# Installation Guide & User Manual

## PERSONAL PA System 400

Narrow-Band FM Wireless Listening System

Transmitter Model T17/\* Receiver Model R19/\*, R19-4A, or R19-6



MAN 061B

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## PERSONAL PA SYSTEM 400 Installation Guide & User Manual

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## System Overview

Thank you for purchasing the Personal PA System 400 from Williams Sound Corporation. The PPA System 400 is a Narrow-Band FM Listening System which operates in the 72-76 MHz frequency band. Designed for hearing assistance in places of public access, the PERSONAL PA System 400 is for those who need help overcoming background noise, reverberation, or distance from the sound source. The versatile PPA 400 is easily integrated with your existing sound system or can be used with a microphone as a stand-alone system.

Your PPA System 400 has two principal parts: the T17 Transmitter and the R19 Receivers. Much like a miniature radio station, the transmitter and microphone pick up the sounds you want to hear and broadcast them over an FM radio signal. The receivers are used to pick up the broadcast up to 500 feet away.

To avoid difficulties, please read through these instructions as you begin to use the system. Then save the manual for questions that arise as you continue to use your PERSONAL PA System 400.

If you have any problems with this Williams Sound product, don't hesitate to call us toll-free at 1-800-843-3544.





## **Narrow-Band Basics**

#### Less Interference

All FM receivers are tuned to a specific carrier frequency. The selectivity of the receiver determines how close nearby radio signals can be to this carrier frequency before interference occurs. True narrow-band receivers like the Williams Sound R19 use dual-conversion circuitry to achieve a very narrow "window" of acceptance for radio signals. This allows them to operate in areas that have a lot of different radio signals with less likelihood of receiving interference.

#### More Simultaneous Channels

This narrow window of acceptance means more channels can be squeezed into the designated frequency band. Instead of dividing the Auditory Assistance Band (72-76MHz) into 10 wide channels (wide-band), the same band can be divided into 40 closely spaced (narrow-band) channels. The selectivity of the R19 dual conversion receiver allows you to operate on these closely-spaced channels without interference from the next channel.

#### **Greater Operating Range**

Another measure of FM receiver performance is sensitivity, measured by the weakest radio signal that the receiver can respond to and still operate properly. All hearing assistance transmitters are limited by FCC Rules to the same transmitted signal strength, so you can't boost transmitter power or antenna efficiency to get more operating distance. The farther you move from the transmitting antenna, the weaker the signal becomes. A very sensitive receiver like the R19 will allow greater operating distance. Because of its excellent operating distance, the PPA System 400 can be used in situations where maximum coverage area is needed.

#### Sound Quality

Narrow-band systems give up some frequency response (extended highs and lows) and noise performance compared to wide-band systems. This is usually not a drawback for spoken word presentations, but may not be optimal for programs which are primarily music. Manufacturers often list a minimum signal strength needed to maintain an acceptable noise level in the receiver before it "squelches" or goes quiet. The Williams Sound R19 receiver is designed to offer maximum sensitivity with minimum noise and a reasonable squelch action.

#### **Overload Protection**

Making a receiver sensitive for greater reception range of weak signals can create a problem when the receiver is used in an area that has strong radio signals. Unless the receiver has an superior dynamic range, it can be overloaded by the strong signal and become noisy, distorted, or vulnerable to interference. The Williams Sound R19 receiver uses state-of-the-art circuitry for improved RF dynamic range.

#### Capture Effect

When an FM receiver is presented with two radio signals on the same channel, it will "lock on" to whichever signal is stronger. This is called the "capture effect." Because signal strength is related to distance, this usually means that the closest transmitter antenna will produce the strongest signal and "capture" the receiver.



## **System Controls and Features**







## System Set-Up & Operation

#### **T17** Transmitter

**Step 1:** Install the antenna.

The "rubber duckie" whip antenna fits into the hole on top of the transmitter and threads onto a mounting stud inside. Guide the antenna onto the stud and turn it clockwise to tighten. Do not use excessive force to tighten the antenna. It only needs to be "finger-tight."

If the optional remote antenna (ANT 005) is most appropriate for your situation, contact your dealer or Williams Sound Corp. The remote antenna installation is detailed on page 11.

**Step 2:** Connect the transmitter to power.

The T17 is supplied with a wall transformer power supply. Plug the transformer into a 120 Volt, 60 Hz wall outlet. Then plug the power cord into the "Power" connector on the rear panel of the T17. The green indicator light on the front panel of the T17 should glow when the power is connected.

There is no on/off switch. The T17 is designed to be continuously on. The wall transformer can be plugged into a switched outlet that turns on when the other sound equipment is turned on. If turning the T17 on creates a hum or buzz in the sound system, see the Troubleshooting section on page 12.

Step 3: Make audio connections.

Step 3a: (If you will be using the T17 with its own microphone as a stand-alone system)

Any Williams Sound microphone with a 3.5 mm mini phone plug can be used with the T17. Plug the microphone into the "Mic" jack on the front panel of the T17.

The T17 is designed to supply positive DC voltage to the plug tip of 2-wire, "barefoot" electret (power condenser) microphones. If you will be using the T17 with a non-Williams Sound, Lo-Z (dynamic) microphone, this DC power should be turned off. (See Figure 4.)

If you use both the Microphone input and the Audio Input on the T17, the signals will be mixed together.

## Step 3b: (If you will be using the T17 with an existing sound system)

Refer to the Overall System Diagram on page 4. Use the audio cable supplied to connect the T17 "Audio In" jack to an appropriate audio output jack on the sound system mixer or amplifier. The T17 is designed to work with an unbalanced, linelevel audio signal.





Suitable connections are:

Choice 1:	TAPE OUT or LINE OUT Jack
Choice 2:	BOOSTER or BRIDGING Jack
Choice 3:	Speaker Terminal, 8 Ohm Tap

If your amplifier or mixer does not have RCA-type connectors, you can obtain adapters from your Williams Sound Authorized Dealer or a local radio parts store. If the TAPE OUT jack is already in use, a Y-Cord can be used to connect the T17 and a second device to the same jack.

**Step 4:** Use a receiver to test the system and set the input level control. The steps in the next section explain receiver operation.

#### R19 / R19-4 / R19-6 Receivers

**Step 1:** Install the batteries.

Pry open the battery compartment door with a coin. Press the batteries into place, observing proper battery polarity. **Do not force the batteries in backwards!** 

- **Step 2:** Plug the earphone or headphone into the earphone jack.
- Step 3: Turn the receiver on by turning the volume control clockwise. Turning the knob clockwise will increase the volume. Turning the knob counter-clockwise will decrease the volume. To avoid draining the battery, make sure the receiver is turned off when not in use.
- **Step 4:** If you are using the PPA System 400 with an existing sound system, make sure the sound system is turned on. Have someone speak into a microphone while you listen with the receiver and earphone. You should be able to hear their voice through the receiver.

If you are using the PPA System 400 with its own microphone, have someone speak into the microphone while you listen with the receiver and earphone. You should be able to hear their voice through the receiver.

- Step 5: The T17 Transmitter has a screwdriveradjust input level control located on the front panel to compensate for different input signal levels. The yellow audio indicator light should flash with the signal. If the sound through the receiver is clear and loud and the audio indicator light flashes with the signal, no adjustment is needed. If the sound through the receiver is weak and the audio indicator light does not flash even with the volume control turned all the way up, turn the T17 input level control clockwise to increase the signal. If noise (room noise or electronic noise) seems to grow after talking stops, the input level control should be turned counter-clockwise to decrease the signal.
- Step 6: If you don't hear the signal in the receiver, try moving the R19 channel selector switch to the other channel. The R19-4 features a four-channel selector knob preset to channels 13, 23, 33, and 53. R19-6 features a six-channel selector knob preset to channels 13, 23, 33, 53, 38, and 43. Turn the selector knob until you hear the desired program.

#### Adjusting The Receiver Tone Controls

The R19, R19-4, and R19-6 allow adjustments to cut low frequency sounds. Use the three-position slide switch on the receiver control panel to make this adjustment.

### **Battery & Charger Information**

#### **Alkaline Batteries**

In normal use, two BAT 001 heavy-duty, AA alkaline batteries will last 90-100 hours. If the sound becomes weak or distorted, replace the battery. Do not leave dead batteries in the receivers.

#### **Rechargeable Batteries**

The receivers can also use a rechargeable batteries. We recommend only the BAT 026 AA Ni-Cad battery. These batteries will last about 45-50 hrs per charge. Batteries from other suppliers may provide shorter operating life.



#### Figure 5: Using The Optional CHG 200A Battery Charger

- **Step 1:** Plug the CHG 200's power supply into the Power Jack on the back of the unit and a standard AC wall outlet.
- **Step 2:** Wrap the power cord around the Cord Hook (See figure at right.) This will minimize strain on the cord and jack and insure that the power cord is not detached during charging.
- **Step 3:** Make sure the receivers to be charged are turned OFF.
- Step 4: Place the receivers in the slots so that the CHG 200's Charging Pins and receiver's side panel contacts are coupled. Make sure that the charging contact holes line up with the charging pins. The receivers should drop easily into the slots. DO NOT FORCE THEM IN BACKWARDS.
- **Step 5:** The Charging Indicators will light, indicating that charging is in process.

It takes about 14 hours to fully charge the batteries. Remove the receivers when charging is completed.

#### **Further Suggestions**

Receivers SHOULD NOT be left charging continuously when not in use. Receivers should always be turned OFF while charging.

It's best to allow the batteries to fully discharge before charging.

If the batteries are near end of life and the LED turns off while the receiver is operating, this is an indication to change or recharge your batteries. Approximately one hour of battery life remains.

Repeatedly charging the batteries after short periods of use (1-2 hours) will shorten battery life.

Rechargeable batteries will need to be replaced after 1–2 years of use.



The batteries may heat up and burst, causing possible injury and damage to the equipment.

Avoid shorting the plus and minus battery terminals together with metal objects. Battery damage and burns can result!

Use only Williams Sound supplied chargers and batteries!



## **Suggestions For Receiver Management**

Different types of facilities will use different approaches for receiver management and earphone sanitation. Below are some options that customers have used successfully.

- **1.** Regular users purchase their own receiver and take care of their own batteries and earphone.
- 2. Some facilities label the receiver and earphone with the names of regular users so each person uses the same receiver and earphone.
- 3. Ushers issue receivers to people who request them. Earphones are sanitized after use. Foam ear cushions can be replaced or washed with a mild detergent, rinsed thoroughly and air dried. The EAR 022 Surround Earphone can be sanitized with an alcohol pad.
- 4. The receivers can be stored in a multiple compartment storage case with a credit card or driver's license left as collateral for the receiver.
- 5. Regular users purchase their own earphone or headphone and bring them to use with receivers at the facility.



## Using A Remote Antenna

The optional ANT 005 Coaxial Antenna is intended for use with rack-mounted transmitters or in installation areas where a remote antenna is needed for maximum operating distance.

Per FCC Rules, only antennas supplied by Williams Sound may be used with this transmitter.

## Do not cut or alter the antenna cable before reading the instructions below!

The ANT 005 Coaxial Antenna is a length of coaxial cable with an "F" connector on one end and an 80-inch antenna built onto the other end. The last 80 inches of the antenna make up the active element, which is covered by nylon braid. **The active element should never be altered.** The remainder of the antenna cable is RG-59 coax feedline. The feedline can be shortened if you have the tools to install a new F-connector. If you need a longer feedline, extension cables are available from Williams Sound in 50 foot lengths (WCA 008 50). Never splice coax cables together. Always use proper connectors.

#### Installing The Remote Antenna

- **Step 1:** Remove the "rubber duckie" antenna from the T17's top panel by turning it COUNTER-CLOCKWISE.
- **Step 2:** Use a pliers to remove the cap on the antenna connector. Be sure to turn <u>COUNTER-CLOCKWISE</u> to remove the cap.
- **Step 3:** The ANT 005 Coaxial Antenna connects to the "Antenna" connector on the rear panel of the T17 Transmitter. Attach the cable, making sure the center wire on the cable enters the hole in the center of the receptacle. The connectors screw together and need only be "finger-tight."

#### **Remote Antenna Location Guidelines**

For maximum signal strength, it is best to select an antenna location somewhere within the listening area. The preferred location is towards the front of the listening area and above the seats. The active element (nylon braid covered portion) should be kept straight, not coiled, and must be vertical.

Radio signals will generally pass through non-metal structures. The antenna can be mounted on a wall, in a corner, or behind a wooden beam. It may also be hung vertically from the ceiling, with a small weight attached to the end to make it hang freely. If you need to run the feedline through a wall, a 1/2" hole is necessary to pass the connector through.

Avoid placing the antenna within four feet of steel beams or near structural steel elements. Metal studs, ductwork, and foil-backed insulation can absorb radio energy, greatly reducing the range of the system. DO NOT put the active element (last 80 inches) inside a metal conduit. The feedline is categorized as Class II wiring. Thus, it may be (but is not required to be) routed through metal conduit, but NOT with microphone cables or AC power wiring.

Nylon clamps and screws are provided to attach the Coax Antenna to a wall. Locate the clamps every 3 - 4 feet. DO NOT bend the cable sharply at any point. Allow at least a 3" radius for turns. DO NOT staple the cable in place. Use the cable clamps provided or hang the antenna from the excess nylon braid at the end of the antenna element.



## **Troubleshooting Guide**

#### Transmitter "Power" light not on.

- 1. Make sure the wall transformer is plugged into the transmitter.
- 2. Make sure the electrical outlet is on.

#### No sound through receivers.

- 1. Try switching to the other channel on the R19.
- 2. If some of the receivers work, but others don't, check for bad batteries or earphones on the receivers that aren't working. Check to see that those receivers' frequencies match the transmitter's frequency. The R19 is preset for channels 33 and 53.
- 3. If none of the receivers work, check to see if the power is connected to the transmitter and the "Power" light is on. Check to see if the transmitter and receivers are set on the same frequency. The frequency sticker is on the bottom of the transmitter and inside the back cover of the receiver. If they don't match, see the Tuning Instructions on page 14.
- 4. Check to see if the transmitter is connected properly to the sound system. See page 7.
- 5. Turn the screwdriver-adjust input level control located on the T17 front panel clockwise to increase the input signal strength. Check to see that the audio light is flashing occasionally but not continuously.
- 6. If you are not using an input signal from a sound system, make sure the Williams Sound microphone is plugged into the "Mic" jack on the front of the T17 transmitter.
- 7. Make sure the antenna is installed and connected properly. See pages 7 and 11.

Sound through receivers is loud, but distorted. Noise (room noise or electronic noise) seems to grow after talking stops. Audio Indicator Light is continuously on.

1. Turn the screwdriver-adjust input level control located on the T17 front panel counterclockwise to decrease the input signal strength. The audio indicator light should flash, not be lit continuously.

#### Sound through the receivers is weak and noisy. Audio Indicator Light is not lit.

- 1. Turn the screwdriver-adjust input level control located on the T17 front panel clockwise to increase the input signal strength. The audio indicator light should be flashing
- 2. Increase the input signal level from the sound system.

#### Buzzing or humming noise in sound system.

- 1. Most likely, there is nothing wrong with the T17 Transmitter. One or more pieces of equipment in the sound system are being disturbed by RF (Radio Frequency) signals produced by the T17. The most likely suspects are your amplifier, mixer, or tape deck. The RF gets into the other equipment primarily through the power cord, speaker wires, or unshielded inputs, all of which can act as antennas. Try moving the transmitter away from the other sound equipment.
  - If remedy one does not solve the problem, we recommend using the optional Coax Antenna (ANT 005), which should be located 15-20 feet away from the other sound equipment. You may add additional RG-59 feedline as needed.

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## Radio Interference / Tuning Instructions

The PERSONAL PA System 400 is usually not disturbed by other radio services. However, there are no exclusive channels for this radio service. If you experience interference, follow the directions below.

#### Frequency Change Instructions

- **Step 1:** Unplug the power cord from the transmitter and remove the antenna.
- **Step 2:** Use a phillips-type screwdriver to loosen the two screws on the rear of the transmitter. Remove the cover. Slide the circuit board out of the case.
- **Step 3:** Use the diagram in Figure 6 to locate the frequency selector switches on the circuit board. You will also find the Switch Settings Table in Figure 6.
- Step 4: Use a paper clip or small screwdriver (not a pencil point) to move the switches to correspond with the switch positions for channel 53 on the programming chart. DO NOT TOUCH ANY OF THE OTHER ADJUSTMENTS!
- **Step 5:** Re-assemble the transmitter and plug it in. Connect a tape player or radio to the transmitter to provide a tuning signal for the receivers.
- **Step 6:** Change all receiver frequencies to receiver **channel 53**. For the R19, move the slide switch on the control panel to channel 2

For the R19-4 and R19-6, turn the rotary switch on the control panel to channel 4.

- **Step 7:** Listen for the signal through the receivers.
- **Step 8:** If you are using R19 Receivers and are still experiencing interference, you must return the receivers to your dealer for the installation of new crystals.

If you are using R19-4 or R19-6 Receivers, repeat the steps above for channels 13 or 23.

#### **Receiver Frequencies**

The R19, R19-4, and R19-6 operate on fixed crystals. Because of the nature of these crystals, frequency tuning is highly stable over the life of the receiver.

Crystals are not tunable. if alternate frequencies are needed, return the receivers to your dealer for new crystals. There are 10 standard frequencies available.

The R19 has a slide switch to select from channels 1 or 2 (channels 33 and 53).

The R19-4's rotary switch allows you to select between channels 1-4, (channels 13, 23, 33, and 53).

The R19-6's rotary switch allows you to select between channels 1-6, (channels 13, 23, 33, 53, 38, and 43).





## Warranty

The Williams Sound T17 Transmitter and R19/ R19-4/R19-6 Receivers are warranted against defects in workmanship and materials for FIVE YEARS.

Microphones, earphones, cables, carry cases, rechargeable batteries and chargers are warranted against defects in workmanship and materials for 90 DAYS.

This warranty does not extend to intentional or accidental physical damage.

This warranty applies only to products returned to Williams Sound for service. To return a product for service, call 1-800-843-3544 and request a Return Authorization (RA) number.

СН	FREQ	Switch Settings							
NO.	(MHz)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
CH 13	72.100	DN	UP	DN	UP	DN	DN	DN	DN
CH 18	72.300	DN	UP	DN	UP	UP	DN	DN	DN
CH 23	72.500	DN	UP	DN	UP	DN	DN	UP	DN
CH 28	72.700	DN	UP	DN	UP	UP	DN	UP	DN
CH 33	72.900	DN	UP	DN	UP	DN	DN	DN	UP
CH 38	74.700	UP	DN	DN	UP	UP	DN	DN	UP
CH 43	75.300	UP	UP	DN	UP	DN	DN	DN	DN
CH 48	75.500	UP	UP	DN	UP	UP	DN	DN	DN
CH 53	75.700	UP	UP	DN	UP	DN	DN	UP	DN
CH 58	75.900	UP	UP	DN	UP	UP	DN	UP	DN
T17 Switch Settings Table									

## PERSONAL PA SYSTEM 400 SPECIFICATIONS

#### PERSONAL PA Transmitter Model T17/\*

Dimensions & Weight:	3.25" W x 6.875" L x 1.75" H (82.5mm x	Pre-Emphasis:	300 µS	
	174.6mm x 44.5mm); 13 oz., 368.5 g	Frequency Response:	100 Hz - 5 kHz ±3dB	
Color:	Black	Distortion:	1 % Max. THD	
Power (U.S./Canada):	105-130 VAC, 50-60Hz, .5W	Signal to Noise Ratio:	50–55 dB with R19 Receiver	
Operating Frequencies:	: CH 13 (72.100 MHz), CH 18 (72.300MHz), CH 23 (72.500MHz), CH 28 (72.700MHz),	Microphone Input:	3.5mm mini phone jack, supplies +DC for electret mics	
	CH 33 (72.900MHz), CH 38 (74.700MHz) CH 43 (75.300 MHz), CH 48 (75.500MHz), CH 53 (75.700MHz), CH 58 (75.900MHz), CH 33 (72.900MHz) is standard Internal switches, 10 channels 8000 µV/m at 30 m Max., 20mW typical	Mic Input Level:	1 - 10 mV, nominal	
		Line-Level Input:	RCA Jack, Hi Z, unbal.	
		Line Input Level:	.1 - 1 Vrms, nominal	
Frequency Selector:		Input Attenuator: Antenna Outputs:	Pot, screwdriver-adjust	
RF Field Strength:			Thread Mount for "rubber duckie" flexible	
Nominal Range:	300-500 feet, 90-150m		whip antenna, optional hard-wired 75 $\Omega$ Coaxial Antenna (ANT 005) uses RG-59	
Modulation:	5 kHz (narrow-band)		cable, 400ft. (140m) max. cable length	
Stability:	± .005% over 0-50°C			
FCC ID:	CNMT17			
*NOTE:	The T17 Transmitter is field-tunable to any of 10 narrow-band channels. Specific transmitter model names contain a frequency code. For example, Model T17/33 is preset to channel 33.			

#### PERSONAL PA Receivers: Model R19/\*, Model R19-4A, Model R19-6

Model PPA R19:	2-Channel, Pre-Tuned, Selectable CH 33 (72.9 MHz), CH 53 (75.7 MHz) standard 10 Channels Available (72.1-75.9 MHz) 4-Channel, Pre-Tuned, Selectable CH 13 (72.1 MHz), CH 23 (72.5 MHz), CH 33 (72.9 MHz), CH 53 (75.7 MHz)	FCC ID: Earphone:	CNMR19 Earbud-type with foam cushion, 3.5 mm plug, 32 $\Omega$		
Model PPA R19-4:		Output Connector: FM Deviation: De-Emphasis: Sensitivity: Squelch Level: Frequency Response: Receiver Antenna: Signal-to-Noise Ratio: Audio Output: Acoustic Output: CONTROLS Tone: Volume & On/Off: Channel Selector:	3.5 mm mono mini phone jack Narrow-band, 5 kHz 300 μS 0.7 μV at 12 dB Sinad 4 μV for minimum 40 dB S/N ratio 100 – 5 kHz, ± 3 dB (Tone: Lo) Integral with earphone cord		
Model PPA R19-6:	6-Channel, Pre-Tuned, Selectable CH 13 (72.1 MHz), CH 23 (72.5 MHz), CH 33 (72.9 MHz), CH 53 (75.7 MHz) CH 38 (74.7 MHz), CH 43 (75.3 MHz)				
Dimensions:	3-5/8" L x 2-3/8" W x 7/8" H (92.1 mm x 60.3 mm x 22.2 mm)		50dB		
Weight:	3.2 oz (90 g) with battery		35 mW, max. at 16 Ω (Tone: Lo; 3 VDC Bat.)		
Color: Battery Type:	Neptune Blue (2) BAT 001 AA Alkaline or (2) BAT 026 Ni-Cad 20 mA, nominal 90–100 hrs with 2 AA Alkaline 45-50 hrs/charge with BAT 026 Crystal controlled. See factory for frequency changing instructions.		125 dB Max SSPL90 with EAR 013		
Battery Drain:			Switched Low-Cut Lo: 20 Hz / Mid: 120 Hz / Hi: 700 Hz		
Battery Life:			Combination, integral PPA R19: 2-position, slide switch PPA R19-4: 4-position, rotary switch PPA R19-6: 6-position, rotary switch		
Operating Freq:					
Intermediate Freqs:	10.7 MHz, 455 kHz				
*NOTE:	Specific receiver model numbers contair channels 33 and 53. The R19 and R19-4 R R19 or R19-4 channels cannot be used, th	eceivers are crystal-contr	olled for optimal stability. If the standard		

