

# **ELIMINATOR INSTRUCTIONS**

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## PRACTICE MODE

If this is your first time using the **ELIMINATOR** this is the place to begin. A rocker switch on the upper left-hand side turns on the ELIMINATOR. On Startup, a test sequence begins which turns on each light on the **ELIMINATOR** in succession, then all 8's appear on the display, then the Version Number on the Left and the Serial Number on the Right. After this startup, the display will read "PRACTICE". Depress "START" to enter "PRACTICE" Mode and to begin Reaction Time Training!

**NOTE:** The 7 segment LCD Display is a numeric display and does not properly show all of the alphabet characters - - A combination of upper and lower case alphabet characters are used to indicate modes of operation.

Every time you start the **ELIMINATOR**, you begin with "F" Full Tree, "A" automatic reset, and "d" Dual User (Fad). The following is what can be changed while you are in the practice mode:

A) **Full/Pro Tree** -- Depress the Full/Pro Button which toggles between Full and Pro tree. The display will read "P A d" and then "F A d". The first letter designates Full or Pro tree.

B) **1 or 2 Users** - - Depress the Single/Dual button which toggles between 1 or 2 users. On a Full tree the display will read "F A S" and then "F A d". The last letter designates Single or dual user. Do the same for a Pro tree "P A S" or "P A d".

C) **Manual/Auto Reset** - - Depress the Manual/Auto Button which toggles between Manual and Automatic Reset. Automatic Reset resets in 5 seconds. You can still reset Manually with the button. The Manual reset feature requires that you Depress the Reset button after every test. The middle letter designates manualL or Auto (example: Full tree, Auto reset, 2 User is "F A d" ).

D) **Delay Box Left and Right** - - To enter a Delay box setting, depress the Delay left Key or Delay Right Key. See "NUMBER EDITING" in order to change the value for delay. Set a number about 1.000 second plus or minus in the delay box. Now Depress "START" to return to practice. The delay box setting will stay in Memory.

E) **Fixed Handicaps** - - Depress the "UP" key to set the handicap in the Left Lane and "DOWN" to set the handicap in the Right Lane. You will see a flashing decimal to indicate which lane you are in. See "NUMBER EDITING" to change a value. The larger number indicates that the tree will begin first in that lane. You need only set a number in one lane. The handicap will remain fixed unless you - - a.) Turn on Random Handicaps, b.)Zero Out the Handicaps, or c.)Turn off the Power. Depress "START" after each setting.

F) **Using STAGE LEFT and STAGE RIGHT** - - You can use either the Stage Right and Stage Left Keys on the Face of the **ELIMINATOR** or plug in the external hand switches in each side of the Eliminator to practice your reaction time. You can use the keys or hand buttons alone or use a combination of both. These 2 inputs are your ways of interfacing to the **ELIMINATOR**.

G) **How to use the ELIMINATOR** -- When you are in Practice Mode, the **ELIMINATOR** will display "S UP S UP" on the LCD display (or " S UP " in the middle of the screen when in single user mode). The "S UP" stands for "STAGE UP".

When a hand switch or STAGE key is depressed, the Display will show only an “S” which means that you are “STAGED”. This means you are staged and waiting to test your Reaction Time. Note: You must keep switch depressed until the lights come down the tree.

The **ELIMINATOR** will wait for both lanes to STAGE in dual user mode and only 1 lane to STAGE when you are in Single user mode. If you let go of the hand switch before the tree sequence starts, a single red light at the bottom will indicate a staging foul. If you let go before the tree sequence is complete, then the red light and corresponding Amber light will stay lit.

When you are using the SHIFT LIGHT FEATURE, the **ELIMINATOR** will proceed with the SHIFT LIGHT Testing right after the last user releases the Reaction Time Switch. This feature only works with the external hand switches. See section H) below.

You can change settings **A** through **F** while you are in the Practice Mode. If you press the "Mode" key you will go back to the Main Menu "PrACtICE".

**H) How to use the SHIFT LIGHT feature** -- Turn the Shift Light feature on in the SETUP MODE, then right after your reaction time has been tested, the shift light feature will begin. The first Shift Point is triggered at a set time after the last user clocks reaction time and the “TOP 2 AMBER” lights on the **ELIMINATOR** will illuminate. Depress the external hand switches as quick as you can. The “MIDDLE 2 AMBER” lights will come on next at the Preset Shift 2 Point. Again, depress the hand switch as quickly as possible. Finally the “BOTTOM 2 AMBER” lights come on at the Preset Shift 3 Point. Again, depress the external hand switches as quick as possible. After you have completed the test, the SHIFT LIGHT Reaction Results will be displayed. The lights on the tree will cycle down with the corresponding Reaction Times. A great time is .180 seconds and **consistency** is the most important part of this test!

If you miss a Shift, you will get 0.000 seconds - - Maximum time is .500 seconds. Depress the “UP” Key to review your results or “Reset” to try again.

### **SETUP MODE**

The Setup Mode is where you change and customize settings for the **ELIMINATOR**. After you see “Practice” on the **ELIMINATOR**, depress the “MODE” key until you see “SETUP” and then depress “START”:

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Pressing the “START” key brings you into and back out of the Program. While in the SETUP program, the “MODE” key is used to cycle you through **A** through **I** below.

**A) Setting Full Tree Rollout** - - Full Tree Rollout is factory set at .320 seconds in both left and right lanes. When you first go into the setup mode you will be in the Left Full Tree Edit. See “Number Editing” to change the Rollout Value. The range is usually .180 seconds for very light vehicles to .34 seconds for heavy vehicles and Jr. Dragsters. Depress the “MODE” key to go the Right Full Tree Rollout. You will see a flashing decimal point to indicate which lane you are in!

**B) Setting Pro Tree Rollout** - - Depressing the MODE key will advance you from Full Tree Rollout into Pro Tree Rollout. The factory setting is .240 seconds. The same rules apply as for Full Tree Rollout. The flashing decimal indicates which lane you are setting. The "MODE" key advances the program and the “Number Editing” section will show you how to edit the rollout values.

C) **Selecting a Different Tree Speed** - - Continue to depress the “MODE” key after the Pro Tree Rollout Section. Use the “UP” and “DOWN” Keys to set 4 different tree speed combinations of a .5 Full or .4 Full Tree and .4 Pro or .5 Pro Tree. The U.S.A. racers usually use .5 Full and .4 Pro which is the factory setting.

D) **Changing the Single User Time to Beat** - - Continue to depress the “MODE” key after the Tree Speed section. The display shows “PS .030” from the factory, which stands for **PreSet** and the “.030” is added to a perfect Reaction Time as the “TIME TO BEAT”. If you were competing against a .5 Full Tree then the computer would always get a .530 Reaction time and in Pro Tree the computer would always get a .430 Reaction time. By setting the PreSet to .020, the times to beat would be .520 and .420 respectively.

E) **Fixed Delay** - - Continue to depress the "MODE" key to FdLAY . This feature is used mainly in Test Track Mode, but some users want the tree to cycle a little slower, so by increasing the number, you will make the tree come on a little slower.

F) **Dual Red Light - RANDOM HANDICAP** -- Continue to depress the "MODE" key until the display shows **drEd OFF** -- press the up key to turn on or down key to turn off . The Dual Red Light feature is mainly used in Test Track Mode where both lanes will have the ability to Red Light when turned on. In Practice Mode, this prompt is also used to set the tree into a **Random Handicap Mode**. By turning this feature “ON” and returning to the Practice Mode, the tree will Handicap at Random!

G) **Shift Light Feature “ON” and “OFF”** - - Continue to depress the "MODE" key until the display shows "**SHFt OFF**" -- press the up key to turn on or down key to turn off. This feature will help racers who use shift lights and tachometers in their race vehicles and depend on them to manually shift their vehicle. It is also a lot of fun. If you turn this feature on, it will stay on even after the next time you start up the **ELIMINATOR**. See “How to Use the Eliminator” for instructions.

- 1) Shift Point 1 is the first shift point setting and it can range from 0.000 seconds to .500 seconds less than Shift Point 2.
- 2) Shift Point 2 can range from .500 seconds more than Shift Point 1 to .500 seconds less than Shift Point 3.
- 3) Shift Point 3 can range from .500 seconds more than Shift Point 2 to 9.999 seconds.

H) **Large L.E.D. Readout** -- Continue to depress the "MODE" key until the display shows "**Lr dSP h**" to turn ON press the up key to turn OFF press the down key. This must be turned on when using the optional 2" X 15 Character Color Display. This feature is usually used in conjunction with a Large Christmas Tree. This will be stored in memory so that the next time you turn on the **ELIMINATOR** the display will be turned “ON” -- you must turn it off when not using the large readout.

I) **Test Track 1, 2, and 3** - - Continue to depress the "MODE" key until the display shows "**test 1**". Press the up or down key to get to the Test track 1,2, or 3. The 3 Test Tracks that Portatree offers include:

- 1) Test Track 1, which is a starting line only for 2 Lanes (Prestage & Stage).
- 2) Test Track 2 provides a Start and Finish in 2 Lanes with Reaction Times and Elapsed times.
- 3) Test Track 3 is Single Lane only and provides Reaction Time, 60 Foot Time, Mid Track Time (or M.P.H. but not both), and Elapsed Time.

Depress “Start” to Bring you into Test Track Mode. If you have purchased a Test Track from PORTATREE, then a special instruction sheet and video covering all aspects of the Test Track features will be included.

## **DISPLAY MODE**

The **ELIMINATOR** has a display mode for displaying all types of different Tree sequences. This is nice if you have a FULL SIZED Portatree Christmas Tree on display in a showroom, museum, or sales booth. If you have a Large External L.E.D. display, then a special advertising message can also be displayed.

At the Main Menu, depress the “MODE” key until you see “dISPLAY” and then depress “START” to begin the display mode. In order to return to the MAIN MENU, you must wait until you see Reaction Times on the screen and then depress the “RESET” Key.

## **NUMBER EDITING**

Number Editing in all locations is generally the same. The “UP” and “DOWN” keys are used to change the number and the “RESET” key is used to zero out the number or reduce the number to a minimum value.

If you continually hold down the “UP” key, you will see that after a count of TEN, the digit will begin adjusting in the next column to the left. This will continue until you are all the way over into the furthest column to the Left. After you have set this column, you must WAIT for 2 seconds, then the **ELIMINATOR** will begin back in the furthest column to the Right and you will begin again with the “UP” key until you move to the next column on the Left. This can take a little time especially the first time a number is entered.

### **The Easy and Proper Way to Set Numbers**

After you have changed numbers by just using the “UP” key, try a technique that will quickly bring you to the furthest Left Column. If you start at 0000, then depress the “UP” key (0001), then the “DOWN” key (0000), then the “UP” key (0010), then the “DOWN” key (0000), then the “UP” key (0100), then the “Down” key (0000), then the “UP” key (1000).

As you can see, you can quickly get to the furthest column on the LEFT by a succession of LEFT and RIGHT keystrokes. You still must wait 2 Seconds to move to the furthest column on the Right. Once you are in the column that you want to adjust, continue holding the “UP” key until you reach the value that you want. If you go past the value, quickly depress the “DOWN” key before the 2 second time period or you will begin back in the RIGHT column.

## **TROUBLE SHOOTING**

Trouble Shooting can be done by telephone by calling **1-508-278-2199**. If we can not get you up and running by phone, you will be instructed to send your unit back for testing and repair.

**A) Most Common Problem** - - The most common problem is low batteries. The second most common problem is improper Rollout Settings. The third most common problem is someone letting a friend use their **ELIMINATOR** and the settings are changed when it returns.

**B) Reinitiate Factory Settings** -- Immediately after the ELIMINATOR is turned on, wait for the "BEEP" and then hold down both the "DELAY LEFT" and "DELAY RIGHT" keys until you see the ELIMINATOR reset itself (lights will start coming down again) -- Then release both keys. This will set all rollouts and presets to original factory settings.

**C) When to Send the ELIMINATOR to Portatree for Repair**. If your unit does not power up it will definitely have to come back for repair. Most other problems are related to improper settings and can be remedied by calling Portatree at 1-508-278-2199 for help.

### **BATTERY USE AND CHANGING**

The batteries **WILL NOT** be charged by the Wall Transformer that was supplied with your **ELIMINATOR**. The batteries are used to power the **ELIMINATOR** when you are not using the 110 volts A.C. Adapter or a Cigarette Lighter Adapter.

**A) To Change Batteries**: Remove the back cover of the **ELIMINATOR** (4 screws). The Batteries will be located at the bottom and you can use 1 or 2 -- new 9 Volt Alkaline batteries. Two batteries will last about twice as long as one.

**B) Low Batteries**: If your **ELIMINATOR** only displays 4 lights in the LEFT lane when turned on (2 ambers, green, and red) then you have bad batteries. If the unit resets (STARTS OVER) after you run a race, then you probably have low batteries. Try the A.C. Adapter or Cigarette Lighter Adapter supplied with the unit to verify.

### **HOME USE WARRANTY**

Portatree Timing Systems, Inc. warrants the **ELIMINATOR** for one year against any defects that are due to faulty material or workmanship. All Test Track systems including photo cells, cables, connections, etc. are warranted for thirty (30) days. Please return the complete unit, transportation and insurance prepaid, to the seller or direct to Portatree Timing Systems, Inc. for free replacement or repair at our option (Proof of purchase may be required). This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other rights which vary from state to state. Should you have any questions, contact:

Portatree Timing Systems, Inc.  
594 Blackstone Street - - P.O. Box 206  
Uxbridge, MA 01569

**NOTE**: Every unit sent back for repair must have a note describing the problem, a contact telephone number, and a complete return address.

**YOUR WARRANTY WILL BE VOID: IF YOU TRY TO CONNECT YOUR TRANSBRAKE OR LINELOCK WITHOUT PORTATREE'S TRANSBRAKE VEHICLE ADAPTER.** 12 Volts inputted through the Stage Port will destroy the microprocessor. This will cause the ELIMINATOR to stay on "PRACTICE" even when you depress "START". You will be charged for this repair.

### **HOLD HARMLESS**

Portatree is in no way responsible for the safety of any vehicle being tested on a Portatree Test Track. Usage of Portatree Equipment for testing purposes is solely the responsibility of the User to take the necessary and proper safety precautions regarding the use of a racing vehicle.

Portatree does not recommend the use of any **ELIMINATOR** product for competition racing applications. Many groups insist on an economy system and select the **ELIMINATOR**. We strongly recommend the Portatree Professional Track Computer for racing applications.