Programming Mode

Some advanced adjustments can be made to your AutoBuddy functionality by entering 'Programming Mode'. In Programming Mode, you can adjust:

ProTACK Headup Amount: Refer to the section above called "ProTACK Explained" to understand this setting. This is the number of degrees that the ProTACK function will head up while you handle the sails and can be set from 10-60 degrees, in 10 degree increments (ie. 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, or 60 degrees). The default factory setting is 30 degrees.

Standby or Wind mode: You can substitute the bottom 2 buttons (ie. pressing +10/-10 together) to either activate Wind mode (default) or to perform Standby (ie. deactivate Auto). When set to Standby, pressing the bottom 2 buttons will now always perform a Standby and deactivate the auto pilot. **Please note that this can be dangerous** if Standby is pressed and the autopilot is deactivated with nobody near the helm and the course were to suddenly change uncontrollably. When Standby has been substituted, Wind mode can only be activated from the autopilot control head.

Disable mode: The diagonal buttons (-1/+10) normally also adjust the Tack Rate. You can substitute these buttons to allow you to disable the single button (-1/+1/-10/+10) functions temporarily so they can't be accidentally pressed on the remote. When this is enabled, pressing the diagonal buttons (-1/+10) together will activate and deactivate the transmitter buttons. When deactivated, they will make a low frequency 'bonk' sound rather than the normal chirp. Multi key functions like Auto, Standby, and Tack will still always be active. You'll hear a down shrill when you deactivate the buttons, and the normal up shrill (like the power on sound) when you re-activate the buttons.

To enter Programming Mode, press the following sequence on your wrist transmitter (while the autopilot and AutoBuddy are powered on), according to the following picture:



To enter Program Mode, sequentially press:

1,2,3,4,1,2,3,4

(ie. start at +1 and go clockwise around twice)

You will hear AutoBuddy emit 2 long beeps after this sequence, after which it will recite the current setting of ProTACK Headup Amount with one short high pitch beep for every 10 degrees (ie. 3 beeps will indicate a 30 degree setting).

To change the ProTack Headup Amount, press either +10 or -10 to increment or decrement the setting by 10 degrees. Each time you press, AutoBuddy will recite the current setting as above with a short beep for every 10 degrees.

To change the Wind/Standby mode, press Wind mode (ie. press both -10 and +10 together). This will toggle the setting from Wind to Standby to Wind etc each time you press them.

Standby setting is indicated by 3 long beeps (low-high-low) and Wind setting is indicated by 3 long beeps (high-low-high).

To change the disable mode, press the diagonal keys (-1/+10) and the setting will toggle on and off to allow disabling of the transmitter keys function.

After 5 seconds of non-activity, AutoBuddy will return to normal operation mode and save the settings in permanent memory (you will hear 2 long beeps and the ProTack Headup Amount will be recited again). Settings can always be changed again by entering Programming Mode again with the above sequence. These settings are remembered and used even after AutoBuddy is turned off and on again.

Communications Programming Mode

Some advanced adjustments can be made to your AutoBuddy communication settings by entering Communications Programming Mode. In this mode, you can adjust:

Bit Rate Delay: This setting adjusts the SeaTalk communication bit rate. It has a value from 1-5 with the factory default being 3. Use the -1/+1 buttons to increase or decrease this - lower numbers mean a faster communication rate. If you suspect communication trouble on your SeaTalk line, trying different values of this setting may help. After each button press, AutoBuddy will chirp X times to indicate the current setting from 1-5.

Bit Checks: In SeaTalk protocol, the transmission of a bit is checked to make sure another talker on the system hasn't interfered with it, in which case it must be resent. With vessels that have long runs of SeaTalk cables, sometimes the transmissions will receive errors which you will here as a long, approximately 5 second, squeal when you press a button on AutoBuddy. This setting allows you to relax the amount of checking that is done by setting the number of checks from 0-5 times during a bit transmission. The default is 1 check. 0 means no checking for collisions and 5 is very detailed checking. Use the -10/+10 keys to adjust the number of checks from 0-5. AutoBuddy will chirp X times to indicate the setting from 0-5 after each button press.

To enter Communications Programming Mode, press the following sequence on your wrist transmitter (while the autopilot and AutoBuddy are powered on), according to the following picture:



To enter Comm Program Mode, sequentially press:

1,4,1,4,2,3,2,3

(ie. back and forth on top row, then same on bottom row)

You will hear AutoBuddy emit 3 long beeps after this sequence.

After 5 seconds of non-activity, AutoBuddy will return to normal operation mode and save the settings in permanent memory (you will hear 2 long beeps). Settings can always be changed again by entering Programming Mode again with the above sequence. These settings are remembered and used even after AutoBuddy is turned off and on again.

Factory Reset

You can reset all your programmed settings back to factory settings by entering the sequence below. These settings will be reset as follows:

ProTACK Headup Amount - 3 (ie. 30 degrees)

Standby/Wind Mode - Wind mode (bottom 2 buttons now perform Wind mode)
- not active, ie. -1/+10 buttons perform ProTack Rate

Tack Rate - Default (100 degree) set by diagonal buttons

Bit Rate Delay - 3
Bit Checks - 1

To perform a Factory Reset, press the following sequence on your wrist transmitter (while the autopilot and AutoBuddy are powered on), according to the following picture:



To perform Factory Reset, sequentially press:

1,3,4,2,1,3,4,2

(ie. an X pattern entered twice)

You will hear AutoBuddy emit 4 long beeps after this sequence. YOU NOW HAVE 5 SECONDS BEFORE AUTOBUDDY WILL PERFORM A FACTORY RESET. If you wish to cancel the Factory Reset, press ANY button within 5 seconds in which case AutoBuddy will emit 2 short chirps (high/low) to indicate it cancelled the Factory Reset. Otherwise, after 5 seconds, you will hear the AutoBuddy startup sequence sound and all parameters will have been reset.