This cheat sheet is intended to augment the current G90 user manual (and there are several versions) and reflects the G90's functionality starting in version 1.6 of its firmware. Significant changes with V1.71 are indicated this way. Significant changes with V1.72 are indicated this way. Version 1.73 did not introduce any new functions .. just tweaked a few existing functions. See the full V1.71, V1.72 and V1.73 release notes at the end of this document. So this cheat sheet for the G90 may be used for any firmware version through 1.73. Use the first column to look up the various G90 controls or buttons. Use the second column to look up the G90 supported functions (i.e. RF Gain, VOX, etc.). 12/15/19 KE8WO

| CONTROLS AND | SUPPORTED | |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| BUTTONS | FUNCTIONS | NOTES |
| Power Button | Power On or Off Display Off | Longer press to power on the G90 Longer press to power off A short press will turn off the G90 display, but the radio continues to operate. A short press or using any other G90 control will restore the display. |
| "Vol" | Audio Output Level | Note: press this control to route the audio signal to headphones or other audio device plugged into the headphone icon jack on the left side of the G90. |
| Unmarked Lower Left Rotary Control ('MFC') | Multifunction control ('MFC') used for a variety of purposes. | A short press of the MFC begins a DSP filter configuration process: With the first MFC press, a display of "Cxxx"("xxx" is the center freq) with a vertical green line at the center allows using the MFC to set the filters center frequency. |
| | DSP Filter Center Frequency and Bandwidth | With the second MFC press a display of "Bxxx"("xxx" is the bandwidth) with two vertical green lines at the sides allows using the MFC to set the filter's bandwidth. The last press of the MFC completes the process. Note: A short MFC press allowed setting the squelch in the prior firmware release. This is no longer available. See the long MFC button press Squelch level setting below. |
| | Set MFC Default Action | Long press the MFC to bring up 5 choices that may be selected for basic use when the MFC is rotated: Rotate the tuning control to select the desired choice from the five. Press the 'CMP' button to save the selection. The choices are: • 100 KHZ frequency step size. This allows quickly adjusting the received frequency in 100KHZ steps with the tuning control. This 100KHZ step size is fixed. This is the initial, default setting for the MFC. • Squelch level setting. This brings up the squelch level setting where the tuning control can select the desired squelch setting. If squelch is enabled, there will be a small 'SQL' icon on the display. Pressing the tuning control saves the squelch setting, • PO Level quickly adjust the power output level with the tune control. Then press the tune control to save the power setting. • Key Speed use the tune control to set the CW keying speed. Press the tune control to save the setting. • FFT Scale use the tune control to set the base line of the FFT display up or down. • Press the MFC three times to complete this new FFT scale or other setting. |

| Right Unmarked Rotary Control ('Tuning') | This is a multifunction control ('Tuning') used for a variety of purposes. RIT Function | The usual use for this control is for tuning the G90's frequency. Pressing the control cycles the tuning rate from 10 HZ, 100 HZ, 1 KHZ, 10KHZ and 100 KHZ per click of the tuning knob. from left to right. Pressing the FUNC button and then pressing the TUNING control reverses this to be from right to left. A long press of this control allows setting up the tuning RIT. Then use the Tuning control to dial in the RIT plus or minus KHZ offset desired. Press the Tuning control to save this value. In many other functions being used, a press of the tuning knob will complete the other function |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Top 'MODE' and 'BAND' Buttons. | Mode or Band | Use the Mode Left or Right buttons to scroll through the six supported modes. Use the Band Left or Right button to scroll through the ten supported amateur frequency bands. |
| FUNC Button | Initiate a Second Function for other Buttons or Controls. System Menu Reference Clock Tune | A short press turns on the amber LED below the button and initiates the second function by some other button or control. These are detailed below. A long press of this button will bring up the 'System Menu' to allow configuring various aspects of the G90's operation. In each case use the 'VM' button to step through the ten options. When making a change to one of the ten, press the 'CMP' button to save the settings and exit Here is a brief overview of the options: Handle Up / Down button this allows setting the function of the hand held mic's up / down button's. Rotate the tuning control to select from: Freq CH +/-, Band +/-, or Volume +/ Handle F1 this allows assigning a function to the hand held mic's 'F1' button. Rotate the tuning control to select from PRE/ATT, SPLT (Split operation), NB (noise blanker), COMP (speech compressor), or AGC Handle F2 this allows assigning a function to the hand held mic's 'F2' button. Rotate the tuning control to select from the same choices as shown above for the 'F1' button. LCD BL rotate the tuning control to specify the desired brightness of the display from 10% to 100%. AUX IN Volume use the tuning control to specify the desired ACC port's Aux In volume from 0 to 15 (bigger is louder) |
| | | 6. AUX OUT Volume use the tuning control to specify the desired ACC port's Aux Out volume from 0 to 15 (bigger is louder) 7. RCLK (reference clock) Tune. Rotate the Tuning Control to select the desired negative |
| | Band Stacking Mode | or positive value. 8. Band Stacking Mode. Select 'Ham Band' or 'Full Band'. |
| | Power On / Off | 9. G90 on / off beeping sound. Select 'Enable' or 'Disable'. |
| | Beeping | 10. Version displays the G90's current versions of the 'APP' and 'BASE software |
| | Factory Reset G90 | To complete a factory reset of the G90 press and hold the "FUNC" key and power on the G90. Then press the "PRE" key to confirm the reset or press the "VM" key to cancel the reset. |

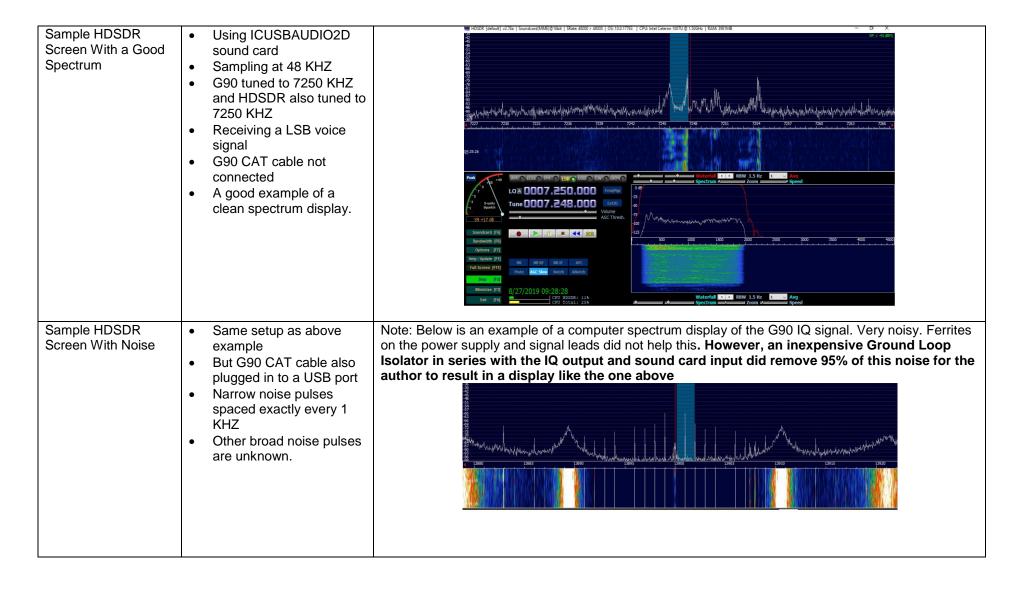
| 'MW .MC' Button | Store VEO's Fraguesey | There are memories from 00 to 63 |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WIVE INIC BULLOII | Store VFO's Frequency | |
| | To Memory | Adjust the Tuning control to select the desired memory channel. Adjust the Tuning control to select the desired memory channel. |
| | Clear a Memory | Press 'MW.MC' button again to save the value. |
| | location | You must use memory 00 first there after use any of the memories |
| | | Press 'FUNC' then 'MW.MC' to clear a memory |
| 'TUNE' Button | Antenna Tuner | A short press just enables the tuner to be used. But the actual antenna tuning is not initiated so the tuner is at its setting when it last actually completed a tuning action. An antenna icon is turned on in the display when the tuner is active A long press enables the tuner and initiates the tuner to tune the antenna for the current band |
| | | and frequency. The tuner is left enabled and the antenna icon is turned on in the display. |
| 'POW' Button | Output Power Setting SWR Curve Scan | A short press allows the tuning control to select the desired G90 watts. Then press the tuning control to save the setting. Press the 'POW' button again and use the Tuning control to select the 'SWR THR' SWR Threshold of 1.8 to 3.6. Press the Tuning control to end the sequence. |
| | | A long press of the 'POW' button initiates the scan of the current antenna's SWR vs. frequency plot. This scan is of the antenna without the tuner in the circuit. The scan is continuous until halted with the 'VM' button. During the scan the 'PRE' button may be pressed to specify 1 to 5 KHZ as the scan bandwidth step size. |
| 'KEY' Button | CW Configuration | Each short press allows setting the CW keying parameters from this list: Keying speed, M/L/R selection, Mode A or B, QSK on or off, QSK Time or Dot: Dash Ratio, Use the tuning control to set the desired value and the press the tuning control to save the setting. A long press of the KEY button will change the bottom portion of the display where the G90 will attempt to decode and display the characters as CW is being received. Another long press will turn it off. Note that the CW decoder feature is very sensitive to precise tuning and perhaps the current filter settings. When close to being tuned properly the amber LED to the right of the tuning control may or may not blink in time with the CW note. |
| 'LOCK' Button | Display's Brightness Lock G90 buttons and controls. | Short presses will cycle the G90's display intensity through five levels of brightness. A long press will lock the G90's controls and display a lock icon indicating the lock status. Another long press will unlock the G90. All controls and buttons, other than the Lock button, are disabled. |
| "PRE" Button | Preamplifier and | Press "PRE" repeatedly to cycle though these settings (see the icon in the display): |
| | Attenuator | "P" the preamp is on, providing a boost of the received signals |
| | | 'A' the input signal is attenuated by some amount |
| | | No icon neither the Preamp or attenuator is active. |
| "CMP" Button | Speech Compressor | The speech compressor functions to somewhat process normal speech frequencies into a narrower band to have the effect of boosting the effective output RF power. Applicable only in the LSB, USB or AM modes |
| | | See a microphone like icon when the speech compressor is on |

| "NB" Button | Noise Blanker | Pushing the button multiple times cycles through the following options: 'NB SW' use the tuning control to select On or Off 'NB Level' use tuning control to select 0 to 10. Lower numbers will tend to mute the receiver. 'NB Width' use tuning control to select 0 to 10. Higher values will tend to mute the receiver. Press the tuning control to end this process at any point. |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| "AGC" Button | AGC - Automated Gain Control | There are four possible AGC settings: 'AGC-F' is a fast AGC response to fast changing signals. 'AGC-S' is a slower AGC response to changing signals. 'AGC-A' G90 selects the AGC response time required by the current signals being received. 'AGC—' is the AGC feature turned off |
| | RF Gain | Long press the AGC button. A submenu of 'RF Gain' appears Use the Tuning Control to select the desired RF Gain level of 0% to 100%. Press the Tuning Control to save the selection. The initial value is 50% |
| "V/M" Button | 'VFO' mode and "Memory" mode. Power On Call Sign | Memory mode will display 'CH nn' in the display where 'nn' is the memory channel number Rotate the main tuning knob to rapidly cycle through any previously stored memory channels. How to write the contents of a Memory Channel to the VFO so you can tune or adjust the frequency and other parameters: Press the V/M key and choose a stored frequency. Short press the FUNC key Short press the A/B key (writes contents of MC to VFO - both VFOs) Short press the V/M key (returns to VFO mode) now with MC contents displayed and tunable. |
| FUNC Button and then "POW" | Input Source and Mic Gain | A long press will allow setting a call sign, etc. to briefly appear when powering on the G90. 'Input', use the volume control to select 'Line' (the ACC port) or 'Mic'. Press 'POW' 'Mic Gain' use the Volume control to select the gain from 0 to 20. Press the volume control to end this selection process. |
| FUNC Button and the "KEY" | CW Side Tone Volume and Frequency | 'CW Volume' Use the Volume control to select the desired CW side tone volume from 0 to 15. You will hear the level in the speaker as you rotate the Volume control. Press 'KEY' and then use the Volume control to set the desired side tone frequency. Press the Key button to end the sequence. Press FUNC to turn it off |
| FUNC Button and then "LOCK" | FFT Averaging | Press the FUNC button and then the LOCK button A SCALE submenu appears Use the Tuning control to select the desired FFT averaging count from 1 to 10. Press the Tuning control to save the value |
| | ALC Meter | The G90 now displays an ALC Meter reading from 0 to 100%. This is displayed just under the Power Out Watts near the right side of the display. This is displayed only when the G90 is in transmit mode. Keeping this value under 100 will help over-modulating your signal, with possible distortion, when transmitting. |
| FUNC Button and then "PRE"/ "ATT" Button | Does nothing | |

| FUNC Button and | Set Lower Limit of the | Turn the Tuning control to set the desired filter limit. |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| then "CMP"/ "F-L" | Filter Bandwidth | Press the "CMP/"F-L" again to save the value |
| FUNC Button and | Set Upper Limit of the | Turn the Tuning control to set the desired filter limit. |
| then "NB"/ "F-H" | Filter Bandwidth | Press the "NB/"F-H" again to save the value |
| FUNC Button and then "AGC"/ "SPL" | Split Frequency Operation | See the current G90 user manual for a good description of how to use this feature. You will see an icon on the left side of the display between the VFO A and VFO B when this split operation is in use. |
| FUNC Button and then press the Volume Control | VOX Configuration | After pressing this button sequence, the VOX options appear on the display The options are: 'VOX' Rotate the Tuning control to select VOX on or off. If on, then a VOX icon appears on the display. Press the Volume control. Or just press the Tuning control to end this VOX set up if you are only turning VOX off or on. 'VOX Gain' Rotate the Volume Control to set the VOX Gain to from 0 to 100. Press Volume 'ANTI-VOX' Rotate the Volume to set the Anti VOX Gain to from 0 to 100. Press Volume 'VOX DLY' Rotate the Volume Control to set the VOX Delay to from 0 to 2 seconds in .1 second increments. Press the Volume control to end the VOX configuration. VOX is also usable with using AF In via the ACC port. |
| Set up for Digital Modes | | Notes: Digital modes require that the audio in and audio out signals to and from the G90 is by way of the rear 'ACC' connector. Once set up, you may need to adjust 'Aux In' and/or the 'Aux Out' G90 volumes for proper operation. You may also need to adjust the PC's audio in and/or audio out levels for proper operation. Some PC interfaces, like the SignaLink USB, has controls to ease this. In most cases, set up the CAT portion of the digital program being used to specify using the CAT 'PT'T' command to activate the G90's transmit action. Setting up CAT and the G90 for VOX mode will likely also work But not detailed here. The G90's side 'CAT' (computer control of the G90) connector and cable implements a subset of the common ICOM civ communications protocol. The author has had success with these CAT settings far common digital mode programs (though not all tested in transmit mode): WSJT-X: Omnirig (Using IC756Pro) HDSDR: Omnirig (Using IC756Pro) Ham Radio Deluxe: IC7000 Fldigi: Hamlib & X108G Flrig: IC7100 (very noisy on disconnect) JS8Call: Omnirig (Using IC756Pro) |
| | | See the G90 manual for the ACC port Mini-Din 8 pins. Just three pins are used: Aux AF IN. Aux AF Out and Ground |

| Set Audio input as 'Line' | Press 'FUNC' then 'POW' | Press 'POW' to display 'Input'. Rotate Main Tuning knob to select 'Line'. Press 'POW' to display 'MIC Gain'. Rotate Main Tuning knob to select desired Mic Gain level 0 to 20. Higher is more gain. Press Rotate Main Tuning knob to complete the set up. Note: Later use these steps to switch Mic back to the handheld Mic as the input to resume voice operations. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Set desired audio 'Aux In Volume' | Press and hold 'FUNC' | Press 'V/M' button several times to display '5. Aux In Volume' Rotate Main Tuning knob to select desired Aux In level 0 to 15. Higher is more gain. Press 'CMP' to save the value set Press 'AGC' button to exit |
| Set desired audio 'Aux Out Volume' | Press and hold 'FUNC' | Press 'V/M' button several times to display '6. Aux Out Volume' Rotate Main Tuning knob to select desired Aux Out level 0 to 15. Higher is more gain. Press 'CMP' to save the value set Press 'AGC' button to exit |
| Set 'USB' mode | Repeatedly press one of the top 'Mode' buttons until USB is selected | USB is typically the mode for data communications. |
| Turn off the AGC | Repeatedly press the 'AGC' button until you see a display of 'AGC—' | This is per the recommendations within the WSJT-X user manual: "It is usually best to turn AGC off or reduce the RF gain control to minimize AGC action." This is likely also a good initial setting for other digital modes. You may need to adjust the RF gain if the audio level seems too loud. The different firmware releases acted differently in this regard. |
| Insure the speech compressor is off | Press the 'CMP' to clear the small microphone icon from the top of the display. | Leaving the compressor on may cause unknown distortions in the data signals being transmitted by the G90. |
| | New to V1.72: ALC Meter | During transmitting power out setting & tune up, use the ALC meter to set the output power to avoid over driving the G90 transmitter. Some recommend an ALC setting that never comes close to the 100% mark. Perhaps somewhere between 80-90%. |
| Set up for Using the I/Q Port | The I/Q port data stream may be used to reproduce the G90's spectrum and waterfall on an external PC's larger display Depending on the sound card sample rate, the spectrum may be at least twice what is seen on the G90's display. | Notes: The I/Q port on the back panel of the G90 provides a low level baseband output centered on the frequency that the G90 is currently tuned to. An I/Q output is frequently associated with an SDR based radio, such as the G90. The G90 I/Q is via the stereo 3.5 mm port and is a low level AC signal on the order of 50 or so millivolts or 100 millivolts peak to peak See below for an example PC screen displaying the I/Q frequency spectrum from a G90. |

| Requirement | Stereo Sound Card Input On Computer | The I/Q is a two channel signal and hence the computer sound input must be stereo or two channels as well. This may be marked as a stereo mic input or line input Note that most commonly found sound cards, whether it be internal to the computer or an external USB sound card, is a mono, single channel input. If you attempt to use a mono input, you may well get some semblance of it working but the spectrum will likely look like the two sides being a mirror image of each other. Examples of reported usable lower cost USB sounds that work and have stereo inputs are: StarTech USB Sound Card w/ Stereo Mic – ICUSBAUDIO2D (Amazon \$25.99) StarTech USB Sound Card w/ Stereo Line Input - ICUSBAUDIO7D) (Amazon \$32.36) Optimal Shop USB 2.0 External Sound Card w/ Stereo Line Input (Amazon \$14.59) Only the StarTech ICUSBAUDIO2D supports 96 KHZ sampling. The other two models are limited to 48 KHZ. 96 KHZ is preferred for the displayed spectrum to be 96 KHZ wide. |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Requirement | Stereo Jumper Cable | The cable used to connect the G90's back panel I/Q output port to the sound card's input port must be a good quality cable with a stereo 2 channel 3.5 mm male plug on each end. |
| Requirement | SDR I/Q Program on PC | The computer must have a program capable of sampling the I/Q data from the sound card and then displaying it on the computer's display. Two known usable computer programs are: "HDSDR" and "SDR#". Each may be found by searching the Internet and you will also find good details on using them. They have a learning curve beyond the scope of this document. A few key points on these programs usage: Assuming you are using a Windows computer, you will likely need to drill down in the PC's sound settings to see the micro phones advanced settings to select your USB port being used and the 2 channel sample rate desired. Select your sound card and the I/Q as the input signal source for HDSDR or SDR# Select the desired bandwidth / sample rate to be used Select 'Run' to begin the display A sample rate of 48,000 will yield a spectrum the same width as the G90's front panel display, +/-24 KHZ A sample rate of 96,000 will yield a spectrum double the width of the G90's front panel display, +/-48 KHZ or nearly 100 KHZ! Both the HDSDR and SRD# programs are CPU resources intensive Especially SDR#. An older, slower PC may get bogged down. |



Full release notes for firmware V1.71

New Features:

1.RF GAIN: Long press "AGC" key to access. Rotate main knob to change its value. Note: "RF GAIN" won't affect the S-Meter and FFT Scale.

2. Tuning Steps behavior is changed (from left to right)

3.DSP filter Center/Bandwidth mode

Short press USER-Knob(the bottom-left one):

Select filter center->Select filter bandwidth->Select USER-define->Loop back

When f-center is selected: Title will be "Cxxx" ("xxx" is the center freq); a vertical green line showed up at the middle of the orange area

When f-bandwidth is selected: Title will be "Bxxx" ("xxx" is the bandwidth); two vertical green lines showed up at the both sides of the orange area

4. Reset to factory settings

Press and hold "FUNC" key and turning the rig on to get access.

Press "PRE" key to confirm; press "VM" key to cancel

5.Main ref-clock fine tuning

Long press "FUNC" key and entering system menu, at item "7.RCLK Tune:"

If this parameter is messed up, just set it to "0", it neither damage the rig nor degrade the performance

6.Band stack mode

Long press "FUNC" key and entering system menu, at item "8.Band Stack Mode:"

it can be set as:HAM Band;Full Band

7. Power ON/OFF beeping

Long press "FUNC" key and entering system menu, at item "9.ON/OFF Beep:"

it can be set as:Disable;Enable

8.FFT averaging

2nd function of "LOCK" key, range can be in 1~10

Fixing and Optimization:

1.RX audio distortion caused by AGC; also AGC time constant is more longer(approximately,100ms@fast;1000ms@slow)

2.Cant power off when FFT Scale is too small

3. The DSP-filter icon sometimes don't draw correctly

4.2nd function menu behavior(menu or title at the multiple function display area):

Main display(DSP-filter icon)->2nd function title1->2nd function title 2->...2nd function title n->Loop back

5. Optimized NB algorithm(by the way, NB is not available any more in AM mode in this version)

6.FFT SCALE can be saved at each band

7. Optimized APC algorithm

8. Optimized High SWR protection algorithm

9. Optimized RF output power detect algorithm(more accurate)

10.AM TX output power is down to 1/4 of the set power

11. Optimized voice comp algorithm

| Full release | 1.CW timing is optimized, solved the issue of randomly losing DOT/DASH. |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| notes for | 2.T/R switch timing is optimized, faster switching time(t<=53ms). |
| firmware V1.72 | 3.add ALC meter, display below the TX power string when TXing |
| IIIIIWale VI.72 | it's mainly for digi mode tx ,to get the good linearity, adjust driving level or Line IN volume to |
| | make the ALC meter value within 30~90. |
| | Max level of Line IN should not be more than 600mVp-p,or it will overload the input amplifier. |
| | 4.PO meter is optimized, more accuracy. |
| | 5.Rotate encoder driver is optimized, less losing of steps. |
| | 6.ACC LINE OUT is optimized, Main volume will not effect its output level anymore. |
| | 7.ACC Band Volt is optimized, solved the issue of wrong voltage of 12m band. |
| | 8.TS max digit change from 10k to 100k when pushing the main knob. |
| | 9.RIT function: Press and hold main knob to toggle |
| Full release | Official release stable version |
| notes for | Note: Keep both units the same version |
| firmware V1.73 | Change log vs V1.72_build002(Release): |
| illiliwale VI.75 | 1.Rotary encoder driver has been optimized to be smoother and more accurate (no lost steps). |
| | 2.Total RF GAIN = 1/4 RF GAIN setting when AGC is off to prevent sudden volume increase. |
| | 3.Rx volume stepping has been optimized |
| | 4.MIC GAIN has been lowered to avoid picking up too much background noise. |