



LANSeeker™

TP500 User Manual

WARNINGS

Do not attach to energized cables. The LANSeeker™ may be damaged.

Caution!

Improperly crimped or un-crimped plugs can damage the jacks on the LANSeeker™. Inspect plugs for proper termination and crimping before inserting into the tester. A sacrificial adapter, the RJ45 Port Saver, is available from Platinum Tools (part number T124C) to protect the jack on the tester. Contacts should always be recessed into the plastic grooves of the plug.

BATTERY REPLACEMENT

When the battery low light is on while generating tone or testing cables, the battery should be replaced as soon as practical. The cable testing results will become unreliable when the battery reaches about 4.5 volts.

To replace battery:

- 1) Remove rubber battery cap by peeling back a corner until it pops off.
- 2) Pull battery out of cavity and remove battery snap.
- 3) Connect a new Alkaline 9 volt battery to battery snaps.
- 4) Slide battery into cavity and snap cap in place.

INTRODUCTION

The LANSeeker™ cable tester is a unique blend of a popular type of low-end tester interface with an advanced microprocessor controller. The most popular aspects of this type of tester are an indication at both ends that the cable has been tested, no buttons to push to perform a test and a case that snaps together for storage. The microprocessor brings the additional features of automatic power management, split pair error detection, direct indication of the type and location of faults and tone generation. The patented split pair detection technique allows the LANSeeker™ to have these advanced features at a reasonable price.

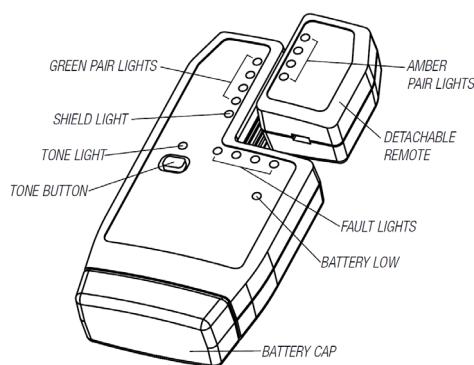
DESCRIPTION

The main unit has four green pair lights, a green shield light, four red fault lights, a red battery low light and a green tone light. The remote unit has four amber pair lights. When a connection from the main unit to the remote is sensed, testing begins automatically.

On the main unit, the lights for each pair will either be ON, OFF or FLASHING. An ON light indicates a good pair, an OFF light indicates an open pair and a FLASHING light indicates a bad pair. If a pair is bad, one or more of the fault lights will be flashing to indicate the type or types of faults.

On the remote unit, the pair lights are either ON or OFF. An ON light indicates a good pair, and an OFF light indicates an open or bad pair. Holding down the tone button until all lights momentarily turn on starts the debug mode. The pairs are stepped through one at a time to display connection and fault information on a pair-by-pair basis.

A second press of the tone button turns off debug or completion of two complete cycles. When not in debug mode, pressing and releasing the tone button in less than 1.5 seconds causes the LANSeeker™ to generate a warble tone signal on all pairs, flashing the tone light to indicate tone is on. The tone will turn off automatically after three hours, or with a second press of the tone button.



FEATURES

- Tests for shorts, opens, miswires, reversals and split pairs
- Auto-on and auto-off when testing cables, just plug both ends into tester!
- Automatically tests for shorts with one end plugged into the tester
- Cable test results displayed on main unit and remote unit, in less than 2 seconds after plugging in the cable
- Snap-together case for easy storage and convenient patch cable testing
- Tone generator mode for use with tone tracers, auto-off
- Debug mode with from/to and failures for each pair
- Battery low indicator

LIMITED WARRANTY

Platinum Tools Inc. guarantees to the end-user purchaser that its products, and each of the parts thereof, will be free of all defects in material and/or workmanship. This warranty extends for a period of 12 months from the date of manufacture or proof-of-purchase.

The obligations of Platinum Tools Inc. under this warranty is limited to the repair or replacement (at our option) during the warranty period of any part that proves to be defective in material or workmanship under normal use, installation and service, provided the product is returned to Platinum Tools Inc. freight prepaid.

Products returned to us must be accompanied by a copy of the purchase receipt. In the absence of such a receipt, the warranty period will cease 12 months from the date of manufacture.

This warranty does not extend to accessories (such as batteries, patch cords and pouches) or products which have been subjected to neglect, accidental or improper use, or to units which have been altered, repaired, or inspected by other than Platinum Tools Inc. authorized personnel. In no event will Platinum Tools Inc. be liable for any incidental or consequential damages.

WARRANTY SERVICE

All units returned for warranty repair will be repaired or replaced free of charge, at the discretion of Platinum Tools Inc., and will be shipped freight prepaid. In the event that a sales receipt or other dated proof-of-purchase documentation is not available, a period of not more than 12 months from date of manufacture shall apply.

SERVICE

The LANSeeker™ is designed and manufactured to provide trouble-free service. However, if for some reason your tester should require repair, please follow these instructions.

SHIPPING

1. Before returning any product to Platinum Tools Inc., you must first request a Return Goods Authorization Number by contacting our Customer Services Dept. at 805-384-2777. No shipments will be accepted without this number, which must be clearly marked on the shipping label.
2. Ship the tester with a copy of the sales receipt, if available.
3. Attach a description of the operational problem.
4. Include a contact name, phone number and e-mail address.
5. Pack securely to prevent damage during shipping.
6. Ship prepaid to: Platinum Tools Inc.
2450 Turquoise Circle
Newbury Park, CA 91320

SPECIFICATIONS

Electrical

Battery Life, typical alkaline times are for the full capacity of the battery used continuously in one of the following modes:

Standby: 2.5 years

Cable Testing: 20 hours

Tone Mode: 170 hours

Cable Types: Shielded or unshielded, Cat7, Cat6a, Cat6, Cat 5e, Cat 5, Cat 4 or Cat 3

Minimum cable length for testing for split pairs: 1 meter (3 feet)

Maximum cable length for testing: 305 meters (1000 feet)

Environmental

Temperature

Operating: 0 to 50°C (32 to 122°F)

Storage: -20 to 70°C (-4 to 158°F)

Humidity: 10% to 90%, non-condensing

Physical

Length: 14.5 cm (5.70 in)

Width: 7.2 cm (2.85 in)

Height: 3.0 cm (1.20 in)

Weight (with battery): 162 gm (5.7 oz)

Specifications are subject to change without prior notification

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

LANSeeker™ powers off automatically after 5 minutes of continuously testing a cable. Disconnecting the cable restores normal function. Be sure to install a battery if using for the first time—see battery installation.

To Test a Patch Cable

1. Plug one end of patch cable into main unit.
2. Plug other end of cable into remote unit.
3. The tester will power on immediately, indicating a test in progress by quickly winking the pair lights on both the main and remote; it will then be followed by a combination of pair lights on — this shows the test results.
4. Disconnect patch cable after test. The test repeats automatically every 2.3 seconds if the cable has only open and passing pairs and repeats every 4 seconds if there are failures.

To Test Installed Cable (Office jack to patch panel)

1. Remove remote unit from main unit by sliding remote towards top of the main unit.
2. Attach one end of a one foot jumper cable to remote and other end to wall jack.
3. Attach one end of the a second one-foot jumper to main unit and the other end to the patch panel jack.
4. The tester will power on immediately, indicating a test in progress by quickly winking the pair lights on both the main and remote; it will be immediately followed by a combination of pair lights on — this shows the test results.
5. Disconnect after test. The test repeats automatically every 2.3 seconds if the cable has only open and passing pairs and repeats every 4 seconds if there are failures.

Application Hints: The jumper cables must be short compared to the cable run for accurate split pair indication, no more than 10% of the total run length.

To Place Tone on a Cable

1. Press and release the TONE button. The light immediately above the button will start flashing.
2. Connect cable to be traced to main unit. For best signal, do not connect remote. Due to the shielding effect of twisted pairs, the strongest

signal is obtained by connecting only one wire in a cable to the tone source.

3. To turn tone off, press the TONE button a second time. The tone will turn off automatically after 3 hours.

INTERPRETING RESULTS

The four fault lights are discussed below in order of severity. The severity has to do with the ability of the type of error to mask lower severity errors. For example, if there is a short in the cable, miswires, reversals and split pairs cannot be detected for the pairs involved in the short fault. Multiple faults on multiple pairs can be better understood by using the debug mode to examine the errors one pair at a time.

Short – The pair has a low resistance connection from one wire of the pair to the other wire of the pair or to any other wire in the cable or the shield. A single flashing pair light and the short light indicate a short within the pair. Multiple flashing pair lights and only the short light indicate shorts between the pairs involved.

Miswire – A wire or both wires of a pair are not connected to the correct pins at the other end of the cable. Debugs “from-to” format is very helpful in visualizing what the specific miswire is.

Reverse – A reverse is a special case of a miswire in which the pair is wired to the correct pair of pins or to another designated pair of pins, but the two leads are reversed.

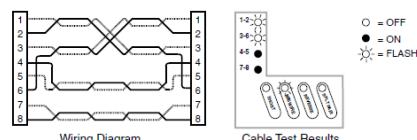
Split Pair – A split pair is an error in the twisting of the wires together within the cable. The cables generally are made up of eight wires twisted together in 4 pairs.

These 4 pairs are designated as pairs by the wiring standards and are intended to carry a signal and its return. 1 & 2, 3 & 6, 4 & 5 and 7 & 8 are the pairs designated by T568A/B. A cable can be wired with correct continuity, but not with correct pairing. This most often happens when the cable is terminated consistently at both ends, but in the wrong order.

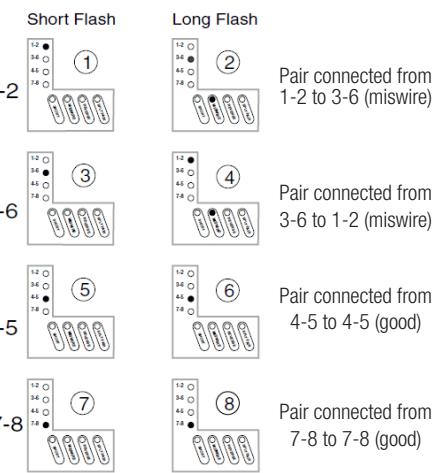
A dynamic or AC test is required to detect this type of error. If the only error is a split pair error, the cable has correct continuity. If cross talk is not a concern, as in flat satin cable, the cable is good if the only error is the split pair error.

ETHERNET UP-LINK CABLE EXAMPLE

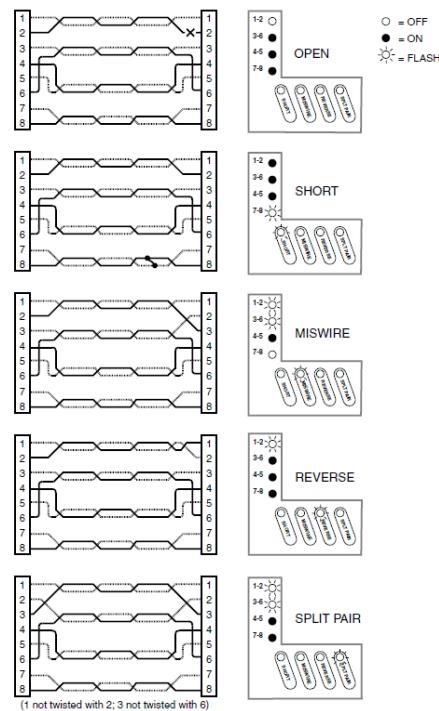
1-2 and 3-6 swapped



Sequence of LAN Pilot debug mode displays for Ethernet up-link cable



EXAMPLES OF WIRING ERRORS



Main Unit Results – The main unit indicates the beginning of a test by flashing the pair lights in sequence top to bottom. The cable is then tested and the results displayed as follows:

Pair light off – Pair is open. Depending on the wiring standard, this may be correct.

Pair light on – Pair is wired correctly.

Pair light is flashing – One or more errors were detected for this pair, as indicated by flashing error lights.

If there are no flashing lights, the results are displayed for 2 seconds.

If there was an error, the results are displayed for twice as long.

If the lights for the pairs expected are on, the cable is good.

Remote Unit Results – The remote unit indicates the beginning of a test by flashing the pair lights quickly, the order or number of lights flashed depends on the cable being tested.

Debug Mode

(See “Ethernet Up-Link Cable Example”) The debug mode is provided to allow diagnosis of faults, especially when there are multiple errors on multiple pairs. To enter the debug mode, press and hold the tone button until all lights on the main unit light (lamp test). Once the lamp test is complete, debug displays the results of the last cable test. This is from internal memory, so the cable is not required to be connected when running debug.

The debug display begins with a short flash on the 1-2 pair to indicate that what follows is the result for the 1-2 pair test (or the “from”). If the pair was not open, a second longer flash on one or more pair lights designates what pair 1-2 is connected “to” at the remote end, or pairs involved in a fault condition along with the fault lights. The 3-6, 4-5 and 7-8 pair lights each in turn begin with a short flash followed by the results for that pair.

The individual pair results continue to be displayed until the tone button is pressed again or two complete cycles of all pairs is completed.

The remote unit does not display anything when in debug mode.