the scan, sorted according to their names.

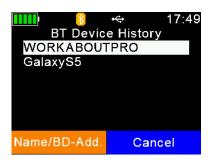
Sometimes it might be useful to see the BD-address of the found devices instead of the names. You may switch between both views by using the key.



Now you can see the list of discovered devices with their BD-addresses instead of the device names. Very often, the BD-address is somewhere on a label of a Bluetooth device. Since this address is unique, it can help to identify the correct device quickly.

Choose a device from the list and select it by pressing . The APR250 will store this device as the Bluetooth partner and will try to connect to it automatically and permanently, if the reader is configured to Master Mode.

Usually there should not be too many Bluetooth devices in use with the APR250. In order to prevent unnecessary scans when switching from one Bluetooth partner to another one, the reader stores a *'Bluetooth Device History'*. This list includes the devices, which were selected as Bluetooth partner in the past. So scanning for already known devices is not required.



Choose a device from the history in order to change the Bluetooth partner. The APR250 will then use this device as remote device until further changes.

✓ / ▲ ... Select a device from the history✓ ... Set the device as the new remote device

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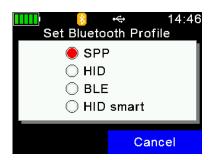
The APR250 supports four different Bluetooth profiles: Serial Port Profile (SPP), Human Interface Device (HID) (+ HID smart) and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE), where BLE is more or less another technology rather than a profile.

**SPP** emulates a serial cable to provide a simple replacement for RS232 connections. Commands can be sent into both directions – it uses virtual serial ports.

*HID* is used for 'typing in' the EID sent via Bluetooth into text fields of applications running on the host device. This removes the need to develop a serial interface for the reader. The APR250 is connected to the host as a 'virtual keyboard'. When the cursor is in a text field in the app running on the host, the EID is filled into this field after a transponder has been read. Please note that it is not possible to send commands to the APR250 in HID mode – communication only works into one direction here.

**HID smart**: Same as HID but the connection to the other device is only established after a transponder has been read. This is required for the use with Apple devices because as long as a Bluetooth device is connected as HID keyboard, the on-screen keyboard will not be available at all.

**BLE** is reserved for special applications at the moment.



Choose the desired Profile using the  $\square$  /  $\square$  /  $\square$  keys and confirm with  $\square$ .

The APR250 itself does not need a passkey. However, if other Bluetooth devices are using a higher security level and they require one, the passkeys on both devices have to match, otherwise the connection cannot be established.



Use the ☑ / ☑ keys in order to change the character and the ☑ / ☑ keys to move to the previous / next digit. When browsing through the list of characters, you can hold down the ☑ or ☑ key in order to increase the scrolling speed.

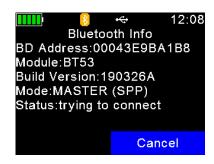
The key deletes the last digit. If you hold it for at least one second, all digits will be erased.

Press the key in order to set the passkey.

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The menu item 'Bluetooth Info' shows some Bluetooth hardware and firmware related information, the configured Bluetooth Mode & Profile and the connection status. Details concerning the color of the Bluetooth symbol depending on the connection status are explained in chapter 4.1.2.2.



**BD Address:** Bluetooth Device Address of the APR250s Bluetooth module, unique worldwide

**Module:** Bluetooth model, built into the reader; here: 'BT53'

**Build Version:** APR250s Bluetooth module Firmware version

Mode: Bluetooth Mode plus Bluetooth Profile in brackets

**Status:** Connection Status, here: tries to connect to remote device



In this case the APR250 is connected to the remote device. When the connection would drop, the reader would try to reconnect to the configured Bluetooth partner until successful. This is done automatically.

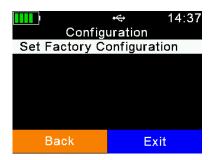


Here the APR250 is configured to be the Bluetooth Slave. It is discoverable by other devices and it is connectable. The reader will not try to connect to a remote device in this configuration but it will just wait for incoming connections.

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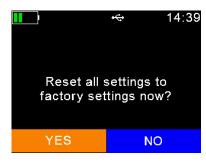


# 7.6.4 Configuration



After selecting 'Configuration', the menu shown on the left side will be displayed.

# 7.6.4.1 Set Factory Configuration



'Set Factory Configuration' puts all settings back to the factory default values. This might be useful if particular settings have been changed and the APR250 is not operating as intended anymore. Please note that this action cannot be undone. Settings different from the factory defaults have to be made again.

...confirm reset... abort reset

#### 7.6.5 Device Info

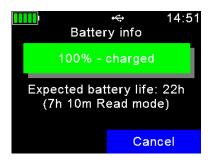


The menu 'Device Info' includes items showing information about the current battery status, the APR250 firmware and some information on the hardware.

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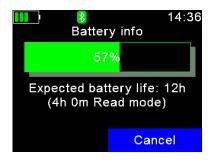


#### 7.6.5.1 Show Battery Info



When fully charged, the battery info shows '100%'.

Below the charging indication, the display shows rough estimates concerning the remaining operating time in standby mode (APR250 running but RFID engine is off), here 22 hours, and in continuous read mode, here 7 hours and 10 minutes.



In this example the battery capacity is at 57 percent. The expected standby time is 12 hours and in continuous read mode there are 4 hours left.

Bluetooth is activated in this example; this is also included in the calculations. So, the shown expected battery life considers all electric consumers that are currently active.

Details concerning the battery symbol in status bar are explained in chapter 4.1.2.1.

#### 7.6.5.2 Show Firmware Info



The item 'Show Firmware Info' displays the readers firmware version plus some additional information like build date and bootloader version. You should have those information available in case of a support request.

#### 7.6.5.3 Show Hardware Info



The 'Hardware Info' shows the readers serial number and revisions of printed circuit board that is built into the device. You should have those information available as well in case of a support request.

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# 8 Battery precautions

There are some important things to consider concerning the rechargeable battery pack. The allowed charge temperature is between  $0^{\circ}$ C to  $+45^{\circ}$ C ( $32^{\circ}$ F to  $113^{\circ}$ F). Discharging is allowed within the range of  $-20^{\circ}$ C to  $+60^{\circ}$ C ( $-4^{\circ}$ F to  $140^{\circ}$ F) – this is the allowed operating temperature for the battery.

#### Storage instructions:

- It shall be kept in shipping condition (70% discharge) or over than 70% discharge condition to storage for long period.
- It shall be kept in dry condition of low humidity, especially be free from high temperature (45°C / 113°F or more). (Recommended Temperature 23°C / 73°F, Humidity 65±20% or less.)
- Do not store the battery near heat sources, nor in a place subject to direct sunlight to storage in warehouse.

#### When using the battery:

- Misusing the battery may cause the battery to get hot, explode, or ignite and cause serious injury. Be sure to follow the safety rules listed below:
  - Do not place the battery in fire or heat the battery.
  - Do not install the battery backwards so that the polarity is reversed.
  - Do not connect the positive terminal and the negative terminal of the battery to each other with any metal object (such as wire).
  - Do not carry or store the batteries together with necklaces, hairpins, or other metal objects.
  - Do not penetrate the battery with nails, strike the battery with a hammer, step on the battery, or otherwise subject it to strong impacts or shocks.
  - Do not solder directly onto the battery.
  - Do not expose the battery to water or salt water, or allow the battery to get wet.
- Do not disassemble or modify the battery. The battery contains safety and protection devices which, if damaged, may cause the battery to generate heat, explode or ignite.
- Do not place the battery on or near fires, stoves, or other high-temperature locations. Do not place the battery in direct sunshine, or use or store the battery inside cars in hot weather. Doing so may cause the battery to generate heat, explode, or ignite. Using the battery in this manner may also result in a loss of performance and a shortened life expectancy.
- Do not insert the battery into equipment designed to be hermetically sealed. In some cases hydrogen or oxygen may be discharged from the cell which may result in rupture, fire or explosion.
- Immediately discontinue use of the battery if, while using, charging, or storing the battery, the battery emits an unusual smell, feels hot, changes color, changes shape, or appears abnormal in any other way. Contact your distributor if any of these problems are observed.
- Do not place the batteries in microwave ovens, high-pressure containers, or on induction cookware.
- In the event that the battery leaks and the fluid gets into one's eye, do not rub the eye. Rinse well with water and immediately seek medical care. If left untreated the battery fluid could cause damage to the eye.
- When the battery is worn out, insulate the terminals with adhesive tape or similar materials before disposal.

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#### While charging:

- Be sure to follow the rules listed below while charging the battery. Failure to do so may cause the battery to become hot, explode, or ignite and cause serious injury.
  - When charging the battery, only use chargers supplied by Agrident.
  - Do not attach the batteries to a power supply plug or directly to a car's cigarette lighter.
  - Do not place the batteries in or near fire, or into direct sunlight. When the battery becomes hot, the built in safety equipment is activated, preventing the battery from charging further, and heating the battery can destroy the safety equipment and can cause additional heating, breaking, or ignition of the battery.
- Do not continue charging the battery if it does not recharge within the specified charging time.
   Doing so may cause the battery to become hot, explode, or ignite.
- The temperature range over which the battery can be charged is 0°C to 45°C. Charging the battery at temperatures outside of this range may cause the battery to become hot or to break. Charging the battery outside of this temperature range may also harm the performance of the battery or reduce the battery's expectancy.

#### When discharging the battery:

- Do not discharge the battery using any device except for the specified device. When the battery is used in devices aside from the specified device it may damage the performance of the battery or reduce its life expectancy, and if the device causes an abnormal current to flow, it may cause the battery to become hot, explode, or ignite and cause serious injury.
- The temperature range over which the battery can be discharged is -20°C to 60°C. Use of the battery outside of this temperature range may damage the performance of the battery or may reduce its life expectancy.

#### **Disposal considerations:**

- Observe local, state and federal laws and regulations concerning battery disposal.
- Do not disassemble the battery!

# 9 Safety and care

The manufacturer accepts no liability for damage resulting from improper use or use not consistent with that described in these operating instructions.

- The APR250 Reader contains no parts that can be repaired by the user. For this reason the Reader Electronic may only be repaired by authorized customer service personnel.
- In both operation and storage of the reader please secure to comply with the environment conditions specified in the technical data.
- Clean the APR250 Reader only with a damp cloth. Use only water and any commercially available cleaning agent.

Any modification to the APR250 Reader Electronic will render the warranty null and void.

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# 10 Warranty

The manufacturer of the APR250 Reader Electronic will provide a warranty of

#### 12 months

from the day the device is shipped and subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Without submission of proof of purchase no warranty can be given.
- 2. In the event that defects are detected the manufacturer is entitled to choose between up to two attempts at repair or supplying a replacement device on one occasion. The warranty period for the repaired item or for a replacement item is 3 months but will always extend to the end of the original warranty period. No further claims can be entertained, especially claims for compensation for consequential losses. This exclusion of liability does not apply to claims made on the basis of the Product Liability Act.
- 3. Warranty claims cannot be entertained unless the Agrident system was installed properly and used properly and for the purpose intended.

No warranty obligations exist in particular when:

- 1. Damage is attributable to improper use of the device, to an incorrect connection or incorrect operator action;
- 2. The device was not cared for and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and this is the cause of the damage;
- The damage is due to any modification to the device;
   The damage is due to force majeure, for example lightning strike;
   The damage is due to wear, resulting from overstressing mechanical parts.

# 11 International approvals

#### CE marking

Hereby, Agrident GmbH declares that the APR250, if used according to the instructions, is in compliance with the essential requirements and other relevant provisions of the Radio Equipment Directive (RED) 2014/53/EU. For use in all countries of the EU.

To obtain a copy, contact Agrident GmbH and request the 'APR250 Declaration of Conformity' document.

### mail@agrident.com

In case of alteration of the product, not agreed to by us, this declaration will lose its validity.

This symbol indicates proof of conformity to applicable European Economic Community Council directives and harmonized standards published in the official journal of the European Communities.



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# 12 Trouble shooting

For any problem please contact us:

Agrident GmbH Steinklippenstr. 10 30890 Barsinghausen Germany

Telephone +49 5105 582573-10 FAX +49 5105 582573-17

Mail: support@agrident.com

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