GUIDELINEGEO | ABEM

ABEM Terrameter VES & VES MAX

User Guide


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WARNING!

The ABEM Terrameter VES and VES MAX deliver high voltages and currents. Always consider all cables and electrodes to carry current, whether connected directly or indirectly to the Terrameter.

Stay away from cables and electrodes while the system is operating. Wear electrically insulating boots and gloves during fieldwork. Disconnect cables from Terrameter / Electrode Selector before connecting and disconnecting electrodes to or from the cables.

To avoid accidents, the operator must always keep all parts of the equipment including instrument, electrode selector, electrode cables, electrodes etc. under close supervision and be aware of unauthorized persons and stray animals approaching while the system is operating.

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THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING ABEM TERRAMETER VES / VES MAX

The ABEM Terrameter range are innovative data acquisition systems for self-potential (SP), resistivity and time-domain induced polarization (IP), incorporating the World's first commercial implementation of a 100% duty cycle mode for IP measurement*. The instrument has been carefully checked at all stages of production and is thoroughly tested before leaving the factory. It will provide many years of satisfactory service if handled and maintained according to the instructions given in this manual.

Guideline Geo will be pleased to receive occasional reports from you concerning the use and experience of the equipment.. We also welcome your comments on the contents and usefulness of this manual. In all communication with ABEM be sure to include the instrument types and serial numbers. Contact details:

Address:	Guideline Geo AB, Hemvärnsgatan 9, SE-171 54 Solna, Stockholm, Sweden.
Website:	*www.guidelinegeo.com*
Phone number:	+46 8 557 613 00
E-mail:	*sales@guidelinegeo.com*
	support@guidelinegeo.com

Note!	It is important that the person/organisation responsible for the instrument, notify Guideline Geo of their name and address. This allows us to provide updates with important information, upgrades of the built-in software and documentation. Please send your name and address directly to Guideline Geo, utilise the Warranty Registration Card delivered along with the instrument.

* Only available on "VES MAX" model

ABOUT THIS MANUAL

This manual is written for the end user of the product and explains how to set up and configure the product, as well as providing detailed instruction on its use. The conventions and formats of this manual are described in the following paragraphs:

- Typographical conventions used in this manual:

Italic	Names of objects, e.g. screen / menu features, figure captions etc.
Bold	In-line minor headers, emphasis etc.
Orange Italic	URL links

- **Formats** used in this manual for highlighting special messages:

> – Use of the internal keyboard is given in this format
>
> – A sequence of steps will have two or more of these parts
>
> Further information about a particular operation is given like this

Note!	This format is used to highlight information of importance or special interest

Warning!	Ignoring these types of notes might lead to loss of data or a malfunction

These notes warn of things that can lead to people or animals getting hurt or to equipment getting damaged

1 GET READY - UNPACKING YOUR NEW INSTRUMENT

1.1 Introduction

The ABEM Terrameter VES is an innovative data acquisition system for self-potential (SP), resistivity (RES) and time-domain induced polarization (IP), incorporating the World's first commercial implementation of a 100% duty cycle mode for IP measurement*. The instrument is delivered with everything that is needed for 4-electrode geoelectrical sounding along with your choice of imaging cables and electrodes.

The Terrameter VES & VES MAX are fully compatible with existing ABEM accessories such as the borehole resistivity logger (Terrameter Log 300) and electrode selectors (ES10-64C) for imaging. The built-in GPS automatically logs the instrument position during data acquisition, and ABEM Active Guidance provides assistance on every aspect of instrument operation and survey.

Figure 1 shows the main components of a VES system, comprising the instrument, cable reels and electrodes.

Figure 1 *ABEM Terrameter VES and selected accessories*

* Available on "VES MAX" model

1.2 The Delivered Instrument

Use great care when unpacking the instrument. Check the contents of the box or crate against the packing list. Figure 2 shows the parts that are shipped with a Terrameter VES / VES MAX.

Figure 2 *Top: Terrameter VES MAX instrument package (VES unit does not include office power supply or plastic shipping case). Bottom: Terrameter VES wooden transport case.*

1.3 Inspection

Inspect the instrument and accessories for loose connections and inspect the instrument case for any damage that may have occurred due to rough handling during shipment.

The Terrameter VES MAX is delivered in a rugged plastic flight case. The box is designed to offer a convenient and safe transport option; the VES model comes in a wooden shipping crate. Any packing materials should be carefully preserved for future re-shipment, should this become necessary. Always use the transport box provided, or an alternative of at least equivalent mechanical protection and shock absorption whenever the instrument is shipped.

1.4 Shipping Damage Claims

File any claim for shipping damage with the carrier immediately after discovery of the damage and before the equipment is put into use. Forward a full report to ABEM, making certain to include the ABEM delivery number, instrument type(s) and serial number(s).

1.5 Shipping/Repacking Instructions

The ABEM packing kit is specially designed for the Terrameter. The packing kit should be used whenever shipping is necessary. If original packing materials are unavailable, pack the instrument in a wooden or shatter-proof plastic box that is large enough to allow some 80 mm of shock absorbing material to be placed all around the instrument. This includes top, bottom and all sides. Never use shredded fibres, paper or wood wool, as these materials tend to pack down and permit the instrument to move inside its packing box. **To return instruments to ABEM, please find our shipping instructions on our website.** For further assistance please contact ABEM or its authorised distributor. Contact information can be found in the beginning of this document.

1.6 Registration

When you have checked the packing list, the next important thing to do is to register your Terrameter VES / VES MAX. To register send an email with your contact information to *support@guidelinegeo.com*. Once registered, you will able to receive notifications of software updates and product information.

1.7 Compliance

The Terrameter and the accessories are in conformity with the essential requirements in the Low Voltage Directive 73/23/EEG, 93/68/EEG and the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive 89/336/EEG with amendments 92/31/EEG and 93/68/EEG of the EC.

2 OVERVIEW OF THE INSTRUMENT

2.1 The Connector Panel

All connectors except external power are situated on the right-side panel of the Terrameter VES / VES MAX (Figure 3).

Figure 3 *The connector panels of the Terrameter VES (left) and VES MAX*

LABEL	FUNCTION
Ethernet	Connection for RJ45 Ethernet cable for network communication
USB	Connection for USB memory sticks, keyboard, mouse etc.
SD	Connection for microSD memory card
C1, C2	Banana plug connection for current electrodes (for VES, connection of remote electrodes, or tests)
P1, P2	Banana plug connection for channel 1 potential electrodes (for VES, connection of remote electrodes, or tests)
AUX	Connection of external devices, such as the Terrameter SAS LOG 300 or ES10-64C
Ground	For earthing the unit to a ground spike / spare electrode
Connector 1	*VES MAX only*: 32-pole connector for electrode cable(s)
Interconnect	*VES MAX only*: currently only used for ERT *Pole-Pole Plug*

2.2 The Power Panel

The power panel of the Terrameter VES / VES MAX is shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 *The power panel of a Terrameter VES / VES MAX*

The Safety Switch Button has two possible positions. The inner position corresponds to the safety switch condition while the outer position corresponds to the operating condition.

Current can only be transmitted if the Safety Switch Button is in the outer position. If the Safety Switch Button is pressed during measurement current transmission will stop immediately without closing down the measurement session. The measurement can be resumed again as soon as the button is released. The Safety Switch Button is released to the outer position by twisting it clockwise.

Before releasing the Safety Switch Button, the operator must have full control of the instrument and the entire electrode cable layout, so that people and animals do not get close to the electrodes and electrode take-outs connected to the measurement cables!

Note!	The power panel can get hot when operating, especially when transmitting with high power. Be careful when handling a Terrameter in order to avoid burning anything. See also Chapter 2.5 *The Power Supply*.

2.3 The Built-in GNSS Receiver

The Terrameter VES instruments have a built-in GPS and GLONASS receiver that automatically saves positioning data along with all measurements. To function well, the built-in antenna (in the handle of the instrument, see Figure 5, below) must be able to receive signals from a sufficient number of satellites. This will not normally be possible indoors and severely limited in outdoor areas with a limited view of the sky, for example in a forest. Lying the instrument on its back during data collection also limits the antenna's effectiveness. An external GNSS can be used to provide positioning via the USB port on the end-panel of the instrument (see Chapter 4.3 *GNSS (*Global Navigation Satellite System) Receiver)

Figure 5 *The GNSS (GPS) antenna is integrated in the left side of the handle*

2.4 The User Interface Panel

All interaction with the Terrameter VES / VES MAX is done through the user interface panel (Figure 6). This comprises the built-in keyboard, full colour display, and LED window.

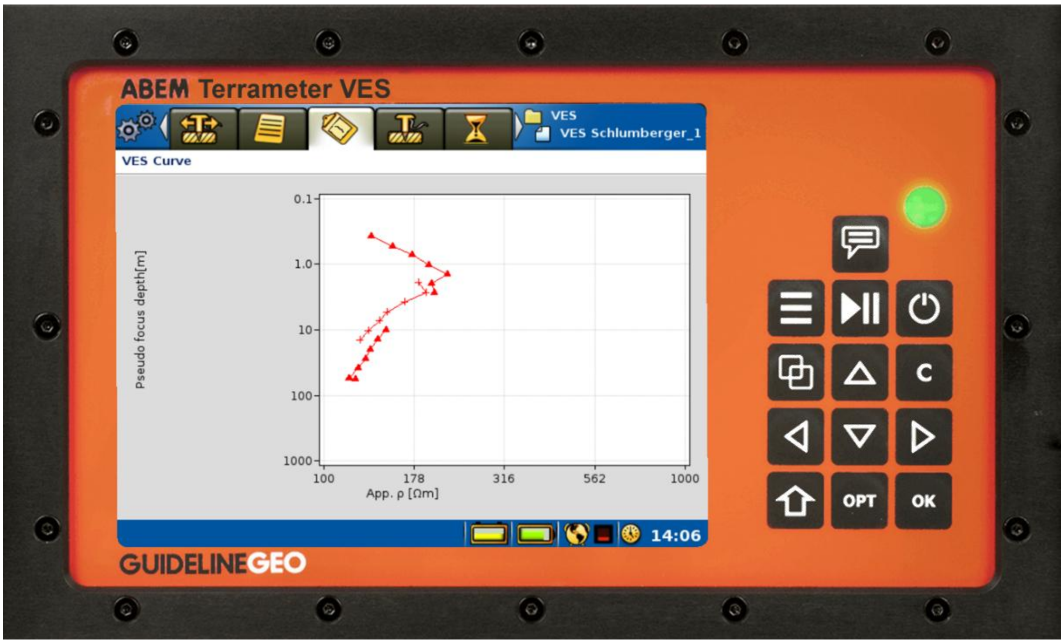


Figure 6 *The user interface panel*

There are two LED's shown through the *LED Window*:

- The green LED is a heartbeat indicator meaning that the software is alive.
- The red LED indicates read/write activity.
- The orange LED is related to various power states during normal operation.

2.5 The Power Supply

During stand-by, the Terrameter draws very little current; however, depending on the circumstances, it can draw large currents during transmission, sometimes up to 30A. The external battery and its cable must be designed accordingly. For fieldwork, use a good, adequate capacity, recently charged battery and the supplied cable set, if possible.

The internal battery (if present) is primarily designed as a backup power source for operating the instrument during set-up, moving between stations, data transfer etc. but it may also be used for limited, low-power surveys, for example VES measurements on reduced power. The internal battery (included with Terrameter VES MAX, optional with Terrameter VES) is charged by connecting the Office Power Supply (included with Terrameter VES MAX, optional with Terrameter VES) to the *External Power Supply connector.* The charger will automatically stop charging when the battery is full. It is possible to remove the internal battery, and it can sometimes be required for transportation by airplane. If the protective liner that keeps the cells together is found defective during inspection, please contact ABEM support for further information.

Note!	All batteries self-discharge over time. If discharged too much it will decrease the battery capacity. It is recommended to charge the internal and external batteries immediately after survey and at least once every three months, if not in use.

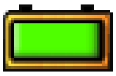
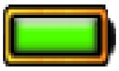
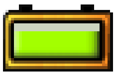
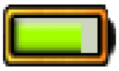
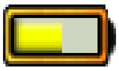
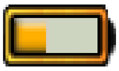
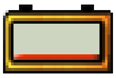
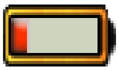
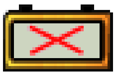
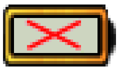
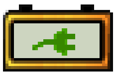
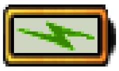
Once the instrument has been turned on, if the external battery is disconnected for any reason, it will automatically switch to the internal battery. This function even works during the initial start-up process. This useful feature makes it possible to disconnect the external battery temporarily without shutting the instrument off when moving, for instance, from one measurement station to another.

The battery-switching device will, in any situation, give priority to the external battery if it is connected and the voltage is more than 9 V. More information about the internal and external voltage levels can be found in Chapter 4.8 *Power Source*.

The table overleaf provides a guide to the battery indicator. The values are not exact but give an indication of voltage levels from the battery sources at that moment. The battery indicators are the leftmost of the *Notification Icons* on the *Status Bar* (Figure 7).

The ABEM Office Power Supply (21-33310032) is **not** suitable for measurements – it is designed purely for working on the instrument whilst indoors. It is neither weatherproof nor power-rated for survey conditions. The ABEM Power Adapter (10-006021) is an optional accessory that allows the Terrameter to be run from a small mobile generator. This rugged AC-DC converter is able to cope with fast-changing and, often, high-current demands of the Terrameter during measurement, whilst still providing a stable 12V supply.

The Office Power Supply should never be used for undertaking field measurements. Use a suitably-rated 12V battery or the ABEM Power Adapter, specifically designed for the demands of survey.

External battery indication	Approximate battery voltage or status	Internal battery indication	Approx. percentage of full charge or status
	**Over 12.2 V**		**81 - 100 %**
	**11.6 – 12.2 V**		**61 - 80 %**
	**11.4 – 11.6 V**		**41 - 60 %**
	**10.9 – 11.4 V**		**21 - 40 %**
	**Under 10.9**		**Under 20 %**
	**External battery not connected**		**Internal battery not connected**
	**Office power supply connected**		**Internal battery charging**

If an external power source is not detected, The Terrameter switches to the internal battery. However, the following start-up scenario should be looked out for as an indication that all available power sources are depleted:

1. If the external battery has a voltage that is *just* over the 'OK' limit the instrument will proceed to the stage where the more power-draining display lights up.
2. The voltage on the already weak battery will now drop below an acceptable level.
3. The instrument then goes into a resting (standby) state.
4. The external battery will now recover to a higher voltage level.
5. The instrument records sufficient voltage to reattempt the start-up sequence.
6. The display lights up, with a following drop in voltage, and a forced resting state.

This sequence can continue repeatedly for a long time. In case this happens, the immediate action is to disconnect the battery and have it replaced or charged. Always use a good quality, newly charged, battery for your survey.

After a measurement is started, the power supply voltage is allowed to temporarily drop to 9V when the transmitter is active. Therefore, the instrument may temporarily indicate a low battery voltage while transmitting high current into the ground.

2.6 Operating in High Temperature Situations

Every individual Terrameter VES / VES MAX is operated for at least one hour in a heat chamber during the delivery test. During normal operating condition a thermal fuse will turn off the instrument if overheating occurs. This is to prevent damage and it will of course halt the measuring process.

Some precautions to avoid overheating:

- Protect the instrument from direct sunlight. Keep it in the shade, consider use of a parasol or similar if needed.
- Do not operate the instrument in small, closed spaces, for example within transport boxes, where air cannot circulate freely. The power panel (left side of instrument) must have good ventilation around it.

2.7 Operating in a Thunderstorm

If a thunderstorm should come up while out in the field with the instrument, then remember to first stop any ongoing measurement process and then disconnect the cables from the terminals without touching any bare conductors. Never leave the cables connected to the Terrameter VES / VES MAX overnight unless they are equipped with adequate lightning protection since a thunderstorm may occur.

Never take measurements during a thunderstorm!

3 THE USER INTERFACE

The user interacts with the instrument through the User Interface Panel. This Chapter explains the basics of this interaction.

3.1 The Display

All information shown on the display is referred to as the *Screen*. Figure 7 shows the layout of the *Screen*.

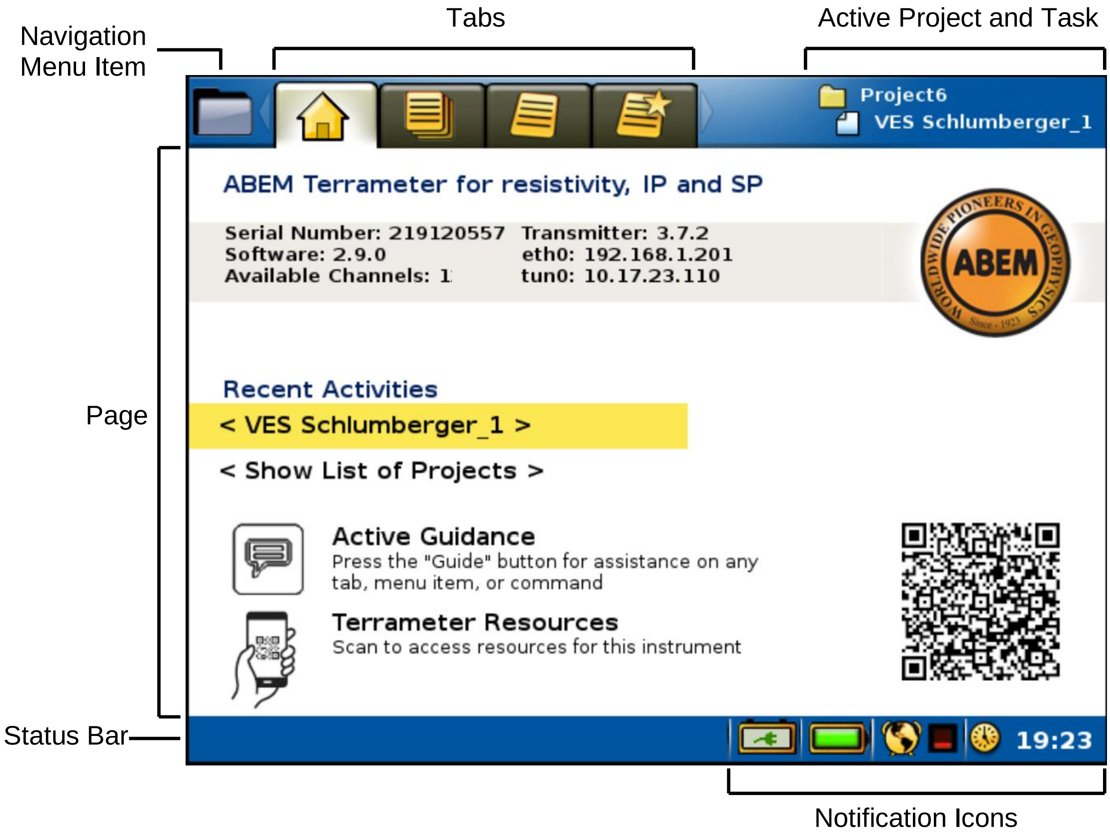


Figure 7 *The screen layout*

The *Screen* layout components:

- Navigation Menu Item and Tabs are described in Chapter 3.4 *Page, Tab and Menu Navigation*.
- Page shows different information depending on where the user has navigated.
- Active Project and Task shows the currently opened Project and Task.
- Status Bar shows interactive messages in the left part and notifications in the right part (see below).
- Notification *Icons* show Battery status, GPS status and time of day.

3.2 The Keyboard

Commands from the user are entered through a keyboard. There is a built-in keyboard on the front-panel but an external keyboard can also be used via the USB port on the end-panel.

3.2.1 The Built-in Keyboard

The table lists the names of the buttons as referenced in this document.

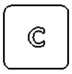
	<ABEM Active Guidance>		
	<Menu>		**<Left>**
	<Play/Pause>		**<Right>**
	<Power>		**<Down>**
	<Browse>		**<Shift>**
	<Up>	OPT	**<Options>**
C	**<Clear>**	OK	**<OK>**

The corresponding function of the buttons are summarized below:

<ABEM Active Guidance>	Detects the currently active command, screen, or menu item and provides relevant guidance on it.
<Menu>	Show the Navigation menu
<Play/Pause>	Jump to the *"Measure/Progress"* Page / Start or pause measuring
<Power>	Turn instrument on or off
<Browse>	Jump between the *Tabs* of a navigation *Menu Item*
<Up>	Move Cursor / Highlight up
<Clear>	Close dialog
<Left>	Move Cursor / Highlight left
<Down>	Move Cursor / Highlight down
<Right>	Move Cursor / Highlight right
<Shift>	Change function of other buttons
<Options>	Show the option menu for the highlighted object
<OK>	Select / Show the keyboard emulator

3.2.2 The External Keyboard

A standard USB computer keyboard can be connected to the Terrameter VES / VES MAX and used instead of the built-in keyboard. The mapping between the built-in buttons and the computer keyboard is listed in this table:

	**<F9>**		**<Arrow Left>**
	**<Alt>**		**<Arrow Down>**
	**<F10>**		**<Arrow Right>**
	**<F12>**		**<Shift>**
	**<Tab>**		**<F11>**
	**<Arrow Up>**		**<Enter>**
	**<Esc>**		

3.3 VNC Control

A standard VNC server is installed on the Terrameter VES / VES MAX which means that screen mirroring and remote control of the instrument is very simple. Devices on any platform (PC, Apple, iOS, Android, Linux etc. as VNC protocols are universal) can be signed into the instrument allowing screen mirroring and remote control. A widely used, cross-platform software is VNC Viewer which, at the time of writing, can be downloaded from the RealVNC website (*https://www.realvnc.com/en/connect/download/viewer*). Users/observers can be local to the Terrameter or fully remote and still watch or operate the system.

3.3.1 Viewing / controlling the Terrameter VES / VES MAX via VNC

Install a VNC viewer on the chosen viewing / control device and connect the device to the LS directly via Wi-Fi or Ethernet cable (for accessing a remote instrument via the internet, please contact *support@guidelinegeo.com*). Start the chosen VNC software, there will be some option for creating a new connection; enter the IP address shown on the Terrameter "Welcome" or "Network" tab (depending upon the software used, it may be necessary to append the value "::5900" directly after the IP address).

The VNC server on the instrument is password protected. Enter "Guideline" (case sensitive) when prompted; it may be useful to save the password, if that option is given. The software is likely to give a warning message due to the connection being unencrypted, accept this and the Terrameter desktop should appear on your device. Use the external keyboard controls shown in the previous section of this manual to control the instrument.

3.4 Page, Tab and Menu Navigation

The active view on the instrument (called a *Page*, see Chapter 3.1 *The Display*) will be one of a number of pages, grouped together by function, shown as *Tabs* at the top of the *Screen*. These pages are arranged in a two-level menu tree (Figure 8), accessed via the <Menu> button (see Chapter 3.2 *The Keyboard*). The top level has four *Menu Items*, each with several *Sub-items*.

When referring to a specific page, the format "*Menu Item/Sub-item*" will be used for instance "*Instrument/Network*" to describe the network information *Page*.

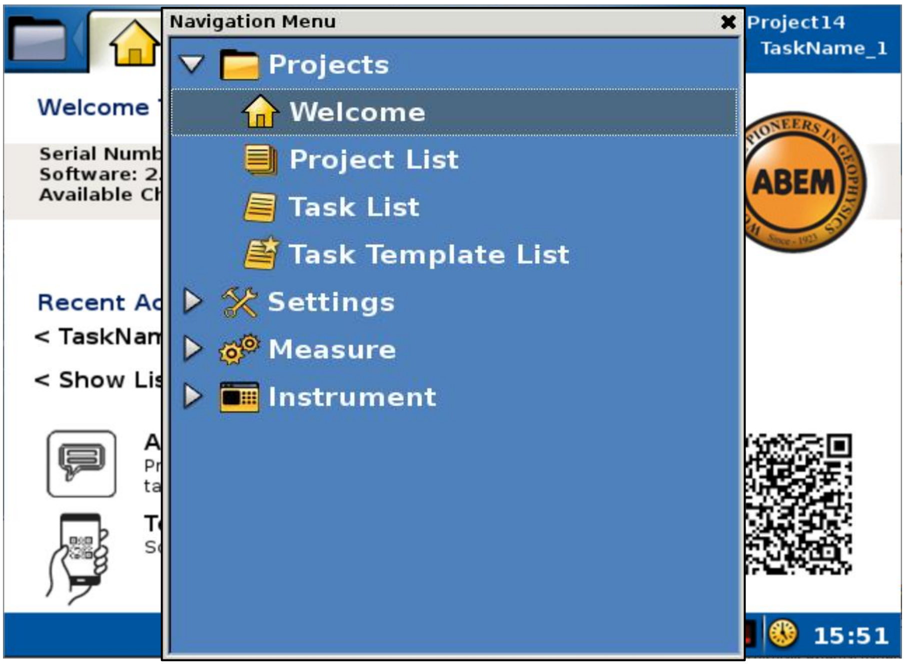


Figure 8 *The Navigation Menu over the "Projects/Welcome" Page*

The details of the *Navigation Menu* are highlighted in **Figure 9**.

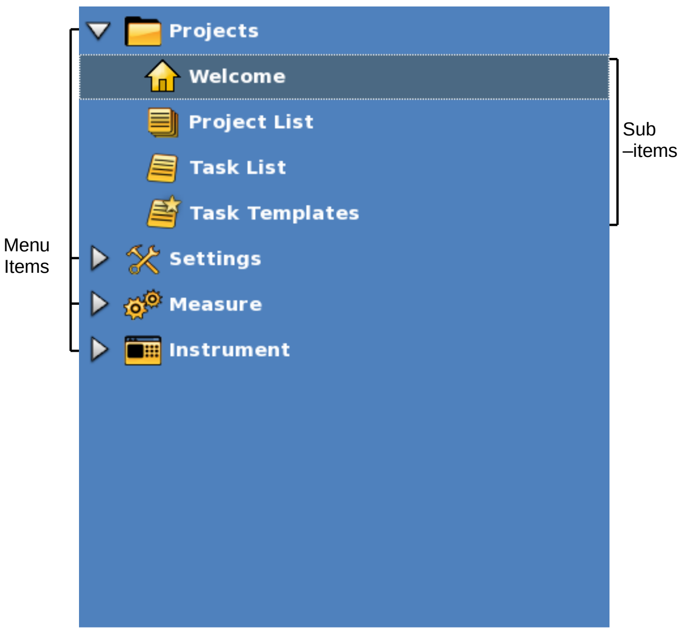


Figure 9 *Navigation menu: "Welcome" Sub-item selected from the "Projects" Menu Item*

The four *Menu Items* are:

Projects	3.7 *Data Management Conventions*
Settings	5.2.2 *Data Acquisition Settings*
Measure	6 *VES Measurement Procedure*
Instrument	4 *The Instrument*

Each *Sub-item* corresponds to a specific *Tab* on the *Screen* (again, Chapter 3.1 *The Display* explains these concepts). Each *Tab* represents a specific *Page* of information. It is a one-to-one match between the three concepts.

- ***Sub-Item***: part of the *Navigation Menu,* matches a specific *Tab* / *Page* on the *Screen.*
- ***Tab***: part of the *Screen* layout, acts as a navigation aid for the user.
- ***Page***: part of the *Screen* layout, showing the requested information.

There are three different ways to change the current *Page*:

- Stepping from one *Page* to another on the *Screen*
  - Press <Browse> to step forward (i.e. move one *Tab* to the right)
  - Press <Shift> + <Browse> to step backward (i.e. move one *Tab* to the left)
- Jump directly to the "*Measure/Progress*" *Page*
  - Press <Play/Pause>
- Using the *Navigation Menu*
  - Press <Menu> to bring up the *Navigation Menu*
  - Press <Up> and/or <Down> to step up and down in the *Navigation Menu*
  - Press <Right> to open a closed *Menu Item* and show its *Sub-items*
  - Press <OK> to show the *Page* associated with the currently selected *Sub-item*

  If a *Menu Item* instead of a *Sub-item* is highlighted when <OK> is pressed, then the latest used *Page* of that *Menu Item* will be opened

Note!	The only way to change the available *Pages* from one *Menu Item* to any of the other *Menu Items* is via the *Navigation Menu*

3.4.1 The Welcome Page

When starting the Terrameter VES / VES MAX the *"Projects/Welcome" Page* (Figure 10) will appear. Here the serial number of the instrument, the application software version, the number of measurement channels, the transmitter firmware version, the network IP address and the VPN tunnel address (if applicable) are displayed. Furthermore, the name of the most recent measurement activity is displayed in the top right of the *Screen* and a QR code linking directly to resources associated with the Terrameter is shown.

Figure 10 *The Welcome Page*

In the middle of the page there are two rows with shortcuts to other *Pages*.

- Using the shortcuts

  – Press <Up> or <Down> to highlight one of the two rows

  – Press <OK> to change to the *Page*

For the first of these rows there are two possible situations:

- If the active *Project* does not have any *Task*:
  The text "< Task is missing. Please create >" will be shown.
  Pressing <OK> in this case will change *Page* to the *"Project/Task List" Page* for the currently active *Project*. This *Page* is explained in Chapter 3.7.2 *Task.*
- Otherwise, if the active *Project* does have a *Task*:
  The name of the active *Task* will be shown. See Figure 10 for an example. Pressing <OK> will, in this case, change to the *"Measure/Progress" Page* of this *Task*. This *Page* is explained in Chapter 6.5.2 *Initiating a VES Measurement*.

Pressing <OK> on the second row, will have the same result as a single press on the <Browse> button; the *Page* will change to the *"Project/Project List" Page*. Chapter 3.7.1 *Project* has an explanation of this *Page*.

3.5 The Option Menus

Figure 11 shows an example of an *Option Menu*; these can be found on six *Pages*:

- *"Projects/Project List"*
- *"Projects/Task List"*
- *"Projects/Task Templates"*
- *"Measure/Progress"*
- *"Measure/Electrodes"*
- *"Measure/Electrode Positions"*

Figure 11 *Option menu example*

- Opening and using an *Option Menu*

– Pressing <Options> will generally show a pop-up *Option Menu*

– Press <Up> or <Down> to highlight one of the menu items

Note that some menu items might be disabled and cannot be highlighted

– Press <OK> to perform the action highlighted on the *Option Menu*

The content of the *Option Menu* will differ depending on what is highlighted when the <Options> button is pressed. It functions in a similar way to the right-click context menu on a desktop PC.

3.6 Changing Texts and Values

There are three main ways to change values:

- Choose from a fixed set of values (see 3.6.1 *Fixed Set of Values*)
- Edit text (for instance names) using a keyboard emulator (see 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*)
- Edit numerical values using a keypad emulator (see 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*)

3.6.1 Fixed Set of Values

A left and right pointed arrowhead will surround the value when there is a fixed set of values to choose from (Figure 12).

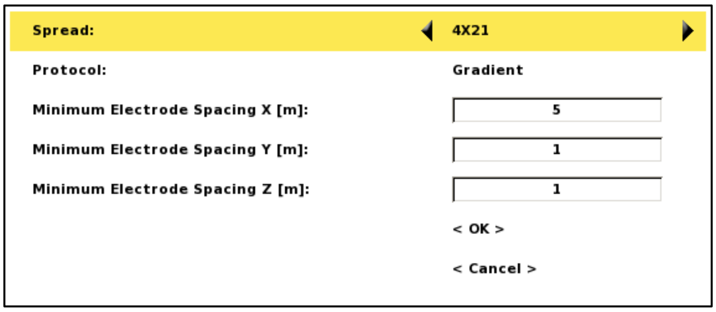


Figure 12 *Example of a fixed choice value*

- Changing a fixed choice value

  – Press <Left> and/or <Right>

3.6.2 The Keyboard Emulators

Two different keyboard emulators are available when using the built-in keyboard to enter text and data values. One emulator is alphanumeric (Figure 13) and the other is numeric (Figure 14). Alternatively, an external USB keyboard can be used.

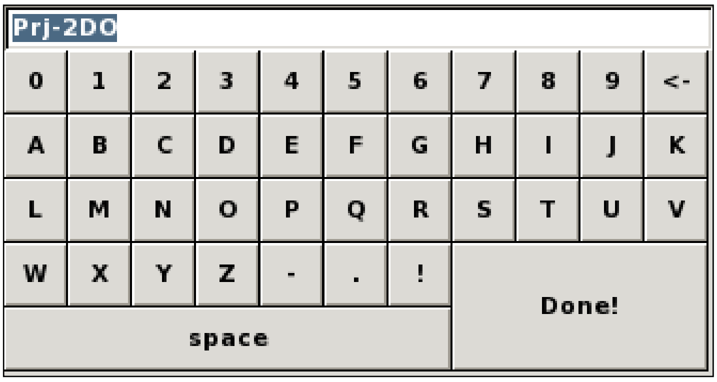


Figure 13 *Alphanumerical keyboard emulator*

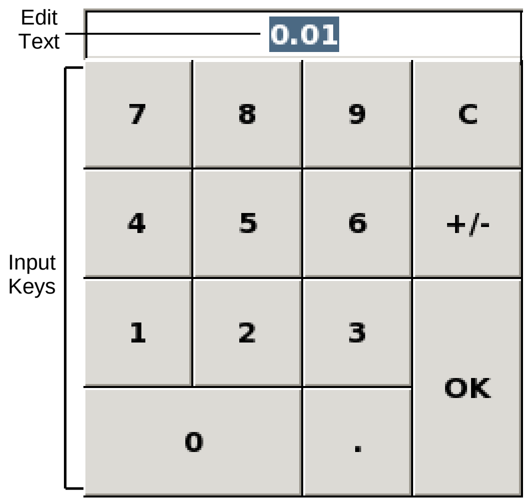


Figure 14 *Numerical keypad emulator with component parts labelled*

The editable text will be highlighted when a keyboard emulator is opened.

- Opening a keyboard emulator
  - Make sure the text to be edited is highlighted or has the blinking cursor inside
  - Press <OK>

  If the editable text is numeric, a numerical keypad emulator (Figure 14) is shown, otherwise an alphanumeric keyboard emulator appears (Figure 13)
- Navigating the emulators
  - Press the arrow buttons (<Left> <Right> <Up> <Down>) to either move the cursor within the editable text or to select an input key
- Deleting from the editable text in the alphanumerical keyboard emulator
  - Press <Left> or <Right> to move the cursor to the right of text to be deleted
  - Press <Down> to move the cursor from the editable text to the input keys
  - Press <Right> until the "**<–**" input key is selected; this input key works as a backspace button on a traditional PC keyboard
  - Press <OK> once for every character to be deleted
- Resetting the edit text to "0" in the numerical keypad emulator
  - Press <Down> to move the cursor from the edit text to the input keys
  - Press <Right> until the "C" input key is selected
  - Press <OK> and the number is replaced with a "0"
- Changing the editable text
  - Press <Left> and/or <Right> to move the cursor to the correct place within the editable text
  - Press <Down> to move the cursor from the editable text to the input keys
  - Navigate to the wanted input key
  - Press <OK>
- Substituting the editable text when that text is highlighted
  - Press <Down> to move the cursor from the editable text to the input keys
  - Navigate to the wanted input key
  - Press <OK> and the number or character will replace the highlighted text
- Saving the text
  - Navigate to the input key at the bottom right ("Done!" or "OK")
  - Press <OK>

- Cancelling without saving

Note!	This is only possible when the keyboard emulator has been opened from a dialog where there is a Cancel button. An example of this is the *Project Name* dialog (Figure 19)

- Navigate to the input key at the bottom right ("Done!" or "OK")
- Press <OK>
- Highlight the "Cancel" button and press <OK>

3.7 Data Management Conventions

It is helpful to define a set of conventions which can be used to classify, store and manage measurement data in a comprehensible way. The Terrameter VES / VES MAX uses the following categories in the user software: *Project, Task* and *Template*. This Chapter will explain these naming conventions as well as explain how to use them on the actual instrument.

3.7.1 Project

A *Project* is a container for measurement *Tasks*. A set of *Tasks* in a single *Project* could group measurements from the same site, or the same day, or the same contract.

Projects are managed in the *"Projects/Project List" Page* (Figure 15 Project List Page). Here *Projects* can be created, deleted, renamed or exported.

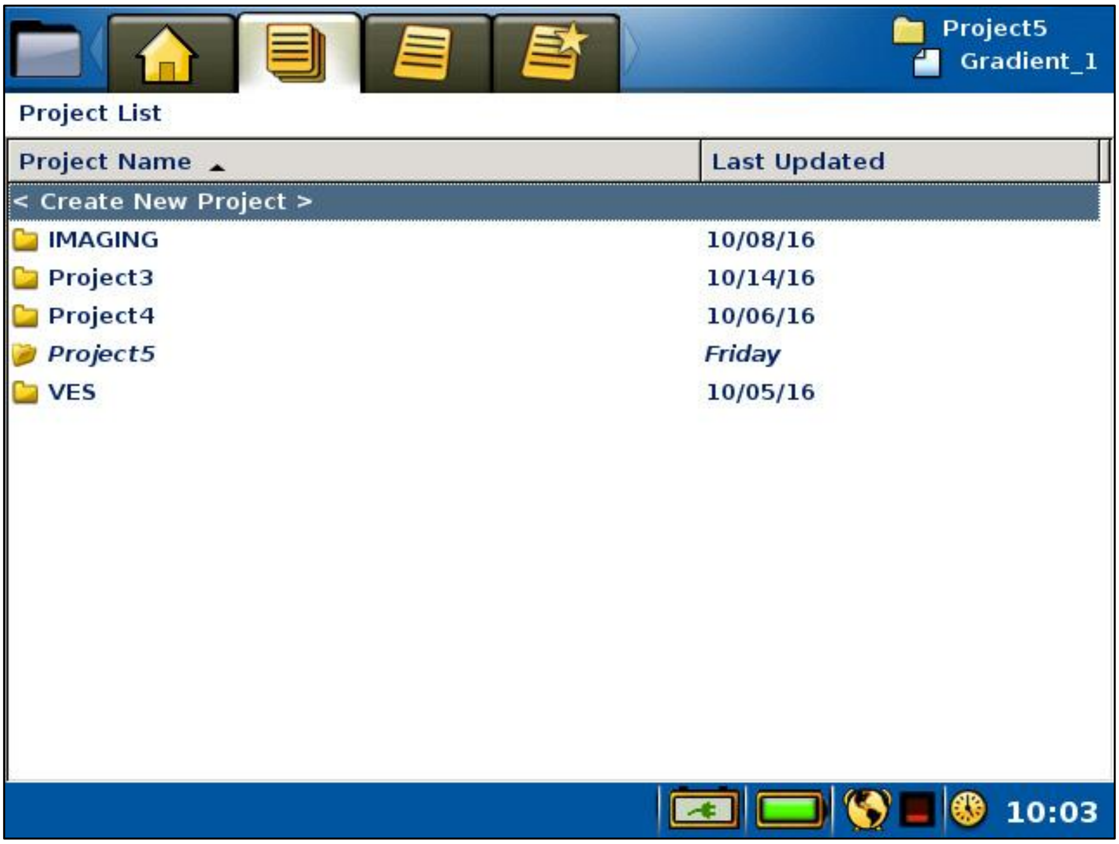


Figure 15 *Project List Page*

- Create a new *Project*
  - Move the highlight to the top-most row (“<Create New Project>”)
  - Press <OK>

  Alternatively, the “<Create New Project>” item of the *Project* option menu can be used to create a new *Project*, see below.

- Opening the *Project* option menu
  - Move the highlight to the required *Project*
  - Press <Options> and the option menu (Figure 16) will be shown

Figure 16 *Project Option menu with Open item highlighted*

The *Menu Items* of the *Project* option menu comprise:

Open	The *Project* is made active and the *“Projects/Task List”* for the *Project* is shown; same as pressing <OK> on a highlighted *Project*
Delete	A confirmation dialog is shown (Figure 17) and the *Project* will be deleted if the user confirms the deletion
Export	See Chapter 10.2.5 *Export a Project*
Rename	See below
Create New Project	Creates a new *Project*

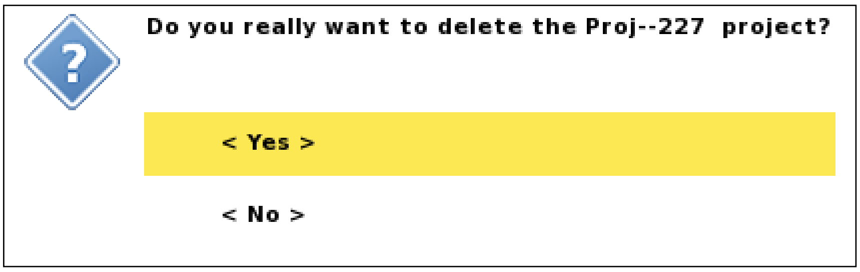


Figure 17 *Confirm Project Delete dialog*

- Renaming a *Project*
  By default, new *Projects* are all named “Project” with sequential numbering.

  – Open the *Project* option menu
  – Move the highlight to <Rename> (Figure 18)
  – Press <OK> and the Rename form will be shown (Figure 19)

Figure 18 *Project option menu with the Rename item highlighted*

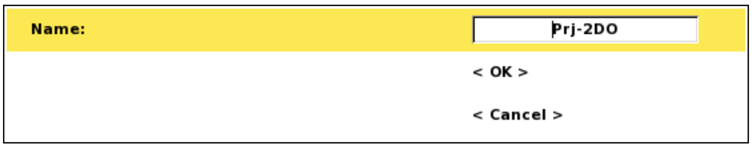


Figure 19 *Rename dialog*

3.7.2 Task

A *Task* is a dataset collected by running a measurement protocol. *Tasks* can be an SP measurement, a 1D VES sounding, a 2D/3D imaging layout (including roll-along steps), a borehole measurement, or laboratory measurements. *Tasks* are managed in the *“Projects/Task List” Page* (Figure 20 Task List Page) where they can be created, deleted, renamed, exported and more.

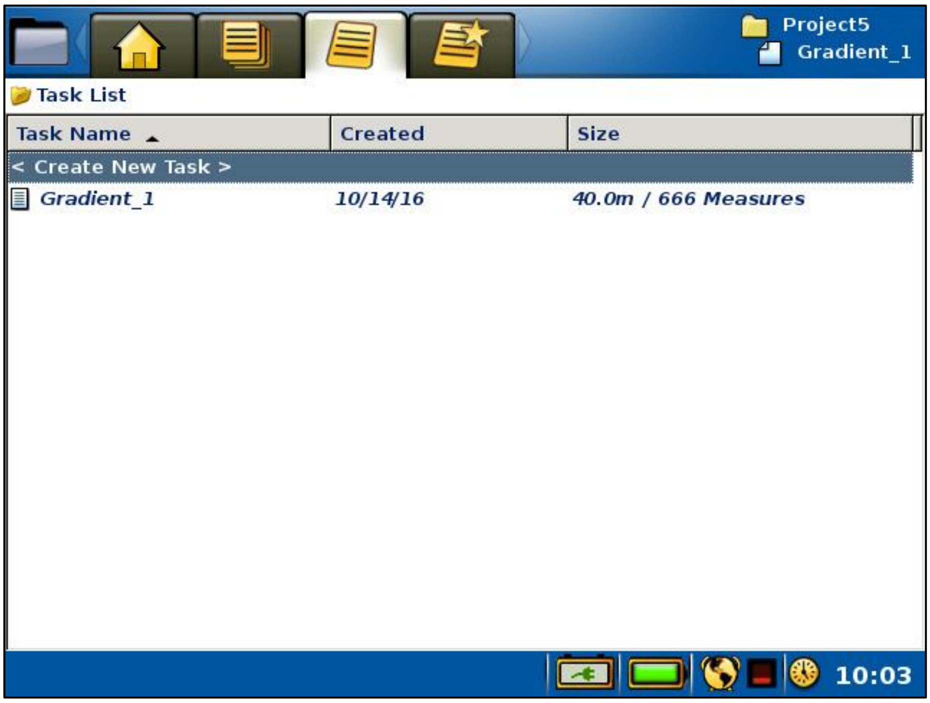


Figure 20 *Task List Page*

- Create a new *Task*
  When creating a new *Task* the type of electrode spread must be defined. The spread describes to the instrument the relative layout of electrodes, for instance a 2D layout with 4x21 cables or a 2D layout with 2x24 cables. Furthermore, a protocol file is selected which defines all the electrode combinations required to complete the task. Finally, the electrode take-out spacings need to be entered.

– Move the highlight to the top-most row (“<Create New Task>”)

– Press <OK> and the Create New *Task* dialog will be shown (Figure 21)

– Press <Left> and/or <Right> to pick the electrode spread
<ABEM Active Guidance> provides details about the most common spreads

– Press <Down> to highlight Protocol

– Press <Left> and/or <Right> to pick the protocol file
<ABEM Active Guidance> provides pros/cons for common protocols

If the default values of electrode spacing need to be changed then:

– Press <Down> to highlight *Electrode Spacing X* and/or *Y*; only spacing directions used in the selected spread are active. VES spreads do not require a spacing value; they have absolute electrode positions embedded within them.

– Press <OK> and the numerical keyboard emulator will be shown

– Enter the required electrode spacing and return, see Chapter 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*

– Press <Down> to highlight the OK button

– Press <OK>

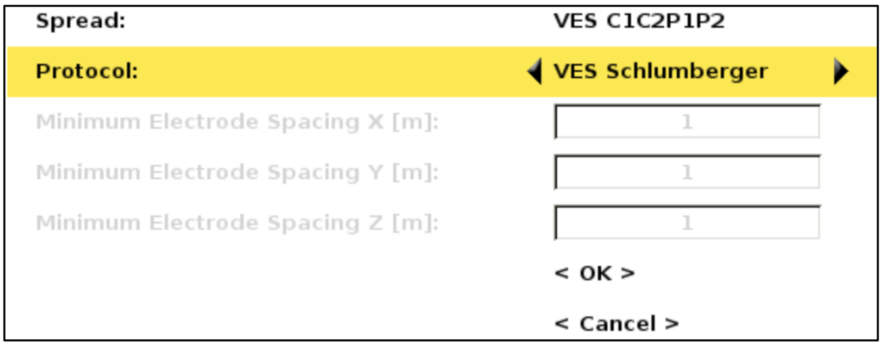


Figure 21 *Create new task dialog*

Alternatively, the “<Create New Task>” item of the *Task* option menu can be used to create a new *Task*, see below.

Note!	After creating a new *Task* it is often necessary to check, and possibly modify, the data acquisition settings before starting to collect any measurements. For this reason, the screen will automatically switch to the *“Settings/Receiver” Page* for a newly created *Task*, see Chapter 5.2.2 *Data Acquisition Settings*

- Opening the *Task* option menu
  - Move the highlight to the desired *Task*
  - Press <Options> and the option menu of Figure 22 will be shown

Figure 22 *Task option menu with the Create New Task item highlighted*

The *Menu Items* of the *Task* option menu:

Open	The *Task* is made active and the *"Settings/Receiver" Page* is shown
Rename	See below
Save As Template	See Chapter 3.7.3 *Template*
Delete	*Task* will be deleted if confirmed by user in pop-up (Figure 23)
Export	See Chapter 10.2 *Export Measurement Data*
New from	A new *Task* will be created with the highlighted *Task* as a template. This works the same as opening from an ordinary *Template* but does so directly from the selected task, see Chapter 3.7.3 *Template*
Create New Task	Creates a new *Task*

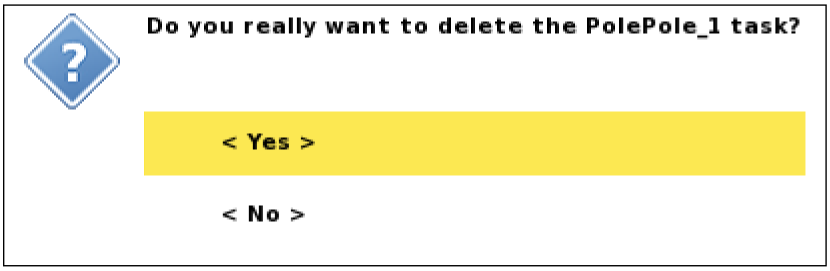


Figure 23 *Confirm Task Delete dialog*

- Renaming a *Task.*
  By default, a new *Task* will automatically be named after the chosen protocol; for instance, using a Gradient protocol will give the name “Gradient_X”, where X is an automatically incremented number. This name can be edited.

  – Open the *Task* option menu
  – Move the highlight to <Rename> (Figure 24)
  – Press <OK> and the Rename form will be shown. This is similar to the rename form of the *Project* (Figure 19); keep the cursor in the name box and press <OK> to bring up the keyboard emulator (Chapter 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*)

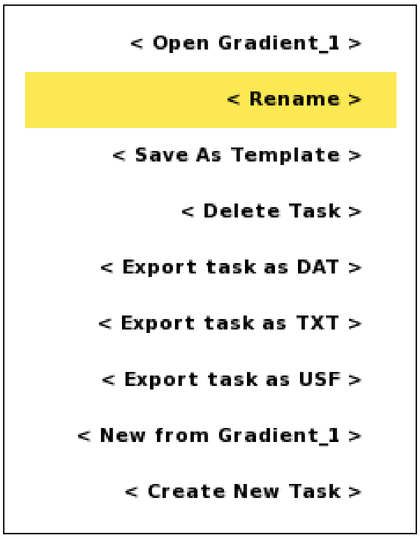


Figure 24 *Task Option menu with the Rename item highlighted*

3.7.3 Template

A complete measuring setup used for a particular *Task* can be saved as a *Template*. This makes it easy to create a new *Task* with the same data acquisition settings as used previously. This helps to avoid overlooking the change of any setting away from the default, or last used, to a value suited to the intended measurement.

Note!	There is no acquisition data stored in a *Template*, just *Task* settings.

A *Template* can only be created from the *“Projects/Task List” Page* using the *Task* option menu (Figure 25).

- Create a *Template*, i.e. save the settings from a *Task* as a *Template*

  – Open the “Projects/Task List” Page
  – Move the highlight to the wanted *Task*
  – Press <Options> and the *Task* option menu will be shown
  – Move the highlight the <Save as template> item (Figure 25)
  – Press <OK>

Figure 25 *Task Option menu with the Save As Template item highlighted*

Templates are managed in the *"Projects/Task Templates" Page* (Figure 26), and have an option menu associated with them for administration (Figure 27).

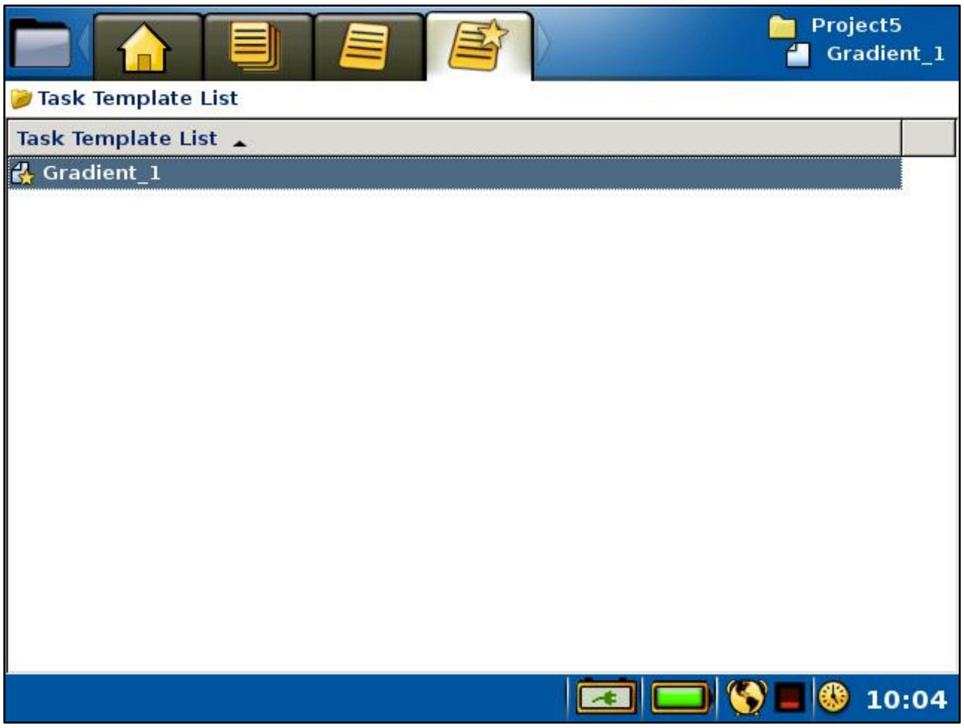


Figure 26 *Task Templates Page*

- Opening the *Template* option menu
  - Move the highlight to the wanted Template
  - Press <Options> and the option menu of Figure 27 will be shown

Figure 27 *Template Option menu with the "New from" item highlighted*

The *Menu Items* of the *Template* option menu:

New from	Creates a new *Task* from this *Template*, see Chapter 3.7.2 *Task* for more information about the procedure for creating *Tasks.*
Rename	See below
Delete	A confirmation dialog is shown (Figure 28) and the *Template* will be deleted if the user confirms the action

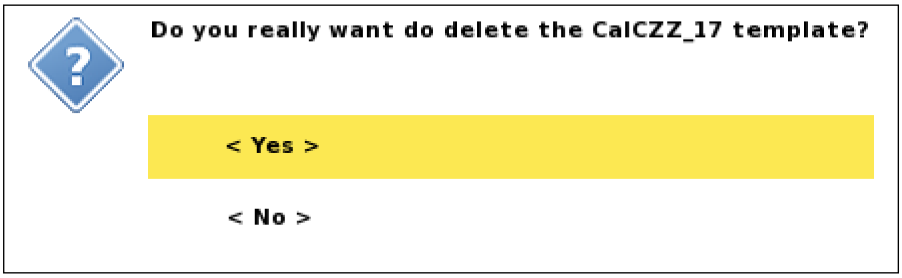


Figure 28 *Confirm Template Delete dialog*

- Renaming a *Template*
  A new *Template* will automatically be named after the *Task* it was created from. This name can be edited.

  - Open the Template option menu
  - Move the highlight to <Rename>
  - Press <OK> and the Rename form will be shown; this is similar to the rename form of the Project (Figure 19)
  - Keep the cursor in the name box and press <OK> to bring up the keyboard emulator (Chapter 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*)

4 THE INSTRUMENT

Settings and information specific to the instrument are handled in the *Instrument Menu Item* of the *Navigation Menu* (Figure 29). Each *Sub-item* is explained below.

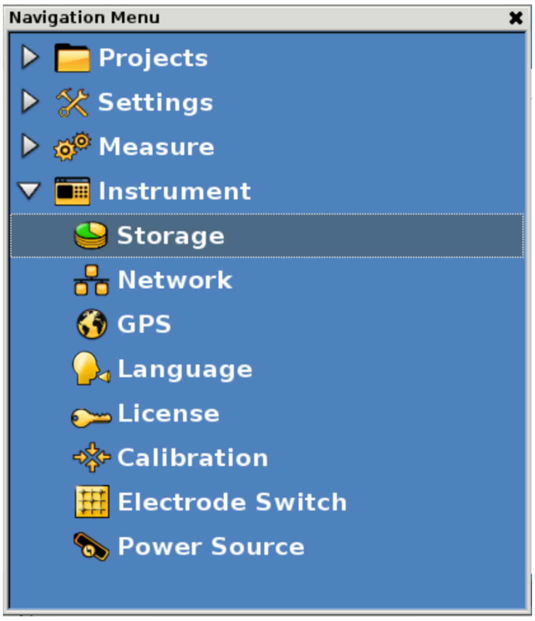


Figure 29 *Navigation menu: Instrument Menu Item: Storage Sub-item marked*

4.1 Data Storage

The *Instrument/Storage Page* (Figure 30) shows information about the data storage.

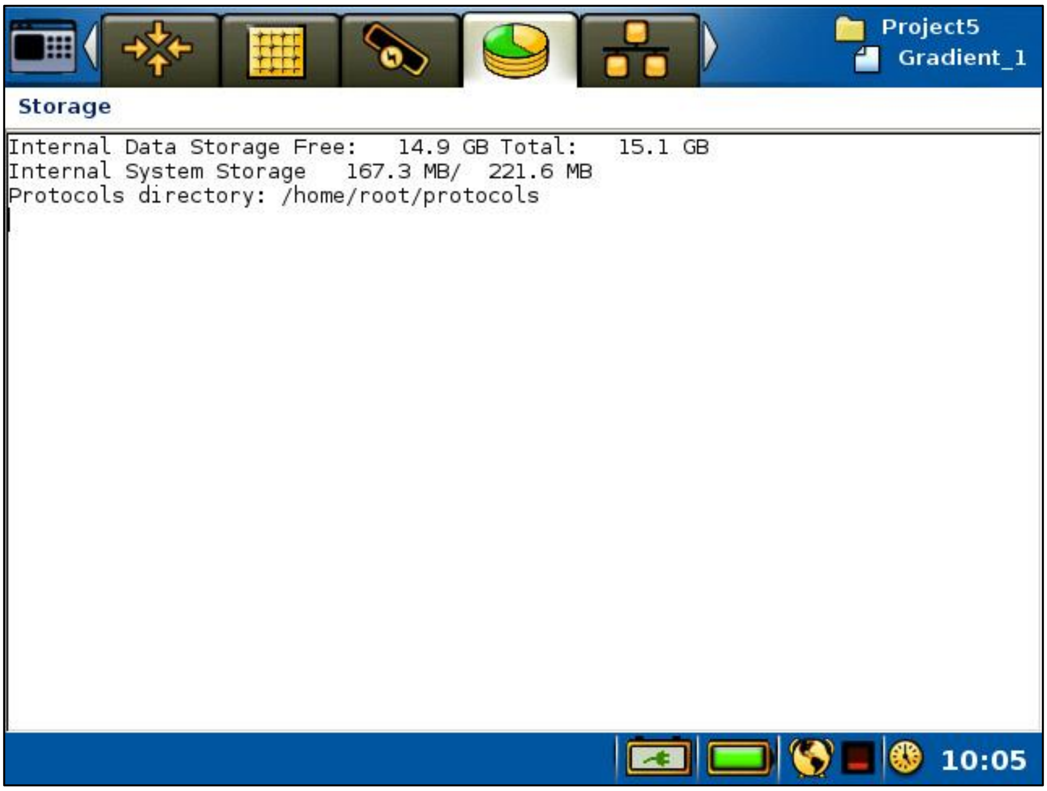


Figure 30 *Information Page for data storage*

4.2 Network Connections

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX has three network modes;

- LAN Client
- LAN Server
- Wi-Fi Access Point

From the *Instrument/Network Page* (Figure 31) it is possible to change between the network modes and get network information. The *Network Page* will also show information about connected external electrode selectors (ES10-64C).

The *Network Page* displays the instrument's IP address, labelled "eth0"; this used to communicate with the instrument via VNC software (see Chapter 3.3 *VNC Control*) or when using Terrameter Toolbox (see Appendix D. *Terrameter Toolbox* overview*)* for downloading data, managing protocols and spreads, and/or instrument maintenance. If the instrument is in "LAN Client" mode and the server it is attached to has an internet connection, the Terrameter will try connecting to the ABEM technical support server via a Virtual Private Network (VPN, see Chapter 11.3 *Remote Diagnostics*). If successful, the VPN tunnel address will be listed, and labelled as "tun0".

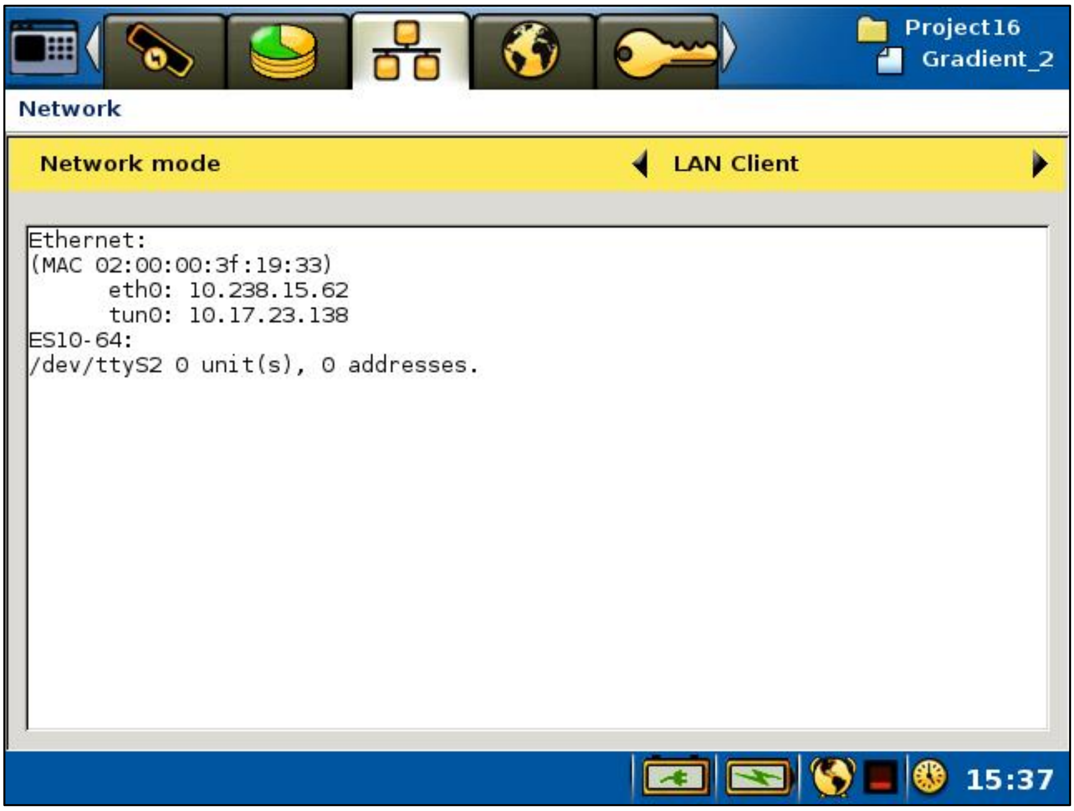


Figure 31 *Network Page*

Note!	The information text on the Network Page will update automatically for LAN Client mode, but it will not update automatically when switching between network modes. To get updated network information it will be necessary to go to another *Page* temporarily. An easy way is to press <Browse> to go to the *GPS Page*, wait for a few seconds, and then press <Shift> + <Browse> to go back to the *Network Page*.

4.2.1 LAN Client

In LAN Client mode, the network the Terrameter is attached to should supply connected clients with an IP address. Such devices are typically routers or servers, which act as DHCP servers, and this type of network is very common for office and home networks.

4.2.2 LAN Server

It might often be useful to connect a computer directly to the instrument. For this to work the DHCP server in the Terrameter VES / VES MAX must be activated from the *"Instrument/Network" Page*. The sequence in the following procedure is critical to avoid failed connections:

1. Make sure that no network cable is connected
2. In the "*Instrument/Network" Page* select "LAN Server"
3. Go to the *GPS Page* by pressing <Browse>
4. Wait for a few seconds
5. Go back to *Network Page* by pressing <Shift> + <Browse>
6. Check that the eth0 address is 192.168.23.1
7. Connect the PC and the LS with an Ethernet network cable
8. Wait until the PC has received an IP address
9. Perform all required activities using Terrameter Toolbox, VNC software etc.
10. Disconnect the Ethernet cable
11. On the LS set DHCP server to Off
12. Turn off LS

Warning!	Before connecting to an office network, be certain that the Network mode on the **Terrameter VES / VES MAX is NOT set to LAN Server**. If an instrument with the *LAN server* mode activated is connected to a network with another DHCP server in operation it can create severe network clashes seriously affecting other network users.

4.2.3 Wi-Fi Access Point

In this network mode the instrument will act as a wireless access point. This makes it possible to connect a computer or mobile device directly to the instrument without using any cables, a feature that can be very convenient to download or backup data in the field or VNC viewing and control (see Chapter 3.3 *VNC Control*). The instrument will create a wireless network with the same name as the instrument serial number, e.g. "LS216080369". The password for the Wi-Fi network is "TerrameterLS2".

Note!	When starting the Wi-Fi Access Point network mode it may take 1 - 2 minutes before the wireless access point is started.

Note!	The SSID of the wireless network will be the same as the instrument serial number, e.g. "LS216080369". The password for the wireless network is "TerrameterLS2"

4.3 GNSS (Global Navigation Satellite System) Receiver

The *GPS Page* (Figure 32) shows a live status for the GNSS receiver and the present position of the instrument, provided a sufficient satellite signal is received. The default mode for the Terrameter is to use the Internal GNSS antenna mounted in the handle of the instrument. However, an option to receive GNSS positioning from an external device is available. External positioning systems can provide better station records during static measurements or help facilitate mobile measurements.

To use an external positioning device, set it up to output positional information as an NMEA string in GGA format via a USB cable. Plug the USB cable into the USB port on the end panel of the Terrameter VES / VES MAX, and use the left or right arrow to select *External GPS*.

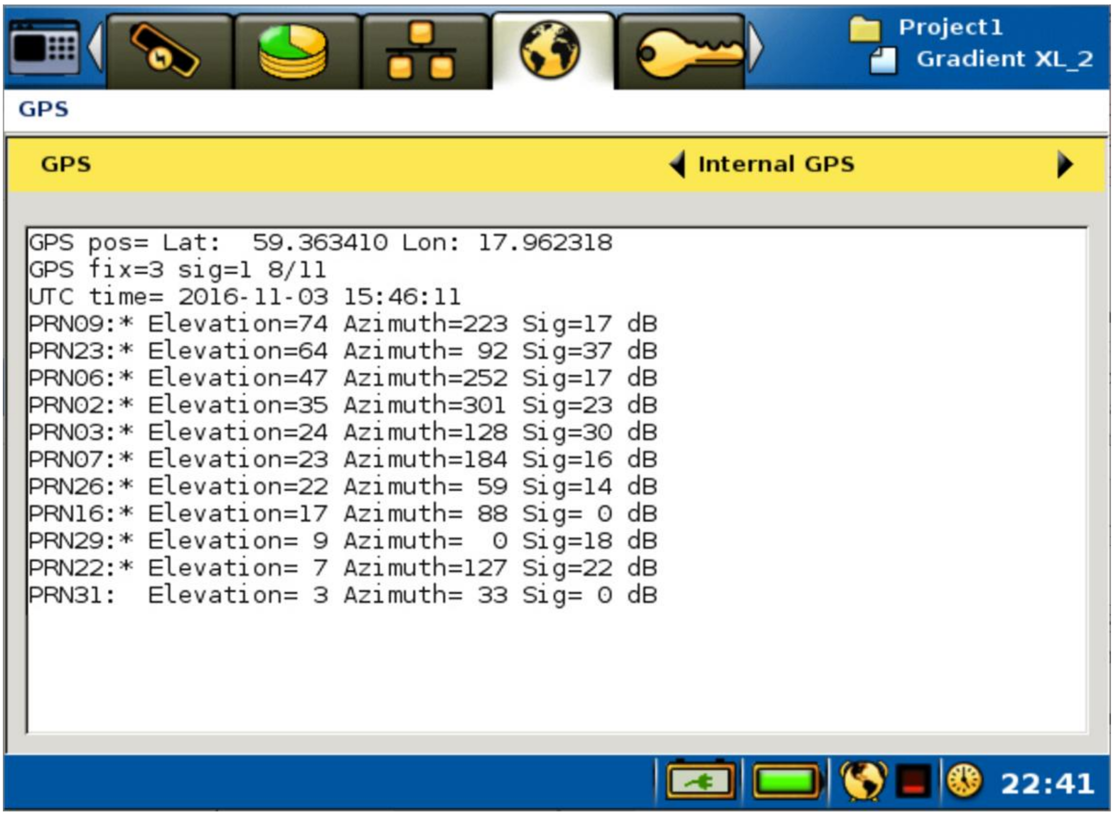


Figure 32 *Status Page for GPS receiver*

There is no need to use a specific external GNSS device, the only requirement is that the GNSS device is able to output a GGA formatted NMEA string via USB at a rate of 1Hz or 2Hz. The Terrameter will automatically apply the correct serial communciation settings but, if positional information fails to appear, start by ensuring that the external device is transmitting and then check its communication settings:

Baud rate: *any value from* 9600 *to* 115200
Data bits: 8
Stop bits: 1
Parity: None
Flow control: None

4.4 Language

It is possible to change the language used for the main instrument menus, dialogues and data displays from the *Language Page* (Figure 33).

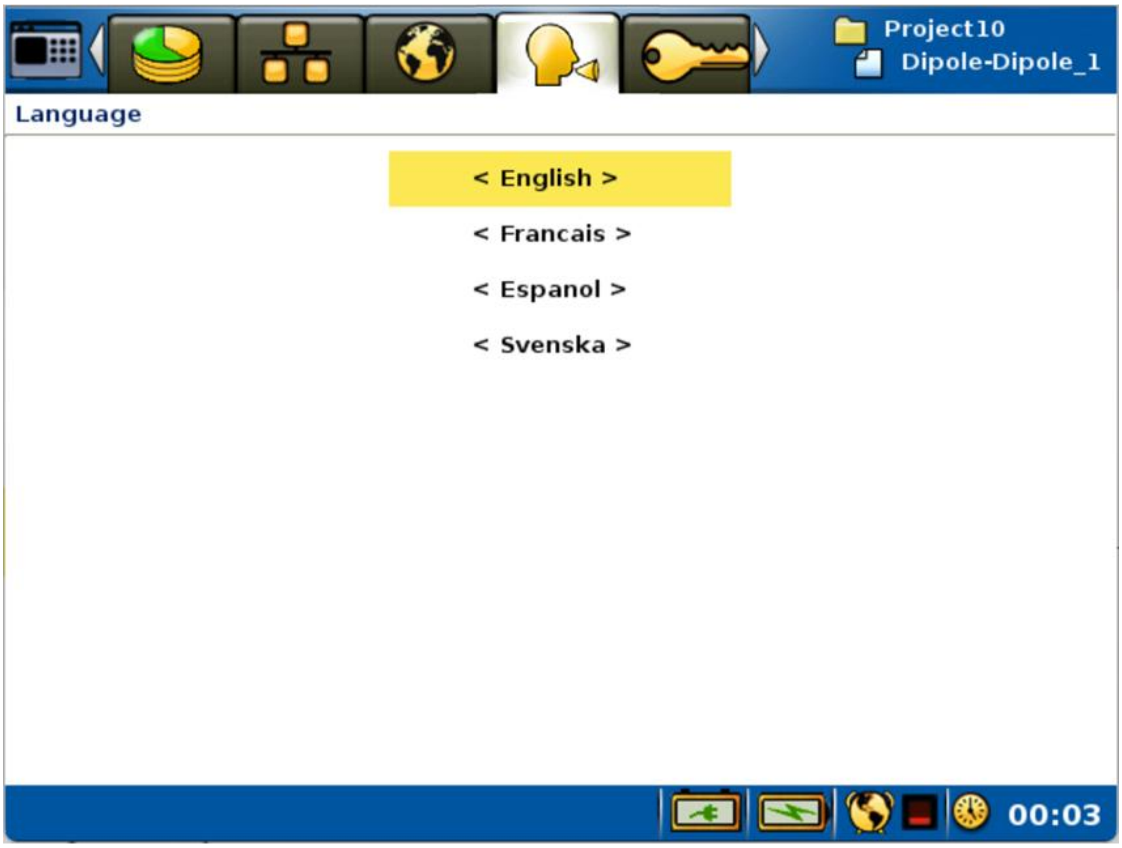


Figure 33 *Language Page*

The conversion from one language to another is not instantaneous and requires a reboot of the instrument (Figure 34) to take effect.

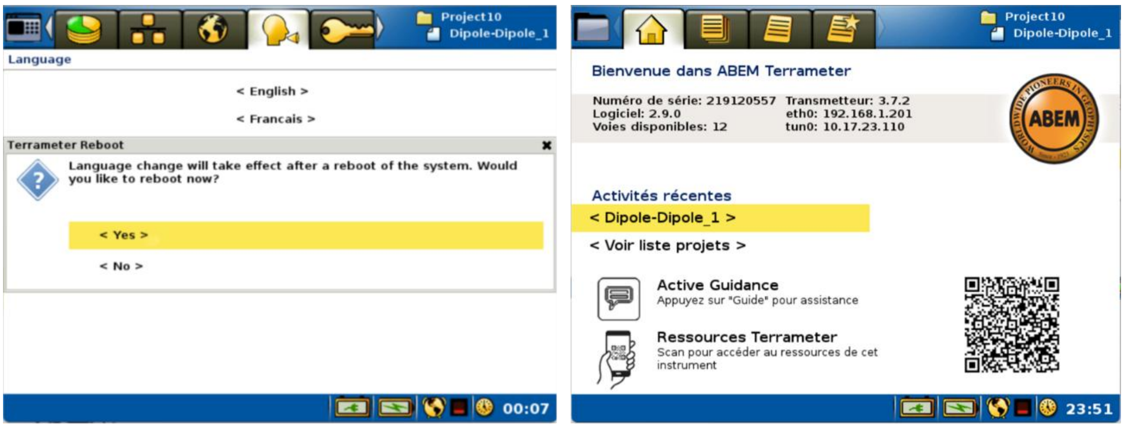


Figure 34 *Confirming a reboot of the Terrameter to change display language*

Note!	At present, all Active Guidance screens are only available in English, regardless of language choice.

4.5 License

The *License Page* (Figure 35) shows the current state of the license and all activated features. It is also possible to update the instrument's license from this page if an upgrade has been purchased and made available. These license updates can be installed over the internet if the instrument is connected to the ABEM technical support site (see 4.2 *Network Connections*). Alternatively, if connecting the instrument to the support site proves problematic, licenses can be updated from a USB memory stick. In such a case contact the Guideline Geo support team to receive the license file.

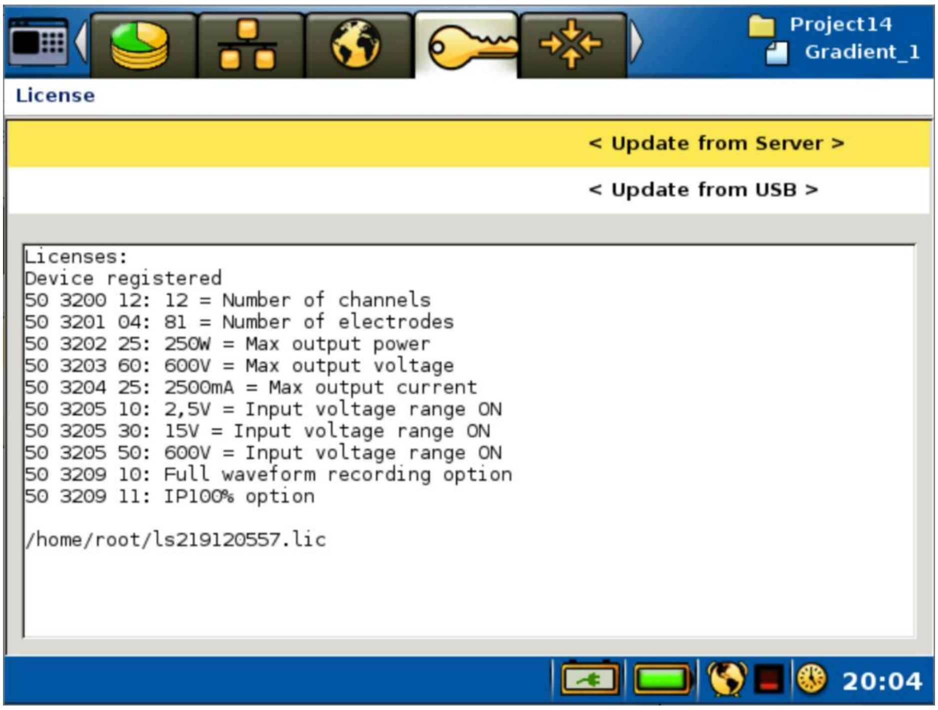


Figure 35 *License status page*

After selecting the appropriate update option, the License update dialog (Figure 36) will show. After the update is finished the license update dialog will disappear and the licenses on the License status Page will update. In some instances, it may be necessary to restart the instrument for the changes to register.

Figure 36 *License update dialog*

Note!	Updating the license may take up to 2-3 minutes. During this period the screen will not change.
Note!	VES to VES MAX upgrades, and VES / VES MAX to LS 2 upgrades, require physical work to be undertaken at a Guideline Geo service centre.

4.6 Calibration

Calibration of the instrument is done at the factory before delivery. Users have no need to access this page. An unlock key must be typed in to access the content (Figure 37), and a complete calibration requires special equipment. If you suspect your Terrameter VES / VES MAX requires recalibration (it is unlikely to be necessary during normal operation), contact *support@guidelinegeo.com*

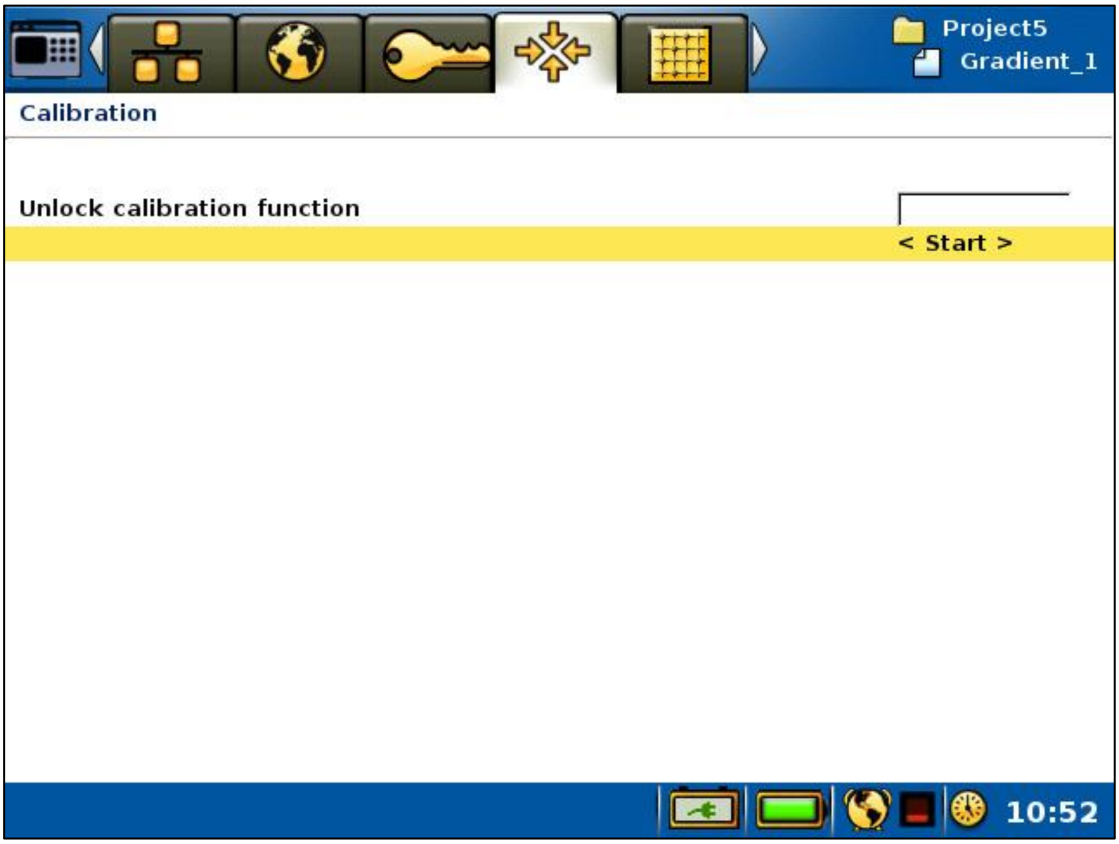


Figure 37 *Calibration Page*

4.7 The Relay Switch

In a full imaging system, the relay switch consists of four relay cards that can handle 16 electrodes each. The VES MAX version of the instrument has one relay card and can switch up to 16 electrodes via the multipin “Connector 1” on the End Panel. This can be useful for laboratory measurements, custom survey set-ups and also collecting multiple P1-P2 spacings for each current injection during a Schlumberger measurement. This latter approach allows for the optimum potential pair to be selected for each current pair at the inversion stage.

The present status of the relay switch can be viewed in a table on the *Electrode Switch Page* (Figure 38).

For more information on the Relay Switch matrix and multi-electrode survey, consult the Terrameter LS 2 User Manual. This not only expands upon this section but provides insight into cable spreads, protocols and their associated file formats and structure.

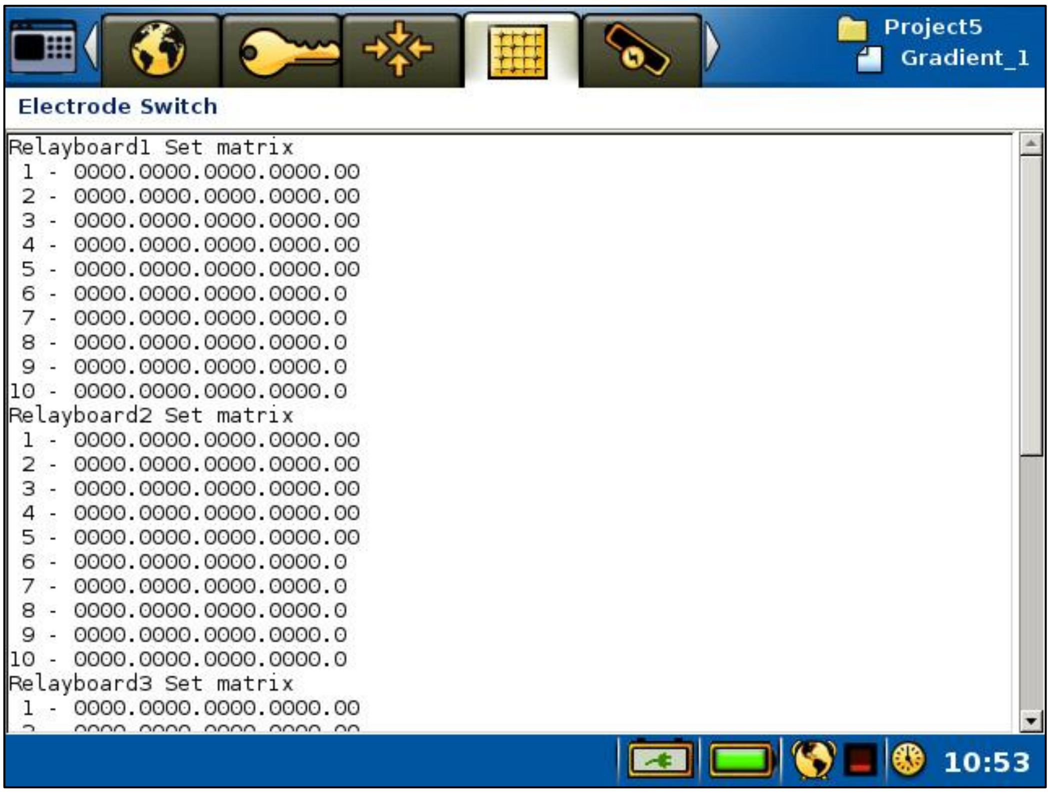


Figure 38 *Relay switch status Page from a Terrameter LS 2*

4.7.1 The External Relay Switch(es)

If it is necessary to do full imaging with a Terrameter VES or VES MAX, one (or more) external relay switching units (electrode selectors) of type ES10-64C can be connected (Figure 39). In cases where more than one external unit is required, they must be of type ES10-64C (orange colour), the older ES10-64 (grey colour) cannot link to other units.

Figure 39 *Schematic of an ES10-64C connected to a Terrameter VES / VES MAX. Connection would be via an ABEM Multifunction Cable, ES10-64C Communication Adapter and interlink cables, or Interlink Converter Set and interlink cables, depending on survey requirements*

There are several connection options for the ES10-64C depending upon the required layout and distances involved.

- If the distance between the Terrameter and the (first) ES10-64C is less than 1.5m, it should be connected to the AUX connector via a multifunction cable (ABEM part no 36-33002011). The ES10-64C will take power direct from the Terrameter. Additional ES10-64C units will connect in series, using an "ES10-64C Interlink Cable" between them, and each will require external 12V power. The last ES10-64C in the chain cannot be more than 500m from the Terrameter.
- If the first ES10-64C needs to be more than 1.5m from the Terrameter, an "ES10-64C Communication Adapter" (36-33002281) plus an "ES10-64C Interlink Cable" is required. As above, the last (or only) ES10-64C in use cannot be more than 500m from the Terrameter. All ES10-64C units will require an external 12V power source connected by an "ES10-64C External Power Cable" (36-33002206).
- If larger distances are required the "Interlink Converter Set" (22-33001286) can be used. Only **one** ES10-64C can now be used, but the maximum distance between the Terrameter and ES10-64C is 2000 meters. The ES10-64C requires an external 12V power source.

Note!	Depending upon conditions, some older ES10-64C units can experience start-up issues, consuming more power (12V DC) than expected. This can be solved by using external power, or by doing a minor hardware modification of the ES10-64C controller board. Please contact ABEM in case you experience this problem.

For more information on external relay switches and multi-electrode survey, consult the Terrameter LS 2 User Manual. This not only expands upon this section but provides insight into cable spreads, protocols and their associated file formats and structure.

4.8 Power Source

The *Power Source Page* (Figure 40) shows the status for the power supply and internal temperature of the instrument. The actual values are shown and they are complemented with minimum and maximum values (since start-up) within square brackets.

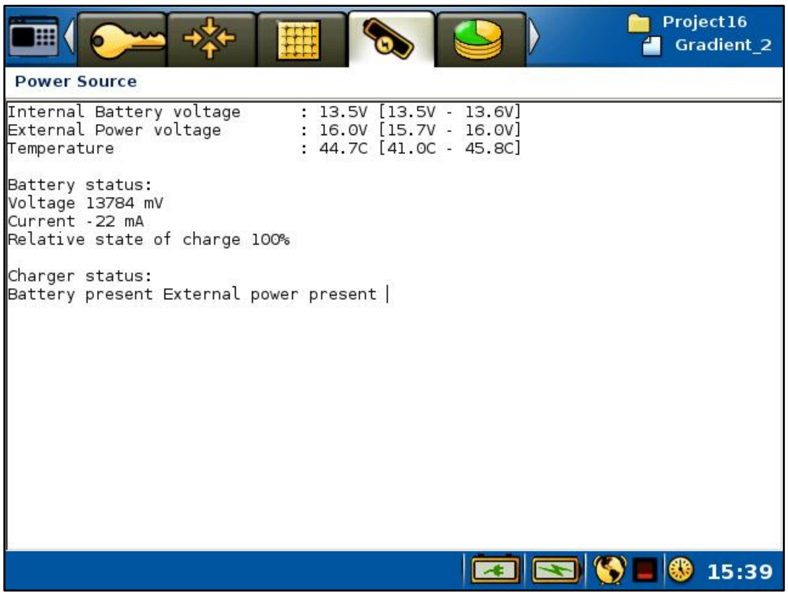


Figure 40 *Status Page for power supply and temperature*

The ABEM Power Adapter (10-006021) is a useful way to ensure a good power supply for your Terrameter VES / VES MAX; this optional accessory allows the Terrameter to be run from a small mobile generator. It is a rugged AC-DC converter which is able to cope with fast-changing and, often, high-current demands of the Terrameter during measurement, whilst still providing a stable 12V supply.

5 MEASUREMENT PREPARATION

5.1 Save Field Time With Good Preparation

Successful surveys start in the office; look through archive material for the area (topographical and geological maps, aerial photographs, reports etc.) and consider whether resistivity surveying is a suitable method for the current problem. If so, select possible profile line locations that are likely to be most diagnostic / provide the greatest chance of success.

Once on site, walk around the area to be surveyed with maps and/or aerial photographs at hand to select the optimal profile lines; current conditions, or features only obvious when on site, may change your original plan. Walk the entire length of any planned cable runs before putting out any equipment, to ensure that the selected orientation is practical.

Note!	Poor electrode contact is the most common reason for bad data.

Bring suitable hammers for installing the electrodes in the field, for instance polyurethane (PUR) covered hammers that give good force without damaging the electrodes. It is often necessary to water the ground around electrodes, sometimes with addition of salt and/or some additive to make the water stay in place during measurements (for instance drilling polymer or bentonite). In cases with paved surfaces it may be necessary to drill holes for inserting the electrodes or to use plate electrodes.

Electrical installations and grounded metal objects may disturb the measurements and create noise, be observant and take notes of possible sources of disturbance.

5.2 Preparing for Data Acquisition

5.2.1 Create Projects and Tasks

In order to prepare for data acquisition, at least one *Project* with one or more *Tasks* must exist. Chapters 3.7.1 *Project* and 3.7.2 *Task* explain how to create *Projects* and *Tasks*.

Alternatively, measurements can be added to existing *Projects* and *Tasks*.

All data from a *Project* is saved in a single database file. It is recommended not to make the *Project* too large as it may become cumbersome and slow to handle. That said, typical VES measurements contain relatively small data volumes compared to full-scale imaging.

Also see Chapter 6.7 *Full Waveform Data* for more information about recording and handling larger volumes of data.

5.2.2 Data Acquisition Settings

Data acquisition settings are defined within the “Settings” Menu Item, under which there are five Pages: “Load/Save Settings”, “Receiver Settings”, “Transmitter Settings”, “IP Window Settings” and “Borehole Log Settings” (Figure 41).

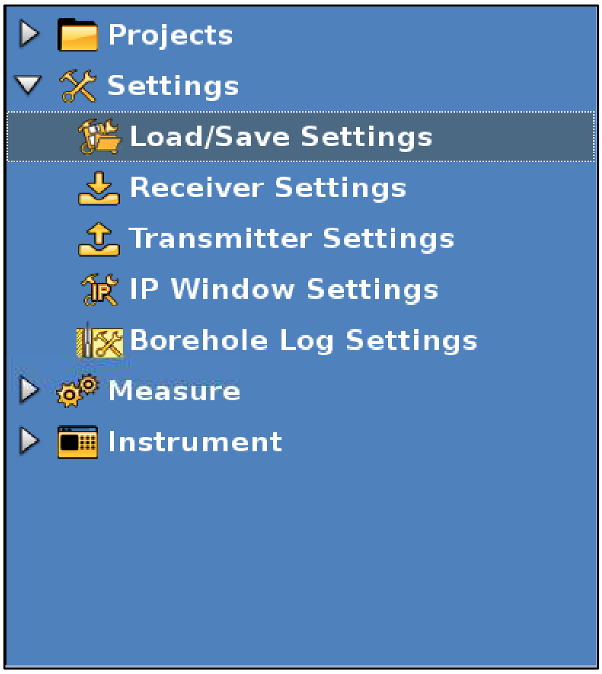


Figure 41 *Navigation menu, Settings Menu Item: Load/Save Settings Sub-item marked*

5.2.2.1 Load/Save Settings

Figure 42 *Load/Save Settings Page*

The Terrameter instruments come with a set of pre-loaded suggested settings for different modes of survey. These settings should be suitable for starting the majority of surveys and are available via the *Load/Save Settings Page* (Figure 42).

The available options on the *Load/Save Settings Page*:

Load Settings	Load predefined settings
Save Settings	Save the current settings to a file
Delete Settings	Delete settings files

Settings files can be loaded to the instrument using Terrameter Toolbox, or saved directly on the instrument based on the current settings. If the pre-loaded settings files are lost or accidentally deleted, a new set can be downloaded from the Guideline Geo website.

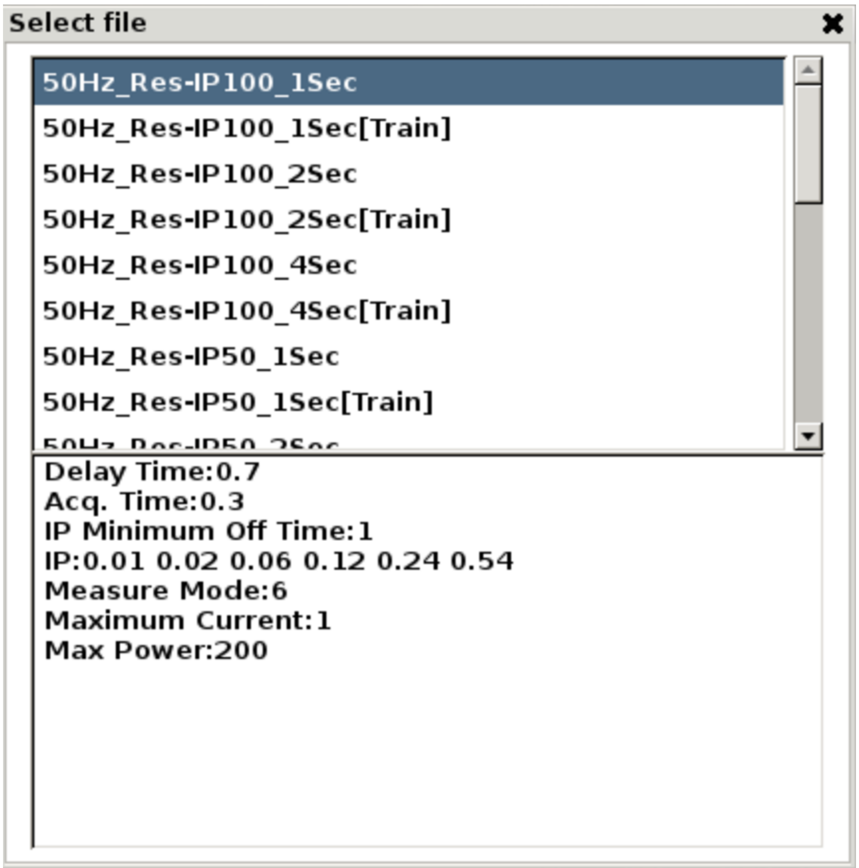


Figure 43 *Load Settings dialog*

The *Load Settings* dialog (Figure 43) is divided into two parts. The upper part lists the installed settings files. The lower part shows what settings will be changed compared to the current settings.

Note!	Only the settings that will be changed compared to the existing setup are shown in the *Load Settings* dialog

The naming of the settings files supplied by ABEM starts with the regional electricity transmission frequency, followed by the measurement mode and then information about the settings. For example:

"*50Hz_Res-IP50_1Sec*" activates a RES and IP *Measure Mode* (using 50 % duty cycle), with 1 second 'on time', and IP windows optimized for 50 Hz power line frequency.

"*50Hz_Res-IP100_4Sec[Train]*" activates a RES and IP *Measure Mode* (using 100 % duty cycle), with 4 second 'on time', IP windows optimized for 50 Hz power line frequency, and filtering noise from train networks operating on 16.67 Hz (found in since northern European countries). Note that the 60Hz version of this script filters train networks operating on 25 Hz (found on some AmTrak lines in the northeast of the USA).

"*50Hz_Res_0.3+0.5Sec*" activates a RES *Measure Mode*, with 0.3 second delay time, 0.5 second acquisition time, and optimized for 50 Hz power line frequency.

5.2.2.2 Receiver Settings

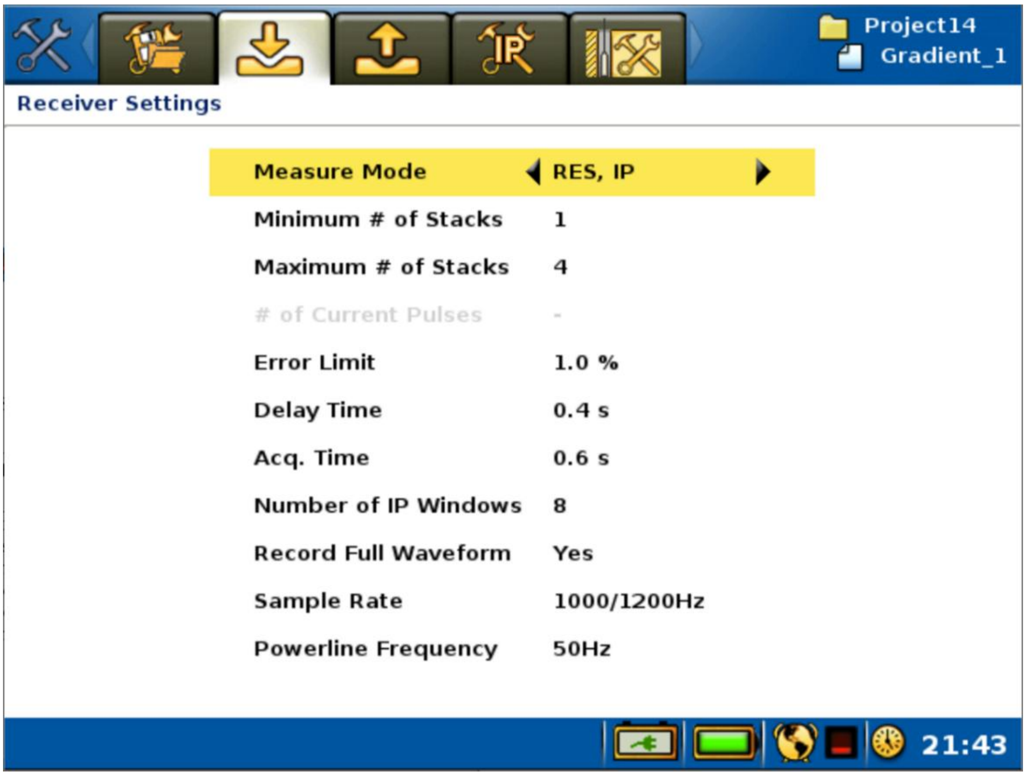


Figure 44 *Receiver Settings Page*

The available settings on the *Receiver Settings Page* (**Figure 44**):

Measure mode	Options include Self Potential (SP), Resistivity (RES), combined Resistivity and Induced Polarization (RES, IP) using traditional 50 % duty cycle current pattern, and a novel combined Resistivity and Induced Polarization (RES, IP100%) mode using 100 % duty cycle (only available on LS 2 Advanced and VES MAX models).
Minimum # of Stacks **Maximum # of Stacks**	Active for "Res, IP" and "SP mode; the number of stacks needed will depend on site conditions, electrode spread size and the type of electrode array used. It is recommended to start out a task with multiple stacks and, if the standard deviation is very favourable, the maximum number of stacks setting may be reduced even as low as one to speed up measurements. The total number of stacks used will depend upon whether the error criteria has been met (see "Error Limit", below) or the maximum number of stacks has been achieved.

# of Current Pulses	Active for "Res, IP100%" mode; defines how many current pulses will be used per measurement, this number is not constrained by data quality ("Error Limit"). Only available on LS 2 Advanced / VES MAX models.
Error Limit	The error limit is equivalent to the standard deviation between repeated measurements (stackings) divided by the mean value for a data point, also known as variation coefficient. Measuring will be repeated until the minimum number of stacks has been achieved. Measurement for that data point will then stop if the variation falls within the specified limit. If not, it will continue until either the variation drops below the limit or the maximum number of stacks has been reached.
Delay Time	The delay time setting defines the interval from switching on current transmission until signal integration for the resistivity measurement starts. Ideally the delay time should be long enough for the ground to become fully charged. If set too short, charge-up effects within the ground may decrease data quality.
Acq. Time	The acquisition time defines for how long signal integration lasts for each part of the measuring cycle (see Appendix A. *Measurement* Modes). Generally the principle is that the longer the acquisition time, the better the data quality. It should be noted, that in some countries the railway system uses a frequency of 16 $^{2}/_{3}$ Hz, which means that multiples of 60 ms are required (note that such noise may be observed many kilometres or even tens of kilometres away from railway lines).
Number of IP Windows	The number of IP windows only applies to measurements in one of the IP modes, and the timings are defined in the *"Measure/IP Windows Settings" Page* (Figure 46).
Record Full Waveform	In addition to the single averaged data values measured for each electrode combination, this option records how the output voltage and current, plus the input voltages, change throughout the measurement cycle (LS 2 Advanced / VES MAX models only). This option does not increase measurement time, but it does create bigger project files, especially at high "Sample Rate" settings. See Chapter 6.7 *Full Waveform Data* for more information on this issue.
Sample Rate	Specifies frequency at which full waveform measurements are sampled. A higher sample rate means that more samples will be used for data calculations, and can be especially useful for IP data
Powerline Frequency	The power line frequency should be set to 50 Hz or 60 Hz depending on the system used in the area of investigation and is used to adjust measurement parameters for filtering of power line noise.

5.2.2.3 Transmitter Settings

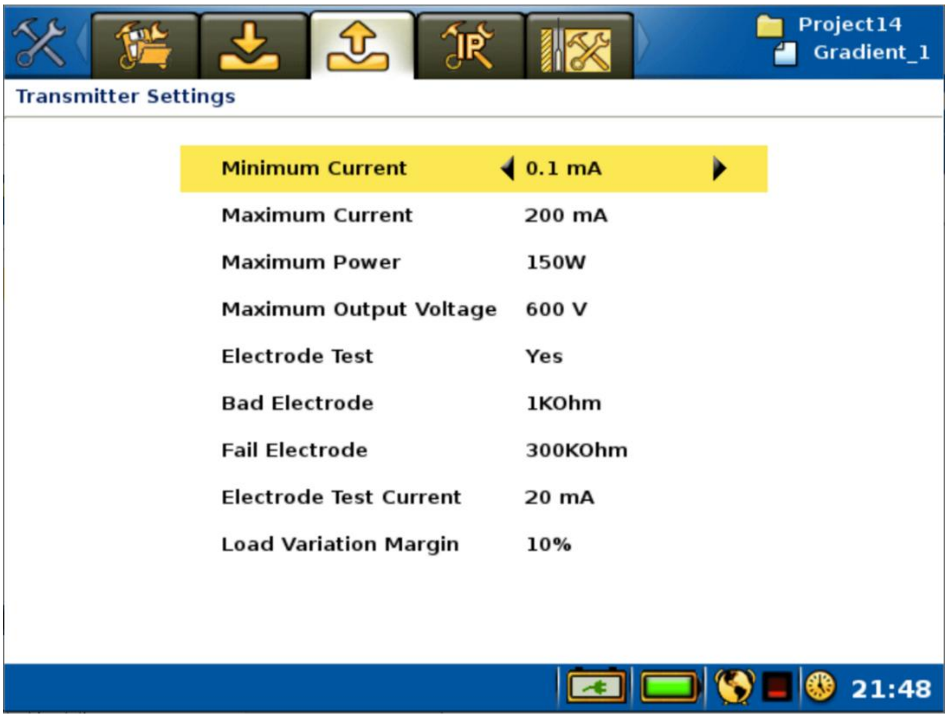


Figure 45 *Transmitter Settings Page*

The available settings on the *Transmitter Settings Page* (Figure 45):

Minimum Current	This setting does not force the instrument to transmit, at least, the selected current (the actual value is a result of ground conditions and the maximum current/voltage/power settings); instead, this defines when a "low current" warning will appear.
Maximum Current	Sets the maximum current that can be used for measurements. It should be selected according to site conditions (electrode grounding conditions, noise levels etc.), electrode spread size and type of electrode array, to achieve good signal-to-noise ratio and productivity. Setting the maximum current to a lower than maximum value can be used for saving battery power
Maximum Power	Maximum output power can be limited, for example to save battery power
Maximum Output Voltage	Maximum output voltage from the transmitter can be limited, if for example the electrode cables used are not designed for the maximum voltage
Electrode Test	Electrode test is carried out using the 'Focus One' method, in which the resistance of each electrode is measured against all the other electrodes combined; this option determines whether the test will be done. Switching it off is not recommended for normal data acquisition as it may lead to the acquisition of bad data from electrodes with inadequate ground contact.

Bad Electrode **Fail Electrode**	Thresholds for categorizing acceptable electrode contact resistance. Needs to be set according to site conditions, as ground resistance can vary a lot from site to site.
Electrode Test Current	The maximum current used for the electrode test. 20mA is normally a good value to use.
Load Variation Margin	This defines how much the output voltage is allowed to change in order to maintain constant current (if the load varies) during measurement. If the change is bigger than the set value, the measurement will stop, and an error message shown (typically "Not regulating"). The default value is 10 %. Increasing this value can improve measurements in difficult conditions but will also limit the maximum power output as the instrument must maintain a larger 'reserve' of power at the start of a measurement (to be able to maintain constant current flow in the case that load resistance increases during the current injection).

5.2.2.4 IP Window Settings

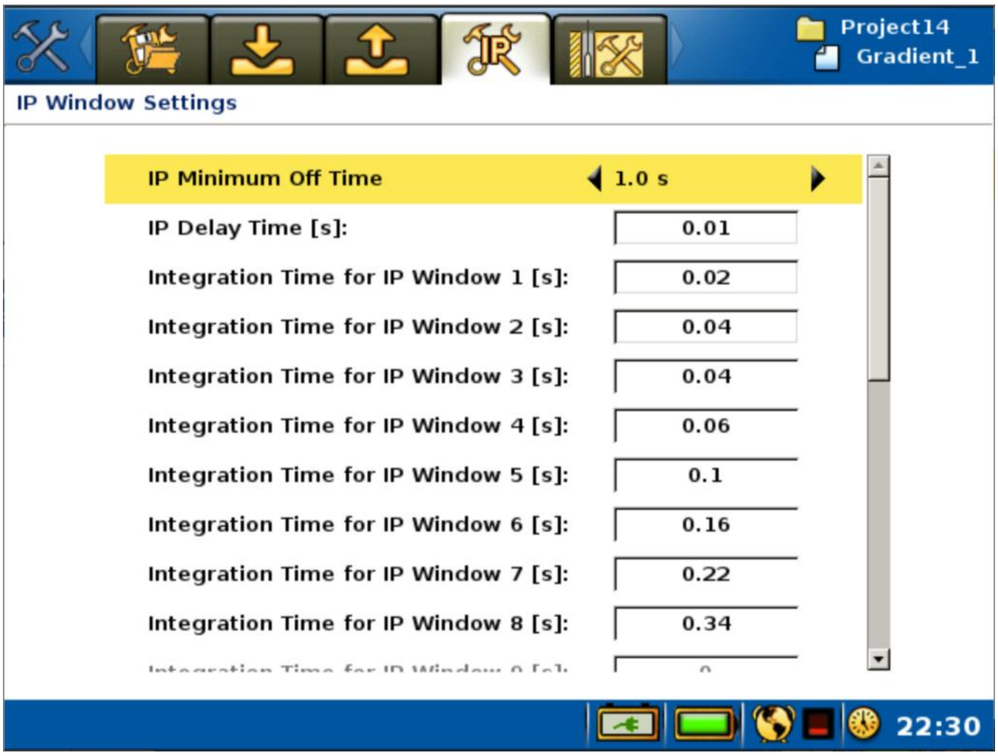


Figure 46 *IP Window settings Page*

The timing setup for measuring chargeability in IP *Measure Modes* is defined in the *"IP Window Settings" Page* (Figure 46). Integration times for the (up to) 20 measurement windows are entered in the bottom list. The 'current-off' time (only relevant to the traditional, 50% duty cycle, *"IP" Measure Mode*) is equivalent to "IP Minimum Off Time" unless the total sum of IP delay time and integration times are larger. IP integration windows should be multiples of the local powerline frequency period (for instance multiples of 20 ms for 50 Hz frequency and 16.667 ms for 60Hz). "IP delay time" allows the natural noise generated when current is switched off (or switched polarity) to pass before integration begins; it should only be 0.01 s – 0.02 s.

5.2.2.5 Borehole Log Settings

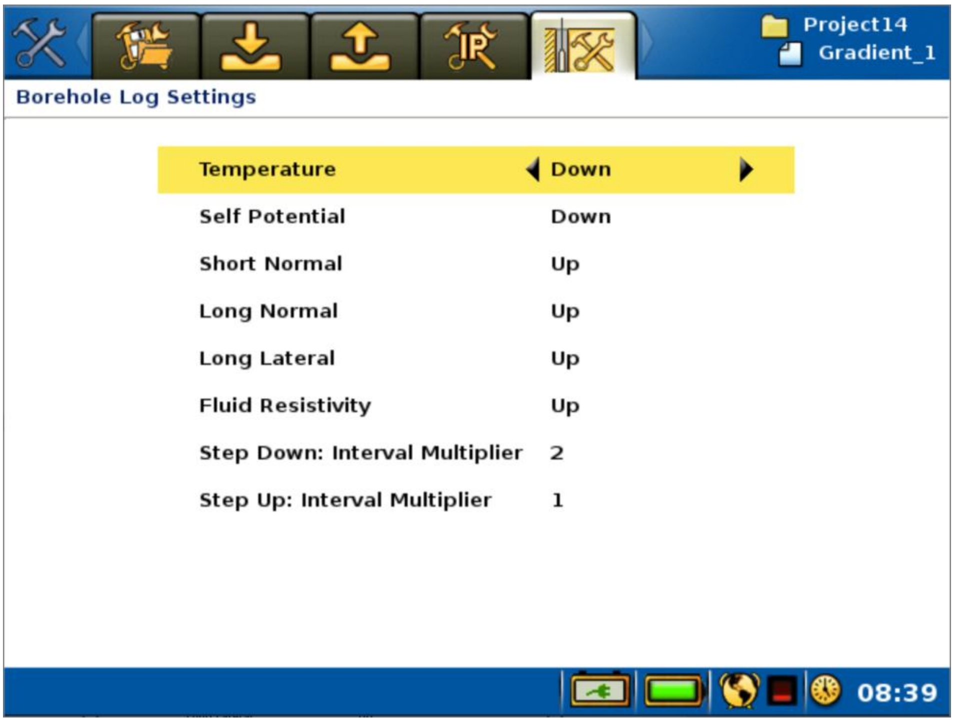


Figure 47 *Borehole Log Settings Page*

The available options on the *Borehole Log Settings Page* (Figure 47) are as follows:

Temperature	This, and the next five menu items, represent the different parameters that can be recorded in borehole logging. These settings define if, and when, each of them will be recorded. They can be set to “No”, “Up”, “Down”, and “Up and Down”.
Self Potential	Normally recorded on the down phase, before any current flows.
Short Normal	A resistivity/IP measurement of the surrounding geology.
Long Normal	A resistivity/IP measurement of the surrounding geology.
Long Lateral	A resistivity/IP measurement of the surrounding geology.
Fluid Resistivity	A resistivity measurement of the fluid within the borehole.
Step Down: Interval Multiplier **Step Up: Interval Multiplier**	The default measurement interval (defined as the “Z” value when creating a *Task*, see Chapter 3.7.2 *Task*) can be given a multiplication factor for “Step Down” and “Step Up”, respectively. This allows different measurement intervals on the downward and upward journey of the logging device. For example, if the “Minimum Electrode Spacing Z (m)” was set to 1 m and the “Step Down” multiplier is set to 2, the borehole data will be recorded every 2 meters on the downward journey but every metre on the return, upward, phase. The multiplication result is called the *Step Distance*. The multiplier can be set to 1, 2 or 4; default value is 1.

6 VES MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

6.1 General

For general information and theory regarding geoelectrical surveying, please consult a modern geophysical textbook or tutorial. This section focuses on the practicalities of using the Terrameter VES / VES MAX resistivity meter and accessories rather than the in depth theory of resistivity and IP measurements.

Note!	Moisture and/or dirt in the connectors will compromise data quality and may even cause permanent damage to the connectors or instrument. **Always keep connectors and any protective caps clean, dry and in place whenever possible. Where appropriate, interconnect protective caps to protect each other when cables are connected (Figure 48).**

Figure 48 *An example of connecting dust caps*

Dangerous voltages and currents are transmitted by the Terrameter via electrode cables connected to it or an external Electrode Selector! During the entire duration of an electrode contact test or measurement session it is always the responsibility of the operator to have full control of the entire electrode cable layout, so that people and animals do not get close to the electrodes and electrode take-outs connected to the measurement cables!

6.2 Essential Equipment

The following equipment should be considered mandatory for data acquisition using the ABEM Terrameter VES / VES MAX system:

- To ensure proper function during geoelectrical imaging with medium to high power the Terrameter should be powered from an external battery, for instance a gelled lead-acid battery or a car battery (40 – 70 Ah, depending on intended workload).
- Cable reels for the four electrodes (C1, C2, P1 & P2) and a suitable quantity of crocodile/alligator clips and cable jumpers.
- Suitable quantity of electrodes.

Double check that the internal and external batteries for the Terrameter are charged before going to the field!

6.3 Recommended Additional Equipment

Often additional equipment is required for efficient acquisition of good quality data. The following list is an attempt to summarize frequently needed additional equipment.

- Battery charger and spare external battery.
- A set of walkie-talkies, or mobile phones.
- Polyurethane hammers (two or more) for hammering in electrodes.
- Plastic bottles for water, potentially with added salt, to improve electrode contact in dry ground. A drill mud polymer added to the water can increase the viscosity to prevent draining away during measurement in permeable soils. Mix salt and polymer with water to suitable viscosity, it may be wise to do this in buckets before pouring the mixture into plastic bottles of a convenient size.
- Additional electrodes and jumpers when operating in areas with dry ground giving contact difficulties, to allow use of multiple electrodes at a single location.
- Pegs and/or spray paint to mark out cable runs and electrode positions.
- Non-metallic surveyors' tapes to measure distance from sounding centre out to individual electrode locations.
- Levelling equipment and / or good quality GPS receiver if topography needs to be recorded (depends on type of terrain).
- A basic kit for keeping connectors clean and dry, for example toothpicks, toothbrush, lint-free cloth, and residue-free contact cleaner.
- Pocket multi-meter with continuity check function for fault detection.

6.4 Setting up the Hardware

Measure out initial electrode locations, and roll out the electrode cables, connecting the electrodes to the electrode cable, and the electrode cables to C!, C2, P1 and P2 on the end panel of the Terrameter VES/VES MAX (**Figure 49** Two options for laying out VES cablesFigure 49). Ensure adequate electrode contact is provided, and that all jumpers and connectors for joining instrument, cables and electrodes are in good condition and properly attached. It is recommended to twist or slide the crocodile/alligator connectors up and down while connecting, to remove dirt or oxide on the contact surfaces.

Connect external power supply, if needed; the built-in battery pack may only be sufficient for small low power surveys. Switch on the instrument by pressing the power button

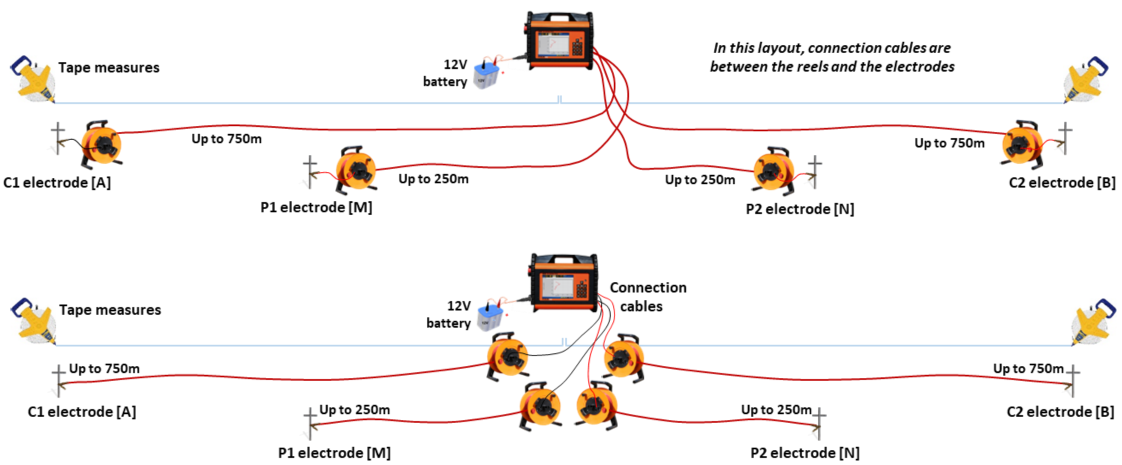


Figure 49 *Two options for laying out VES cables*

6.5 Vertical Electrical Sounding on the Instrument

By now, the instrument should have been set up such that the active *Task* is a VES *Task*, that is the *Task* was created with a VES spread and protocol (see Chapter 3.7.2 *Task*).

In VES mode there will be primarily four *Pages* involved:

- The *"Measure/Progress" Page* (Figure 52) will be used to start and stop measurements as usual. Choosing which of the predefined electrode positions to measure from can also be set from this *Page*.
- The *"*Measure/*Electrode Positions" Page* (Figure 53) displays a list of all the possible electrode positions that are predefined in the active *Task*. The electrode positions can be set manually (and a new temporary electrode position created) from this *Page*.
- The *"*Measure/*VES Curve" Page* (Figure 67) displays a sounding curve of the measurements made so far in the active task.
- The *"*Measure/*VES Table" Page* (Figure 68) displays a reviewable table of the measurements made so far in the active task.

As a Vertical Electrical Sounding, only utilises the C1, C2, P1 and P2 connectors on the VES/VES MAX end-panel. The *"Measure/Electrodes" Page* for a VES *Task* will look similar to the one shown in Figure 50.

***Figure 50** The Electrodes Page in VES mode*

The electrode positions used at any time are pre-defined in the VES measurement protocol and thus the electrode coordinates will automatically be saved together with the measured data. The measurement protocols must be written in a special format (see Appendix C. Spread and Measuring Sequence Files, 13.3 *Protocol Files in XML-format for VES*).

6.5.1 Managing Electrode Positions

Electrode positions for a VES *Task* are handled differently depending on the array type. Most common is the Schlumberger array and, for this electrode arrangement, positions are given as “MN/2” and “AB/2” distances (Figure 51), where MN is the distance between P1 and P2, and AB is the distance between C1 and C2). These are entered into a VES protocol file as absolute distances and no multiplier is required, which is why all three coordinates (X, Y and Z) are greyed-out in the “Create New Task” dialog for VES.

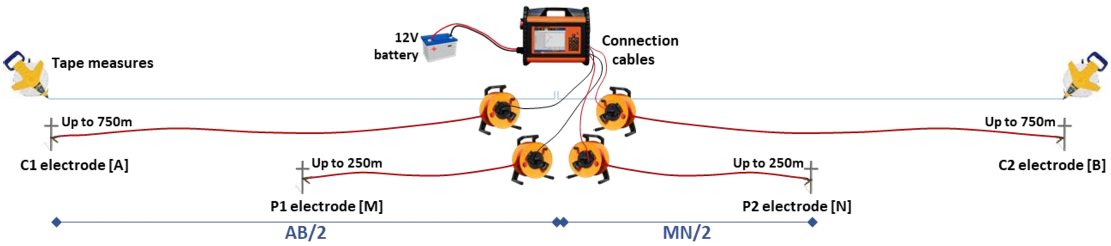


Figure 51 *Schematic of a VES (Schlumberger) layout*

In VES mode, with a Schlumberger protocol selected, a line with a “MN/2 and AB/2” electrode position will be shown on the *Progress Page* (Figure 52). This is the active electrode position, and it can be changed using the left and right arrows. It is thus possible to step through all available electrode positions that are pre-defined in the protocol file; measurements do not necessarily need to be undertaken at every interval.

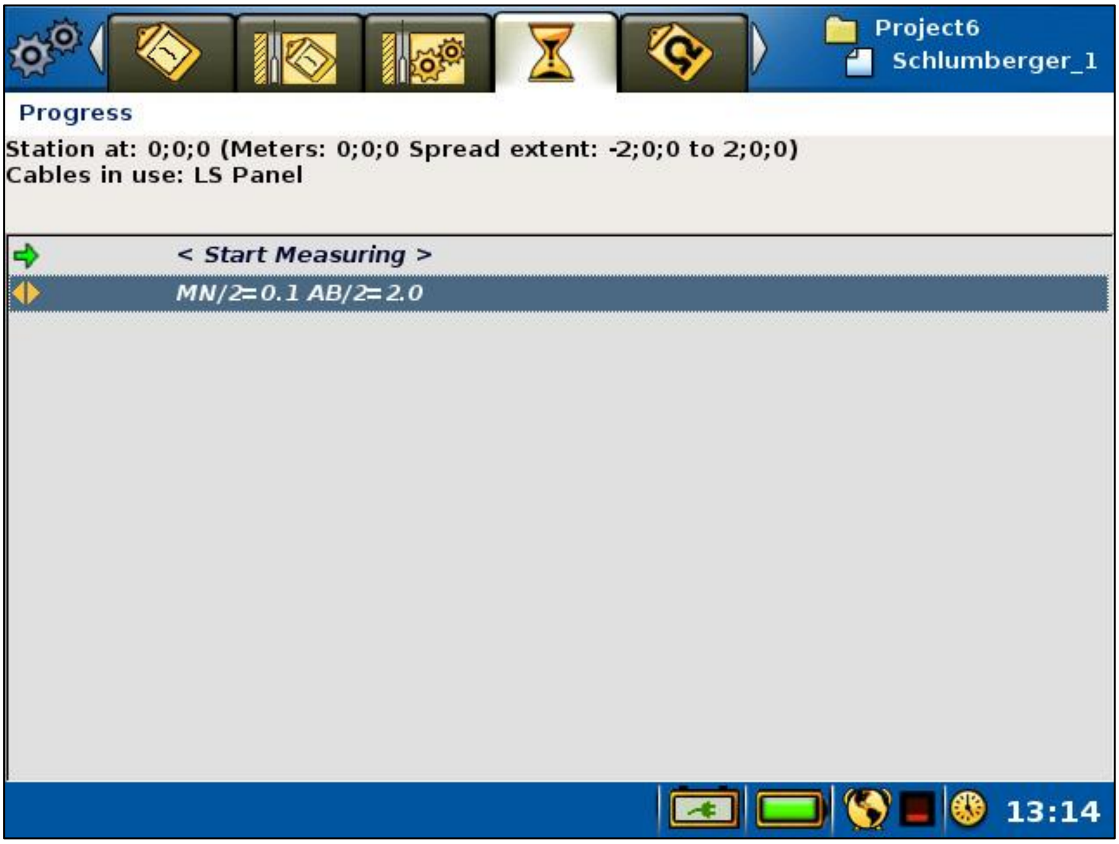


Figure 52 *The Progress Page in VES mode*

- Changing the active electrode position from the *Progress Page*

  - Highlight the “MN/2= x AB/2= x” row in the progress list
  - Press <Left> and/or <Right>

It is possible to create new, custom, electrode positions in the “Measure/*Electrode Positions” Page* (see below) which then become part of the predefined list. They can then be selected as the active electrode position in the same way as the predefined electrode positions, by using the left and right arrow keys.

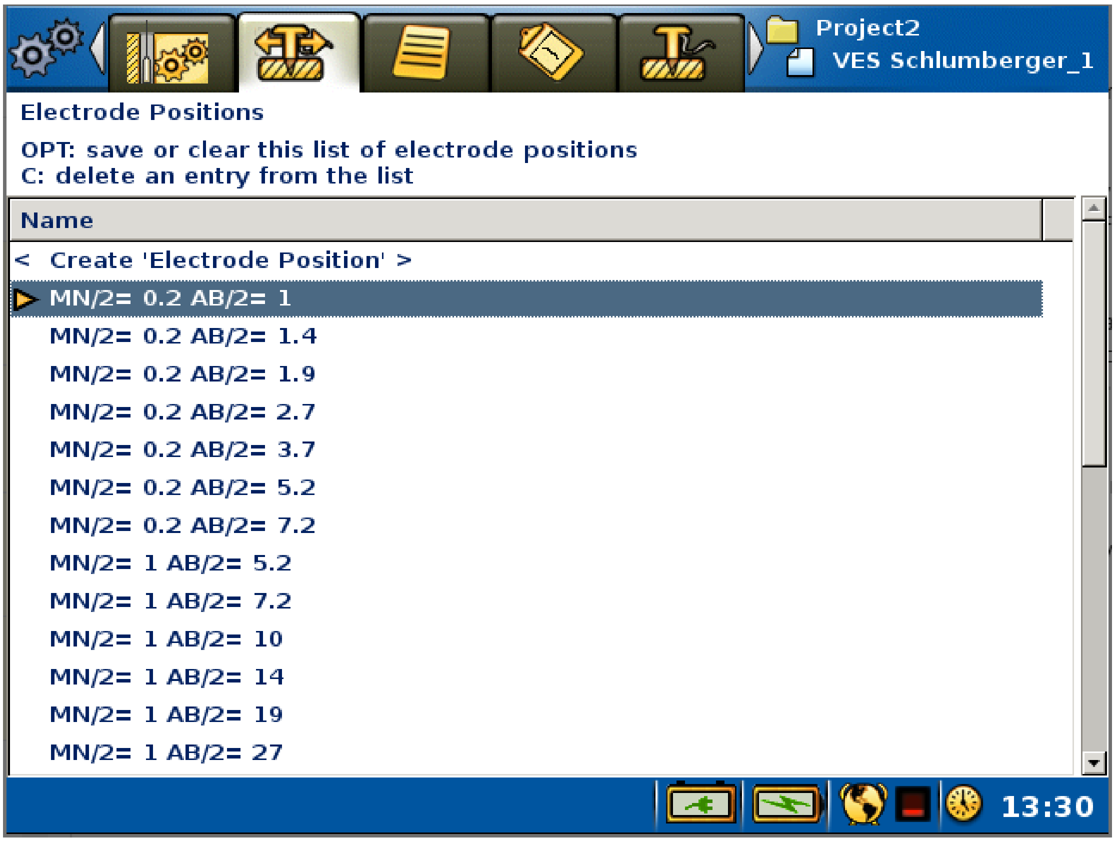


Figure 53 *Electrode Positions Page in VES mode. Highlight bar (blue) and active electrode position marker (yellow) both on the second row*

The *Electrode Positions Page* (Figure 53) lists all the electrode positions from the protocol file. The yellow arrow is placed on the line that corresponds to the active electrode position. This electrode position is the one that is shown on the second row of the *Progress Page* (Figure 52). The *Electrode Positions Page* will be empty when the instrument is not in VES mode.

- Changing the active electrode position from the *Electrode Positions Page*

  - Highlight the required electrode position in the list
  - Press <OK>

A new, custom, electrode position can be created for use during the measurement session.

Note!	Custom electrode positions are not saved to the list by default and will be lost at power-off or if the active *Project* or *Task* is changed. To retain them use the save option or create a custom VES protocol file for upload to the instrument.

- Creating a new electrode position

  - Navigate to the *"Measure/Electrode Positions" Page* (Figure 53)
  - Highlight the first row <Create 'Electrode Position'>
  - Press <OK>, the Create Electrode Position dialog will be shown (Figure 54)
  - Enter the positions for the current electrodes (A and B) and potential electrodes (M and N). The electrode positions are given as the distance from the mid-point of the electrode spread.
  - Choose the correct settings (Yes or No) for "B Remote" and "N Remote" (used for pole-pole and pole-dipole surveys).

  If "*B Remote*" or "*N Remote*" is set to "*Yes*" then any numbers specified for "*B[m]*" or "*N[m]*" will be ignored.

  - Press <Down> to highlight the OK command and press <OK>

  The new electrode position will be shown as first in the "*Electrode Positions*" list and will be made the active position automatically (Figure 55).

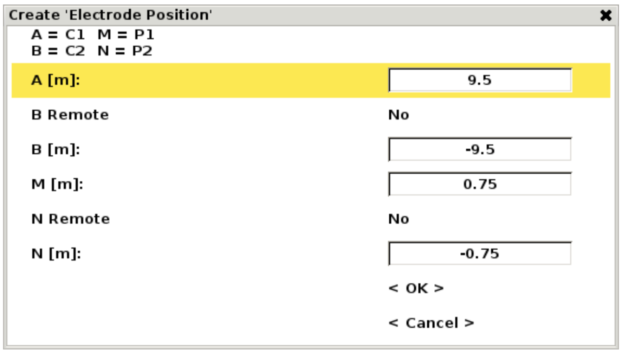


Figure 54 *Create Electrode Position dialog*

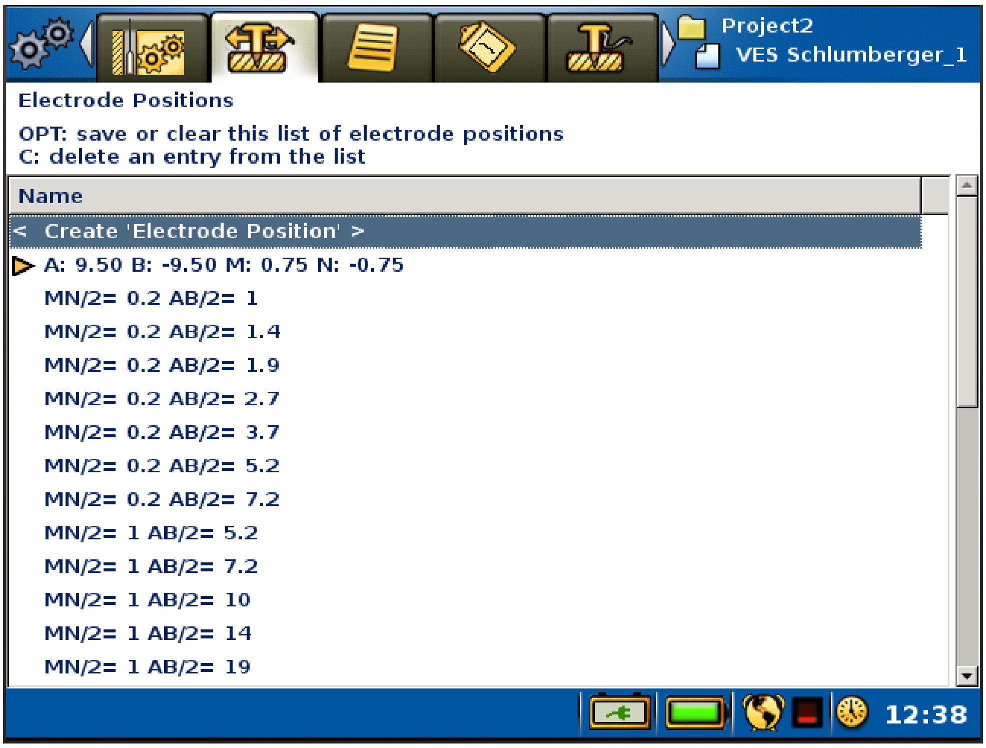


Figure 55 *Result of using Create Electrode Position dialog*

- Deleting an entry from the *Electrode Positions* list

  – Highlight the required electrode position in the list

  – Press <C> and confirm

- Deleting all entries or saving the *Electrode Positions* list as a new protocol

  – Press <OPT> to bring up the *Save* dialog (Figure 56)

  Either

  – Select < Clear list > and press <OK>

  Or

  – Edit protocol name, as required

  – Select < Save > and press <OK>

Figure 56 *VES Electrode Positions save dialog*

6.5.2 Initiating a VES Measurement

Collection of data in a VES survey is relatively straightforward.

- Starting a VES measurement

  – Choose an electrode position using one of the methods described above

  – Ensure that the electrodes have been moved to the correct physical position and check that field crew and other people are clear of the electrodes and cables

  – If selecting the active electrode position was done from the *Electrode Positions Page*, navigate back to the *Progress Page*; the quickest way to do this is to press <Play/Pause>

  – Highlight the < Start Measuring > command at the top of the progress list

  – Press <OK>

If the measurement setup involves transmitting current, that is if the measurement mode includes resistivity or IP, a warning message is issued (Figure 57 Electric shock warning dialog).

Warning! Read the warning text (Figure 57 Electric shock warning dialog) carefully before accepting to start the measuring process, and carry out the data acquisition accordingly!

Do not press <OK> until it is verified that no person or animal is touching any part of the electrode cables, connectors or electrodes

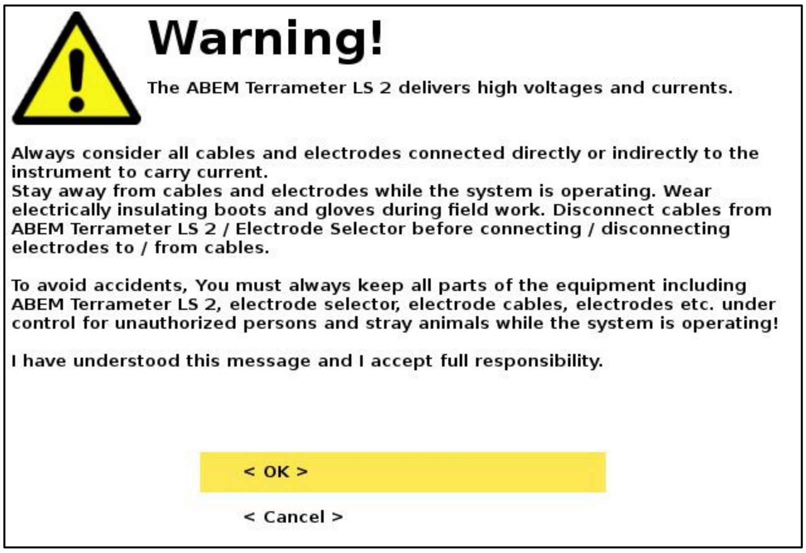


Figure 57 Electric shock warning dialog

6.5.3 Electrode Tests in a VES Measurement

The instrument will now do an electrode contact test, prior to taking the measurement (if this option was enabled in the Transmitter Settings). There are two scenarios that follow:

Electrode Test Pass	If both current electrodes pass, the instrument will begin the measurement cycle automatically.
Electrode Test Fail	If the electrode test fails, the instrument will wait for further user instruction. The *Progress Page* will display a message, “Electrode test FAIL (OK: XX, Bad: XX, Fail: XX)”, indicating how many electrodes were good, bad, or failed based on the threshold settings (Figure 58). Go to the *Electrodes Page* (Figure 59) by pressing <Shift> + <Browse> to navigate one tab left. This tab provides a table detailing the connection point for each electrode (“Takeout”), the electrode locations (“Pos”) and the results of the electrode contact test (“Ohm”). The “Status” column describes how often each electrode will be used as a current injector (AB) or potential pair (MN) during the next round of measurements; as this is a VES survey, they are only used once during the active measurement . Take note of the C1/C2 contact resistance and decide whether it requires improvement or whether the values are acceptable to continue. If improvement is required, **push the red stop button prior to handling cables/electrodes**. Firstly check jumper wires are firmly connected and that the crocodile/alligator clip is firm. Next, ensure that electrodes are well grounded (hammer deeper, reposition slightly, add water, double-up electrodes etc.). Release the red stop button and restart measurement (either from the Progress tab or by pressing the <Play/Pause> button). This will automatically retest the “Bad”, “Fail”, or “No Contact” electrodes. After a retest, the instrument will either begin survey or produce another fail message, when further improvements can be made.

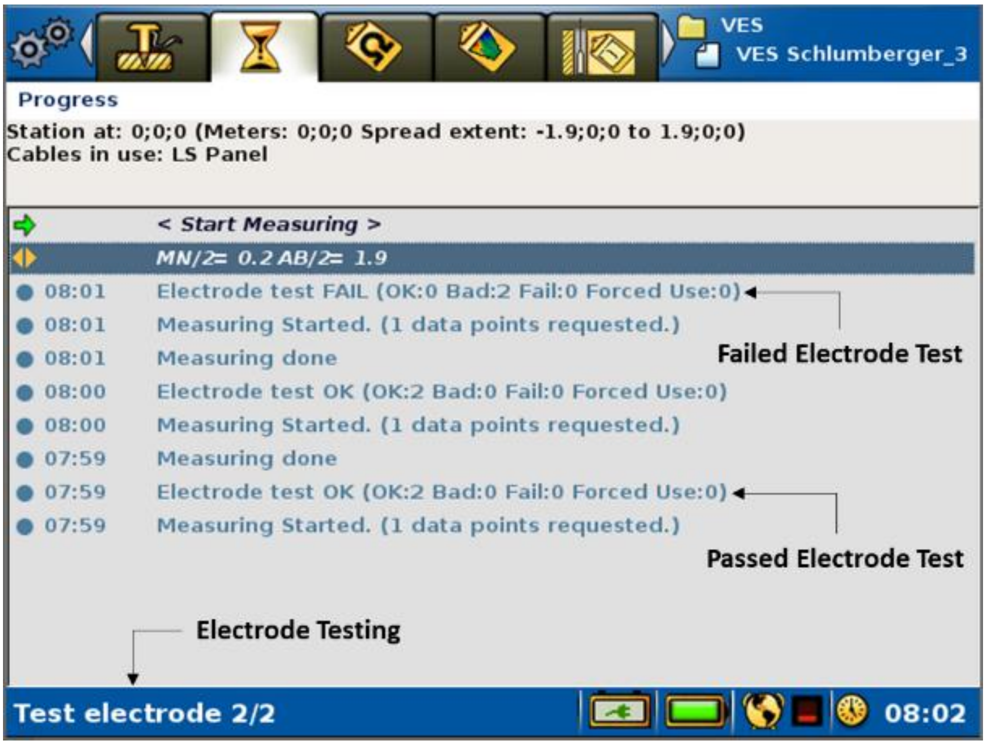


Figure 58 *Electrode test results shown on the Progress Page*

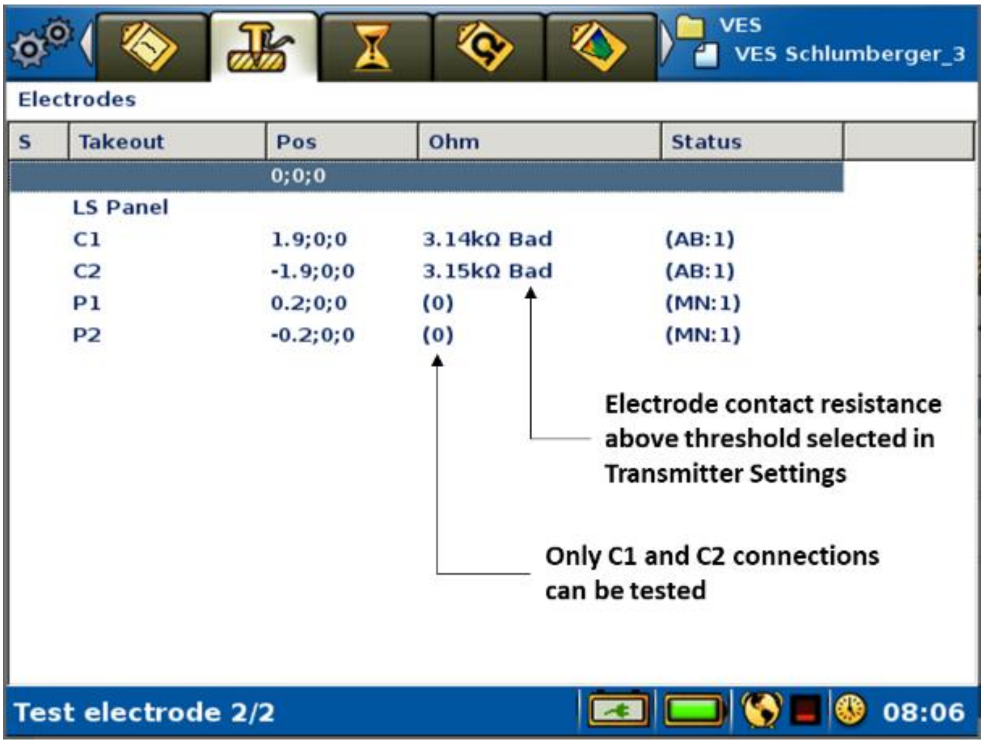


Figure 59 *Electrode test results on Electrodes Page*

In some cases, it may be appropriate to ignore the result and 'force use' an electrode. This can be done from the pop-up menu (accessed by pressing the OPT key) on the *Electrodes Page*, by selecting "Use". Any electrodes which are forced to be used, despite failing the electrode test, will have a "U" next to them in the left-hand "S" column.

Note!	The Terrameter can only test the C1 and C2 electrodes when using the end-panel. However, ensuring low contact resistance on potential electrodes is not as critical as on current electrodes. Lower P1/P2 contact resistances, result in more accurate measurements, but the high impedance of the input channels provides good accuracy even at higher contact resistances. For C1/C2, as the contact resistance increases, the current flow decreases, and thus the measurable signal and charging capability (when doing IP) also decreases. If it is still deemed necessary to test the contact resistance on all four electrodes, the following procedure should be followed.

- Performing an electrode contact test on all four electrodes

  – Connect the central potential electrodes to C1 & C2

  – Start a measurement and the electrode test will begin. If it fails, improve the electrode contact and start the measurement again. When the test passes, press the red Stop button on the end-panel of the instrument before it completes the measurement cycle

  – On the Electrodes tab, press OPT and select “Clear all" to reset the test results and then put all four electrodes back to their correct positions on the end-panel

  – Release the Stop button and start the measurement again, the outer two electrodes (which should now be plugged into C1 and C2) will be tested and the measurement completed if the electrode test is successful

Testing the potential electrodes is only required when a new P1/P2 spacing is used, so using the Schlumberger arrangement limits the number of ‘double tests’ required.

6.5.4 Data Collection in a VES Measurement

Figure 60 shows the *Progress Page* during a VES measurement. The measurement can be paused, stopped and resumed as follows.

- Pausing or stopping the measurement

  – Move the highlight to the <Stop Measuring> row (Figure 60)

  – Press <OK>

  Or

  – Press <Play/Pause>

The pause function waits for the active measurement cycle to complete before activating. As such, it might take a few seconds before the measuring pause dialog is shown (Figure 61). From this dialog it is possible to resume or stop the data acquisition process.

  – Move the highlight to the appropriate row

  – Press <OK>

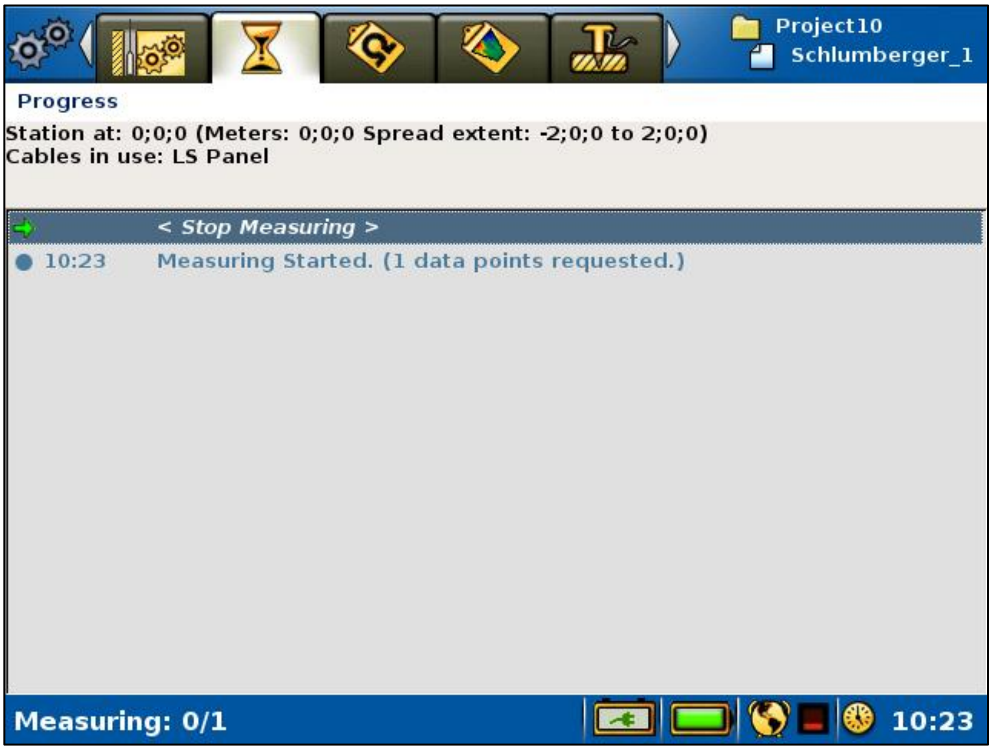


Figure 60 *Progress Page in VES mode during on-going measuring*

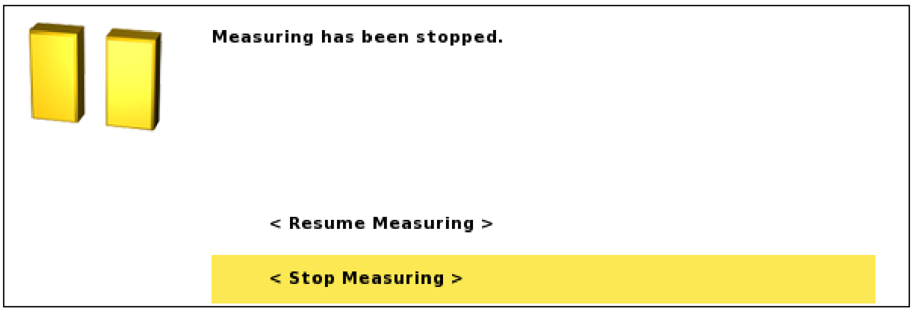


Figure 61 *Measuring pause dialog*

The Stop button on the Terrameter VES / VES MAX end-panel will provide a faster stop of activity. No dialog is shown when stopping in this way. To resume, release the Stop button and press <Play/Pause> or move to the "*Measure/Progress*" *Page* and select <Start Measuring>.

Note!	If any person or animal approaches the electrode layout during measurement it is advisable to stop current transmission immediately with the red Stop button on the end panel of the instrument

When the measurement of each VES position is complete the *Status Bar* will show "Measuring done!" and the stop-measuring row will be replaced with a "No data points to measure" statement (Figure 62).

Figure 62 *Part of the Progress Page in VES mode after measuring a data point*

- Measuring the next data point
  - Make sure the “MN/”= x AB/”= x” row is highlighted
  - Press <Right> to select a new set of electrode positions
  - Pres <Play/Pause> or select <Start Measuring>

If a problem with data acquisition is detected, the measurement process can be stopped and data deleted back to a user-defined point, allowing data points to be re-measured.

- Deleting data
  - Stop an ongoing measurement (see above)
  - Highlight the row in the progress list corresponding to the point from which data should be re-measured
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight “<Delete measurements after Mxxxx>” (where Mxxxx represents a measurement ID) (Figure 63)
  - Press <OK>

Figure 63 *Delete data points option menu*

This action will delete data points and create a new entry in the progress list, “Deleted ‘Measurement Mxxx,…,Mxxx n=xxx’” (Figure 64). The “Mxxx” section shows the span of measurement IDs that were deleted and the “n” value is the number of data points deleted (remember that a single measurement ID can have up to 12 data points associated with it).

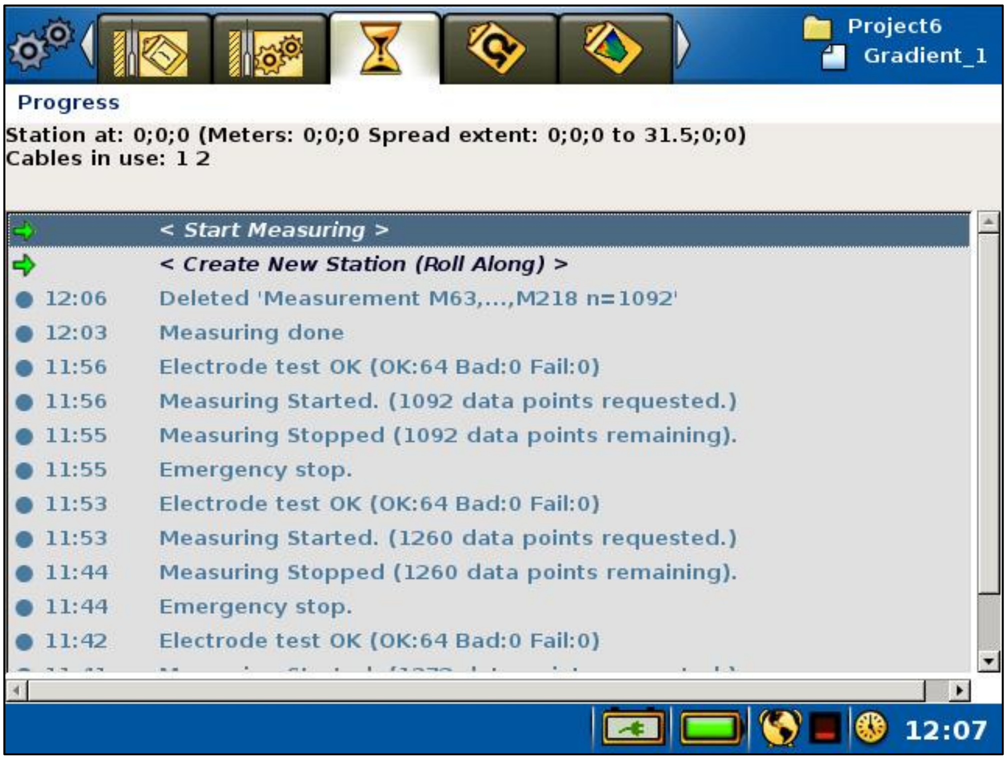


Figure 64 *Example of deleted data points*

- Undeleting data
  - Stop an ongoing measurement, **Error! Reference source not found.** ***Error! Reference source not found.***.
  - Highlight the "Deleted 'Measurements..." row in the progress list that represents the point from which data should be undeleted
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight "<Undelete 'Measurements Mxxx,...,Mxxx n=xxx'>" (Mxxxx represents a measurement ID) (Figure 65)
  - Press <OK>

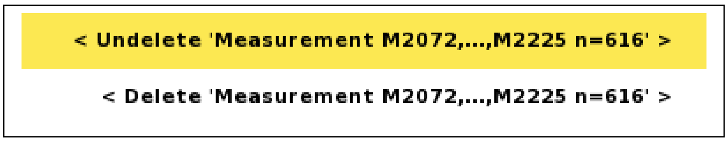


Figure 65 *Undelete/Delete data points Option menu*

The command will also create a new entry, this time called "Undeleted 'Measurement Mxxx,...,Mxxx n=xxx'", with the same numbers as the deleted entry (Figure 66).

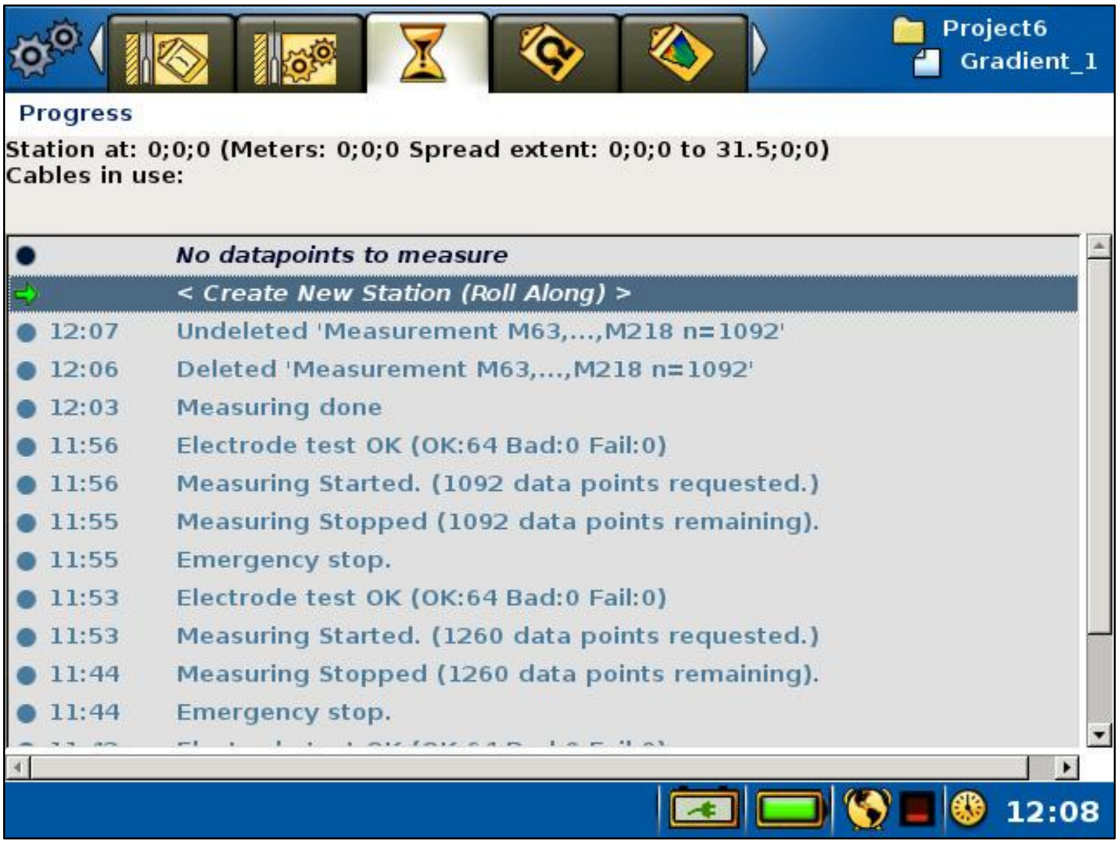


Figure 66 *Example of undeleted data points*

If data points are to be deleted at the end of a measurement (with the "*Measure/Progress*" *Page* showing "No datapoints to measure"), measurements can be started again when some data entries have been deleted.

6.5.5 VES Sounding Curve

The sounding curve is a double logarithmic diagram on the *VES Curve Page* (Figure 67). The vertical axis is focus depth (median depth penetration) and the horizontal axis is apparent resistivity. The marker for individual datapoints alternates shape as P1-P2 spacings change.

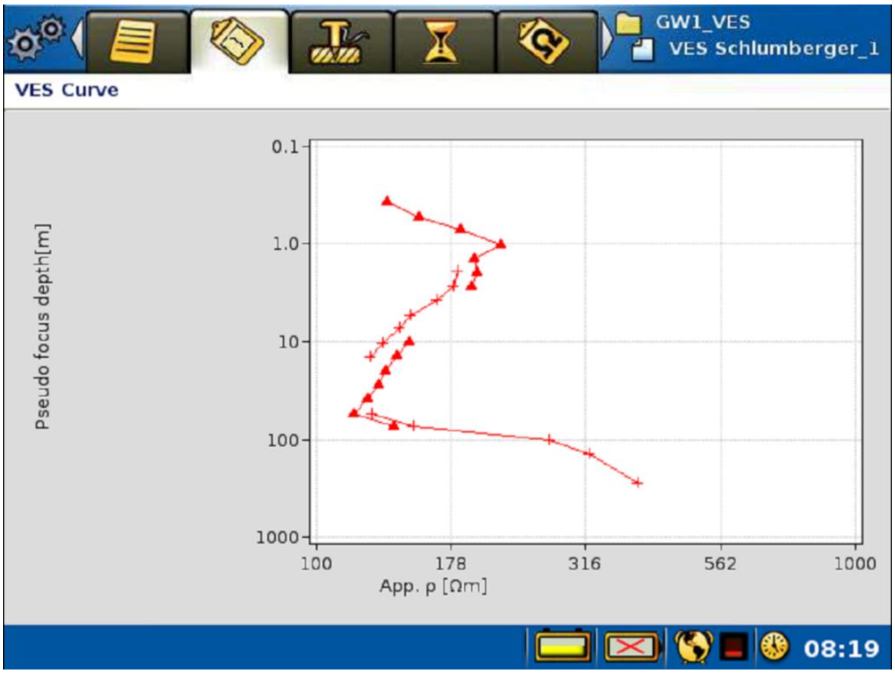
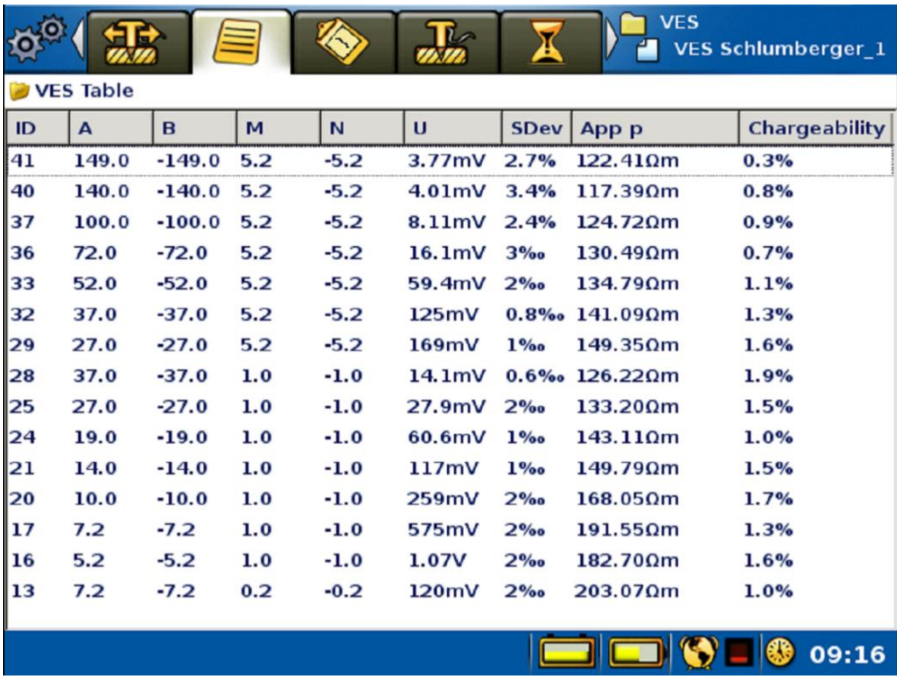


Figure 67 *VES Curve Page example*

6.5.6 VES Table

The VES Table (Figure 68) lists all data points collected in the active *Task*, with the most recent measurement first. Using the <Up> / <Down> arrow keys will scroll through the results; the screen will automatically refresh with the next set of data values when you scroll past the bottom of the initial list.



ID	A	B	M	N	U	SDev	App ρ	Chargeability
41	149.0	-149.0	5.2	-5.2	3.77mV	2.7%	122.41Ωm	0.3%
40	140.0	-140.0	5.2	-5.2	4.01mV	3.4%	117.39Ωm	0.8%
37	100.0	-100.0	5.2	-5.2	8.11mV	2.4%	124.72Ωm	0.9%
36	72.0	-72.0	5.2	-5.2	16.1mV	3‰	130.49Ωm	0.7%
33	52.0	-52.0	5.2	-5.2	59.4mV	2‰	134.79Ωm	1.1%
32	37.0	-37.0	5.2	-5.2	125mV	0.8‰	141.09Ωm	1.3%
29	27.0	-27.0	5.2	-5.2	169mV	1‰	149.35Ωm	1.6%
28	37.0	-37.0	1.0	-1.0	14.1mV	0.6‰	126.22Ωm	1.9%
25	27.0	-27.0	1.0	-1.0	27.9mV	2‰	133.20Ωm	1.5%
24	19.0	-19.0	1.0	-1.0	60.6mV	1‰	143.11Ωm	1.0%
21	14.0	-14.0	1.0	-1.0	117mV	1‰	149.79Ωm	1.5%
20	10.0	-10.0	1.0	-1.0	259mV	2‰	168.05Ωm	1.7%
17	7.2	-7.2	1.0	-1.0	575mV	2‰	191.55Ωm	1.3%
16	5.2	-5.2	1.0	-1.0	1.07V	2‰	182.70Ωm	1.6%
13	7.2	-7.2	0.2	-0.2	120mV	2‰	203.07Ωm	1.0%

Figure 68 *VES Table Page example*

6.6 Measurement Errors

A number of different errors or warnings can occur while measuring. This Chapter explains the general handling of these errors and warnings as well as additional information about some specific examples.

A *Measuring Error* dialog will be shown when a problem occurs during a measurement cycle. Figure 69 shows an example.

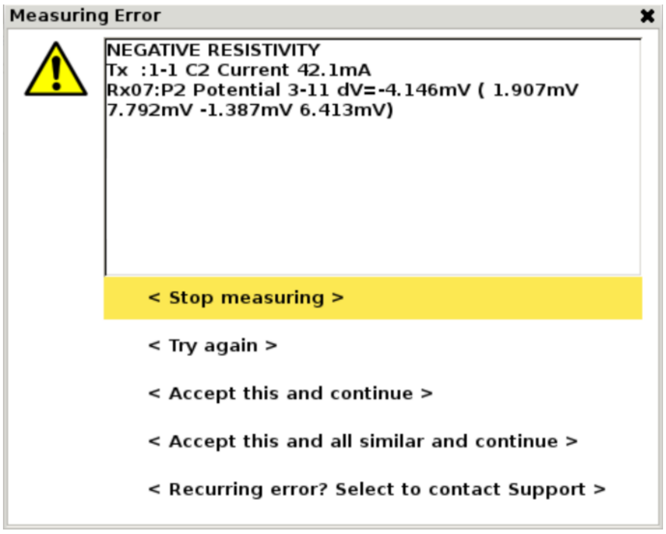


Figure 69 *A Measuring Error dialog example*

The layout of the dialog is always the same. The box in the top half of the window contains general event information, with a series of details about the measurement on which the error occurred and sometimes, when appropriate, problem-solving suggestions. For the measurement details, four values can be given:

- **Tx**: lists the electrodes involved in current transmitting
- **Estimated load**: the load as measured by the current transmitter between Tx pair
- **Current**: the transmitted current as measured by the current transmitter
- **Status code**: the status code number as well as one or more describing texts

In the lower portion of the dialog there are five commands listed. These commands are as follows:

- **Stop measuring**: The measurement stops. Works just like the stop command on the *Progress Page.*
- **Try again**: The measurement is restarted from the failed data point. The error dialog will be shown again if the error persists.
- **Accept this and continue**: The data point is marked as failed and the measurement is resumed with the next data point. The error dialog will be shown again for the same type of error occurring later.
- **Accept this and all similar and continue**: The data point is marked as failed and the measurement is resumed with the next data point. The error dialog will **not** be shown again for the same type of error occurring later in this measurement.
- **Recurring error? Click here to contact support:** this opens a window with a QR code which will automatically generate a proforma email to support.

Figure 70 (overleaf) has further examples of information from different measurement errors.

```
No contact. Can not transmitt current.
Tx  :1-20 2-20
Estimated load: 1.5039kΩ
Current:235mA
 Status code:
TX status 0x3000040Too high power loss, Working
point valid, Tx in progress
```

```
Transmitter stopped due to unexpected high
power loss. Probable causes: A sudden drop in
resistance or a highly inductive load. Try to reduce
the maximum current.
Tx  :2-11 2-21
Estimated load: 1.5040kΩ
Current:234mA
 Status code:
TX status 0x0040Too high power loss
```

Figure 70 *Examples of measurement error messages*

A selection of possible messages are as follows:

Emergency stop	The safety stop switch on the end-panel has been pressed
Power source low voltage	Check the health of the internal and/or external battery. Note that a 12V lead-acid battery, with no load on it, showing 12.0V on a regular test meter is at around 25% charge. A healthy, fully-charged lead-acid battery should show 12.6V – 13.2V
Load resistance too high or No contact?	Contact between LS and electrode(s) might be bad. Check all connections and cables Or Contact between electrode(s) and ground might be bad. Use one of the common methods of improving contact resistance, i.e. watering electrodes (with salt water if necessary), hammering electrodes deeper, using multiple electrodes, using a conductive medium like clay or an electrolyte gel, adding plate electrodes etc.
Negative resistivity	Attempting to repeat the measurement will often clear the problem. However, there are several reasons why persistent negative resistivity values get recorded. These include: poor electrode contact, a depleted battery, bad instrument settings, buried debris and/or utilities, environmental factors, or damaged cables/connectors/relays. You can find out more in this article: *https://www.guidelinegeo.com/help-articles/negative-resistivity-why-am-i-getting-negative-resistivity-values/*
Transmitter stopped due to unexpected high power loss. Probable causes: A sudden drop in resistance or a highly inductive load. Try to reduce the maximum current	Measurement stopped to prevent the transmitter from being damaged and/or avoid poor data quality due to rapid variation in output current/voltage. This can happen in areas where there is a lot of metallic debris or utilities beneath, or very close to, the electrode spread. Try the proposed action or increase the “Load Variation Margin” in the *Transmitter Settings Page*.

Transmitter inhibited by hardware safety signal from main CPU board	Possible problem with generating the necessary current output. Retry measurements and contact support if problem persists.
Transmitter high temperature (overheat)	Try shading the instrument with an umbrella/parasol to keep the instrument out of direct sunlight. The ribbed plate on the lefthand end-panel of the instrument is the colling plate, try to get air moving across it or event apply a damp cloth to it.
Transmitter stopped due to unexpected error	Retry the measurement initially; if the problem persists contact support.
Transmitter setup fail	Possible problem with initialising the transmitter for current injection. Retry measurement and contact support if problem persists.
Relay expected on is off	There are very many mechanical relays in the switch matrix and sometimes one can either stick or end up in an incorrect state. Rebooting the instrument will 'exercise' the relays and should solve the problem. If the warning repeats regularly, contact support.
A/D data read error	Digitizer on one of the measurement channels has malfunctioned. Try measuring again, if problem persists contact support.
ES10-64 not ready	Normally a temporary break in communication between the Terrameter and the ES10-64C. The instrument normally retries the connection automatically and continues. If not, manually retry measurement and if problem persists contact support.
Software Exception	Normally an error with the firmware or user software. Attempt measurement again and/or a reboot. Contact support if issue repeats.

6.7 Full Waveform Data

Internally the instrument records data with the sample rate selected in the "*Settings/Receiver settings" Page*. This data is filtered and averaged in order to provide the measured current, voltages, resistance, and chargeability that are displayed and saved. The full waveform data does not *have* to be saved for the majority of projects but the option to do so is available to allow detailed analysis, or very advanced processing, of the received signals afterwards.

Full waveform data plots (Figure 71) make it possible to identify and understand, for example, the presence of excessive power line network noise, telluric noise, signal disturbances caused by cable coupling and such like. This may then be useful as input for how to optimise the data acquisition process, especially for IP measurements which are more sensitive to noise than resistivity measurements.

Chapter 5.2.2 *Data Acquisition Settings* describes how this feature is turned on or off. Be aware that turning the feature on means saving large amounts of data, formed from a very large number of individual files, that can fill the disk and will take significant time to transfer from the instrument to a PC. It is not recommended to attempt to copy a *Project* containing full waveform data to a USB disk, as it will take a very long time.

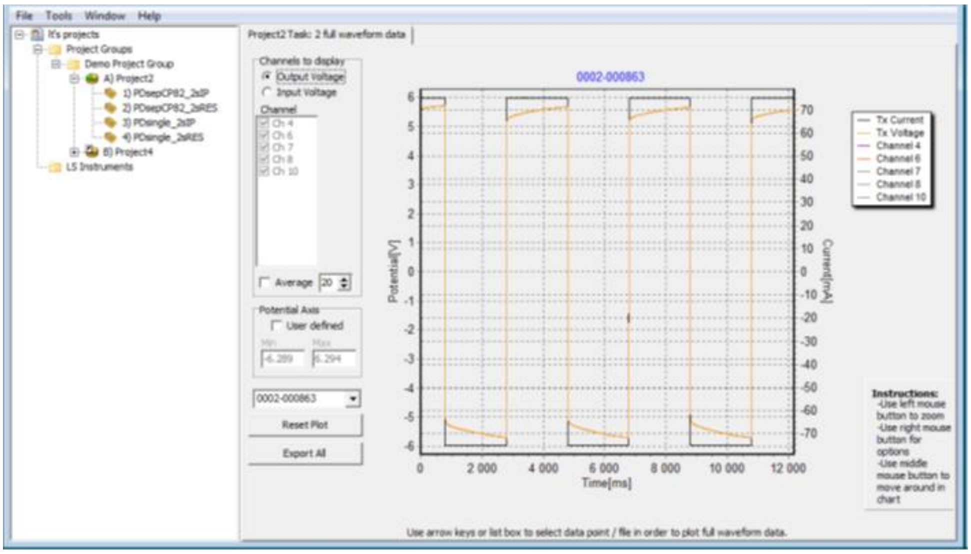


Figure 71 *Full waveform data viewed in Terrameter Toolbox*

6.8 100% Duty Cycle IP Mode

The ABEM Terrameter instruments, as with most field resistivity/IP systems, use the time domain method to collect IP data. This method has traditionally used what is called a 50 % duty cycle - this means that measurement periods are divided into two equal parts. During the first part, the ON time, current is transmitted into the ground to charge it. During the second part, the OFF time, no current transmission is made, instead the instrument measures how the voltage decays as the ground discharges (Figure 72, left). During the ON time resistivity data are measured and during the OFF time IP data are measured.

With the Terrameter instruments it is possible to measure IP using 100% duty cycle. This removes the OFF time, and that current is always transmitted into the ground (Figure 72, right). Instead of measuring IP when the ground is discharging, IP will now be measured during the early part of the ON time as the ground is being charged. With this new measure mode both resistivity data and IP data will be measured during the ON time, and the OFF time is not needed.

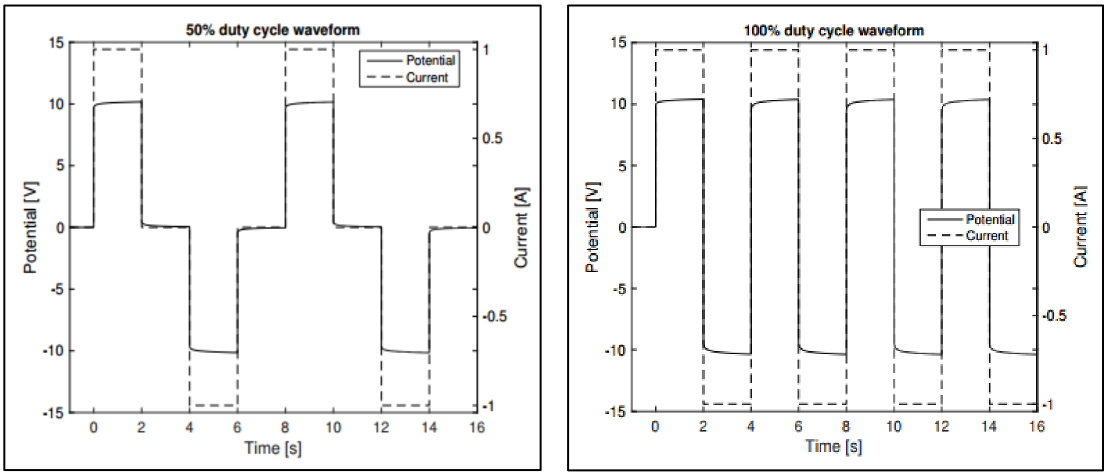


Figure 72 *Traditional 50% duty cycle IP measurements (left) versus 100% duty cycle measurements over the same time period*

The main advantages of utilising the 100% duty cycle mode are:

- Using a 100 % duty cycle, IP data can be collected twice as fast as when using the 'standard' 50 % duty cycle.
- As the signal to noise ratio is twice as high using the new method, IP data quality will be improved.
- Exponential SP trend removal (introduced with the 100% duty cycle mode) makes the IP calculations more accurate.

These are important factors which can limit the need for external high-power transmitters in some environments.

For more information on the 100% duty cycle IP measurement mode see Chapter 12.4 *Induced Polarisation (IP): "RES, IP100" Measurement Mode*

7 BOREHOLE LOGGING WITH THE TERRAMETER LOG 300

The LOG 300 is a plug-and-play logging system for the whole Terrameter family of products. The Terrameter Log is intended for logging to a depth of 300 meters.

This simple logging accessory makes it possible to delineate formation boundaries, which can help inform upon differences in infiltration, porosity and permeability by means of self-potential and resistivity measurements. Under favourable circumstances, water flow boundaries can be detected by measuring temperature changes. Moreover, the resistivity of the water can be measured in situ so that an estimate of total dissolved solids (TDS) can be made. Zones of high salinity may be localized and sealed off by means of casing and cementing.

7.1 The Hardware

The Terrameter Log 300 (Figure 73) consists of a 300 m long downhole cable with a logging probe (Figure 74) and a backpacking frame. Mounted on the frame is an electronic unit as well as connectors for the *Potential Reference* / *Current Return* and a connector for coupling to the Terrameter. The connectors are on the reverse of the backpacking frame (Figure 75).

Figure 73 *Terrameter Log 300 with backpacking frame*

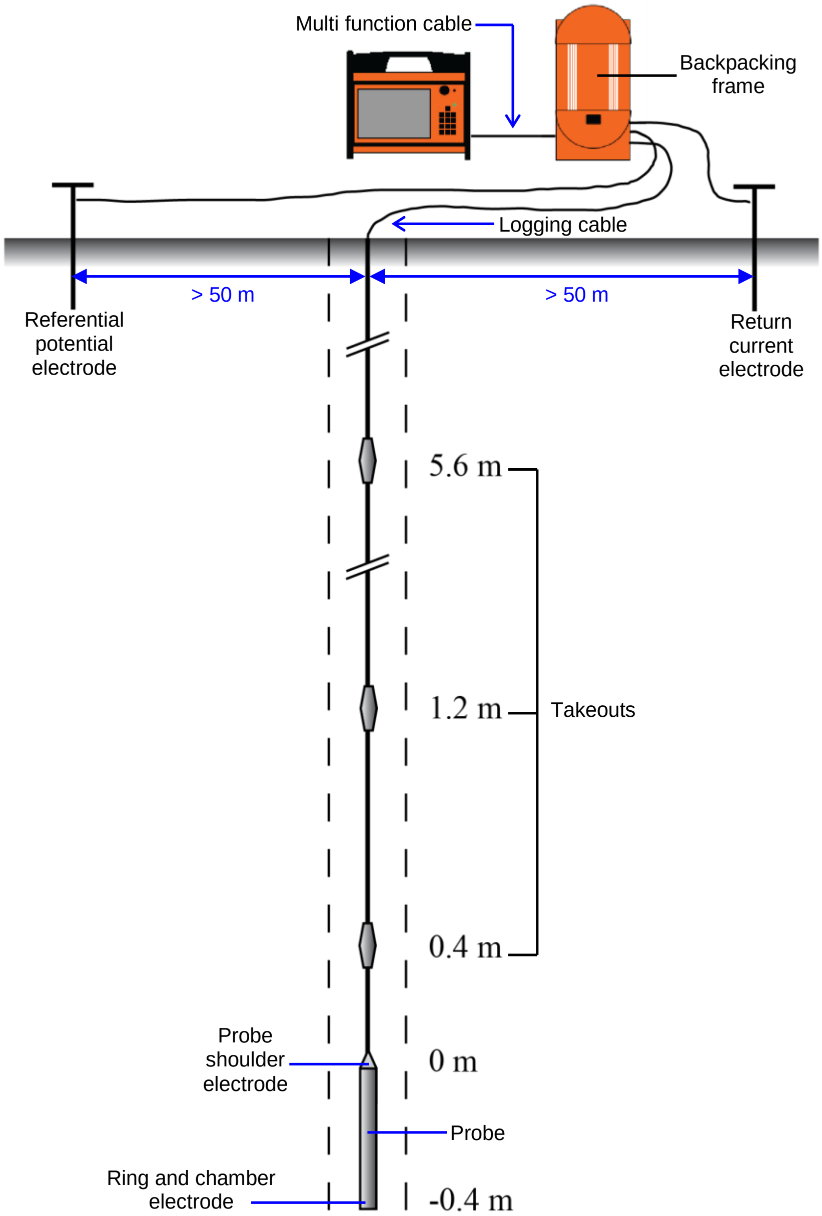


Figure 74 Overview of cabling and layout of the electrodes

Figure 75 *Connectors on the reverse of the backpacking frame*

The stainless steel upper end (shoulder) of the logging probe electrode (Figure 76) serves as a 0 m. The lower inside end of the probe - the chamber - has one ring electrode (the -0.4 m electrode) and one electrode in the centre (the chamber electrode). The centre electrode also contains the temperature transducer. The end of the chamber is set at an angle to improve fluid circulation in the chamber as the probe moves. Three holes in the chamber wall permit air to escape, thus ensuring good electrode contact with the fluid.

A multi-function cable (33 0020 11) connects the Terrameter Log 300 to the AUX port on the Terrameter instruments. The Terrameter Log 300 is fully governed from the Terrameter.

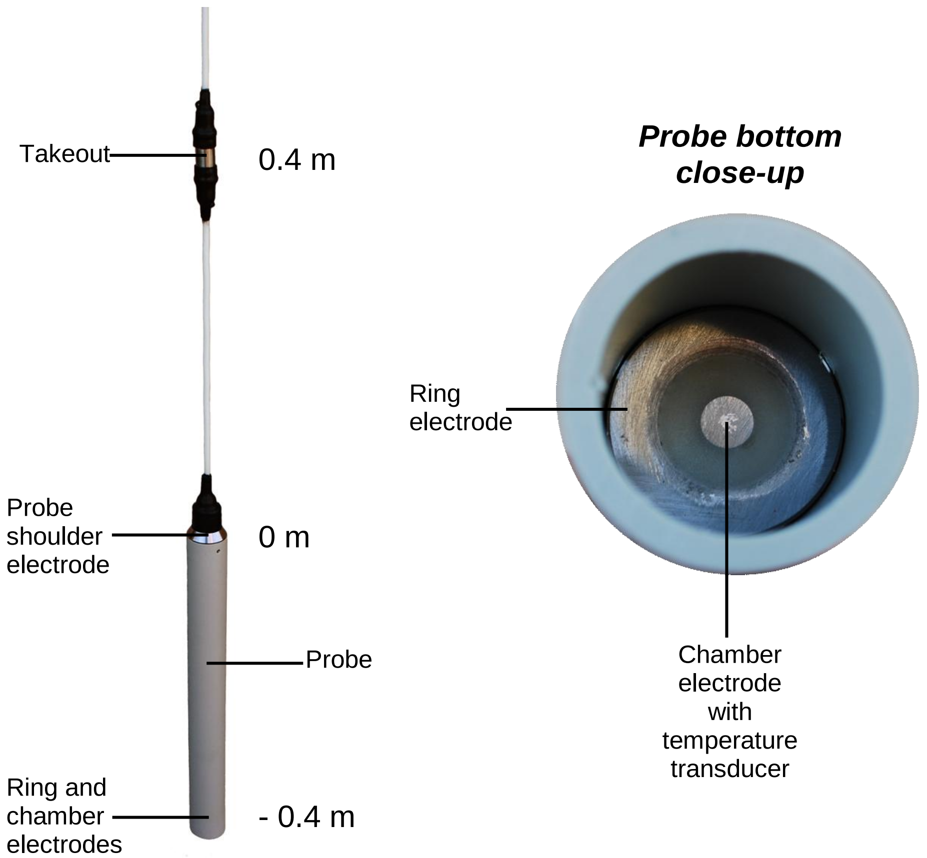


Figure 76 *Logging probe with close-up of probe bottom*

The *Return Current* connector should be attached to a return current electrode (i.e. ABEM stainless steel electrode) placed no less than 50 m from the well to be surveyed.

The *Potential Reference* connector should be connected to a reference potential electrode (i.e. ABEM stainless steel electrode) not less than 50 m from the well and in the opposite direction to the return current electrode.

Note!	Even though there is a test function for testing the ground connection of these remote electrodes, great care should be exercised when installing them to ensure reliable electrical connection with the ground.

Directly after power on, the LOG will perform a self-check, which takes a few seconds. During the self-check a few clicks will be heard from the electronic unit in the backpacking frame.

Note!	During logging operation there should be no connections to C1-C2 and P1-P2 terminals on Terrameter VES / VES MAX.

7.2 Borehole Logging

Below is a typical workflow for a normal borehole logging session, with references to the relevant Chapters:

1. Set up the hardware (see 7.1)
2. Do an electrode test (see 7.2.3.2)
3. Do a water level check (see 7.2.3.4)
4. Run a depolarization routine (see 7.2.3.3)
5. Set-up temperature and SP to be measured on the down-logging phase (see 5.2.2)
6. Set-up resistivity and IP to be measured on the up-logging phase (see 5.2.2)
7. Undertake down logging (temperature and SP recorded) (see 7.2.3.5)
8. Undertake up logging (resistivity and IP recorded) (see 7.2.3.5)
9. Save the recorded data as LAS and perform post-processing routines (see 7.3)

7.2.1 Borehole Logging Measurement Modes

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX uses the concept of "measurement modes" to facilitate different operations during a borehole logging session. Three types of operation are covered:

- Preparation (electrode test, depolarize, level check)
- Down-and-up logging (down, up)
- Single value measurement, one for each measurement type (temperature, SP voltage, short normal, long normal, long lateral, fluid resistivity).

An overview of the measurement modes:

Down	Downward logging where values of up to six different measurement types are recorded for each step
Up	Upward logging where values of up to six different measurement types are recorded for each step
Electrode Test	Test of the remote C and P logging electrodes
Depolarize	Equalizes built-up transmitter potentials prior to SP measurements
Level Check	Find the water level
Temperature	Only temperature is measured for the current probe level
SP Voltage	Only SP voltage is measured for the current probe level
Short Normal (Res & IP)	Only short normal is measured for the current probe level
Long Normal (Res & IP)	Only long normal is measured for the current probe level
Long Lateral (Res & IP)	Only long lateral is measured for the current probe level
Fluid Resistivity	Only fluid resistivity is measured for the current probe level

7.2.2 Borehole Logging Measurement Types

7.2.2.1 Temperature and SP Voltage

Normally, temperature and SP are logged on the first run down into the well, in the unstirred water and with no polarization effects residing from resistivity measurements.

When assuming high precision for temperature gradient studies, ample time must be allowed to permit the probe to reach thermal equilibrium with the surrounding fluid. Move the probe slightly up and down a few times while waiting for equilibrium to be established. Temperature logging should be the first log at each station, since undisturbed water is required.

To reduce electrode polarization, attributable to previous resistivity measurements or prolonged storage in air, the electrodes should be depolarized before SP logging starts.

Note! Resistivity or IP should not be measured during a SP logging run.

7.2.2.2 Short Normal

Current is injected via the shoulder electrode (0 m). The corresponding response voltage is measured between the ground potential reference and the ring electrode at the bottom of the probe. The Terrameter will display the resistivity of the surrounding medium.

7.2.2.3 Long Normal

Current is injected via the 1.2 m takeout while the potential is measured at the ring electrode at the bottom of the probe. The Terrameter will then display the resistivity of the surrounding medium.

7.2.2.4 Long Lateral

Current is injected via the 5.6 m takeout while the potential is measured between the ring electrode at the bottom of the probe and the 0.4 m takeout.

The Terrameter will automatically perform the necessary conversions, and display the resistivity of the surrounding medium, measured with the ”Long Lateral” configuration.

7.2.2.5 Fluid Resistivity

The current is injected via the ring electrode, while the potential is measured between the shoulder electrode (0 m) and the chamber electrode. The fluid resistivity is calculated, presented on the display, and saved in the Terrameter VES / VES MAX. In case of small-diameter wells a correction is needed. The table below lists the correction factors to be used. The calculation is done manually in post-processing.

Well diameter in mm.	Correction factor
50 - 60	1.08
60 - 70	1.06
80 - 90	1.03
90 - 100	1.01

7.2.2.6 Fluid resistivity and estimation of TDS

As the Terrameter Log 300 can be used to measure the resistivity of a fluid, this allows for an estimation of the Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in the fluid. This is often used as a means of estimating water quality.

Resistivity is a function of water temperature, and a standard temperature (usually 25°C) must be specified for reporting resistivity or conductivity. For resistivity, the approximate conversion formulas to obtain the resistivity at common standard temperatures are as follows:

$$\rho_{18} = \rho_T (0.62 + 0.021\ T)$$

$$\rho_{20} = \rho_T (0.58 + 0.021\ T)$$

$$\rho_{25} = \rho_T (0.48 + 0.021\ T)$$

where T is the measured temperature of the fluid in °C (in the range 5 - 50 °C for the conversion to be valid) and ρ_T is the measured fluid resistivity at that temperature.

The concentration of ions commonly found in groundwater are often reported by weight in parts per million (ppm). One "ppm" defines one part, by weight, of the ion to a million parts, by weight, of water; it is numerically equivalent to milligrams per litre. TDS is also reported as ppm. The TDS for an average of natural groundwater samples is estimated as:

$TDS_{ppm} = 6400/\rho_{25}$ where ρ_{25} is in Ωm at a standard temperature (25°C here)

Conductance is sometimes preferred for the estimation of TDS (rather than resistance, its reciprocal) since it increases with salt content. Conductance is measured in Siemen (i.e. Ω^{-1}, represented by S and sometimes referred to as mho) but for comparative purposes results are usually reported as electrical conductivity (EC), which is measured in S/m. Since most ground waters have conductivities of much less than 1 S/m (and since this method is often used to determine the TDS of ground water), it is often more convenient to use mS/m.

7.2.3 Operating the Borehole Logging System

Assuming basic familiarity with the Terrameter VES / VES MAX (see Chapter 3 *The User Interface*), these would be the steps to set up for a borehole logging session:

1. Create a new *Project.*
2. Create a new *Task*:
   a. Select the *SASLOG* spread. Protocol will be set to *Borehole Logging.*
   b. Set the Electrode Spacing Z to the desired minimum distance between each measurement to be done in the borehole.
3. Setup the desired parameters for your borehole logging in the different *Settings Pages* (see Chapter 5.2.2 *Data Acquisition Settings*). For example, if both resistivity and IP is desired, choose either the *RES, IP* measurement mode or the *RES, IP100* mode. Use the *"Settings/Borehole Log Settings" Page* to define which measurement types to record during the down and up parts of a borehole logging session.
4. For normal borehole logging (see Chapter 7.2 *Borehole Logging*) it is recommended that each session be started with these functions, if applicable, and in this order:
   a. Electrode Test
   b. Level Check
   c. Depolarize

The *"Measurement/Borehole Log" Page* (Figure 77) is where most of the user interaction is done for borehole logging sessions.

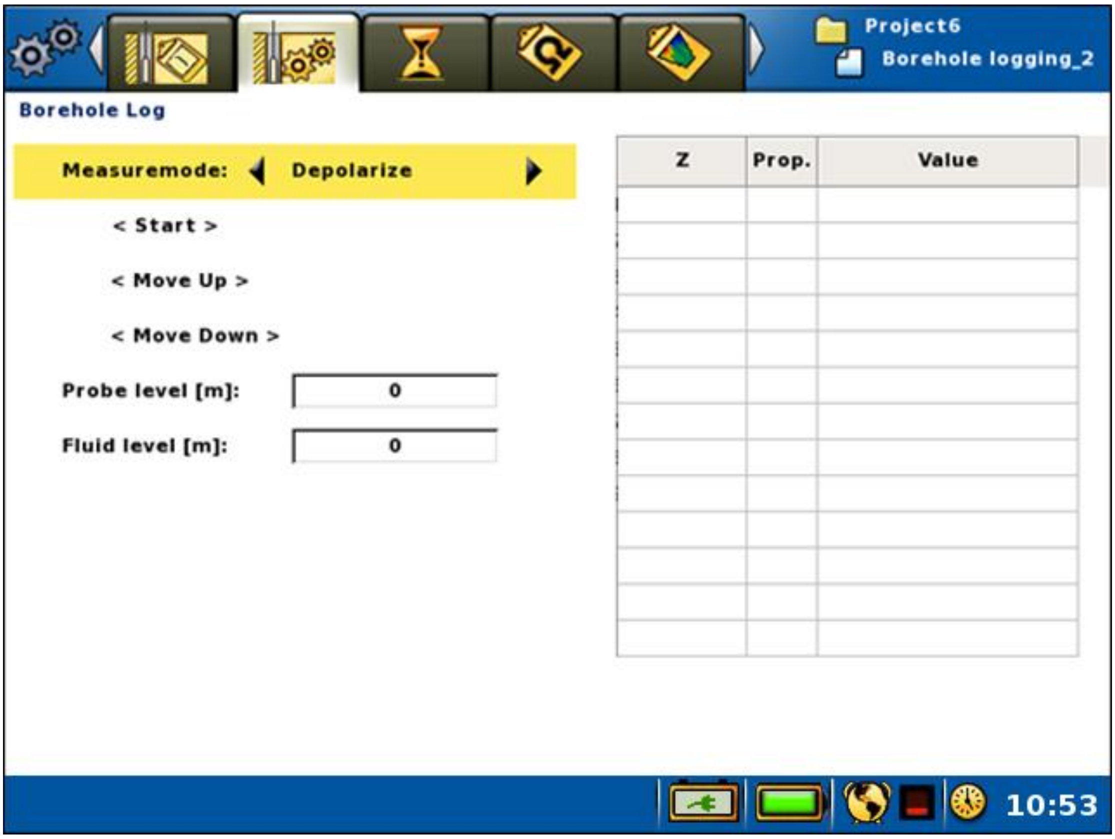


Figure 77 *Borehole Log Page with Depolarize selected*

Basic interactions for the *"Measurement/Borehole Log" Page* are described in the next sub-Chapter, with the subsequent Chapters describing the different measurement modes.

7.2.3.1 Basic Borehole Log User Interaction

These interactions are common to all measurement modes and thus will only be described in detail here and can be assumed for the following sub-Chapters.

- Selecting a measurement mode
  - Highlight the "Measure mode" row
  - Press <Left> and/or <Right> until the required mode is selected
- Starting a measurement
  - Highlight the "<Start>" row
  - Press <OK>
- Stopping a measurement
  - Highlight the "<Stop>" row
    The <Start> row will change to <Stop> when a measurement is ongoing
  - Press <OK>
- Manually increasing or decreasing the probe level by the *Step Distance* (see page 44)
  - Highlight the "<Move Up>" or "<Move Down>" row

– Press <OK>

The Probe level will be increased or decreased by the user-defined step distance (the *Minimum Electrode Spacing Z* multiplied with the step up or down interval multiplier)

- Editing the probe level manually

– Highlight the *Probe level* row

– Press <OK>

The numeric keyboard emulator will be shown

– Enter a custom probe level, see Chapter 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*

- Editing the fluid level

– Highlight the *Fluid level* row

– Press <OK>

The numeric keyboard emulator will be shown

– Enter the wanted fluid level, see Chapter 3.6.2 *The Keyboard Emulators*

Note! The *Down* and *Up* measurement modes automatically update the probe level after each measurement, ready for the next reading. Therefore, when readings switch from *DOWN* to *UP* logging, it will be necessary to step up one interval before measuring to repeat the reading taken on last DOWN measurement. This will be the correct position for the first of the UP measurements.

The <Start> row will change (Figure 78) if the *Safety Switch* button has been depressed (the secure locked position). In this case nothing will happen if the *Emergency Stop* row is selected and <OK> is pressed.

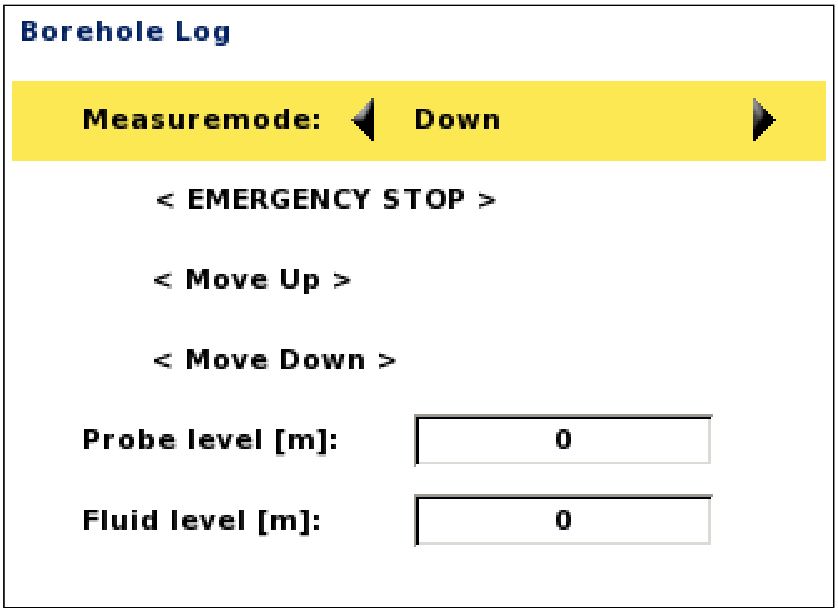


Figure 78 *Emergency Stop notice on excerpt of the Borehole Log Page*

For all measurement modes where current will be transmitted there will be a warning shown, see Chapter 6.5.2 *Initiating a VES Measurement*.

Warning!	Read the warning text (Figure 57) carefully before accepting to start the measuring process and carry out the data acquisition accordingly!

7.2.3.2 Electrode Test

Warning!	Current will be transmitted through the probe as well as the C and P electrodes during the electrode test. Ensure all operatives are clear of the probe and remote electrodes for the duration of the test.

- Running an electrode test
  - Select the *Electrode Test* mode
  - Start a measurement
  - Follow the instruction on the first dialog (Figure 79)
  - Press <OK>
  - When the electrodes have been tested the result will be displayed with the second or third dialog respectively (the resistance values will differ)
  - Press <OK> to finish the test

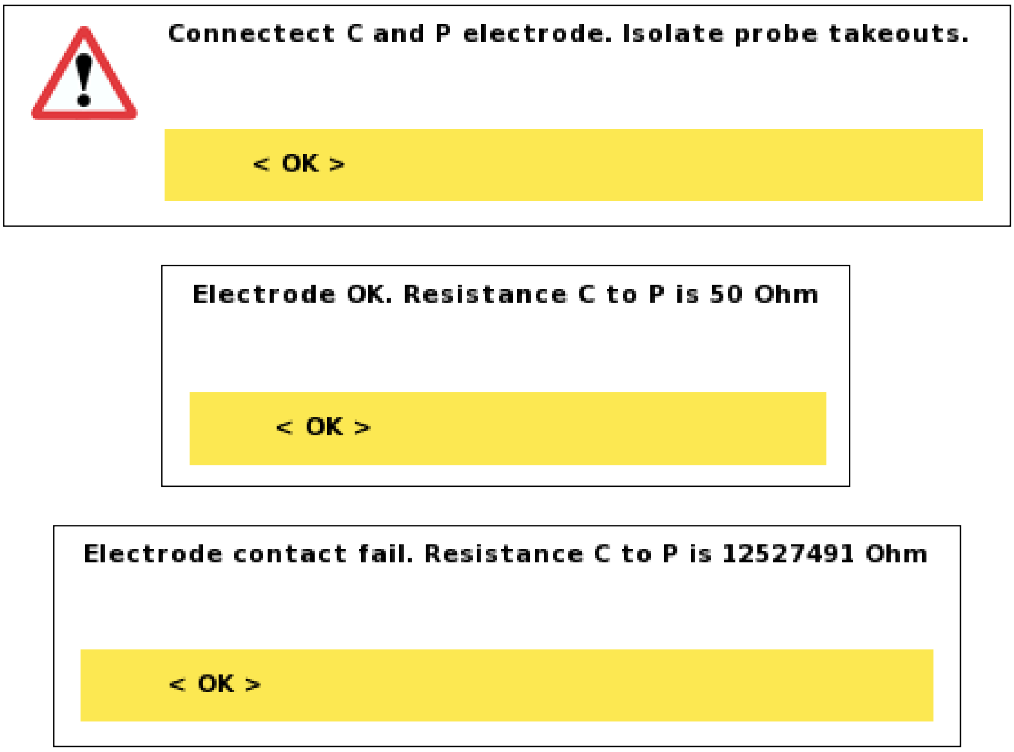


Figure 79 *The Electrode Test dialogs*

7.2.3.3 Depolarize

This process removes biased charges which may have built up on the electrodes. This is especially important when trying to take accurate SP measurements. Be aware that depolarization takes approximately 10 minutes.

- Running the depolarization routine

  – Select the *Depolarize* mode
  – Start a measurement
  – Follow the instruction on the first dialog (Figure 80)
  – After five minutes the second dialog will be displayed
  – After five more minutes the depolarization will be completed

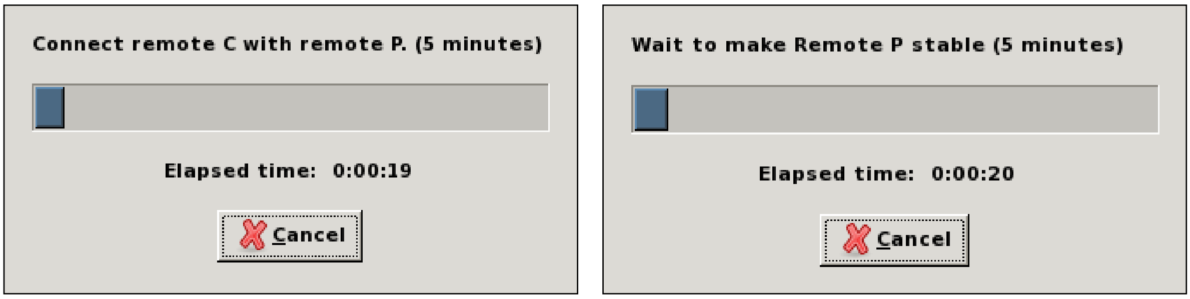


Figure 80 *The two Depolarize dialogs*

7.2.3.4 Level Check (Find water level)

- Running a level check

  – Select the *Check Level* mode
  – Start a measurement
  – The first dialog (Figure 81) instructs the user to lower the probe into the well

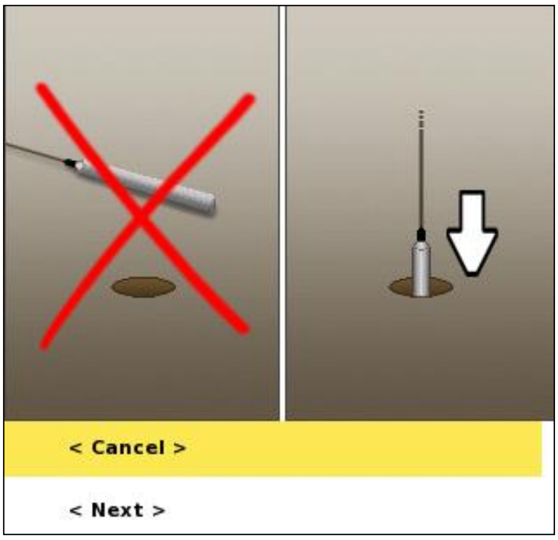


Figure 81 *First Check level dialog*

- Highlight the <Next> row and press <OK>
- A level indicator dialog is shown (Figure 82). The picture on the dialog will change automatically depending on whether water is detected or not, respectively showing that the probe should be lowered or raised to more accurately determine the water level.
- Repeat the lowering and raising of the probe with smaller and smaller distance increments until the water level is sufficiently correct.
- Highlight the <Next> row and press <OK>
- Edit the Fluid Level with the meter marking on the logging cable

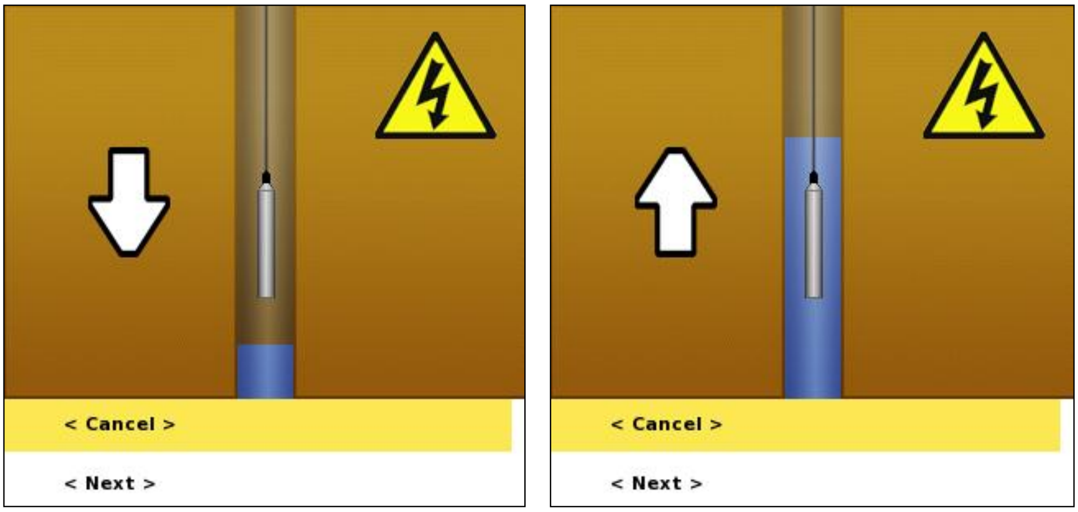


Figure 82 *Level Indicator dialog*

7.2.3.5 Down and Up measurement modes

These are designed to be the 'normal' measurement modes for borehole logging, used for the majority of measurements. These modes help to automate a logging session by automatically updating the *Probe Level* for the next measurement, indicating to the user what depth to lower or raise the probe to.

- Running DOWN logging

  - Select the *Down* mode
  - Take a measurement
  - Note the new *Probe Level* and **lower** the probe accordingly

    Repeat these last two steps until the desired maximum depth is reached

- Running UP logging

  - Select the *Up* mode
  - Take a measurement
  - Note the new *Probe Level* and **raise** the probe accordingly

    Repeat the last two steps until reaching the final position. Remember, if UP logging is to start at the same depth that DOWN logging finished, the probe depth must be edited first, as the software will have moved the depth position down one step automatically after the last DOWN log was taken.

Results are displayed in the table to the right side of the *Page* (Figure 83).

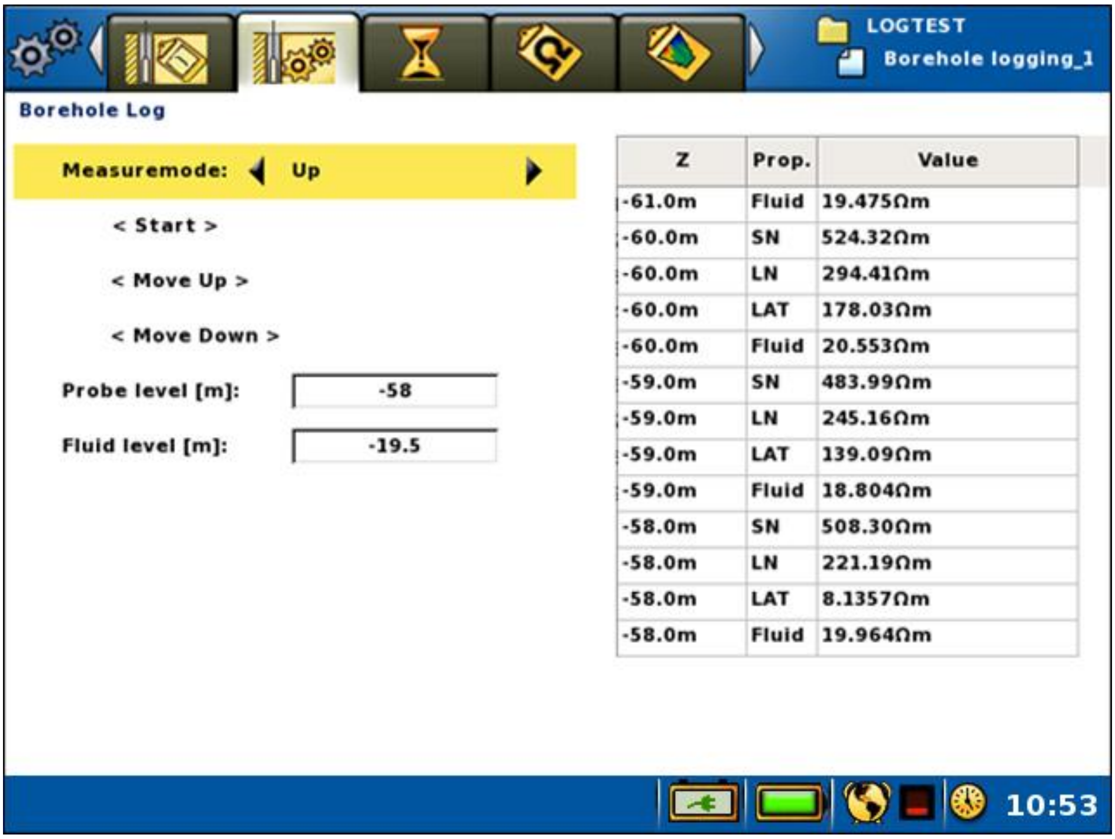


Figure 83 *Borehole Log Page – table filled with measured values*

7.2.3.6 Single value modes

These modes facilitate doing single value measurements, when appropriate. For example, when values might need to be measured one more time.

- Running single value borehole logging

  – Select the desired single value mode

  – Start a measurement

  The measured value will be shown in the table

Note! <Move Up> and <Move Down> can be used before and/or after doing a single value measurement.

7.3 Working with Borehole Logging Data

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX has a *Page* where the borehole logging data can be viewed as curves; this is the *"Measurement/Borehole Log Curve" Page* (Figure 84).

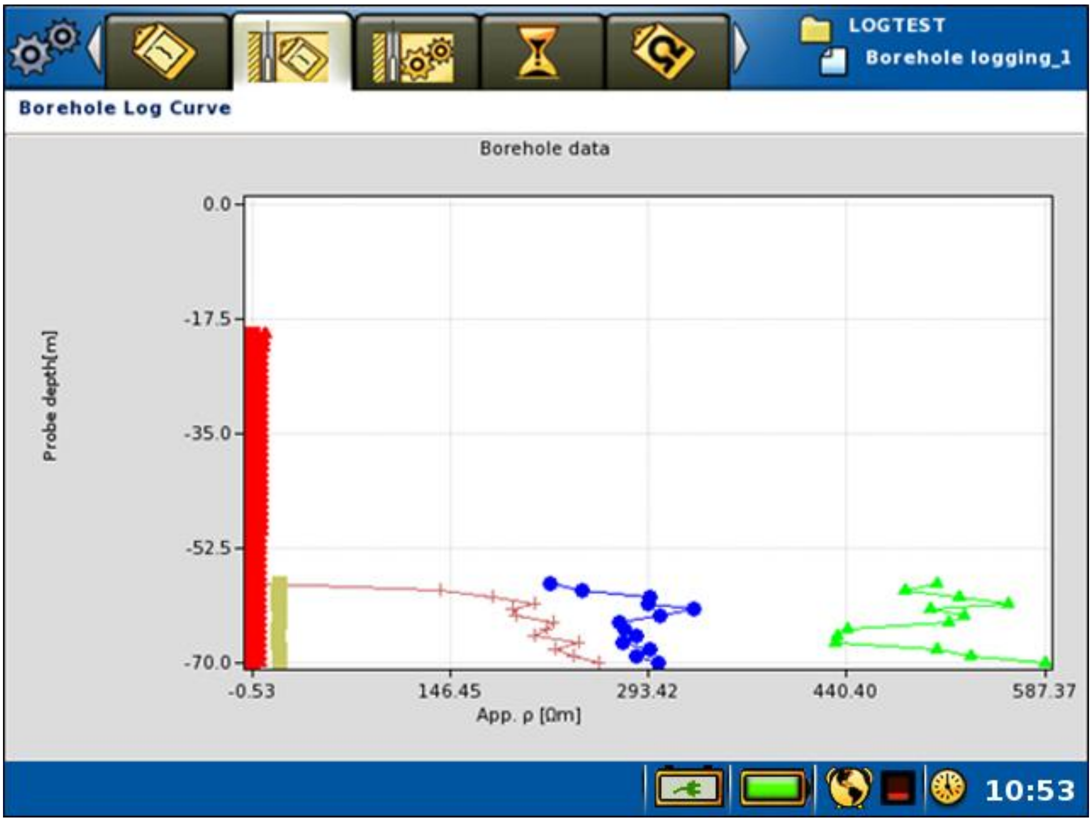


Figure 84 *Borehole Log Curve Page*

Legends used for the curves:

Variable	Icon
Temperature	Red squares
SP Voltage	Green triangles
Short Normal	Blue circles
Long Normal	Brown crosses
Long Lateral	Sand-yellow squares
Fluid Resistivity	Red triangles

The most commonly used data format for borehole measurements is LAS (Log ASCII Standard). It is normally recommended to download to the Terrameter Toolbox software first, and export to the desired format from there; however, the Terrameter has an option to export logging data in LAS format to a USB memory stick (see Chapter 10.2.2 Export a Task as a LAS File).

There is no need to run inversion on borehole data, the raw recorded values can be used. A variety of dedicated software can plot borehole data from LAS format files, allowing creation of interpretative log diagrams. For more basic presentation, general-purpose spreadsheet / graphing software (e.g. Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets or Golden Software Grapher) can be used for the plotting of data. This may require some editing of the data file, for example removing the part of the file before the data section.

More information about the LAS file format can be found at the following website *http://www.cwls.org/products/#products-las*.

8 2D ELECTRICAL IMAGING

The Terrameter VES MAX can run a 16 electrode spread without additional equipment. However, for full imaging capability on the Terrameter VES MAX and the Terrameter VES, an external ES10-64C unit is required to provide electrode switching. If this functionality is required it might be appropriate to consider upgrading the instrument to one of the full imaging models from the Terrameter range.

For more detail on imaging procedures, consult the ABEM Terrameter LS 2 User Manual or ABEM Quick Start Guides; the instrument software is the same on the VES and LS 2 instruments. These documents are available for download from the Guideline Geo website, either through the support section of the site or from the LS 2 product pages. It is also possible to scan the QR code on the Welcome screen of the Terrameter VES / VES MAX to access resources specific to resistivity survey.

9 CROSS-BOREHOLE TOMOGRAPHY

As with surface electrical imaging, a very limited version of borehole tomography, using just 16 electrodes could be undertaken with a Terrameter VES MAX. However, it would be more appropriate to utilise an external ES10-64C unit or to upgrade to a full imaging model from the Terrameter range.

For more information regarding borehole tomography, consult the ABEM Terrameter LS 2 User Manual or ABEM Quick Start Guides; the instrument software is the same on the VES and LS 2 instruments. These documents are available for download from the Guideline Geo website, either through the support section of the site or from the LS 2 product pages. It is also possible to scan the QR code on the Welcome screen of the Terrameter VES / VES MAX to access resources specific to resistivity survey.

10 POST-MEASUREMENT ACTIVITIES

10.1 Repacking the LS system

Cleaning and repacking the equipment properly will give your instrument a longer life. Below we have tried to specify key areas for maintenance of this instrument.

- Check that all pieces of equipment are collected from the field; a basic checklist is a simple means of keeping track of all the equipment.
- Clean each part thoroughly, if needed by washing and drying; check connectors for dirt and foreign objects.
- Always store the instrument dry in its original travelling package.
- If conditions were particularly wet, or you have washed the instrument, leave the instrument and accessory dust caps off for a while (once the equipment is in a dry location) to ensure connectors are fully free of moisture before storing the equipment.
- It is recommended to store the instrument with a charged internal battery to maximise battery longevity.

10.2 Export Measurement Data

To enable analysis and processing of the recorded data, it can be exported from the instrument in a variety of ways. The choices are exporting directly to a USB memory stick connected to the Terrameter, which is described in the following sub-Chapters, or by using the Terrameter Toolbox software package (via Ethernet or Wi-Fi connection), see Appendix D. *Terrameter Toolbox* overview.

Note!	It is strongly recommended for users to always transfer the *Project* database and store it for future use. It may turn out that more information than the standard export formats provide becomes desirable. Also, in case assistance is required from Guideline Geo's support department, you are likely to be asked to send the *Project* database file as it contains essential information for efficient instrument diagnostics.

10.2.1 Export a Task as a USF File

USF is the acronym for Universal Sounding Format which is an industry-standard file format suitable for VES data.

- Export as a USF file
    - Navigate to the "Projects/Task List" Page
    - Highlight the *Task* to export
    - Press <Options>
    - Highlight <Export task as USF> (Figure 85)
    - Press <OK>

Figure 85 *Task options menu*

Confirm that you want to export to the USB memory device (Figure 86).

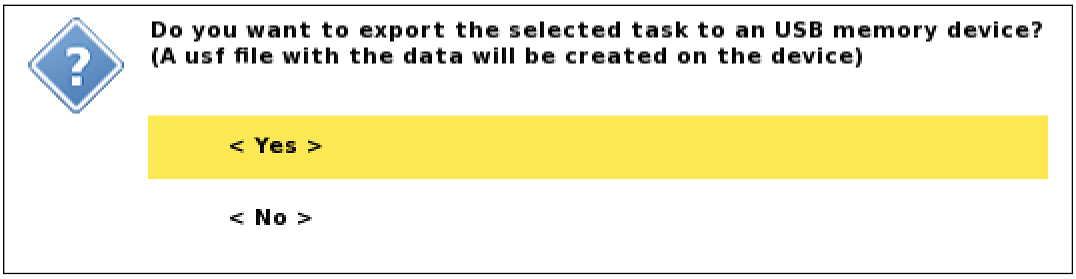


Figure 86 *Export task to USF confirmation dialog*

10.2.2 Export a Task as a LAS File

LAS is the acronym for “Log ASCII Standard” which is an industry-acknowledged file format suitable for borehole log data.

- Export as a LAS file
  - Navigate to the “Projects/Task List” Page
  - Highlight the *Task* to export
  - Press <Options> to open the *Task* options menu
  - Highlight <Export task as LAS> (Figure 87)
  - Press <OK>

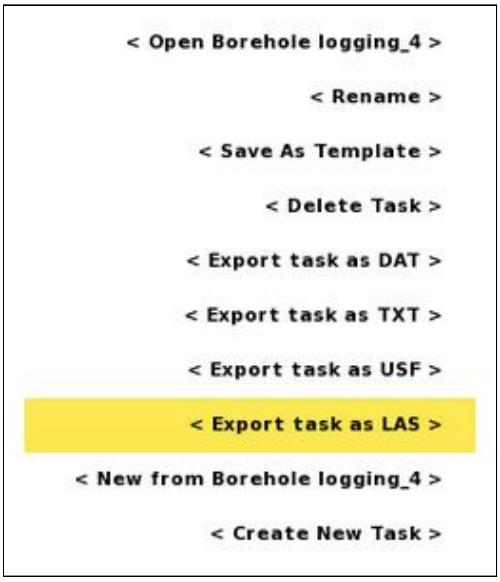


Figure 87 *Task options menu*

Confirm that you want to export to the USB memory device (Figure 88).

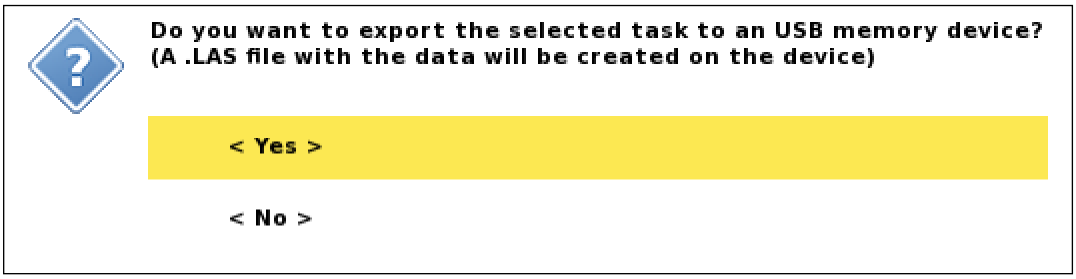


Figure 88 Export task to LAS confirmation dialog

10.2.3 Export a Task as a TXT (Text) File

- Export as a TXT file
  - Navigate to the “Projects/Task List” Page
  - Highlight the *Task* to export
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight <Export task as TXT> (Figure 89)
  - Press <OK>

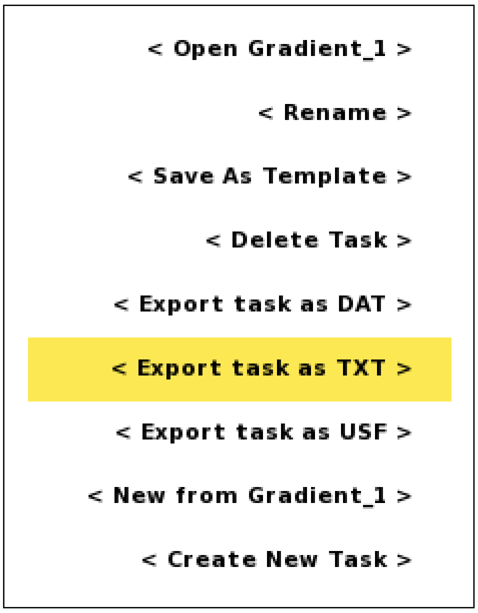


Figure 89 *Task options menu*

Confirm that you want to export to the USB memory device (Figure 90).

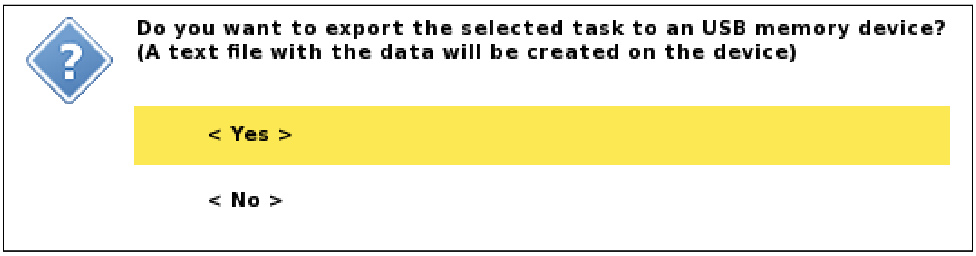


Figure 90 Export task to TXT confirmation dialog

10.2.4 Export a Task as a DAT File

Data can be exported as a DAT-file (Res2Dinv compatible format) to a PC via a USB memory stick connected to the USB port on the Terrameter, for analysis, processing and presentation.

- Export as a DAT file
  - Navigate to the “Projects/Task List” Page
  - Highlight the *Task* to export
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight <Export task as DAT> (Figure 91)
  - Press <OK>

Figure 91 *Task options menu*

Confirm that you want to export to the USB memory device (Figure 92).

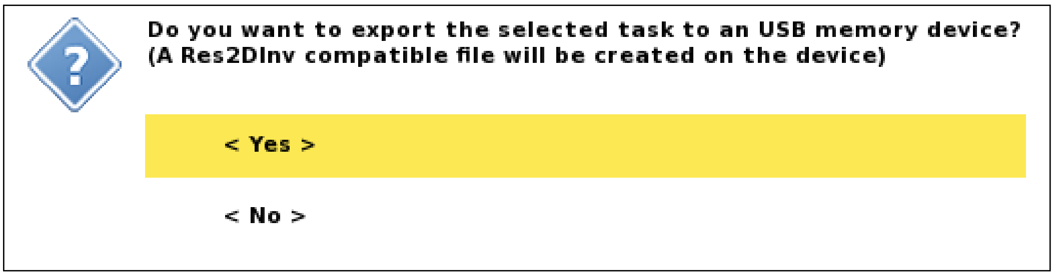


Figure 92 *Export task to DAT confirmation dialog*

Note!	If there is no USB memory device inserted, or there is a problem with the device, the export options will be greyed out.

10.2.5 Export a Project

A complete *Project* can be exported to a USB memory stick or disk drive. This will copy the *Project* database which can then be read into the Terrameter Toolbox software package. If tasks were acquired including full waveform data then all files associated with this will be copied as well.

Note!	Exporting *Projects* with full waveform data may take several minutes, or even tens of minutes for larger *Projects*, and it is often a better option to copy the data via Terrameter Toolbox and an Ethernet or Wi-Fi connection instead.

- Export a *Project*
  - Navigate to the "Projects/Project List" Page
  - Highlight the *Project* to export
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight <Export Project> (Figure 93)
  - Press <OK>

Confirm that you want to export to the USB memory device (Figure 94).

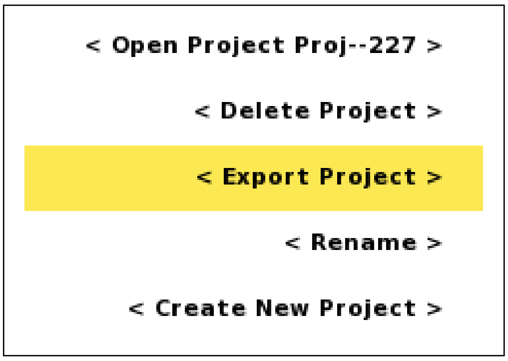


Figure 93 *Project options menu*

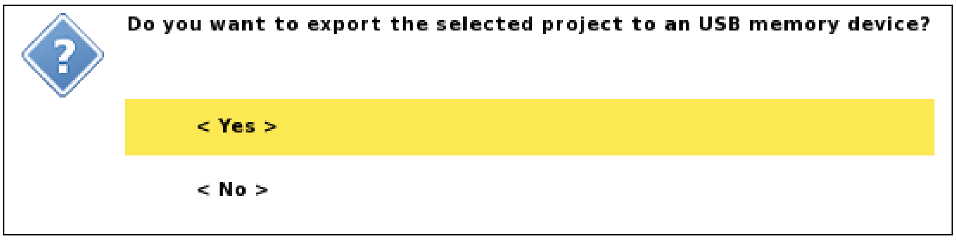


Figure 94 *Export Project confirmation dialog*

10.3 Delete a Project

- Deleting a *Project*
  - Navigate to the "Projects/Project List" Page
  - Highlight the *Project* to delete
  - Press <Options>
  - Highlight <Delete Project> (Figure 95, overleaf)
  - Press <OK>

Confirm that you want to delete the *Project* (Figure 96, overleaf).

Warning! This will delete all data in the *Project* permanently! Be sure to have a back-up or archive in place as it will not be possible to recover the files once deleted.

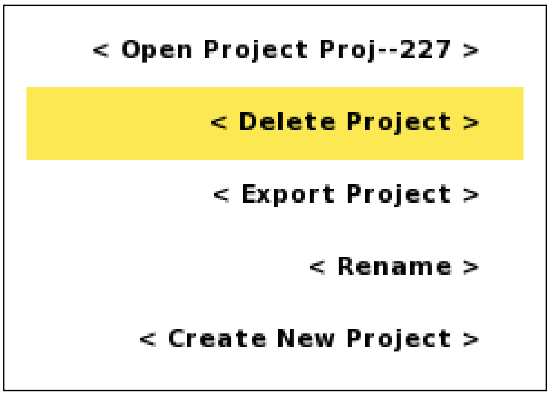


Figure 95 *Project options menu*

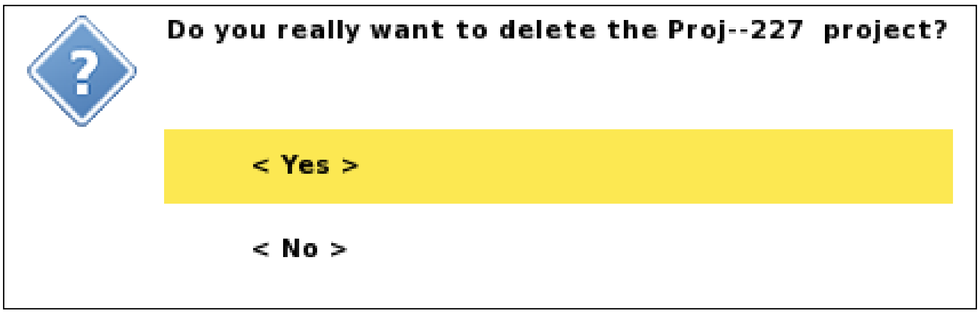


Figure 96 *Delete confirmation dialog*

11 TESTING, DIAGNOSTICS AND FAULT FINDING

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX has built-in self-test and calibration of the major functions, including input boards, transmitter and relay switch (Terrameter VES MAX). Test results are automatically logged for quality assurance purposes, and any malfunction reported to the operator. Temperature and power supply voltage is constantly monitored and logged.

11.1 Self Test

A self test can be carried out which will run measurements across internal reference circuits to determine that the recording channels and transmitter are working correctly. The test is carried out in the following way:

1. Disconnect all electrode cables or other devices connected to the input panel.
2. Navigate to the *"Settings/Receiver" Page* and set:
   - "Mode" to "RES" (other settings are not important)
3. Navigate to the *"Settings/Transmitter" Page* and set:
   - "Electrode Test" to "No"
   - "Maximum Voltage" to "600"
   - "Minimum Current" to "1mA"
   - "Max Current" must be selected according to the quality of the available power supply. If the power output is limited (i.e. the included Terrameter Office Power Supply) it is acceptable to run with, for instance, 50 mA. If a suitable source of power is available (e.g. 12 Volt battery or optional ABEM Power Adapter) current values up to 2500mA can be selected and a more complete self-test will be achieved.
4. Create a new *Task* and select the spread "LS internal" and the protocol "Selftest".
5. Start the measuring procedure.
6. Voltage measurements are taken with each available measurement channel across the built-in reference voltages, which have been chosen to trigger the different measurement ranges. Furthermore, resistance measurements are taken through built-in 1.5 Ohm and 33 kOhm resistors.
7. After measuring is completed, the results can be exported as a text-file for inspection and as quality assurance documentation. The nominal values for each channel are shown in the text-file with the "note" column indicating which test each line refers to. Note that the test resistors are not precision resistors and deviations in the range of 10% from the nominal value are normal.

Warning!	Do not run a self test using the office power supply; a 12V battery or the ABEM Power Adapter (10-006021) are recommended.

11.2 Cable Isolation Test – Terrameter VES MAX only

A cable isolation test is used to check there is no contact between the individual strands of wire within the spread cables, or between the pins in the connectors. This unwanted connection can be due to breaks in the insulation around the strands, moisture or dirt between the pins, or burns on the connectors from short-circuits due to that moisture/dirt.

HIGH VOLTAGES WILL BE PRESENT ON THE ELECTRODE TAKE-OUTS DURING THIS TEST. MAKE SURE NOBODY AND NOTHING TOUCHES THE ELECTRODE CABLE(S) DURING THE CABLE ISOLATION TEST.

A cable isolation test can be carried out as follows:

1. Electrode cables to be tested should be connected, one at a time, to “Connector 1” on the end panel of the instrument.
2. Make sure that nothing else is connected to the cable and that the electrode take-outs do not touch each other or anything else, including personnel.
3. Create a new *Task* and select the spread “CableTest” and the protocol “CableIsolationTest”.
4. Navigate to the *“Settings/Transmitter” Page* and make sure that “Electrode Test” is set to “Yes”.
5. Start the measuring procedure, which will start with the electrode contact test.
6. Navigate to the *“Measure/Electrodes” Page* to check the result of the test. If the cable is Ok there should **not** be contact on any of the electrodes along the cable(s); that is, the text in the *Ohm* column should read “*No contact*” for all electrodes. If there is any connection (see Figure 97) there is a problem with the cable.
7. By disconnecting the cables and re-running the test, it is possible to assess the instrument panel connectors themselves for isolation. The result should indicate “*No contact*” on all measurements for a successful test.

S	Takeout	Pos	Ohm	Status
	CableTest	0;0;0		
	1			
	1-1	0;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-2	2;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-3	4;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-4	6;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-5	8;0;0	8.09 O Ok	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-6	10;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-7	12;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-8	14;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-9	16;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-10	18;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-11	20;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-12	22;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-13	24;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-14	26;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)
	1-15	28;0;0	*No contact*	(AB:1 MN:1)

Figure 97 *The Electrodes Page showing the result for a faulty cable*

11.3 Remote Diagnostics

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX can be connected to ABEM for remote diagnostics over a VPN (Virtual Private Network). To connect the instrument to our VPN you need a standard Ethernet based TCP/IP LAN (Local Area Network) that is connected to the Internet (Figure 98). The instrument is connected to the LAN with a RJ-45 cable. It is advisable to connect the instrument to the network before it is switched on.

If the LAN has a DHCP service, the instrument will acquire an IP number and most likely the other required network settings from the DHCP server when the network service starts. Note that the DHCP server must allow unregistered MAC addresses. If it does not, the instrument's MAC address must be registered in it. Please contact your local network administrator if this is necessary. To find the instrument's MAC, see the *"Instrument/Network" Page*.

Restrictions: The LAN router or firewall must not block outgoing traffic on port 1194, and must allow incoming traffic that is initiated from inside the LAN to be returned to the instrument. Further, if the LAN is using NAT, it must not use the private IP network 10.17.23.x since the VPN will be using it. Most office LANs will meet these specifications.

If you are not familiar with the terminology in this section, and experience problems with the connection, please contact your local network administrator.

The instrument automatically tries to establish a secure network connection to the ABEM support server. This will succeed if the instrument has a network connection that allows VPN communication with the ABEM office *www.abemoffice.com* and port 1194.

A successful connection will add a tun0 line on the network information page:

```
eth0 : 192.168.10.64
tun0 : 10.17.23.26
```
The "tun0" address is provided to a Terrameter from the support server

Please note: Some countries/companies have firewall rules that blocks access to this type of service.

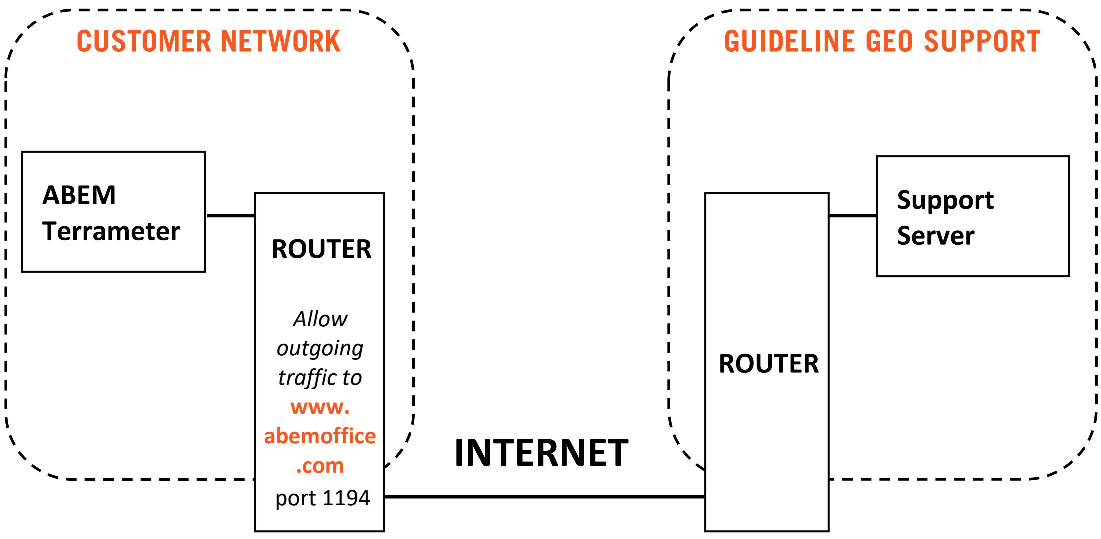


Figure 98 *Remote diagnostics over VPN*

11.4 In Case of Malfunction

In case of malfunction please carry out applicable tests as described in this manual. If it is not possible to find the cause of the problem, send a description of the issues via e-mail to *support@guidelinegeo.com*. Any communication with the Support department should include instrument type, serial number and, if possible, the original ABEM order number. Be prepared that support engineers may request a copy of the project database from the time of the problem (for details on downloading this see Appendix D. *Terrameter Toolbox* overview), or for the instrument to be connected to the internet to carry out testing; follow the instructions in Chapter 11.3 Remote Diagnostics.

Should a fault occur that cannot be resolved on site, instructions on returning the instrument will be supplied. Freight to Guideline Geo must be prepaid. For damage or repairs outside the terms of the ABEM warranty, Guideline Geo will submit an estimate before undertaking any remedial work.

Be sure to fill in the warranty registration card (included with the equipment) correctly and return it to Guideline Geo promptly. This will help us process any claims that need to be made under the warranty. It will also help us keeping you informed about any software and firmware upgrades made available through our downloads page. ABEM welcomes your response and feedback at any time but please let us know your name and address, and the serial number of the instrument.

12 APPENDIX A. MEASUREMENT MODES

In SP, Resistivity and IP data acquisition, it is essential to suppress various types of noise from sources such as electrode polarisation, telluric currents, electrical distribution networks and industry. Terrameters are equipped with sigma-delta AD-converters which have some built-in low-pass filtering and excellent noise suppression. However, low-pass filtering cannot be used in its standard form for IP measurements, since it would colour early time IP data strongly. Instead, proprietary signal processing is used to suppress noise whilst, at the same time, resolving early time IP decay signals. The following parameter definitions are used:

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION
Powerline frequency	To be set to match local power net grid (50Hz or 60Hz)
Delay time	Delay from current turn-on until measuring starts (for instance 300ms / 0.3s)
Acquisition time	Integration time (for instance 500ms = 25 samples @ 50Hz)
Number of IP windows	Number of time windows within which signal integration is used to record chargeability (for instance 10)
IP delay time	Delay from current turn-off until IP measuring starts (for instance 10ms / 0.01s)
IP integration time(n)	Signal integration time for a given IP time window (for instance 20ms / 0.02s), later windows should, ideally, have longer periods.

The measuring cycles used in DC resistivity and time domain IP surveying eliminate zero shifts by taking the average of data measured on positive and negative current pulse. Furthermore, the measuring cycles are inherently designed to minimise errors due to variation in background potentials during the measuring cycle.

12.1 Self-Potential (SP)

Self-potential measurements are done by simply integrating input voltages over the specified acquisition time interval and, if so selected, stacking and averaging the results. Care should be taken to select the base frequency and acquisition time so that sufficient averaging and noise suppression is achieved.

In areas likely to be affected by 16 2/3 Hz noise from railway power supply (some areas of Northern Europe) it is essential to select an acquisition time that is a multiple of 60 milliseconds to suppress such noise purely though the averaging process as there is no in-built filtering for this frequency of sinusoidal noise. This applies to resistivity and IP data acquisition as well.

Self-potential survey must be undertaken using non-polarising electrodes to eliminate the (relatively large compared to SP effects) voltages generated by pushing steel electrodes into the ground. With non-polarizing electrodes, the solid metal element of the electrode is surrounded by a conductive fluid or compound which is what contacts with the ground and allows the voltage to be measured.

12.2 Resistivity: “RES” Measurement Mode

In the case of resistivity measurement, the measuring cycle consists of a positive, a double negative and again a positive current pulse (Figure 99). By averaging the measured voltages, any zero-offset and all linear drift during the measuring cycle is eliminated.

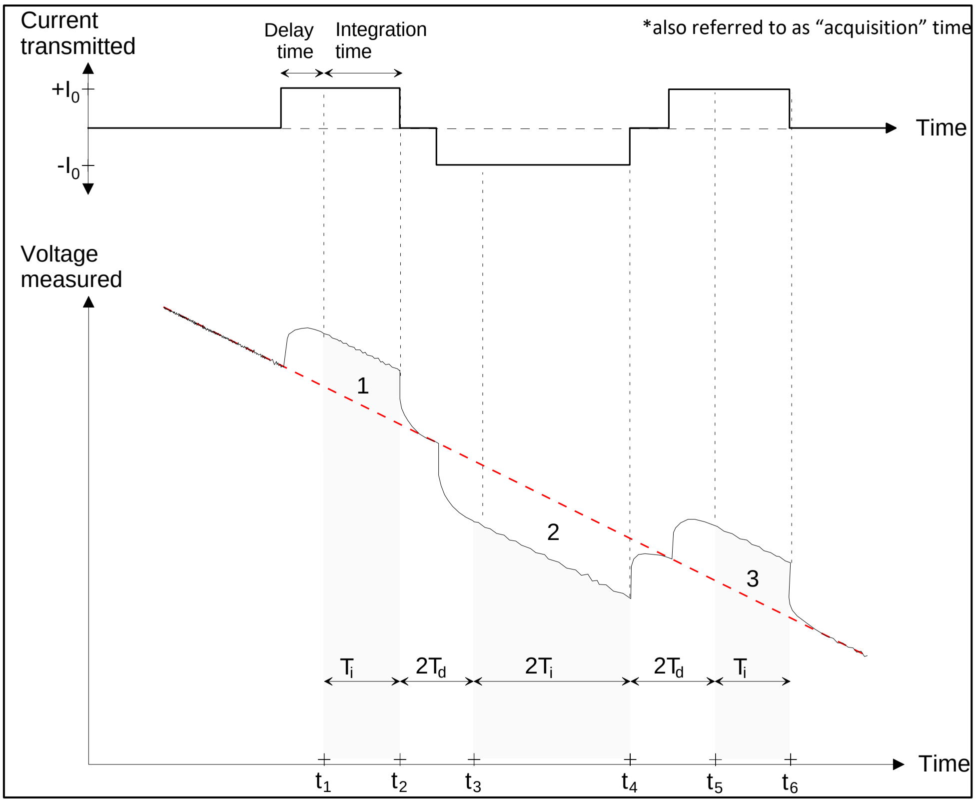


Figure 99 *Resistivity measuring cycle timing definitions, after Krill (Krill P. 1979. JRM2 - ett jordresistansmätande instrument. Report AE1-79, Physics Department, Lund University)*

12.3 Induced Polarisation (IP): "RES, IP" Measurement Mode

In the case of time domain IP measuring one positive and one negative current pulse is usually employed. These are typically symmetrically timed but as a minimum the IP off time should be equal to the current on time. It is then necessary to measure the background voltage levels before and after the current pulses and IP recording periods, and use that for removing drift during the measuring cycle (Figure 100). Failure to do so can lead to a magnitude increase in measurement errors within the resistivity data.

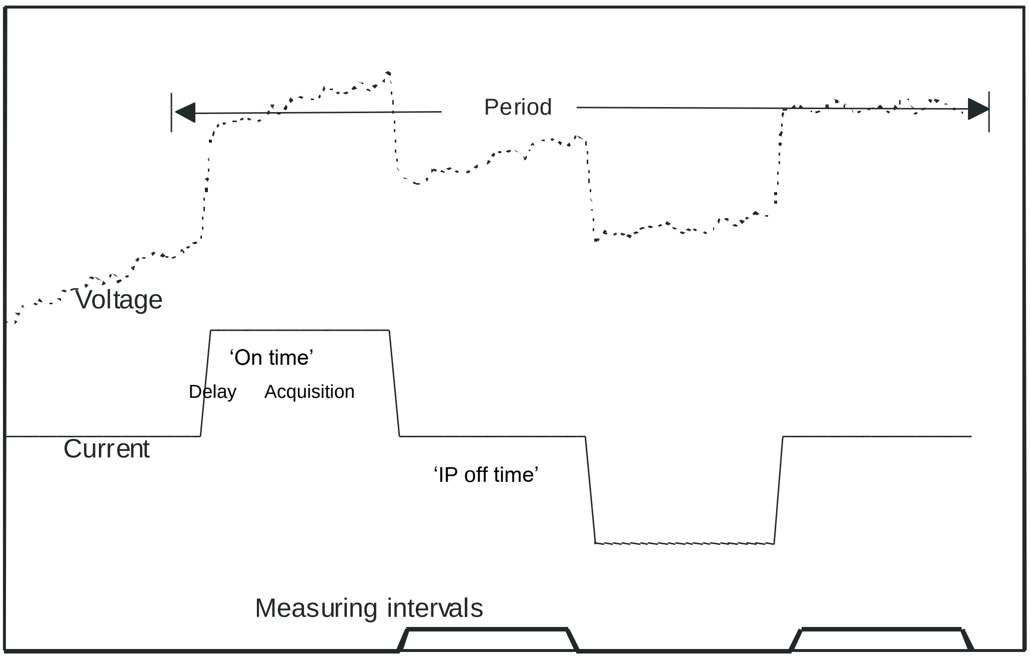


Figure 100 IP measuring cycle timing definitions

12.4 Induced Polarisation (IP): "RES, IP100" Measurement Mode

The ABEM Terrameter LS 2 was the world's first commercial resistivity meter to incorporate the innovative and efficient 100% duty cycle IP measurement mode. This form of IP measurement removes the 'off time' and, instead, extracts the IP effects from the current change-over phases between positive and negative (or negative and positive) current pulses. This provides a larger IP effect to record and faster measurements affording more opportunities to stack the results, all of which results in a better signal to noise ratio.

The following pages present the content of a white paper, written by Guideline Geo, to accompany the launch of the "IP100" feature in 2016.

12.4.1 White Paper Extract: Increased Data Quality by Super-positioning the Signal

During resistivity and IP measurements the current transmission polarity is switched in order to remove ground SP (spontaneous potential) effects, which could otherwise cause an offset in recorded voltage values.

For IP using 50 % duty cycle, one cycle will consist of a positive ON time, an OFF time, a negative ON time and an OFF time. It is assumed that the ground has been completely discharged after the OFF time so, after each polarity switch, the charge-up effect is starting from zero. The voltage values in the IP decay are typically very small and can, in some situations, be difficult to differentiate from background noise.

IP using 100 % duty cycle has no OFF time, and one cycle will consist of a positive ON time, a negative ON time and a positive ON time. This means that at the polarity switch (positive to negative, and negative to positive) the ground will be discharged and charged at the same time. By super-positioning the discharge and charge-up (summing up the two effects) the result is a bigger IP response. With this bigger IP response, the signal to noise ratio (SNR) is increased, producing better data quality as it becomes easier to differentiate the IP decay from the background noise.

12.4.2 White Paper Extract: Time-efficient IP Measurements Using 100 % Duty Cycle

The previous ABEM Terrameter LS, as most field resistivity/IP instruments, uses the time domain method to collect IP data. This method has traditionally used what is called a 50 % duty cycle - this means that measurement periods are divided into two equal parts. During the first part, the ON time, current is transmitted into the ground to charge it. During the second part, the OFF time, no current transmission is made, instead the instrument measures how the voltage decays as the ground discharges. During the ON time resistivity data are measured and during the OFF time IP data are measured (Figure 101, left).

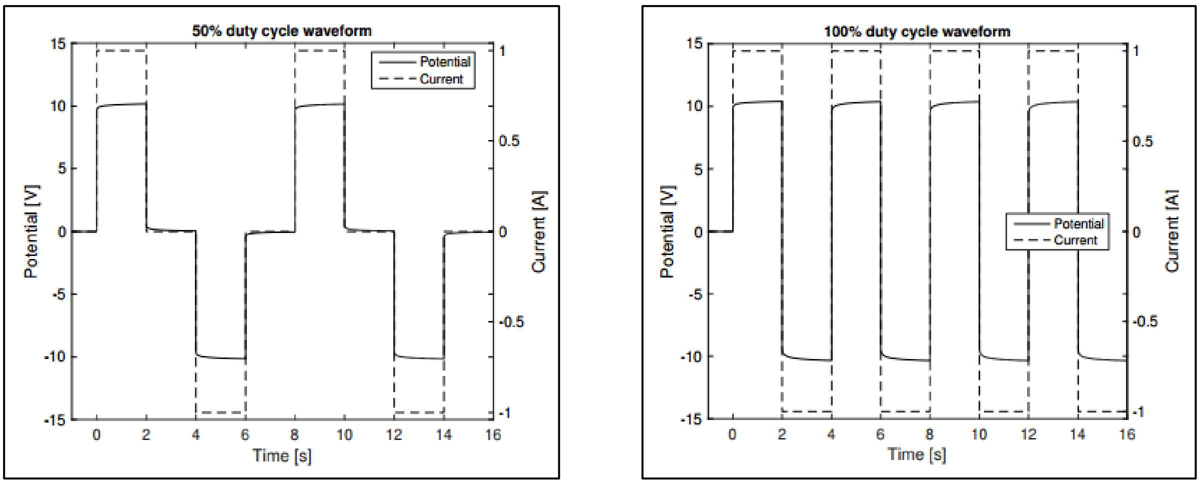


Figure 101 *To the left, a 50 % duty cycle measurement using two stacks (repetitions) can be seen. To the right is a 100 % duty cycle measurement using the same ON time as the 50% example but eight pulses can now be measured in the same time that only 4 pulses were achieved with the 50 % duty cycle.*

With the current ABEM Terrameters it is possible to measure IP using 100 % duty cycle. This means that there is no OFF time, and that current is always transmitted into the ground. Instead of measuring IP when the ground is discharging, IP will now be measured during the early part of the ON time as the ground is being charged (Figure 101, right). With this new measure mode both resistivity data and IP data will be measured during the ON time, and the OFF time is not needed. By removing the requirement for an OFF period, it is now possible to measure IP twice as fast as with the traditional IP method.

12.4.3 White Paper Extract: Exponential SP Background Removal for Increased Accuracy

Uncorrected SP effects can introduce errors in the calculation of resistivity and IP data. For that reason resistivity/IP meters normally use what is called linear SP trend removal. This means that before and after each measurement stack, SP samples are taken and any changes in the SP values can be detected. If the SP value has changed, the SP effect will be removed by using the two SP samples from the start and the end of the measurement cycle to create a linear background trend that is used to estimate the zero level when integrating the results.

The linear SP trend removal works very well if the SP changes are small, or vary at a steady rate. But if the SP changes are non-linear or larger in size, the linear SP trend removal will not be ideal and will result in a difference between the integrated and the actual resistivity/IP value. The measured IP signals are typically very small, and introducing this error in the calculated IP value can have a big effect on the reliability of the final model. In the new IP measure mode an exponential SP trend removal has been implemented (Figure 102). This means that non-linear SP changes can be measured much more precisely and will be incorporated in the resistivity and IP integration for a more accurate result.

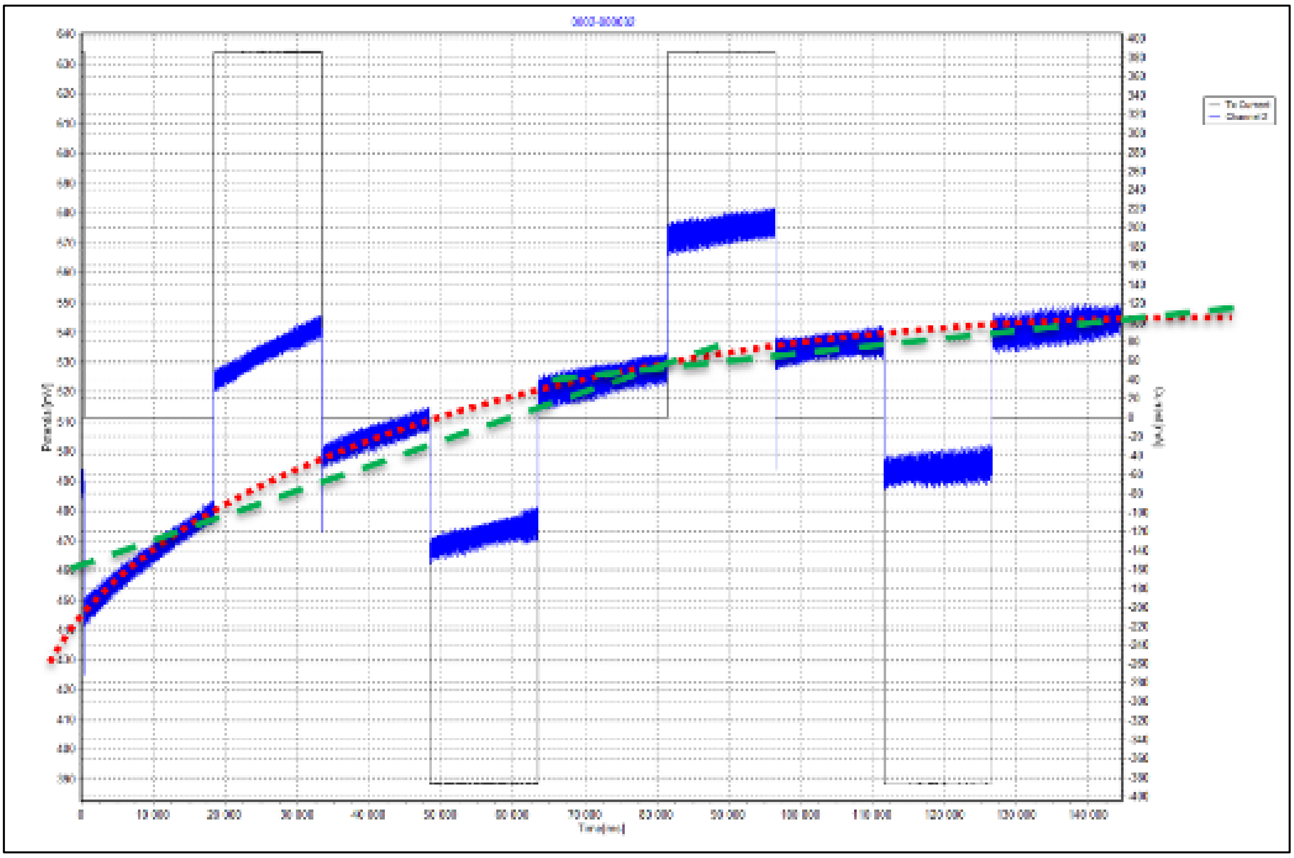


Figure 102 *Full waveform data showing (in blue) the measured input voltage, strongly affected by non-linear SP effects. The green dashed line represents how a linear SP trend removal would have worked to estimate the zero level and there is a distinct difference from the actual SP variation and the calculated SP effect, especially in the first part of the measurement. The red dotted line represents an exponential SP trend removal, which produces a much better fit to the actual SP effect*

12.4.4 White Paper Extract: Input Channel Filters Optimized for IP

The input channels of the current ABEM Terrameters have been changed in order to give a higher bandwidth for IP data. The new filter design allows for inclusion of more low and high frequency IP components in the calculations than the previous Terrameter LS. This means that the Terrameter VES / VES MAX can start measuring IP decays earlier after current turn off, and that measurements are improved during very long IP times.

12.4.5 White Paper Extract: Additional IP Parameters and Processing Available in Aarhus Workbench

Traditionally IP data have been processed and inversed as an integral IP data set. This means that even if multiple IP windows have been used for increased decay information when measuring, the modelling software will handle the data as if only one, very long, IP window was used. This severely limits the scope for quality evaluation as well as the processing and interpretation possibilities. This 'simplification' of the IP decay may also negatively impact upon the end result in terms of model accuracy.

Using Aarhus Workbench with the ERT/IP modules the full decay data, using all IP windows, will be analysed. This gives a much better view and understanding of the data quality. The IP decay is represented graphically, showing each IP window. In the data processing it is possible to exclude an entire decay curve or, if only parts of the IP decay are affected, individual IP windows can be excluded whilst good segments can still be used.

In all other modelling software for time domain IP data, the IP result can only be represented as chargeability. For frequency domain IP (sometimes called spectral IP) two additional parameters, C and Tau, have been used to fit the IP signal and model the data. These parameters have previously only been available from frequency domain IP data, but Aarhus Workbench is currently the only commercially available software offering this capability for time domain IP data by using Cole-Cole parametrization. Applications for Tau and C values are currently the subject of much research, but potential uses include gaining additional information about the geology, such as grain size and fluid conductivity.

12.4.6 White Paper Extract: Advantages of IP Using 100 % Duty Cycle

The three biggest advantages are:

- Using a 100 % duty cycle, IP data can be collected twice as fast as when using the 'standard' 50 % duty cycle.
- As the signal to noise ratio is twice as high using the new method, IP data quality will be much better than before.
- Exponential SP trend removal makes the IP calculations more accurate.

These are important factors which strengthen the argument that external high power transmitters are not always necessary.

The advantages with Aarhus Workbench ERT/IP for IP data

- Better quality control as the entire IP decay can be seen
- Better processing possibilities as individual sections (IP windows) can be excluded if necessary
- Uses Cole-Cole or Constant Phase Angle analysis for better IP modelling
- Two additional IP parameters, C and Tau (if using Cole-Cole parametrization)

To make full use of the advantages with the new measure mode in the ABEM Terrameters, Aarhus Workbench is a great tool. The other commercially available inversion software cannot process and model IP data in the same way.

12.4.7 White Paper Extract: References

IP using 100 % duty cycle along with the additional processing are methods and processes that have been developed by Aarhus University and Lund University. The work done by Guideline Geo is to implement parts of this novel method into the ABEM Terrameters. For more information and research papers we refer to publications of Aarhus University and Lund University.

Olsson, P-I. (2016). *Optimization of time domain induced polarization data acquisition and spectral information content.* Lund

http://lup.lub.lu.se/record/96ceed10-1a56-4696-8438-06e38e53ce69

Olsson, P. I., T. Dahlin, G. Fiandaca, and E. Auken. Measuring time-domain spectral induced polarization in the on-time: decreasing acquisition time and increasing signal-to-noise ratio. Journal of Applied Geophysics, 2015, 123, 6. 2015.

http://www.hgg.geo.au.dk/ref_manager/OLSSON2015.pdf

Olsson, P-I., Fiandaca, G., Larsen, J. J., Dahlin, T., & Auken, E. (2016). Doubling the spectrum of time-domain induced polarization by harmonic de-noising, drift correction, spike removal, tapered gating, and data uncertainty estimation. Geophysical Journal International, 207(2), 774-784. DOI: 10.1093/gji/ggw260

http://lup.lub.lu.se/record/c787b051-c55c-46e7-bbc1-c1c3feb1fbc8

For a full list of publications see Aarhus University and Lund University web sites.

13 APPENDIX C. SPREAD AND MEASURING SEQUENCE FILES

13.1 General

The measurement process is controlled via spread (layout) description files and protocol (measuring sequence) files. A protocol file must always refer to a spread description file and, in some cases, a protocol file may be compatible with (and therefore reference) multiple different spread description files.

The same protocol files can be used for instruments with different specifications, for example, numbers of available channels. Therefore, the same protocol can be used for an instrument with 1, 2, 4, 8, 10 or 12 channels. It may, however, be possible that protocol files using different strategies for optimising the use of the channels are most suited for the different versions of the instrument.

Spread and protocol files are in XML format and consequently will have an XML filename extension. XML is a text-based code that allows for simple structuring of data and information. It utilises 'flags' to group information together, with an opening flag < *xxxxx* > and a closing flag </*xxxxx*> at either end of the information string, where "*xxxxx*" can be anything provided it matches between the opening and closing flags. Flag pairs can be nested *within* other flagged data to group together different strings of information which share something in common. To see this in the context of the Terrameter spread and protocol files see Chapter 13.2 *Spread Description Files in XML-format*.

There are numerous programs available for editing XML files. A basic text editor such, as Microsoft Notepad is sufficient but using a dedicated XML editor is recommended. There are several dedicated XML editors available on the market and one free alternative is XML Marker. It can be downloaded from *www.symbolclick.com*

A list of common measuring sequence and protocol files can be found in Chapter 13.1.2 *Examples of Typical Measuring* Sequence Files.

13.1.1 Examples of Typical Spread Files

A number of standard, applicable spread files are supplied with the Terrameter. It should be noted that additional files can be added from a 'library' installed with Terrameter Toolbox. This software is also the easiest way to add custom spread files.

Name	Description
VES C1C2P1P2	Uses the individual connectors on the end panel for VES or other basic 4-electrode measurements.
1xBreakout Box	Designed for use with the ABEM Terrameter Breakout Box, for making custom connections.
2x21 / 4x21	Set of 2 / 4 electrode cables with 21 take-outs each, and a 1 take-out overlap between the two cables.
2x24	Set of 2 electrode cables with 24 take-outs each, both laid in the same direction (i.e. take-out numbers always increasing along profile), and no take-out overlap.
2x32 mirrored	Set of 2 electrode cables with 32 take-outs each, laid in opposite directions (with the low-numbered take-outs closest to the instrument), and no take-out overlap.
2x12 / 4x12	Set of 2 / 4 electrode cables with 12 take-outs each, all laid in the same direction (i.e. take-out numbers always increasing along profile), and no take-out overlap.

13.1.2 Examples of Typical Measuring Sequence Files

A number of standard measuring sequence (protocol) files are supplied with all Terrameter spread files. It should be noted that additional files can be added from a 'library' installed with Terrameter Toolbox. This software is also the easiest way to add custom spread files.

Name	Description
Schlumberger	The most efficient protocol for VES. Second only to Wenner for signal-to-noise ratio, so can also be useful when targeting particularly deep features. In ERT, excellent for delimiting broad, horizontal layers not so good at defining limits of vertical or laterally confined features.
Wenner	Good signal quality but less efficient than Schlumberger for VES as all electrodes need to be moved for every measurement. It has the best signal-to-noise ratio of the electrode configurations listed here. In ERT, excellent for delimiting broad, horizontal layers not so good at defining limits of vertical or laterally confined features.
Dipole-dipole	Rarely used for VES, but it is possible; useful if IP is required as there is a greater separation between potential and current electrodes. Poor signal-to-noise ratio, means this protocol can be problematic in electrically 'noisy' environments or if targeting particularly deep targets. In ERT, excellent for targeting vertical or laterally-confined features, but not so good at defining horizontal layering. Rapid for ERT as it is a multi-channel compatible array.
Gradient	For 2D ERT work, Guideline Geo recommends using multiple gradient, as it provides a good compromise between the above protocol characteristics. It has good signal-to-noise ratio, is multi-channel compatible, and provides good definition of horizontal and vertical structures.
Pole-dipole/Pole-pole	Both of these array types offer attractive spread length-to-depth ratios; in other words, you can image much deeper with a particular spread of electrodes. However, they require remote electrodes (one for pole-dipole and two for pole-pole), and these must be positioned at a great distance from the spread (~20 times the largest current-potential probe separation) which makes them impractical in many scenarios. They can be useful for 3D measurements where the spread of electrodes may be quite limited.

13.1.3 Standard Test and Diagnostic Protocols

A number of standard test and diagnostic protocols are supplied with Terrameter. The following files are included (see Chapter 11 *Testing, Diagnostics and Fault Finding* for test details):

Spread	Protocol(s)
LS Internal	Selftest
Cable Test	Continuity Test, Isolation Test, x12 Cable Joint Test, x16 Cable Joint Test, x21 Cable Joint Test
VES C1C2P1P2	Simple RES

13.2 Spread Description Files in XML-format

The spread description files define the hardware configuration for a measurement. A spread description file can be as simple as specifying how the C1, C2, P1 and P2 terminals on the end panel are connected to the internal receiver and transmitter or it can be more complex and include parameters such as number of electrode cables, number of electrode take-outs per cable, roll-along direction and step size. It also contains details on the wiring between electrode take-outs and the physical relay switch channels (which equate to pins on the connectors).

The files are relatively self-explanatory, since XML-format is used but, in brief:

- <Cable>...</Cable> defines details of one electrode cable and definitions of all electrodes (see below) belonging to that cable must be defined within the same <Cable> section.
- <Id>...</Id> is the electrode number that the protocol files will refer to when selecting electrodes.
- <X>...</X>refers to the position of the electrode along the spread in terms of number of electrode spacing steps (relative electrode spacing).
- <Name>...</Name> is the text shown on the instrument when referring to a spread, cable or electrode.
- <SwitchAddress>...</SwitchAddress> defines how the electrode is connected to the relay switch; in other words, which pin on the end panel.
- <SwitchId>...<SwitchId> specifies whether the internal relay switch is used or which of the external switches (ES10-64C units) is required. The default is "0" which refers to the internal relay switch, and this is assumed if this string is not present.
- Imaging spread also contain reference to "Stations" which are how we define the relative position of the spread (i.e. where is the first electrode positioned along the intended survey line) and this is used primarily to pre-define roll-along steps.

For VES measurements there is a slight variation which is that all electrodes are connected to the end-panel of the instrument and this is treated as a single "Cable" containing 4 electrodes. A typical VES spread is as follows:

```
<Spread>                                          - Defines this as a spread file
  <Name> VES C1C2P1P2 </Name>                     - Name that will appear in the Create New Task dialog
  <Description> 4-probe VES </Description>        - Description of what the file contains, for reference only
  <Cable>                                         - Defines the start of a "Cable" description
    <Name> LS Panel </Name>                       - As this is a VES spread, all electrodes connect to the end-panel
    <Electrode>                                   - Defines details of the first electrode
      <Id> 1 </Id>                                - This number is used in the protocol to select this electrode
      <X> -0.5 </X>                               - For VES, position is irrelevant, it is defined absolutely in protocol
      <Name> C1 </Name>                           - Name that will appear on the instrument menus and data displays
      <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>                    - Defines that this electrode is connected to the end-panel
      <SwitchAddress> 1 </SwitchAddress>          - Defines the address on the end panel for this electrode
    </Electrode>                                  - Closes the description of this first electrode
    <Electrode>                                   - Signals the start of the next electrode's details
      <Id> 2 </Id>
      <X> 0 </X>
      <Name> C2 </Name>
      <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
      <SwitchAddress> 2 </SwitchAddress>
    </Electrode>
    <Electrode>
      <Id> 3 </Id>
      <X> 500 </X>
      <Name> P1 </Name>
      <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
      <SwitchAddress> 3 </SwitchAddress>
    </Electrode>
    <Electrode>
      <Id> 4 </Id>
      <X> -500.3 </X>
      <Name> P2 </Name>
      <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
      <SwitchAddress> 4 </SwitchAddress>
    </Electrode>                                  - Closes the description of the final electrode
  </Cable>                                        - Closes the description of the cable (end-panel)
</Spread>                                         - Closes the spread file
```

By comparison, the imaging spread files are longer. The initial part of a 2x32 spread file, as far as the second electrode, is shown below:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
  <Spread>
  <Name> 2x32 </Name>
  <Description> Spread of 2x32 take-out cables (no electrode overlap) </Description>

  <CreateStation>
    <Name> 2 cables no move </Name>
    <X> 0 </X>
  </CreateStation>

  <CreateStation>
    <Name> 1 cable forward </Name>
    <X> 32 </X>
  </CreateStation>

  <CreateStation>
    <Name> 1 cable backwards </Name>
    <X> -32 </X>
  </CreateStation>

  <Cable>
    <Name> 1 </Name>
    <Electrode>
      <Id> 1 </Id>
      <X> 0 </X>
      <Name> 1-1 </Name>
      <SwitchAddress> 1 </SwitchAddress>
    </Electrode>
    <Electrode>
      <Id> 2 </Id>
      <X> 1 </X>
      <Name> 1-2 </Name>
      <SwitchAddress> 2 </SwitchAddress>
    </Electrode>
```

If an external relay switch (ES10-64C) is used, the spread description must also define this by adding the <SwitchId> as shown in this example:

```
<Cable>
  <Name> 5 </Name>
  <Electrode>
    <Id> 65 </Id>
    <X> 64 </X>
    <Name> 5-1 </Name>
    <SwitchId> 2 </SwitchId>
    <SwitchAddress> 1 </SwitchAddress>
</Electrode>
```

A <SwitchId> must be specified for each electrode that is controlled by the internal switch. ES10-64C units will be numbered sequentially from <SwitchId> 2 onwards. On the first ES10-64C the <SwitchAddress> values revert back to 1, but these numbers then increase sequentially through all subsequent ES10-64C units.

13.2.1 Spread Files for Pole-dipole and Pole-Pole

It is important that the spread file references the remote electrodes that are in use with pole-dipole and pole-pole layouts. These will almost certainly be connected to the individual current and potential connectors on the end panel of the instrument.

Below is an extract from part of a pole-dipole spread file, which references the remote current electrode:

```
<Cable>
  <!-- Add remote electrodes -->
  <Name> LS Panel </Name>
  <Electrode>
    <Id> 102 </Id>
    <Name> C2 Current </Name>
    <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
    <SwitchAddress> 2</SwitchAddress>
  </Electrode>
</Cable>
```

For pole-pole measurements, two remote electrodes (one current, one potential) must be specified in the spread file:

```
<Cable>
  <!-- Add remote electrodes -->
  <Name> LS Panel </Name>
  <Electrode>
    <Id> 102 </Id>
    <Name> C2 Current </Name>
    <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
    <SwitchAddress> 2</SwitchAddress>
  </Electrode>
  <Electrode>
    <Id> 104 </Id>
    <Name> P2 Potential </Name>
    <SwitchId> 0 </SwitchId>
    <SwitchAddress> 4</SwitchAddress>
  </Electrode>
</Cable>
```

The <Id> for C2 and P2 (in this case 102 and 104) can be selected arbitrarily, provided they do not already exist elsewhere in the spread. In the associated protocol, "0" can be used as the electrode number for these. In cases where the system is paired with additional electrode selectors (ES10-64C), there will be real electrodes with <Id> 101, 102, 103, 104, so then other arbitrary <Id> numbers, for example 501 to 504, can be used for remote electrodes. It is only important to have a unique <Id> for each electrode; the software uses the <SwitchId> and <SwitchAddress> to 'find' the remote electrodes.

13.3 Protocol Files in XML-format for VES

A protocol file always refers to at least one spread description file, which simplifies the protocol files immensely, since each electrode only needs to be referred to by the number assigned to it within the <Id> flag of the spread description file. Protocol flags are as follows:

- <Arraycode>...</ Arraycode > defines the electrode array type, based on the Res2D/3DInv classification.
- <SpreadFile>...</SpreadFile> specifies the associated spread description file(s). If there is more than one compatible spread file, this statement is repeated.
- <Sequence>...</Sequence> marks start and end of the measuring sequence (i.e. the list of electrode pairs for current and voltage).
- <Tx>...</Tx> specifies electrodes to be used for current during a measurement.
- <Rx>...</Rx> specifies all potential electrodes used for measurement during a current injection defined by the <Tx> flag. There can be an unlimited number of potential electrode pairs for a single current electrode pair; the instrument will repeat current injections until the required measurements have all been taken.

VES protocols describe the manual movement of each electrode and their absolute positions for each measurement. On the ground, electrodes would be positioned according to the distances defined in the protocol file. One measurement point is defined by a set of <Select> and <Move> flags:

```
<Protocol>
 <Name> VES Schlumberger </Name>
 <Description>Schlumberger VES</Description>
 <Arraycode> 7 </Arraycode>
 <SpreadFile> VES_C1C2P1P2.xml </SpreadFile>
<UserSelect>
 <Select> MN/2= 0.2 AB/2= 1
  <Move> 1 <X> 1 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 2 <X> -1 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 3 <X> 0.2 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 4 <X> -0.2 </X> </Move>
 </Select>
 <Select> MN/2= 0.2 AB/2= 3
  <Move> 1 <X> 3 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 2 <X> -3 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 3 <X> 0.2 </X> </Move>
  <Move> 4 <X> -0.2 </X> </Move>
 </Select>
```

The text immediately after the <Select> flag will be displayed on the instrument *Screen*, and the <Move> flags define the electrode coordinates used for calculating the electrode positions in the data file. The entire statement above can be written on one line, if preferred.

The electrodes are connected via cables to C1, C2, P1 and P2 connectors on the end-panel. These were numbered in the spread file, and the protocol file will command their use in the following statement, which finishes off thee protocol file:

```
<Sequence>
   <Measure>
   <Tx> 1 2 </Tx>
   <Rx> 3 4  </Rx>
   </Measure>
</Sequence>
```

13.4 Protocol Files in XML-format for imaging

The imaging protocol files describe the type of electrode array(s) in use, the measuring sequence, and can be designed to do measurements using arbitrary arrays. A protocol file always refers to at least one spread description file, which simplifies the protocol files immensely, since each electrode only needs to be referred to by the number assigned to it within the <Id> flag of the spread description file. Protocol flags are as follows:

- <Arraycode>…</ Arraycode > defines the electrode array type, based on the Res2D/3DInv classification.<SpreadFile> …. </SpreadFile> specifies the associated spread description file(s). If there is more than one compatible spread file, this statement is repeated.
- <Sequence> …. </Sequence> marks start and end of the measuring sequence (i.e. the list of electrode pairs for current and voltage).
- <Measure> …. </Measure> defines a measurement, or set of measurements, using one current electrode pair.
- <Tx> …. </Tx> specifies electrodes to be used for current during a measurement.
- <Rx> …. </Rx> specifies all potential electrodes used for measurement during a current injection defined by the <Tx> flag. There can be an unlimited number of potential electrode pairs for a single current electrode pair; the instrument will repeat current injections until the required measurements have all been taken.

The initial section of an imaging protocol file will look similar to the following example:

```
<Protocol>
  <Name> Wenner </Name>
  <Description>   Wenner   measuring   on   spread   with   64   electrodes   </Description>

  <Arraycode> 1 </Arraycode>
  <SpreadFile> 4X16.xml </SpreadFile>
  <SpreadFile> 2X32increasing.xml </SpreadFile>
  <SpreadFile> 2X32mirrored.xml </SpreadFile>

  <Sequence>
    <Measure>
      <Tx> 1 64 </Tx>
      <Rx>
      22 43
     </Rx>
    </Measure>
    <Measure>
      <Tx> 1 61 </Tx>
      <Rx>
      21 41
      </Rx>
    </Measure>
```

The previous example shows a normal Wenner array, for which it is not possible to utilise the multi-channel measuring capability – due to the geometry required by Wenner, only one voltage measurement can be made for a given current pair.

Conversely, the multiple gradient array can take advantage of efficient, multi-channel measuring, and the <Measure> section may look like the example below:

```
<Measure>
  <Tx> 1 61 </Tx>
  <Rx> 7 13 </Rx>
  <Rx> 19 25 </Rx>
  <Rx> 31 37 </Rx>
  <Rx> 43 49 </Rx>
  <Rx> 13 19 </Rx>
  <Rx> 25 31 </Rx>
  <Rx> 37 43 </Rx>
  <Rx> 49 55 </Rx>
</Measure>
```

Note that the number of measuring channels activated on an instrument does not restrict the number of <Rx> pairs that can be associated with a single <Tx> pair. The same measurement sequence file (protocol) can be used on any instrument, regardless of the number of available channels.

14 APPENDIX D. TERRAMETER TOOLBOX OVERVIEW

14.1 General

Terrameter Toolbox (Figure 103) is the free auxiliary software for the Terrameter LS / LS 2 / VES / VES MAX. It contains utilities for downloading, filtering and exporting data ready for inversion, transferring spreads and protocols, updating instrument software/firmware, and editing date, time and time zone settings. This appendix is a very brief overview of functionality, for full instructions consult the Terrameter Toolbox user manual.

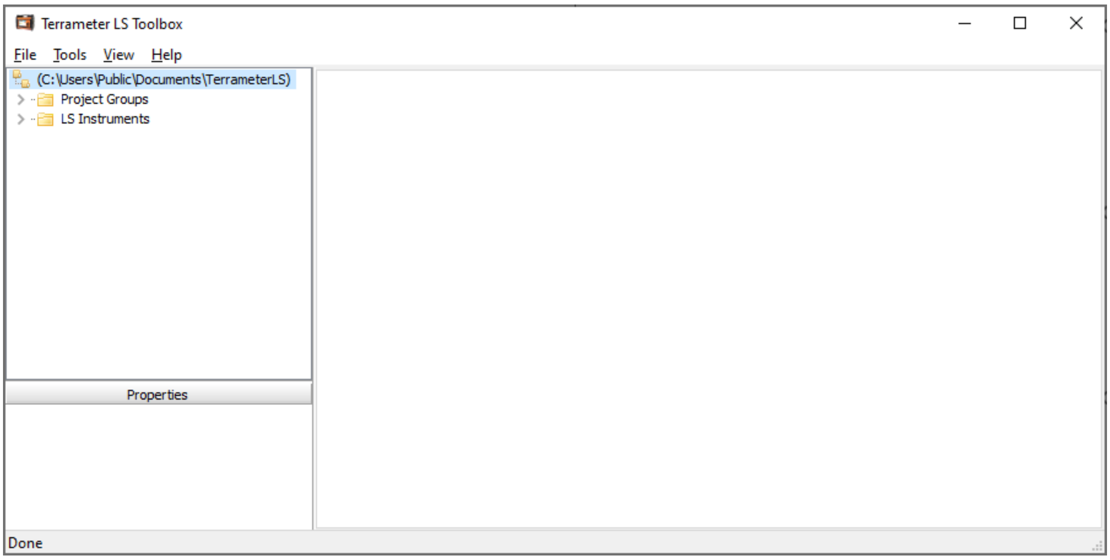


Figure 103 *Terrameter Toolbox main window*

14.2 Connecting to the instrument

Select one of the following option from the *"Network" Page* of the Terrameter (see Chapter 4.2 *4.2Network Connections* for more information):

- Wi-Fi Access Point (no physical connection required)
- LAN Server (connect direct to PC with an Ethernet cable)
- LAN Client (connect the Terrameter to the same local network as your PC via an Ethernet cable)

Right-click with a mouse on the "LS Instruments" folder (upper left window) and choose "Connect". When connected, a small coloured instrument icon will appear with the serial number next to it. When not connected the icon will turn grey and the only other option available from the right-click menu is " Remove" which will delete the selected Terrameter from the list of 'remembered' instruments.

14.3 Working with a connected instrument

Once the instrument is connected, right-click on the coloured instrument icon to open the actions menu again More options will be activated now that the connection an instrument been established.

14.3.1 Disconnect

This option drops the link to the Terrameter and the icon will grey-out.

14.3.2 Manage Projects

Select this option to download data from the instrument. The download window (Figure 104) will automatically load in the list of projects on the instrument and provide information on the database size and whether or not the projects contain full waveform data. The size of the full waveform folder is only read on demand as it can be quite slow to calculate; right click on a project to request this information.

A “Start Destination” can be defined and all projects will be automatically saved to this location if the relevant tick-box is selected beneath it. If the tick-box is left blank, every project downloaded will request a separate save location but the “Start Destination” will be where the file explorer window defaults to when it opens.

It is not necessary to download full waveform data, it is possible to take just the database file which allows all regular quality assurance and filtering procedures to be undertaken. A tick-box defines whether the full waveform will be included in the download. The project database will download first, followed by the full waveform files after.

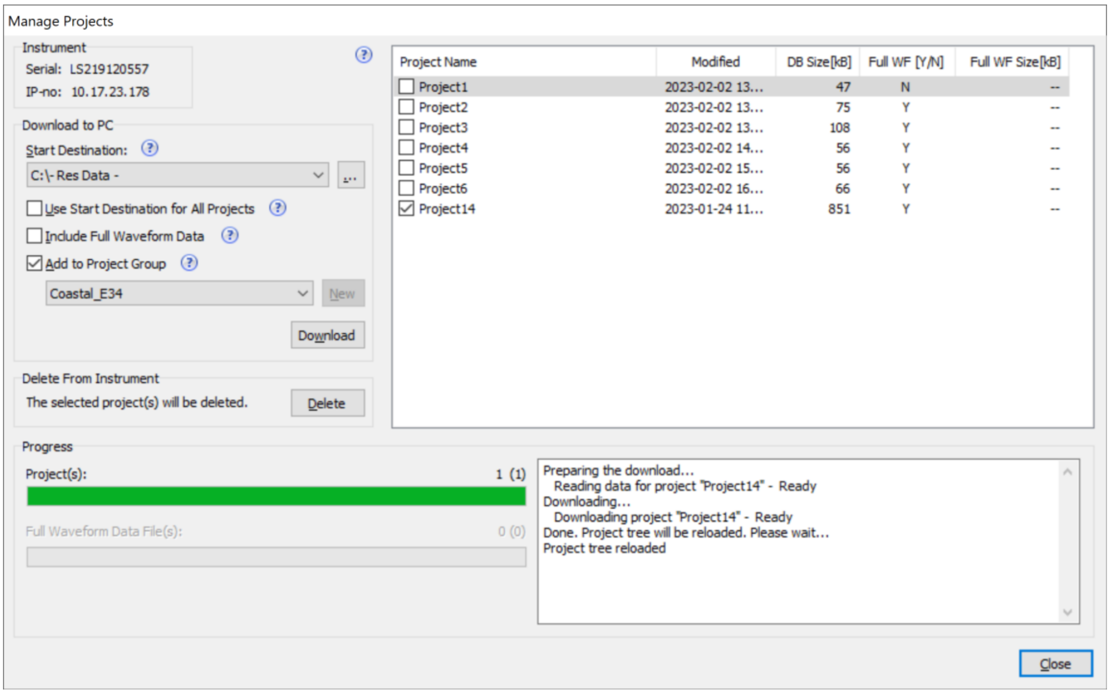


Figure 104 *Manage Projects dialog for downloading data*

The downloaded projects can be added to a project group (see 14.4 *Working with data*) to aid administration of survey data. It is necessary to create the project group before downloading.

14.3.3 Set Timezone and Time

This menu allows for configuration of the onboard clock including the option to quickly sync the time with the PC used for the connection.

14.3.4 Import/Export Spread and Protocol

Transfer spreads and protocols to the instrument from this window (Figure 105); the left side shows the spread and protocol files on your PC and the right window shows the spreads and protocols on the instrument.

In the left window select the spread and protocol files that you want to have on the instrument and select “To Instrument”. Ensure the “Allow overwrite” box is ticked beneath the right-hand window.

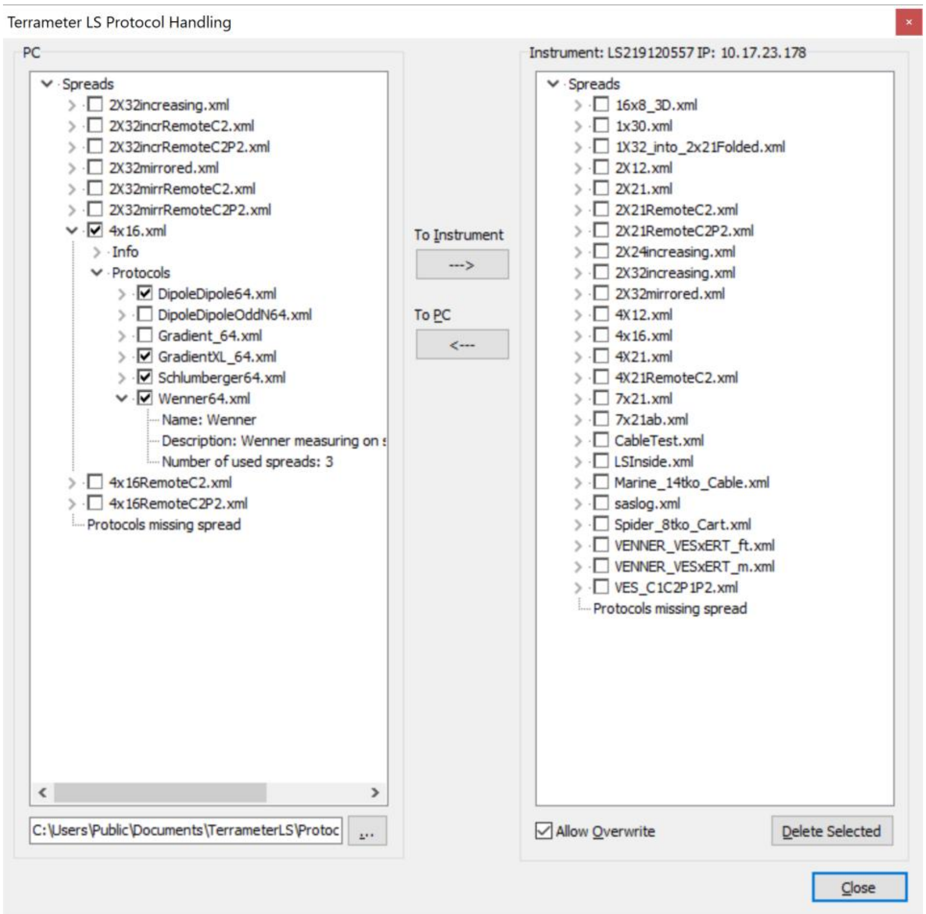


***Figure 105** The spread and protocol transfer window*

Note!	Spread files have all compatible protocols listed beneath them; click on the “>” next to the spread to see the protocols beneath it. The software does not automatically select the protocols when you select the spread file, so you must click the box next to all spreads AND all protocols that you want to transfer.

14.3.5 Update

This window allows updates of the Terrameter instrument software to be made and also installation of pre-loaded settings files. The necessary files can be downloaded from the Guideline Geo website and stored on the local computer or network that the Terrameter VES / VES MAX is connected to.

The “Update” window contains instructions on how to install the new files onto the Terrameter.

14.3.6 Enable TX Updating

The transmitter (TX) firmware updates are slightly more complex than the instrument software updates; however, full instructions will come alongside the necessary files when they are downloaded from the Guideline Geo website.

14.4 Working with data

Once data has been added to LS Toolbox (either by downloading from an instrument or by importing a stored project database) the "Project Groups" section expands to form a data tree, which allows the user to organize and interrogate projects and tasks (Figure 106).

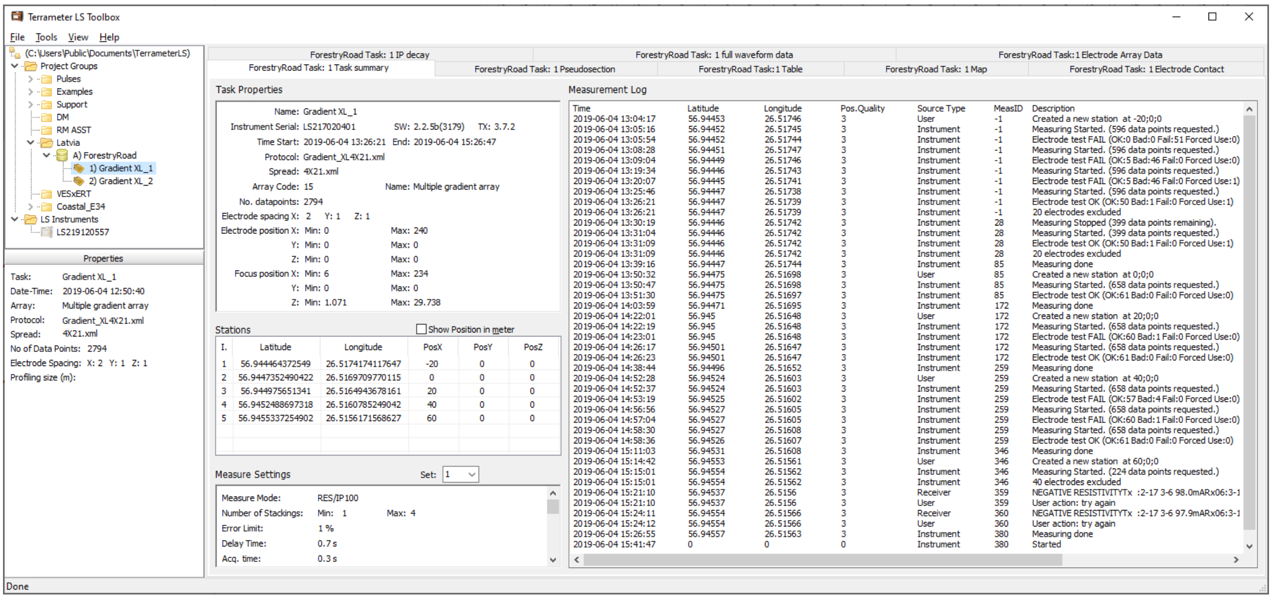


Figure 106 LS Toolbox main window with data tabs opened for a particular task

On first use of the software there will be no 'branches' in the data tree so it is necessary to right click on "Project Groups" and select "Create Project Group". Once this has been done, data can be downloaded directly to that project group or imported by selecting "Add Project" from the right click menu associated with each project group (see left-hand example in Figure 107).

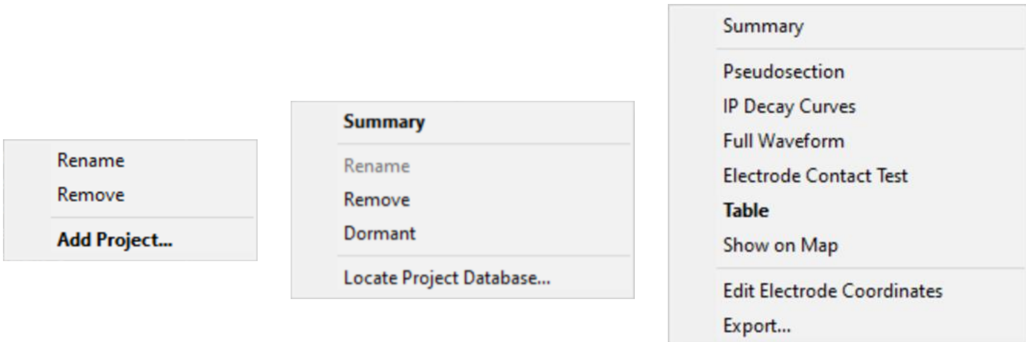


Figure 107 *Right click menus for (L-R): a project group, a project and a task*

Note!	The "Locate Project Database" option on the right click menu for projects is a quick way to find the project.db file for a particular measurement; Guideline Geo support technicians may ask for a copy of this file, for diagnostic purposes, if you have a problem with data or an instrument.

The right-click menu for tasks has the most options and allows for:

- Reviewing settings, meta data and the measurement log ("Summary")
- Plotting of the "Pseudosection"
- Looking at the IP time window plots ("IP Decay Curves")

- Analysing and exporting full waveform plots ("Full Waveform")
- Reviewing the contact resistances on each electrode ("Electrode Contact Test")
- Filtering of bad data (in the "Table" view, right click on the entries with poor data and select "Filter Datapoint(s)")
- Locating each station on a map or satellite image ("Show on map")
- Correct electrode spacing mistakes, correct positions of intentionally offset electrodes, and/or add elevation data ("Edit Electrode Coordinates")
- Export data to a number of different formats ("Export…", see Figure 108)

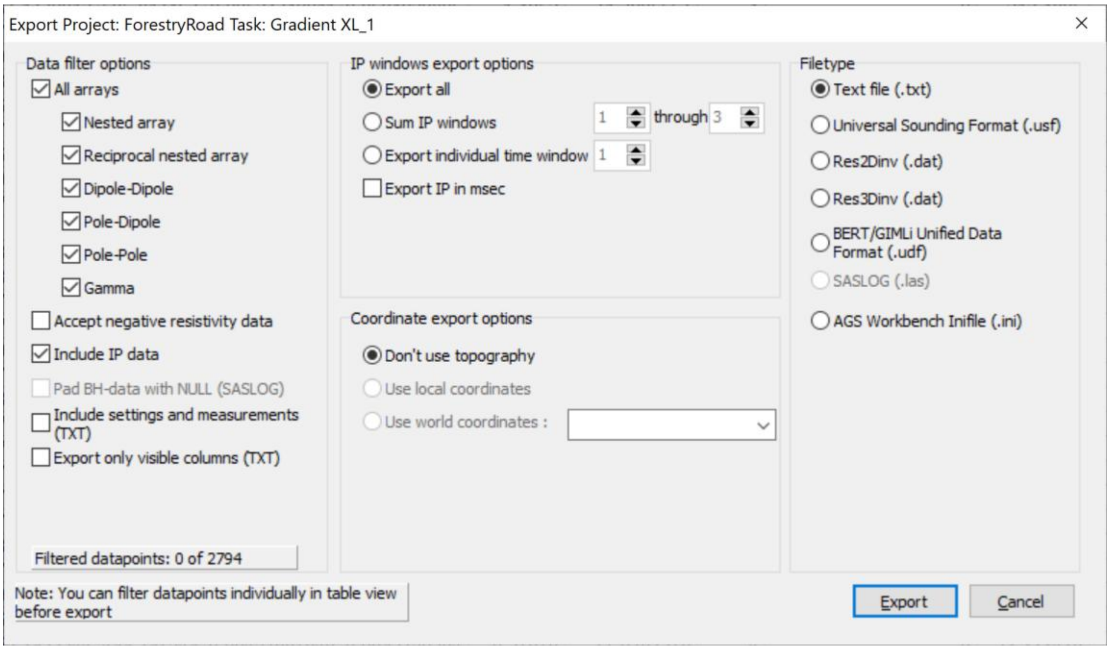


Figure 108 *LS Toolbox export window*

Export options include generic text files (the whole table or a subset of the available parameters), industry standard formats and proprietary software formats. IP data can be exported such that the original time windows are maintained, or they can be summed to produce a single value for chargeability.

15 APPENDIX E. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

15.1 General

Casing	Rugged Aluminium case meets IEC IP 66
Computer	Embedded ARM 9, 400 MHz
GPS	Built-in GPS with support for GLONASS
Display	8,4” Active TFT LCD, full colour, daylight visible
I / O ports	1 x AUX USB A RJ45 for LAN 1 x KPT 32 pin for multi-electrode survey (VES MAX only) Interconnect (VES MAX only)
WLAN	IEEE 802.11 b/g/n, built-in antenna
Measure modes	Resistivity, SP, Resistivity and IP, Resistivity and IP using 100 % duty cycle (dependent on model)
Service point	Accessible through Internet
Memory Capacity	16 GB, microSD card accessible from outside
Power	12 V, 8 Ah internal battery (optional extra on VES) Built-in charger 12-18 VDC external power
Temperature range	- 20 °C to + 70 °C operating[1,2] - 30 °C to + 80 °C storage[3]
Dimensions (WxLxH)	39 x 21 x 32 cm
Weight	12 kg

Note 1: Measuring speed may be reduced in high ambient temperature combined with high output power

Note 2: The performance of the LCD is not guaranteed below 0 °C

Note 3: Non-condensing

15.2 Receiver

Number of channels	1 (+2 for transmitter monitoring on VES MAX)
Isolation	All channels are galvanically separated
Range	± 2.5 V, ± 15 V, ± 600 V *Dependent on model*
Input Voltage Protection	1000 V
Input Impedance	200 MΩ (± 2.5 V range) 30 MΩ (± 15 V range) 20 MΩ (± 600 V range)
Precision	0.1 %
Accuracy	0.2 %
Resolution	Up to 3 nV at 1 sec integration (theoretical) *Dependent on model*
Linearity	0.005 %
Flat frequency response	Better than 1 % up to 300 Hz
Full waveform recording	Built-in monitoring of all input channels *Dependent on model*

15.3 Transmitter

Maximum output power	Up to 250 W *Dependent on model*
Current transmission	Constant current transmitter
Maximum output current	2500 mA *Dependent on model*
Maximum output voltage	+ / - 600 V (1200 V peak to peak) *Dependent on model*
Current accuracy	0.2 %
Current precision	0.1 %
Instant polarity changer	Yes
Self-diagnostics	Monitoring of temperature and power dissipation
Safety	Easily accessible safety switch
Full waveform recording	Built-in monitoring of current and voltage output *Dependent on model*

15.4 Multi-Electrode Survey

Number of electrodes	Up to 16 (VES MAX only)
	> 16000, using external electrode selectors
Remote electrodes	2 remote electrodes in addition to imaging electrodes
Electrode test	Estimates contact resistance on all active electrodes

15.5 Software & Communication

The Terrameter VES / VES MAX is controlled using the same incorporated firmware as the Terrameter LS 2. In addition to 1D VES measurements it can also support multi-electrode survey systems in 2D & 3D for Resistivity, IP, and SP measurements & monitoring.

It has a graphical user interface that is easy to follow in all aspects. Clear and intuitive menus are accompanied by instructive text, graphics and tips, through the ABEM Active Guidance feature. This will assist the user in the operation of the instrument and guide them to collecting good quality data, time after time.

For enhanced data quality control in the field, it is possible to display the measured resistivity data in real time, tabulated for ease of analysis, plus the ability to view sounding curves and pseudosections (where appropriate) of the data values. Instrument access via USB, Wi-Fi and RJ-45 (for LAN), ensures transfer of data to other computers is extremely simple.

For inversion of data external software is required. Examples of suitable processing software are Aarhus Workbench (with the ERT/IP module), Res2Dinv and Res3Dinv to name just a selection.

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