Faria® Commander™ Speedometer / Depth Sounder

Owner’s Manual

- Digital Speedometer with Analog Appearance
- Digitally displays
- Depth in Feet, Meter, or Fathoms
- Shallow or Deep Water Alarms
- Alarms are Audio and Visual
- Keel Offset
- Trip Log

Faria® Commander™ Speedometer / Depth Sounder

The Faria® Commander™ Speedometer / Depth Sounder combines the features of two instruments into one. A Trip Log display that continuously displays the depth but also allows for simultaneous setting and adjustment of the Speedometer menu items. The Trip Log display is used to display the current depth reading in feet, meters, or fathoms. It can be used to monitor water depth under the boat or to record the depth at specific locations.

The Speedometer is a digital instrument with the appearance of an analog instrument. The Speedometer is designed to be operated from a console located above the waterline. The microprocessor and stepper motor provide excellent accuracy. Variations in the operation of the “paddle wheel” sensor are however fairly common. These variations may be caused by the mounting location of the “paddle wheel” on the hull which affected water flow characteristics or turbulence and air bubbles in the area of the “paddle wheel”. Therefore calibration of the speedometer may be required and is easily accomplished by using the Trip Log display.

Lighting

In normal operating mode the instrument lighting can be adjusted by pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) and \((\text{UP})\) buttons.

Trip Log

The Trip Log is similar to the trip odometer in an automobile. The distance traveled, as recorded by the Speedometer “paddle wheel”, is displayed. The Trip Log display may be set to zero, the units of measurement are miles (MI) and nautical miles (NM). Pressing and holding the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button changes the Trip Log display to the “settings” menu.

Trip Log “Settings” Menu

There are three items in the Trip Log “Settings” Menu: Reset, Units, and Calibration. Briefly pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button cycles the display to the “settings” menu.

Reset

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button returns the Trip Log to zero.

Units

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button displays the trip units of measurement for the Trip Log between miles (MI) and nautical miles (NM).

Calibration

This menu item is used to simultaneously adjust the calibration of the Speedometer and the Trip Log. Two methods of calibration are possible:

1) The Trip Log can be set to zero and then a course of known distance run, such as between two buoys or by using a GPS. At the end of the run access the Calibration menu item. Briefly press the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button to adjust the recorded Trip Log distance to match the known distance. This will calibrate both the Trip Log and the Speedometer.

2) A GPS or ruler can be used to calibrate the display. While holding the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button, briefly press the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button to adjust the speedometer to match the GPS or ruler indicated speed.

Depthsounder

The Depthsounder displays the depth of the water under the boat. The depth can be displayed in feet, meters, or fathoms. Audible and visual alarms can be set to warn of shallow or deep water conditions. A “keel offset” setting allows the operator to adjust for the difference in the location of the depthsounder transducer compared to the deepest part of the boat’s hull. The various settings are accessed by pressing and holding the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button under the Depthsounder display.

Depthsounder “Settings” Menu

There are four items in the Depthsounder “Settings” Menu: Shallow Alarm, Deep Alarm, Keel Offset, and Units. Briefly pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button cycles the menu item. The microprocessor will automatically record the new settings as you adjust them.

Shallow Alarm

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button changes the setting for the Shallow Alarm. Setting the Shallow Alarm to zero turns off the alarm.

Deep Alarm

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button changes the setting for the Deep Alarm. Setting the Deep Alarm to zero turns off the alarm.

Keel Offset

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button changes the keel offset setting. Negative numbers indicate that the depthsounder transducer is located ABOVE the deepest part of the hull (typical). Allow for worst case boat loading before adjusting the Keel Offset as this setting affects the Shallow Alarm.

Units

Pressing the \((\text{DOWN})\) or \((\text{UP})\) button cycles the units of measurement for the Depthsounder between feet (FT), meters (M), and fathoms (FA).
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**Speedometer**

The speedometer is a digital instrument with the appearance of an analog instrument. It is designed to be operated from a Faria® “paddle wheel” sensor. A microprocessor controlled stepper motor moves the pointer to display boat speed using a linear dial. The microprocessor and stepper motor provide excellent accuracy. Variations in the operation of the “paddle wheel” sensor are however fairly common. These variations may be caused by the mounting location of the “paddle wheel” on the hull which can affect water flow characteristics or turbulence and air bubbles in the area of the “paddle wheel”. Therefore calibration of the speedometer may be required and is easily accomplished by using the Trip Log display or the pointer (see below).

**Trip Log**

The Trip Log is similar to the trip odometer in an automobile. The distance traveled, as recorded by the speedometer “paddle wheel”, is displayed. The Trip Log may be reset to zero, the units of measure changed, or the calibration adjusted using the submenus. Pressing and holding the (DOWN) or (UP) buttons while the Trip Log display is shown causes the display to cycle between the Trip Log display and the Trip Log display. Pressing and holding the (MODE) button cycles through the menu items. The microprocessor will automatically record the new settings as you adjust them.

**Calibration**

This menu item is used to simultaneously adjust the calibration of the Speedometer and the Trip Log. Two methods of calibration are possible:

1) The Trip Log can be set to zero and then a course of known distance run, such as between two buoys or by using a GPS. At the end of the run access the Calibration menu. Pressing the (DOWN) or (UP) buttons adjusts the recorded Trip Log distance to match the known distance. This will calibrate both Trip Log and the Speedometer.

2) A GPS or radar gun can be used to obtain a fixed speed. While holding the (MODE) button while the Trip Log display is shown causes the display to cycle through the menu items. The microprocessor will automatically record the new settings as you adjust them.

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**Depthsounder**

The Depthsounder displays the depth of the water under the boat. The depth can be displayed in feet, meters, or fathoms. Audible and visual alarms can be set to warn of shallow or deep water conditions. A “keel offset” setting allows the operator to adjust for the difference in the location of the depthsounder transducer compared to the deepest part of the boat's hull. The various settings are accessed by pressing and holding the (MODE) button while the Depthsounder display is shown (see Figure 1).

**Depthsounder “Settings” Menu**

There are four items in the Depthsounder “Settings” Menu: Shallow Alarms, Deep Alarms, Keel Offset, and Units. Briefly pressing the (MODE) button cycles through the menu items. The microprocessor will automatically record the new settings as you adjust them.

- **Shallow Alarms**
  - Pressing the (DOWN) or (UP) button changes the setting for the Shallow Alarms. Setting the Shallow Alarm to zero turns off the alarm.

- **Deep Alarms**
  - Pressing the (DOWN) or (UP) button changes the setting for the Deep Alarm. Setting the Deep Alarm to zero turns off the alarm.

- **Keel Offset**
  - Pressing the (DOWN) or (UP) button changes the setting for the Keel Offset. Negative numbers indicate that the Depthsounder transducer is located ABOVE the deepest part of the hull (typical). Allow for worst case boat loading when adjusting the Keel Offset if this setting affects the Shallow Alarm.

- **Units**
  - Pressing the (DOWN) or (UP) button cycles the units of measurement for the Depthsounder between feet (FT), meters (m), and fathoms (FA).

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**DEPTH**

- **SHALLOW ALARM**
- **RESET**
- **DEEP ALARM**
- **UNITS**
- **KEEL OFFSET**
- **CALIBRATION**
- **DEPTH UNITS**

**Figure 1**
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The **FARIA® Commander™ Speedometer / Depth Sounder** combines the features of these two instruments with a Trip Log.

The instrument has three push buttons; (DOWN), (UP), and (MODE) that control the modes of operation. The (MODE) button is used to change the function of the LCD display and to access submenus and adjustable settings. The (DOWN) and (UP) buttons are used to modify the settings.

In normal operation mode, pressing the (MODE) button for a short period of time causes the display to cycle between the Depthsounder display and the Trip Log display. Pressing and holding the (MODE) button causes the display to change to the “settings” submenus (see Figure 1).

When the menus are selected, pressing the (MODE) button for a short period of time causes the display to cycle through the setting options. Within each setting selection, pressing the (MODE) setting selection, pressing the (MODE) button will affect the setting selected. The microprocessor will automatically record the new settings as you adjust them. When in a setting menu, pressing and holding the (MODE) button will return to the main function.

**Speedometer**

The speedometer is a digital instrument with the appearance of an analog instrument. The speedometer is designed to operate from a FARIA® "paddle wheel" sensor. A microprocessor controlled stepper motor moves the pointer to display boat speed using a linear dial. The microprocessor and stepper motor provide excellent accuracy. Variations in the speed of the "paddle wheel" sensor are however fairly common. These variations may be caused by the movement of the "paddle wheel" on the hull which also affects water flow characteristics or turbulence and air bubbles in the area of the "paddle wheel". Therefore calibration of the speedometer may be required and is easily accomplished by using the Trip Log display or the pointer (see below).

**Lighting**

In normal operating mode the instrument lighting can be adjusted by pressing the (DOWN) and (UP) buttons.

**Trip Log**

The Trip Log is similar to the trip odometer in an automobile. The distance traveled, as recorded by the speedometer "paddle wheel", is displayed. The Trip Log display may be reset to zero, the units of measure changed, or the calibration adjusted using the submenus. Pressing and holding the (MODE) button while the Trip Log is displayed will change the display to the "settings" menu (see Figure 1).

**Depthsounder**

The Depthsounder displays the depth of the water under the boat. The depth can be displayed in feet, meters, or fathoms. Audible and visual alarms can be set to warn of shallow or deep water conditions. A "keel offset" setting allows the operator to adjust for the difference in the location of the depthsonder transducer compared to the deepest point of the boat hull. The various settings are accessed by pressing and holding the (MODE) button while the Depthsounder is displayed (see Figure 1).