

TS-590S Issues and Suggestions

This document contains a list of issues and suggestions to improve the functionality and operation of the TS-590S, for the attention of Kenwood. If you would like to add an item to the list, please email Ian Wade G3NRW (g3nrw-radio@ntlworld.com) with concise details.

To contact Kenwood with details of issues, go to <http://www.kenwood.com/i/contact.html>, select your country and fill in the form.

A note to prospective TS-590S purchasers: Do not be alarmed by what you see in this list. Out of the thousands of TS-590S radios in use worldwide, only a tiny number of owners have reported these issues.

| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Reported</i> | <i>Hardware Issue</i> | <i>Software Issue</i> | <i>Documentation</i> | <i>Firmware Suggestions / Issues</i> | <i>Software Suggestion</i> | <i>Issue/Suggestion</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| # 001 | Oct 2010 | | | | | | Receiver failed without warning. Cause identified as inadequate fuse rating (F901, 375mA). Since November 2010 (serial number "B0B" and later) Kenwood has fitted a 500mA fuse instead, and this seems to have fixed the problem. |
| # 002 | 7 Sep 2011 | | | | | | Error in the Service Manual. Block Diagram, page 136, bottom right-hand corner. The IC number/part number pair for the USB Hub and the USB-UART Bridge should be transposed. |
| # 003 | 28 Feb 2011 | | | | | | ALC overshoot (with firmware v1.02). Largely mitigated in later firmware versions, but still present in v1.06. Those running barefoot are in the clear but those with amps may have problems. |
| # 004 | 25 Oct 2011 | | | | | | Not able to listen to two different CW frequencies using two different bandwidth settings via the TF-SET button. Prefer to have the capability to Enable/Disable a feature that allows IF-FIL-A/B to follow VFO-A/B respectively regardless of modes of operation. Maybe holding SPLIT while pressing IF-FIL could toggle the feature ON/OFF. |
| # 005 | 17 Jan 2012 | | | | | | Error in the Instruction Manual, top of page 55. In the final part of the Programmable Function Key Table (function numbers 202 onwards), the last entry should read "255 OFF No function". |
| # 006 | 17 Jan 2012 | | | | | | Error in the PC Control Command Reference Guide, page 9. At the top of the page the parameters for the programmable function keys (Menu 079-086) should read "000 ~ 255 (3-digit)". |
| # 007 | 23 Jan 2012 | | | | | | DATA TX MONI control: Insufficient adjustment. <u>Suggest</u> increasing the number of steps from 10 to 25 to provide greater range and finer control. |
| # 008 | 31 Jan 2012 | | | | | | Error in the PC Control Command Reference Guide, page 25. UR/UT command. Profile is inverted. Text should read "Each parameter has a range from 00 ~ 30 (where 00 is +6dB to a minimum of -24dB at 30)". |
| # 009 | 19 Mar 2012 | | | | | | In DSP mode DSP IF filter cannot be set in the low frequency half of the waterfall and the selectable frequency step size is unsuitable for digital modes (based on JT65 experience). <u>Requested change</u> to DATA DSP filter operation: change Shift frequency range to 50-2500Hz (currently 1000-2210) and Shift frequency step size to 20Hz (currently 100). [In hindsight that step size would need a variable rate control where fast rotation gives a larger step size. Just increasing the range would be a big improvement and maybe halving the step size to 50]. |
| # 010 | 11 May 2012 | | | | | | CW sidetone volume too loud even when Menu 4 is reduced down to "1". |
| # 011 | 11 May 2012 | | | | | | In FSK the TX MONI volume is too loud even when reduced to "1". |

| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Reported</i> | <i>Hardware Issue</i> | <i>Software Issue</i> | <i>Documentation</i> | <i>Firmware Suggestions / Issues</i> | <i>Software Suggestion</i> | <i>Issue/Suggestion</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| # 012 | 16 Jun 2012 | | | | | | The VGS recording is distorted when played back, especially when listening via tx-monitor. The problem is pronounced when using processor. |
| # 013 | 16 Jun 2012 | | | | | | ARCP-590 Ver 1.02 software locks up. Windows 7/64, 7/32, XP. Reproducible symptoms: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Right-click on the Windows desktop. 2. Click on "Properties". The "Display Properties" dialog box appears. 3. Click on "OK" in the "Display Properties" dialog box. ARCP-590 freezes on the display, and all CAT traffic between the PC and the radio (via the USB port) also freezes. |
| # 014 | 17 Jun 2012 | | | | | | <u>Feature request</u> : Allow transmission of off-the-air recording (rec #4). |
| # 015 | 17 Jun 2012 | | | | | | <u>Feature request</u> : Option to enable/disable bypassing processor (if on) when playing recordings, so if using one to call CQ it won't sound different than when you respond on the mic. |
| # 016 | 17 Jun 2012 | | | | | | <u>Feature request</u> : Menu item to display input voltage, including during tx. |
| # 017 | 23 Jun 2012 | | | | | | <u>Feature request</u> : Modify the power setting menu to allow a separate power setting for each antenna. |
| # 018 | 7 Nov 2012 | | | | | | Error in the PC Control Command Reference Guide, page 20. SH/SL command. Second bullet. "Width" and "Shift" should be transposed. Text should read "In SSB Data mode, the SH command is used for Shift and the SL command is used for Width." |
| # 019 | 14 Nov 2012 | | | | | | Lack of audio de-coupling to the 8VDC source at pin 5 of the front panel microphone connector causes severe transmit audio distortion with many electret microphones that use this voltage source for phantom power. Suggest that a passive resistor/capacitor audio de-coupling circuit be added inside the TS-590S behind the microphone connector to resolve this. For example, see the schematic about halfway down this page: http://www.w1aex.com/ts590s/ts590s.html |

| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Reported</i> | <i>Hardware Issue</i> | <i>Software Issue</i> | <i>Documentation</i> | <i>Firmware Suggestions / Issues</i> | <i>Software Suggestion</i> | <i>Issue/Suggestion</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| # 020 | 29 Jul 2013 | | | | | | <p>Firmware Bug. Version v1.07.</p> <p>Symptoms:</p> <p>When transmitting digital audio tones via the USB port, and operating SPLIT with VFO-A and VFO-B set to frequencies <i>in the same band</i>, RF is not always transmitted – the red TX LED lights up, audio is present at the MONITOR output, but there is no RF out.</p> <p>Setup:</p> <p>Audio tones generated by Audacity, directed to the USB Codec CAT commands/responses via putty terminal connected to the TS-590S serial COM port DATA VOX TX keying MODE USB. DATA not selected SPLIT manually selected VFO A selected for RX</p> <p>Test sequence:</p> <p>#1: FA00014076000;FB00014076000; tx ok (RF transmitted). #2: FA00021076000;FB00021076000; tx NOT ok (no RF out). #3: FA00014076000;FB00014076000; tx NOT ok (no RF out). #4: FA00007076000;FB00007076000; tx NOT ok (no RF out).</p> <p>In other words, after you make the first band change (from #1 to #2), tx fails <i>every</i> time thereafter. But, after a tx failure, if you manually toggle SPLIT off and on again, tx is then ok.</p> <p>Further, after any of the above failures, if you put FA and FB on <i>different</i> bands, it works ok:</p> <p>#5: FA00007076000;FB00014076000; tx ok (RF transmitted). #6: FA00007076000;FB00007076000; tx NOT ok (no RF out). #7: FA00014076000;FB00007076000; tx OK (RF transmitted).</p> <p>(continued on next page)</p> |

| <i>Issue</i> | <i>Reported</i> | <i>Hardware Issue</i> | <i>Software Issue</i> | <i>Documentation</i> | <i>Firmware Suggestions / Issues</i> | <i>Software Suggestion</i> | <i>Issue/Suggestion</i> |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | <p>Workaround:</p> <p>It is possible to overcome this problem with the "FT" CAT command to toggle SPLIT mode off and on. The sequence now is as follows:</p> <pre> ~~~~~ FA00014076000; set up FA FB00014076000; set up FB FT0; turn split off FT1; turn split on ~~~~~ </pre> <p>After this sequence, TX works properly every time after any band change.</p> <p>Solution:</p> <p>The workaround described above is not a viable solution – it would require many software developers throughout the world to introduce the FT0 and FT1 commands when changing bands, which is totally impractical.</p> <p>Kenwood needs to identify the real source of the problem and fix it, so that if the operator manually sets SPLIT, simply changing FA and FB is sufficient for reliable TX operation.</p> |