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BASIC TUTORIAL

In this tutorial, you will learn how to turn on and setup the Minimate Blaster record an event. Follow this tutorial to practice event monitoring. You can also use it as a guide when recording actual events.



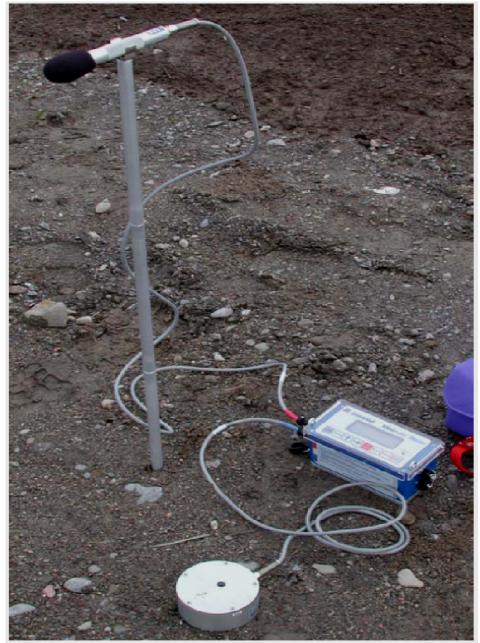
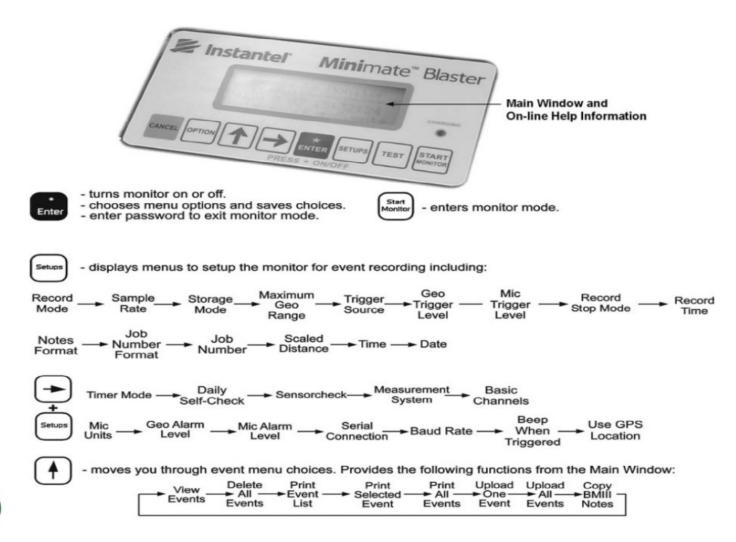




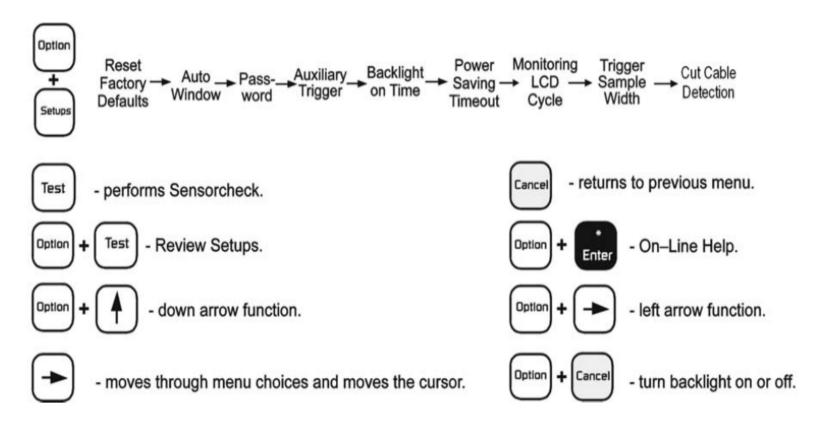
Figure 1 Installing the Minimate Blaster.

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Step 1: Install the Minimate Blaster

Press on the transducer to force the ground spikes fully into the ground. Check that the transducer is level.

Attach the transducer cable to the GEO connector on the side of the **Minimate Blaster.**

Screw the three sections of the microphone stand together and attach the microphone to the stand. Aim the front of the microphone towards the event.

Attach the microphone cable to the MIC connector located on the side of the **Minimate Blaster**.



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Step 2: Turn the Minimate Blaster On

Press and hold the **Enter** key, located on the **Minimate Blaster** face panel, until you hear an audible beep. A Start Up Window displays for three seconds followed by the Main Window display. The Start Up Window shows the **Minimate Blaster** serial number, operating software release number, amount of installed memory, whether the memory is empty or full, and the number of events stored in the **Minimate Blaster**.

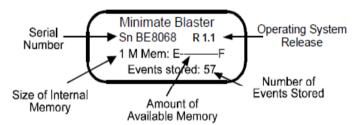


Figure 2 The Minimate Blaster Start Up Window.

The Main Window tells you the **Minimate Blaster** is ready to monitor. It also indicates battery level, date, time, and on–line help information. This is your starting window whenever you setup the **Minimate Blaster**. From here, you access all setups.

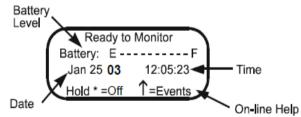


Figure 3 The Minimate Blaster Main Window.



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Step 3: Check Your Installation

Check your installation by pressing the **Test** key. This executes the Sensorcheck program and tests the transducer and microphone. The message "Performing SensorCheck", then "Check Channel(s):" with "Press Option + Test to Review Setups" appears on the display confirming that the installation is level.

Step 4: Review Setups

To review setups, press the **Option** key and the **Test** key together. The current setups scroll past on the **Minimate Blaster** display. You can pause the display by pressing the **Enter** key. To continue the scrolling, press the **Enter** key again.



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Step 5: Change the Minimate Blaster Setups

After reviewing the setups, we have decided to change them, specifically the record mode, trigger source, trigger levels, record stop mode, the time, and the date. To change these setups, follow the steps below.

a) Change the Record Mode

The **Minimate Blaster** has two record modes: Continuous and Manual. In Continuous record mode, the **Minimate Blaster** records multiple events until you stop monitoring or the memory fills up with recorded events.

To change the record mode, press the **Setups** key with the Main Window displayed. The Recording Mode Window appears. Press the **Right Arrow** key to toggle between the two record modes. When the "Recording Mode: Continuous" window appears, press the **Enter** key to select this record mode. The **Minimate Blaster** is now set to record in the continuous record mode.



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Step 5: Change the Minimate Blaster Setups

b) Choose a Trigger Source

By choosing a trigger source, you set the **Minimate Blaster** to trigger and start recording on either ground vibrations, measured by the standard transducer, or sound pressure, measured by the microphone. The trigger source may be the transducer, microphone, or both the transducer and microphone.

To choose a trigger source, press the **Setups** key with the Main Window displayed. Use the **Enter** key to scroll through the windows until the Trigger Source Window appears. Press the **Right Arrow** key to scroll through the trigger sources until the Geo and/or Mic Window appears. Press the **Enter** key to select this trigger source.

c) Set the Trigger Levels

The **Minimate Blaster** uses a trigger level, chosen by you, to automatically start recording when an event's activity exceeds this preset level. For our purposes, we will set an arbitrary trigger level for the transducer and the microphone.

To set the trigger level, press the **Setups** key when the Main Window is displayed. Press the **Enter** key to scroll through the windows until the Geo Trigger Level Window appears. Set the Geo trigger level to 3.0 mm/s using the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to change the trigger level number. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting. The Mic Trigger Level Window appears. Set the Linear Mic trigger level to 100 dB using the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to change the trigger level numbers. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting.



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Step 5: Change the Minimate Blaster Setups

d) Choose a Recording Stop Mode

The recording stop mode sets how the **Minimate Blaster** stops recording after being triggered. You can choose between a Fixed setting or an **AutoRecordTM** setting. Selecting "Fixed" sets the record time to a specified length. In **AutoRecord**, unlike in Fixed, the **Minimate Blaster** continues to record event activity as long as that activity remains above the trigger level. We will set a fixed record time of two seconds.

To change the record time, press the **Setups** key when the Main Window is displayed. Press the **Enter** key to scroll though the windows until the Recording Stop Mode Window appears. Use the **Up Arrow** key to choose the Fixed setting. Press the **Enter** key. The Record Time Window appears. Press the **Up Arrow** key to change the setting to two seconds. Press the **Enter** key to save this setting.

e) Set the Current Time

The **Minimate Blaster** supports the twelve hour, 11:55:23 PM, and twenty four hour, 23:55:23, time formats. You can choose either format.

To set the time, press the **Setups** key when the Main Window is displayed. Press the **Enter** key to scroll through the windows until the Time: Window appears. Use the **Right Arrow** key to move the cursor and the **Up Arrow** key to set the present time. To select either the 12 or 24 hour time format, position the cursor under the AM/PM/24 hour indicator. Press the **Up Arrow** key to display the required setting. Press the **Enter** key to save your setting.

f) Set Today's Date

The Minimate Blaster uses the Month/Day/Year date format.



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Step 6: Record Events

At this point, you are ready to record events. Press the **Start Monitor** key to begin monitoring. To see an event being recorded, clap your hands once in front of the microphone. The **Minimate Blaster** beeps indicating an event activity has exceeded the trigger level and the event's results appear on the **Minimate Blaster** display. The **Minimate Blaster** then returns to the monitoring mode ready to record another event. Now bump the **Minimate Blaster** standard transducer. Again, the **Minimate Blaster** beeps. The results appear on the display and the **Minimate Blaster** returns to the monitoring mode. Press the **Cancel** key to stop monitoring.

We have just recorded two events and stored them in the **Minimate Blaster** memory. In the next step, we view these events.

Step 7: View the Events

Let us view the events we just recorded. From the Main Window, press the **Up Arrow** key to display the View Events Window. Press the **Enter** key to view the most recently recorded event. In our tutorial, this is the one we triggered by bumping the transducer. Next, press the **Up Arrow** key to display the event we recorded caused by clapping our hands in front of the microphone.

Step 8: Turn the Minimate Blaster OFF

We are finished with the **Minimate Blaster**, so we can turn it off. Press the **Cancel** key to return to the Main Window. Press and hold the **Enter** key until the display disappears. The **Minimate Blaster** is now turned off.



Spiking and Burial

Right





Wrong





Sandbagging

Right



Wrong



Bolting or Attachment

Right



Wrong



