

32-Key Talara-32

SERIES

+

OPERATION MANUAL



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MACAW Mates

PARROT Pals

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Patent Notice:

Some characteristics of the scanning techniques used in the Talara are protected by U.S. Patent Number 4,558,315 issued to ZYGO Industries, Inc.

NOTICE:

ZYGO-USA reserves the right to make improvements or changes in the product described in this manual at any time without notice.

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IMPORTANT: READ THIS FIRST

The ZYGO **Talara-32** is shipped from ZYGO-USA complete with the following:






- ZYGO Talara-32
- KG-Tal-1 Key Surround, hinged, magnetic
- 4-Alkaline AA Cells, Installed
- 4-Alkaline AA Cells, Spares
- 002-5024-00 Overlay Sample Set
- 002-5030-00 Overlay Template Set
- 061-0010-00 Warranty Registration Card
- 346-0014-00 Neck Strap
- 070-0070-00 Operation Manual, Quick Reference (Talara-32 SERIES)
- 070-0073-00 Operation Manual (Talara-32 SERIES)

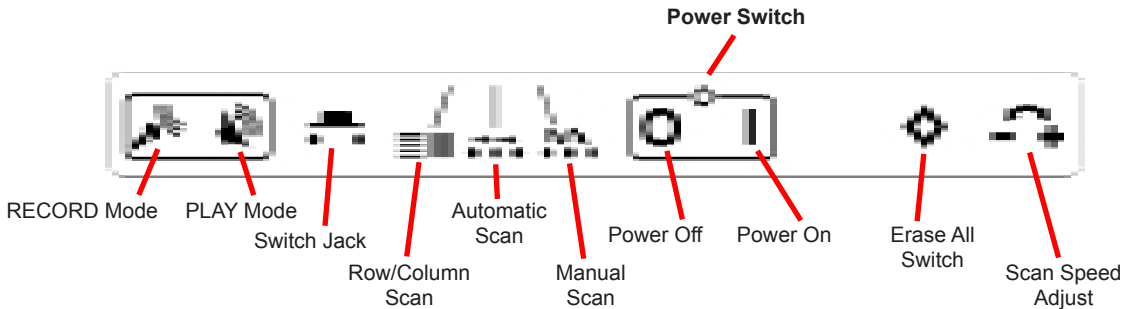
Optional accessories and replacement parts are available from ZYGO-USA

To assure full warranty of the ZYGO Talara, please review the ZYGO WARRANTY REGISTRATION CARD procedures and return the mail-back section to ZYGO-USA *today!*




ICON REFERENCE

The following icons may appear on the Talara labels.

<u>Icon</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
	Indicates that the units bearing this mark have met the European Community's Declaration of Conformity.
	Indicates that the units bearing this mark meet the Medical Device Directives for electrical equipment.
	Indicates a CAUTION to a General Hazard condition.
	Indicates an item that can, and should be recycled.
	Indicates double insulation.



The following icons appear in this Talara manual.

<u>Icon</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
	Indicates a notation about a CAUTIOUS situation.
	Indicates IMPORTANT information that should be read and understood.
	Indicates a CAUTION to a General Hazard condition.

INTRODUCTION

The **Talara-32** digital recording communication system provides high quality speech output in very small, very lightweight, easy-to-use communication aid. Rather than needing days of “programming” time to prepare a communication aid for a user, the clinician can do the entire job in minutes. What’s more, the spoken output is obtained by recording the voice of someone of similar age, gender, and dialect as the final user. Because they take so little time to “program,” these units can be changed regularly to accommodate specific activities.

The **Talara-32** should be considered in the same regard as a tape recorder; messages are recorded by a facilitator and retrieved by the user. As in most sophisticated electronic devices, the **Talara-32** is capable of being tailored by the facilitator to function in a variety of modes, including visual scanning.

With its ability also to operate in LEVELs, the number of messages it stores is not restricted to the number of keys on the keyboard. In use as a personal system, a clinical tool, or a teaching aid, you’ll find the **Talara-32** to be a versatile, friendly communication aid.

The **Talara-32** is a new-generation device capable of permanently storing large amounts of vocabulary. Its most popular application is as a language development aid for youngsters in special and mainstream public education programs, but the **Talara-32** has almost boundless applications for other disabled populations; e.g., as a limited communication system for those who need to communicate only a minimum number of messages, for ambulatory youngsters with cerebral palsy, patients in intensive-care environments or long-term profoundly disabled people with ALS (Motor Neuron Disease), etc.

The Talara-32’s attractive packaging makes it more desirable to those for whom appearance is a major concern; it doesn’t look like an orthopedic appliance. The unit is small and light enough to be carried by its unique folding handle or on a neckstrap and, although a variety of sturdy, rigid and flexible mounting systems are available, it can be easily secured with hook-and-loop fasteners (Velcro) to table tops and wheelchair trays.

The **Talara-32** is powered by readily available AA-cell alkaline cells (batteries). Rechargeable batteries that are recharged in a separate charger may also be used.

DESCRIPTION

The **Talara-32** is an electronic, digital recording/playback communication aid. In its simplest method of operation, the **Talara-32** is switched to RECORD Mode, a message key is pressed (and held) while a message is spoken into the microphone. The unit then is switched back to PLAY Mode and, when that message key is pressed, the **Talara-32** will “parrot” back the recorded message.

Messages can be recorded in any order and may be re-recorded at any time. The amount of total “dynamic” recording time available in the **Talara-32** is over 45 minutes. There is no restriction as to how much of the available recording time is used in each message.

All **Talara-32s** have LEDs for visual key-selection feedback, and all units have the ability to scan.

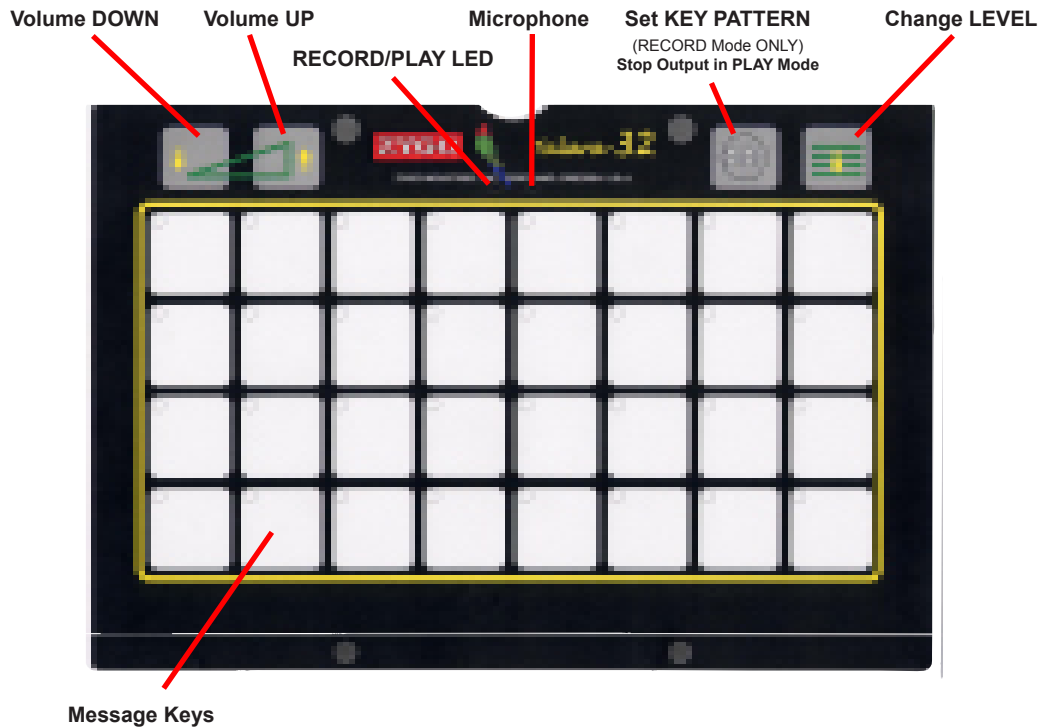
IMPORTANT !!!



Note that the facilitator uses the Talara-32 in RECORD Mode and the user operates in PLAY Mode.

CONTROLS & JACKS

Keyboard Controls



Message Keys

There are 32 Message Keys on the membrane keyboard. Each key is a “switch” that is used like a microphone button to record messages, and as a playback button to recall the recording. The Message Keys may be activated by touch or by scanning with an external switch.

Volume UP and Volume DOWN

Two membrane switches are used to set the unit's output volume. The volume setting is shown on a scale of 1 through 8 by lighting the LEDs in the first row of Message Keys. Momentarily pressing either the UP or DOWN Volume Keys will cause an LED to light, indicating the present volume setting. Repeated pressing of the volume keys will move the lighted LED, indicating a change in volume setting. The lowest setting is on the left, the maximum setting is on the right.

RECORD/PLAY LED

The RECORD/PLAY LED illuminates whenever the unit is being recorded or being played back.

Microphone

This is the microphone used to record messages. Hold the unit with the microphone opening approximately 6–8 inches (15–20 cm) away and speak clearly. Check the quality of the recorded message and modify the loudness of speech accordingly. Note that background noises that are usually not noticeable (like fans) are picked up and will affect the quality of the output.

Set KEY PATTERN Key

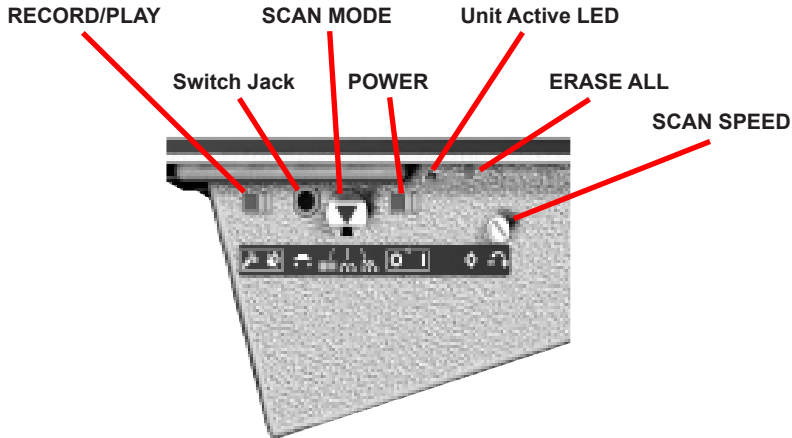
This key has two functions:

- In PLAY Mode, it is used to stop a message that is playing. Pressing the Set KEY PATTERN key while a message is playing will stop the output immediately.
- In RECORD Mode, it is used to set the Key Pattern. Pressing the Set KEY PATTERN key momentarily will light the appropriate LEDs to show the key pattern that is set. Repeated activation of the Set KEY PATTERN key will cause the unit to scan through its key pattern options. Stop pressing the key when the desired pattern is attained.

Change LEVEL Key

This key functions in both RECORD and PLAY Modes. Press the key momentarily to show the LEVEL in use. The left 4 LEDs of the first row of Message Keys are the level indicators. Press the Change LEVEL key repeatedly to cycle through the levels. Stop when the desired level is indicated.

Left Side Controls



POWER Switch

The POWER Switch is recessed to make access to it more difficult. Usually, once the POWER Switch is turned ON, the unit should remain ON, since new batteries will power the unit for many weeks of non-use. Turning the POWER Switch OFF **will NOT** erase anything that has been recorded.



The POWER Switch should be turned OFF whenever the unit is to be packed for transport or put away for periods of time, otherwise accidental activation of the message keys will cause the unit to turn itself ON and the batteries may be depleted beyond recovery.

RECORD / PLAY Switch

The RECORD / PLAY Switch is used for more than its name implies; it might also have been labeled “*facilitator / user*” because, in addition to changing between RECORD and PLAY Modes, it will be used in RECORD position by the facilitator to set up and/or change the operating parameters of the **Talara-32**, such as the Key Pattern.

SWITCH Jack

The single 3.5 mm diameter jack is for connecting switches for use with scanning.

SCAN Mode Rotary Switch

This multi-position rotary switch sets the scanning mode. Three (3) scanning modes are marked on the unit's label. By rotating the knob 180°, the three (3) modes will scan from right to left.

Unit Active LED

Whenever the **Talara-32**'s circuitry is active, this LED will illuminate.

ERASE ALL Pushbutton

As its name indicates, pressing this button for 3 seconds or more while in RECORD Mode will erase all the messages that were stored in the unit. Once erased, the messages are no longer retrievable.

SCAN Speed Control

Rotating this control changes the speed at which the LEDs move in scanning.

SPECIFICATIONS

Recording Time

45+ minutes

There is no limit to the percentage recorded in each key

Minimum message length: 1 second

Number of Messages

127 messages (4 levels of 32, less one message)

Message Keys

32 membrane keys (4 x 8 pattern)

Spacing: 1-1/4" (3.2 cm) between centers

Size: 1-1/8" (2.8 cm) square

Force Required: 4 oz (114 gr) maximum

Panel: White background

Function Keys

4 membrane keys—2 pair

Volume UP

Volume DOWN

Set KEY PATTERN (Record Mode Only)

Stop message output in Play mode

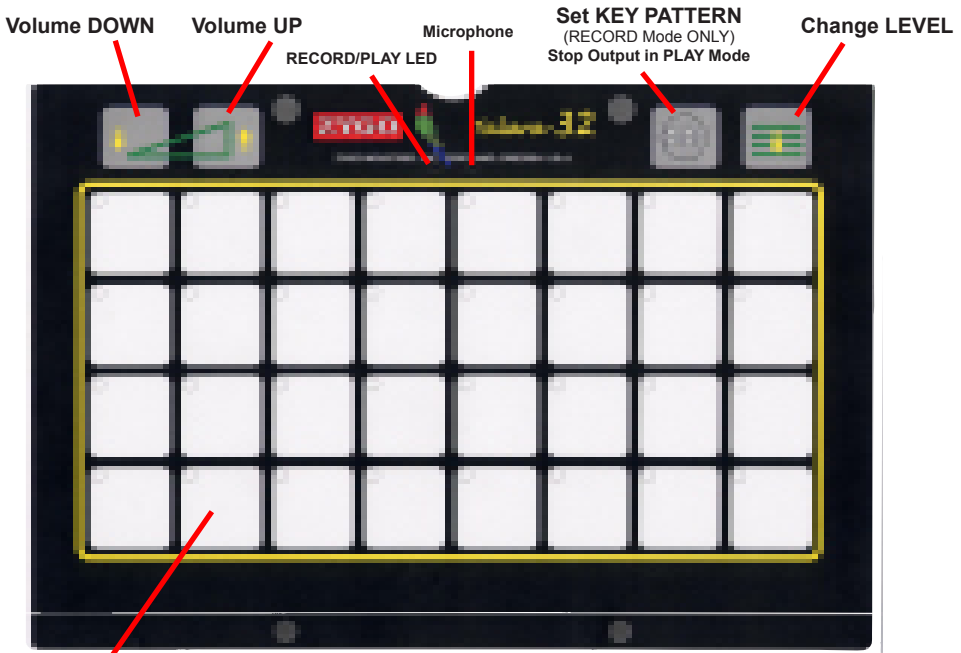
Change LEVEL

Size: 7/8" (2.2 cm) square

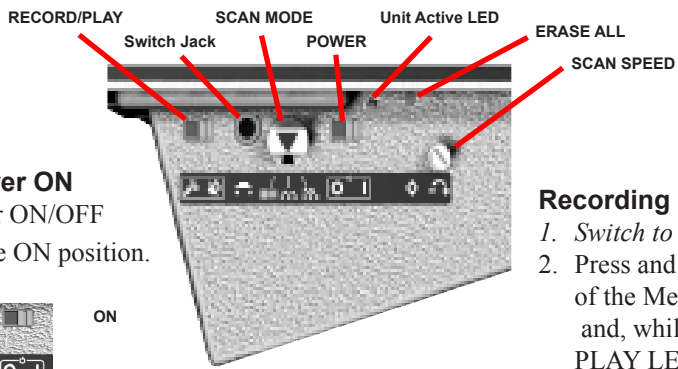
5/8" (1.6 cm) round (Set KEY PATTERN)

Force Required: 4 oz (114 gr) maximum

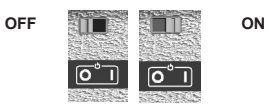
OPERATION



Message Keys



Turn the Power ON
Slide the Power ON/OFF switch to the ON position.



It is not necessary to turn off the **Talara-32** unless it is to be unused for a long time. All recordings will be saved regardless of whether the power is on or off, or whether or not there are charged batteries in the unit.

Recording and Playback

1. Switch to *RECORD Mode*.
2. Press and hold any of the Message Keys and, while the RECORD/PLAY LED is lighted, speak into the microphone.
3. Switch to *PLAY Mode*.
4. Press the Message Key to hear the recording.

Messages must be over 1 second long.

Pressing the KEY PATTERN Function Key during PLAYBACK will stop the output.

RECORD



PLAY



Re-recording

Messages may be re-recorded at any time.

Selecting and Recording in LEVELS

The LEVEL Function Key shows the present LEVEL and is used to change LEVELS. The four (4) top-left Message Key LEDs are used to indicate the LEVELS.

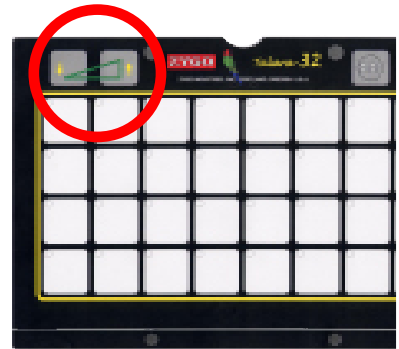
1. Press and release the LEVEL Function Key to see the present LEVEL. While the LEVEL LED is lighted...
2. Press and release the LEVEL Function Key to change to the next LEVEL.
3. Repeat to circulate through the LEVELS.
4. Stop on the LEVEL wanted.



Setting Output VOLUME

There are two (2) VOLUME Function Keys—UP and DOWN. The eight (8) top Message Key LEDs are used to indicate the LEVELS. The left-most Message Key is zero (0) VOLUME, the right-most Message Key is maximum VOLUME.

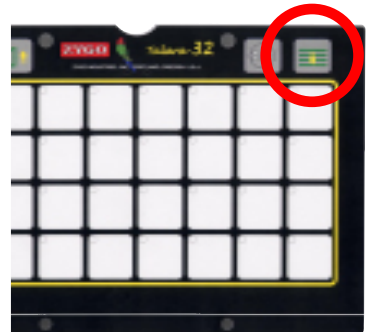
1. Press and release either VOLUME Function Key to see the present setting. While the VOLUME LED is lighted...
2. Press and release either VOLUME Function Key to change the VOLUME.
3. Stop on the VOLUME wanted.



Setting Message KEY PATTERN

The Talara-32 can be set to any of six (6) Message Key patterns: 32-Key, 16-Key, 8-Key, 4-Vertical Keys, 4-Horizontal Keys (2 x 2), and 2-Key. The KEY PATTERN Function Key is only usable in RECORD Mode.

1. Switch to RECORD Mode.
2. Press the KEY PATTERN Function Key to see the present KEY PATTERN. (The Message Key LEDs illuminate to display the KEY PATTERN.)
3. Press and release the KEY PATTERN Function Key again to change the KEY PATTERN.
4. Repeat to circulate through the KEY PATTERNS.
5. Stop on the KEY PATTERN wanted.
6. Switch to PLAY Mode.



Messages in the upper-left corner of the Enlarged KEY PATTERNS will be distributed throughout each Enlarged KEY.

SCANNING

Three (3) single-switch SCAN Modes are provided in the **Talara-32**: MANUAL Linear Step and Directed, AUTOMATIC Linear, and ROW/COLUMN. The SCAN Mode is selected with a rotary switch. Disable scan by setting the switch to any unlabeled position.

SCAN Speed for MANUAL Directed and AUTOMATIC scanning is set by a rotary control. Entry Delay Time is set automatically.

1. Set the SCAN Mode.
2. Plug in and activate a switch.
3. Set the SCAN Speed as needed.

MANUAL LINEAR SCAN

Step Scan

Each activation of the switch will move the Message Key LED to the next key. The pattern is left-to-right, top-to-bottom. When released, the message will be spoken after the Delay Time has passed.

Directed Scan

Holding the switch closed will cause the Message Key LEDs to scan left-to-right, top-to-bottom. When released, the message will be spoken after the Delay Time.

Activating the switch during the Delay Time period will negate the entry and the scan will continue.

AUTOMATIC LINEAR SCAN

Activating and releasing the switch will cause the Message Key LEDs to scan left-to-right, top-to-bottom. When activated again, the scan will stop and the message will be spoken after the Delay Time.

Activating and releasing the switch during the Delay Time period will negate the entry and the scan will start over from the beginning.

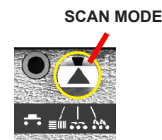
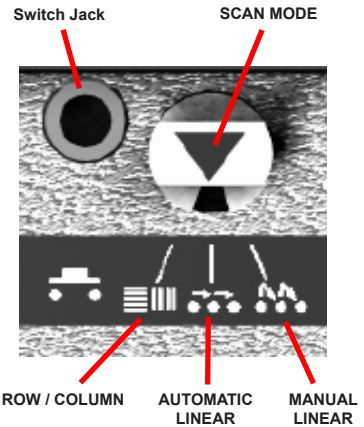
ROW / COLUMN SCAN

Activating and releasing the switch will cause the Message Key LEDs to scan one row at a time, top-to-bottom. When activated again, the Message Key LEDs will scan one column at a time, left-to-right. When activated again, the scan will stop and the message will be spoken after the Delay Time.

Activating and releasing the switch during the Delay Time period will negate the entry and the scan will start over from the top.

Rotating the Scan Mode knob 180° will cause the scans to move from right-to-left.

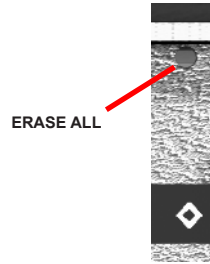
Note: The **Talara-32** will not Row/Column scan in key patterns with less than 2 rows.



ERASE ALL MESSAGES

A recessed push-button may be used to ERASE ALL MESSAGES. Once erased, the messages cannot be retrieved.

1. Switch to *RECORD Mode*.
2. Use a toothpick, bent paper clip, or other small probe to press the ERASE ALL MESSAGES button.
3. **Press the button for at least 3 seconds.** The Record/Play LED will blink to confirm the erasure.
4. Switch to *PLAY Mode*.



Changing BATTERIES

The battery compartment contains four (4) Alkaline AA cells. The battery drawer is easily removed.

1. Press the tabs on the Battery Drawer towards the center and pull out the Battery Drawer.
2. Remove the batteries and replace them. Be sure to insert the batteries in the proper direction as shown in the inside of the Battery Drawer.
3. Verify that both tabs are securely latched when the Battery Drawer is installed.



Notes: The Talara-32 will emit a **Single 5-Beep** signal when the battery is **Low** and **Two (2) 5-Beep** signals when the battery is **Very Low**. The **LED on Key 11** will light in either situation.

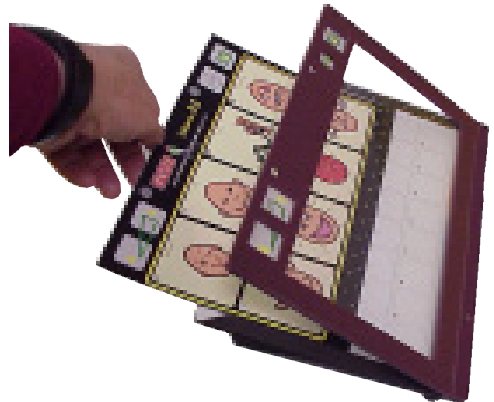
Audio quality and output will degrade quickly after the Very Low Battery notice. Messages should not be recorded if a Low or Very Low Battery signal has been given.

Changing OVERLAYS

The Overlay Retainer and Keyguards are held in place by screws along the lower section and are hinged to be lifted from the top-center for inserting overlays. The Overlay Retainer and Keyguards are held down by magnets.

Overlays should be cut to size:
10-3/8" x 7-1/4" (26.4 X 18.4 cm)

The LEDs are very bright and will show through most overlays. However, holes punched at the LED locations will brighten their effect, especially for scanning. Punching holes for the microphone and Record/Play LED will enhance their effectiveness. Punching holes where the handle screwheads are located will allow the overlays to sit flat.



Magnets

The magnets used at the top edge of the Overlay Retainer and Keyguards are very powerful. Do not bring them within 12 inches (30 cm) of magnetic based storage devices such as desktop or laptop computers, hard drives, floppy disks, cassette tapes, VHS tapes, or credit cards. Keep away from computer monitors, VCR's and TV's. Ask a physician about possible risks to anyone in the environment who wears a PACEMAKER.

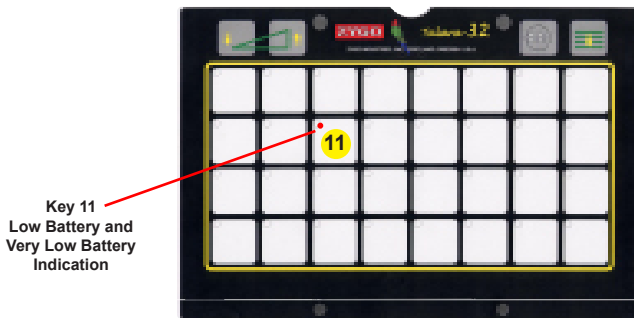
Talara's Signals

Low Battery

The **Talara** will emit a **Single 5-Beep** signal when the battery is **Low**. The LED on **Key 11** will light.

Very Low Battery

The **Talara** will emit **Two (2) 5-Beep** signals when the battery is **Very Low**. The LED on **Key 11** will light.



Audio quality and output will degrade quickly after the **Very Low Battery** notice. Messages should not be recorded if a **Low** or **Very Low Battery** signal has been given.

MAINTENANCE

The **Talara** has been made to the highest possible standards and should not require any regular maintenance. However, make sure your warranty is effective by assuring that the Warranty Registration Card has been filled out and sent to the factory.

You should put a plan into effect to set aside or acquire annually approximately 10% to 15% of the purchase price to take care of routine repairs. If the monies are not used for maintenance this year, they may be needed for service in subsequent years or to apply towards the purchase of the next system a number of years hence.

Should you have difficulty with the **Talara**, contact the Customer Service Department at the factory by phone or mail (see the SERVICE section of this manual). International customers should contact the ZYGO Agent in their countries or the factory in the U.S.A. for instructions.

Keyboard

The keyboard is the most vulnerable part of the unit because it is the part that is continually acted upon by both the user and the facilitator. Remember that it is made of thin membranes to give maximum sensitivity and is susceptible to damage by cutting, gouging, and deformation by sharp objects.

The major cause of keyboard damage has been the use of chemicals (e.g., from cut-down instant photographs) or adhesives which dissolve the keyboard itself. To be safe, use overlays for your graphics.



Do not make the overlays too thick. Thick overlays will actuate the keyboard continuously and prevent normal operation.

Switches and Cables

Take exceptional care of external switches and their cables that are used for scanning with the **Talara**. Do not wrap the cable around the switch without leaving a considerable “service loop” to avoid excess strain. Spares will help reduce the “down time” associated with these expendable parts.

Cleaning

Wipe clean with a mild detergent and a soft cloth. Some “oil” based products are available that are designed to remove adhesives without damaging the primary surface. Ask the factory or your local agent for assistance in locating these products.



DO NOT USE HARSH CHEMICALS THAT MIGHT ATTACK THE PLASTIC PARTS OF THE UNIT!

Battery Maintenance

The **Talara** uses four replaceable Alkaline AA cells for power. Replace the batteries when the Low Battery or Very Low Battery signals are given. Messages and setups will not be lost when the batteries are removed.

If desired, rechargeable batteries, like Nickel Metal Hydride (NiMH) cells may be used but cannot be charged inside the **Talara**. Have two sets of those batteries available, one set in the **Talara**, one set being charged.

Storage

Store the **Talara** in a dry environment. Remove the batteries if the unit is to be stored for a long time, like for a few months of the summer holidays. Again, the recordings and settings will not be lost by removing the batteries.

Environment

Although the **Talaras** are quite rugged, hostile environments may damage them.

Temperature:	Maximum operating:	45°C (120°F)
	Minimum operating:	0°C (32°F)
	Maximum non-operating:	68°C (155°F)
	Minimum non-operating:	-40°C (-40°F)

Moisture/Rain

Optional “raincoats” are available to protect the **Talara** from excessive moisture and drool. For very high moisture conditions, place the entire **Talara** within a clear plastic bag. Replace the bag when needed.

Do not expose an uncovered unit to heavy rains or excessive moisture.

Drool on the surface is acceptable; excess drool can seep into the unit and cause damage to the electronic circuits.

If the unit does get soaked, let it dry out before attempting to operate it. Please, do not put the **Talara** in a heated oven to dry it!

Technical Support

Technical support will be supplied by the factory and local agents, dealers and representatives. On request, circuit diagrams, component part lists and descriptions, etc. may be obtained from the factory on a confidential basis.

SERVICE

All needs for assistance are handled directly from the factory:

CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT
ZYGO-USA
48834 Kato Road, Suite 101-A
Fremont, CA, 94538, U.S.A.

TEL: +1 (510) 249-9660

FAX: +1 (510) 770-4930

U.S.A. / Canada: (800) 234-6006

E-mail: zygo@zygo-usa.com

Web Site: www.zygo-usa.com

International service is handled by local ZYGO Agents in each country. If needed, contact the factory for the name of your local agent or instructions for service or repair.

A phone call before sending the unit to the factory for repair can save much expense. If it is determined that the unit must be returned, a Repair Authorization (RA) Number will be assigned to enable ZYGO to track the repair and return it as soon as practical. Follow these simple guidelines to return the damaged equipment:

1. Always send back as much of the Talara system as possible—at least the unit itself and any operating switch and cable used for scanning.
2. Package the items as protectively as possible. It's always a good idea to save the original packing materials for just such a need.
3. Enclose a note describing in as much detail as you can the nature of the problems you've experienced. Reference any personal interaction with technical staff from ZYGO-USA. The note should contain the name and phone number of a person who can be contacted to discuss the details of the problem and the details of the solution, like cost of repair, etc. Also, indicate if an estimate of cost is needed before repairs are made.
4. Send the package in the most gentle, expedient way. **ZYGO uses UPS and DHL as its carriers of choice.** Tracking misplaced shipments can be done immediately from the factory. UPS Ground is an efficient method within the U.S., and DHL works well for international shipments. UPS (United Parcel Service) **air service** and other overnight air services are excellent where very fast service is required, and the rates are not too extreme. Priority mail should be a last resort and the equipment should be insured especially if this method is used.

OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

A variety of optional accessories is available from ZYGO-USA for the Talara. They include:

- Keyboard overlays
- Keyguards
- Panel graphics
- Application programs
- Mounting systems and adaptive fixtures
- Switches—single and multiple
- Cables and connector adapters to match other brands
- Microphones, speakers, and amplifiers
- Headpointers

And, of course, a complete line of communication systems is also available to match the future capability of the user.

PICTURES / SYMBOLS REFERENCES

PICTURE COMMUNICATION SYMBOLS - by Mayer-Johnson Co.

Available from:

DynaVox Mayer-Johnson
2100 Wharton Street, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
T/F: (866) 396-2869
Tel: (412) 381-4883
Fax: (412) 381-5241

PICK 'N STICK - by Imaginart Communication Products

TOUCH 'N TALK - by Imaginart Communication Products

MACAW Mates - by Imaginart Communication Products

WordWise Stickers - by Attainment Company, Inc.

Pictogram Symbols - by Pictocom International

Available from:

ZYGO-USA
48834 Kato Road, Suite 101-A
Fremont, CA 94538 U.S.A.
Tel: +1 (510) 249-9660
Fax: +1 (510) 770-4930
U.S./Canada: (800) 234-6006

GLOSSARY

Digitized speech:	A type of electronic speech where natural speech has been recorded, stored, then spoken. The speech is recorded through a microphone and passed through filters and an analog to digital converter. When recalled, the digitized information is then converted back to analog for playback through and amplified speaker. This type of speech very closely replicates the original speech input. Any sounds, therefore any language, may be recorded.
Direct selection:	A method of accessing the Message Keys by directly pressing them through one of several ways: finger, mouth or head stick, pointer, etc.
Facilitator:	The individual responsible for programming, setup and device interaction with the end user.
LED:	Light Emitting Diodes. The small red lights in the corner of the Message Keys that are used to indicate item selection either through direct selection or scanning.
Levels:	A method used to expand the number of available messages without increasing the number of keys. They are like layered “copies” of the keyboard arranged as pages or separate sheets of information that can be programmed and be available for immediate interactive communication.
Personality:	The entire characteristic content of the working memory—all the recorded messages and parameter settings, including levels, key patterns, scan modes, etc.
Scanning:	A method of accessing a system by users who are unable to directly touch the Message Keys. The scanning options are presented by a series of moving lights or changing auditory cues and the user indicates a selection by activating a switch or switches.
Synthesized speech:	An electronic speech output method whereby selected text is converted to a code that is used to create speech via a digital to analog converter. Even the best synthesized speech has robotic sound quality. The number of languages for which synthesized speech is available is limited.

Certifications

ZYGO-USA certifies that the **Talara-32** Digital Recording Communication Aid has passed the tests listed below:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Specified Requirement</u>
Conducted Emissions	EN 55022, Class B
Radiated Emissions	EN 55022, Class B
ESD	EN 50082-1, Class B
Radiated Immunity	EN 50082-1, Class B
EFT/Burst Immunity	EN 50082-1, Class B
General Medical Safety	IEC 601-1:1998

Medical Classification, Type B Equipment, Continuous Operation,
Water Ingress - IPX0: Not rated for water ingress.

NOTICE

This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instruction manual, may cause harmful interference with radio communications equipment.

There is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Relocate the equipment with respect to the receiver.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment to a different outlet so that the equipment and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, consult ZYGO-USA, one of its representatives or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions.

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