

Vega INFO-1

Information Display

Operating Manual – English 1.01

G-force meter UTC and local time display Slip indicator Battery Voltage, *Current and Charge display OAT display Flight Timer & Flight log Stopwatch Countdown Timer Alarm



Introduction

The INFO-1 is a 2 1/4" sunlight readable multifunction color display instrument. The INFO-1 has the following features:

G-force meter

The INFO-1 is capable of measuring g-forces exerted in an aircraft up to +-16g. The INFO-1 also has the facility to record the maximum positive and negative g-forces encountered (typically during a flight) in permanent memory, with a password protected reset facility. It also features two independent cycle counters to capture the amount of times a preset force has been exceeded. The INFO-1 is able to measure g-forces even if the instrument is not mounted exactly on the vertical axis of the aircraft.

UTC and Local Time display

The INFO-1 is capable of displaying both UTC (as known as Zulu time) and local time to facilitate ordinary ATC time reporting. Time is maintained by an internal lithium battery which can be replaced by the user.

Slip indicator

The INFO-1 can display a slip indicator. The slip indicator can be disabled in the menu system.

Battery Voltage, *Current and Charge display

The INFO-1 can be used to monitor your aircraft's battery power supply. The INFO-1 is very useful in determining your battery's health, charging status, as well as the current load consumption of your aircraft. The INFO-1 can be used in both 12V and 24V aircraft and can measure voltages up to 30V DC.

The INFO-1 uses the MGL Avionics magnetic field or active current shunt to measure the aircrafts current load. The INFO-1 contains a programmable low/high voltage alarm to automatically detect bad batteries and alternator failures. The maximum and minimum voltage reached is also recorded in permanent memory.

OAT display

OAT can be shown in either degrees Celsius or degrees Fahrenheit. The INFO-1 also contains a programmable low/high OAT alarm. The maximum and minimum OAT reached is also recorded in permanent memory.

Flight Timer & Flight log

The INFO-1 provides a 50 entry flight log that stores the start time and duration of each of the last 50 flights. The flight timer can either be started using a front push button or from a remote input.

Stopwatch, Countdown Timer & Alarm

Stopwatch and timers can be operated simultaneously to a programmable alarm, making the INFO-1 particularly suitable for sport flying competitions.

1 Features

- 1.8" high resolution 160x128, sunlight readable, wide viewing angle, 1000 cd/m2 TFT LCD display
- G-force range of +-16g
- Records the maximum positive and negative g-forces encountered (typically during a flight) in permanent memory, with a password protected reset facility
- Two independent cycle counters capture the amount of times a preset force has been exceeded
- Able to measure G-forces even if the instrument is not mounted exactly on the vertical axis of the aircraft
 Capable of displaying both UTC (Zulu time) and local time
- Time is maintained by an internal lithium battery which can be replaced by the user
- Can measure voltages up to 30V (compatible with both 12V and 24V aircraft supplies)
- Contains a programmable low/high voltage alarm to automatically detect alternator failures and bad batteries
- Uses the MGL Avionics magnetic field or active current shunt to measure the aircrafts current load.
- *Contains a charge status indicator
- OAT can be shown in degrees Celsius or degrees Fahrenheit
- Contains a programmable low/high OAT alarm
- Provides a 50 entry flight log that stores the start time and duration of each of the last 50 flights

- The flight timer can either be started using a front push button or from a remote input
- Stopwatch and timers can operate simultaneously to a programmable alarm
- Standard 2 1/4" aircraft enclosure (can be front or rear mounted)
- Rotary control plus 2 independent buttons for easy menu navigation and user input
- An external output activates when an alarm condition has been reached
- Wide input supply voltage range of 8 to 30V DC with built in voltage reversal and over voltage protection for harsh electrical environments
- 1 year limited warranty

* Requires the MGL Avionics magnetic field or active current shunt (sold separately)

2 Layout



3 Main Displays

The INFO-1 has various display screens depending on the mode selected. The local time, G-force, Slip (if enabled) and OAT (if enabled) is shown on all of the main display screens.

3.1 UTC Time Display





3.2 Flight Timer



Slip Indicator disabled



Slip Indicator & OAT disabled



Press the F1 push button to start/stop the flight timer. This push button is only active if the flight timer is set to manual.

Slip Indicator & OAT disabled, Flight Timer set for remote start/stop



3.3 Stopwatch

Local time Local time label Stopwatch time Indicates stopwatch is running swAA•A 17 G-force display Stopwatch label STOP ZERO Press the F1 key to Press the F2 key to reset Slip Indicator Start/Stop the stopwatch the stopwatch time to zero (if enabled) Slip Indicator & OAT disabled Slip Indicator disabled 08:1 sw00:00: TMR 🗋 17

The stopwatch can be started and stopped at any time and reset to zero.

3.4 Countdown Timer

STOP

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The countdown timer is loaded from a preset value. Once loaded, the timer can be started and counts down. It can be stopped and restarted at any time.





Press the F2 key to enter the set timer screen. Use the rotary control to set the countdown timer value. Press the F1 key to exit.

START

OAD

Slip Indicator disabled



Slip Indicator & OAT disabled



3.5 Alarm





Press the F2 key to enter the alarm setting screen as shown on the left. Use the rotary control to set the alarm time. Press the F1 key to exit.

Slip Indicator disabled



Slip Indicator & OAT disabled



3.6 Battery Voltage / Current display

Both the battery voltage and current can be displayed. If the current measurement is disabled then the battery voltage will be shown with a bargraph.

Dual Mode (Both battery voltage and current shown)



Battery Voltage only (Current measurement disabled)



3.7 OAT (Outside Air Temperature)

The OAT display is shown on all the main displays. The OAT display can be disabled in the menu system.



3.8 G-force

The G-force display is shown on all the main displays. The cycle counter and the maximum/minimum values are only shown on certain displays.



3.9 Maximum/Minimum Values display

MAX / MIN		
VOLTS:	14.1V/14.1V	
GF:	0.0g/1.0g	
OAT:	11/34	
AMPS:	7A/11A	
RESET		

Press the F1 key to reset the maximum and minimum values. If the security option has been enabled, then the correct security code will have to be entered before you will be able to reset the maximum and minimum values.

4 Menu System

Press the rotary control button during the normal display mode to enter the menu system. Use the rotary control to navigate through the menu system.



4.1 Exiting the menu system

Press the F1 button to exit the menu system when the "EXIT" soft key is shown. All changes made during navigation of the menu system will be saved in non-volatile memory upon exiting. The instrument will not save any changes if you remove power before exiting the menu system.

4.2 Flight Timer



View Flight Log:



Use the rotary control to view the next flight log entry.

Erase Flight Log:

Use this function to erase the flight log stored in the INFO-1.

FT Display:

Select to enable or disable the flight timer display.

Flight:

Select if you would like to start and stop a flight by pressing a front push button, or by using a digital input.

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4.3 G-Force Setup



Pos Alarm:

BACK

This enables or disables the positive G-force alarm.

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Pos Alarm:

Enter the G-force threshold for when the positive alarm must be activated. Any G-force above this value will activate the alarm.

Neg Alarm:

This enables or disables the negative G-force alarm.

Neg Alarm:

Enter the G-force threshold for when the negative alarm must be activated. Any G-force below this value will activate the alarm.

Pos Cycle:

Set the positive G-force limit above which the cycle counter should increment. This would typically be set to the maximum allowable G-force rating of your aircraft (positive G-force). The cycle count is retained if power is removed.

Neg Cycle:

Set the negative G-force limit above which the cycle counter should increment. This would typically be set to the maximum allowable G-force rating of your aircraft (negative G-force). The cycle count is retained if power is removed.

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4.4 Time Setup



Set UTC Time:



This function is used to set the internal real time clock. The time to be entered must be UTC in order for the system to operate correctly. Do not enter local time (unless it is the same as UTC).

UTC is the same as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) or Zulu time.

UTC Offset:

Enter the UTC offset for your location. The UTC offset can be adjust in half an hour increments.

UTC Display:

Select to enable or disable the UTC display.

SW Display:

Select to enable or disable the stop watch display.

TMR Display: Select to enable or disable the countdown timer display.

ALM Display:

Select to enable or disable the alarm display.

RTC Trim:

This allows you to adjust a trimming factor that will increase the accuracy of the built in clock.

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4.5 Volts Setup



Display Max:

Select the maximum value that you want the volts bargraph to show. This can give you increased display resolution. The bargraph is only shown if the current display is disabled.

Display Min:

Select the minimum value that you want the volts bargraph to show. This can give you increased display resolution. The bargraph is only shown if the current display is disabled.

High Alarm:

This enables or disables the volts high alarm.

High Alarm:

Enter the voltage threshold for when the high alarm must be activated. Any voltage above this value will activate the alarm.

High Caution:

Enter the voltage for the high caution. This is the lower value of the upper yellow band.

Low Caution:

Enter the voltage for the low caution. This is the upper value of the lower yellow band.

Low Alarm:

This enables or disables the volts low alarm.

Low Alarm:

Enter the voltage threshold for when the low alarm must be activated. Any voltage below this value will activate the alarm.

Cal:

Measure the battery voltage with a multimeter and then adjust this value to match that of the multimeters volts reading.

4.6 Current Setup (MGL Avionics magnetic field or active shunt required)





Current Disp:

Select to enable or disable the current display.

High Alarm:

This enables or disables the current high alarm.

High Alarm:

Enter the current threshold for when the high alarm must be activated. Any current above this value will activate the alarm.

High Caution:

Enter the current value for the high caution.

Low Caution:

Enter the current value for the low caution.

Low Alarm:

This enables or disables the current low alarm.

Low Alarm:

Enter the current threshold for when the low alarm must be activated. Any current below this value will activate the alarm.

Zero Sensor:



Select this function to indicate to the INFO-1 that zero current is flowing through the MGL current sensor. This is best done with the MGL current sensor disconnected from the main current supplying conductor.

Gain:

Adjust the gain factor until the current is reading correctly. It will be best if a multimeter can be inserted in series with the current supplying conductor and the gain calibration adjusted until the INFO-1 matches that of the multimeter. Please see the MGL current sensor documentation for more information.

In the case of the MGL magnetic field current sensor, This will depend on the distance and the method that is used to attach the MGL current sensor to the main current supplying conductor.

4.7 OAT (Outside Air Temperature) Setup



OAT Display:

Select to enable or disable the OAT display.

Temp Unit:

Select whether you want the OAT to be displayed in degrees Celsius (°C) or in degrees Fahrenheit (°F).

High Alarm:

This enables or disables the OAT high alarm.

High Alarm:

Enter the temperature threshold for when the high alarm must be activated. Any temperature above this value will activate the alarm.

High Caution:

Enter the temperature for the high caution. This is the lower value of the upper yellow band.

Low Caution:

Enter the temperature for the low caution. This is the upper value of the lower yellow band.

Low Alarm:

This enables or disables the OAT low alarm.

Low Alarm:

Enter the temperature threshold for when the low alarm must be activated. Any temperature below this value will activate the alarm.

OAT Cal:

During the factory calibration a factor has been determined and entered here that will give you an accurate OAT reading. If you find this value is incorrect then adjust the calibration factor until the INFO-1 OAT matches that of a precision thermometer. Calibration can only be done in Celcius (°C).

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4.8 Slip Setup



Slip Display:

Select if you would like to enable the slip indicator to be shown on the bottom of the display.

Slip Sense:

Select if you want the slip to have a high sensitivity or a low sensitivity setting.

Slip Zero:

This function allows you to set your slip indicator to exactly zero even if your aircraft tends to fly slightly wing down. The procedure is to place the aircraft in a stable, straight and level attitude during calm flight conditions and then select this function. To cancel the correction, place your sensor absolutely horizontal (use a spirit level) and select the function again.

4.9 MISC Setup (Miscellaneous Setup)



Backlight:



Security Setup:

ega Select this menu option if you want to password protect the menu system. CHANGE CODE ega ega ega ega ENTER SECURITY CODE ENTER NEW CODE CONFIRM NEW CODE CODE CHANGED 0000 0000 000 Ĵ ВАСК 🖌 😽 BACK ¥ BACK 🖌 BACK ¥ BACK

Information:



This menu option displays information about the unit.

Select this menu option to adjust the backlight brightness.

Default Settings:



Select this menu option to reset all the settings to factory defaults.

4.10 ADC Values



This menu displays the ADC values from the various sensors.

5 Loading factory default settings



Press and hold the F1/Up button and rotary control during power up to load the preprogrammed factory default settings. The following screen will be displayed:

Factory default settings can also be loaded in the Miscellaneous setup menu.

<u>6 Error Messages</u>

UNIT SETTINGS CRC ERROR

Unit settings CRC error. Load default settings to restore to factory defaults. If the error message still persists then it could possibly be a non-volatile memory failure in which case the instrument will then have to be returned to the factory.

INTERNAL FLASH CRC ERROR UNIT:123456 CODE:654321

Internal flash CRC error. The instrument does a firmware check on the program when power is applied to the instrument. If the program is corrupt in any way then the internal flash CRC error will be displayed. Reload the instruments firmware and load default settings. If the error message still persists then it could possibly be an internal flash memory failure in which case the instrument will then have to be returned to the factory.

CALIBRATION CONSTANTS CRC ERROR

Calibration constants CRC error. The instrument could possibly have a non-volatile memory failure in which case the instrument will then have to be returned to the factory.



Max Values CRC error. Load default settings to restore to factory defaults. If the error message still persists then it could possibly be a non-volatile memory failure in which case the instrument will then have to be returned to the factory.

7 Specifications

Operating Temperature Range	-10°C to 60°C (14°F to 140°F)
Storage Temperature Range	-20°C to 80°C (-4°F to 176°F)
Humidity	<85% non-condensing
Power Supply	8 to 30Vdc SMPS (switch mode power supply) with built in 33V over voltage and reverse voltage protection
Current Consumption	Approx. 73mA @ 13.8V (backlight highest setting), 33mA @13.8V (backlight lowest setting)
Display	 1.8" 160x128 pixel active matrix TFT display. 1000 cd/m2 Sunlight readable with anti-glare coating LED Backlight is user configurable
Alarm Output	Open collector transistor switch to ground Maximum rating 0.25A
ADC	12 bit
Dimensions	see Vega series dimensional drawing
Enclosure	2 1/4" ABS, black in color, front or rear mounting. Flame retardant.
Weight	Approx. 120 grams (Instrument excluding cables)
Non-volatile memory storage	100000 write cycles
Voltage measurement range	Up to 32Vdc
Voltage resolution	0.1V
Current shunts supported	MGL Avionics magnetic field or MGL Avionics active current shunt
G-force range	+-16g typical
OAT Temperature Sender type	Semiconductor LM335 (ON Semiconductor)
Internal battery type	CR2032

8 Operating the alarms

The alarm output can be used to switch an external alarm indicator. The external alarm switch is an open collector transistor switch to ground with a maximum rating of 0.25A DC. It is possible to wire the alarm contacts of several Stratomaster instruments in parallel should this be desired. To avoid false activation of the alarms, the alarm function is only active 10 seconds after the instrument has powered up.

9 Firmware Upgrading

The INFO-1 can be upgraded in the field by connecting the RS232 port to a PC and running the firmware update program. Note that only the RS232 port can be used to upgrade the firmware.

Please see the Vega firmware upgrading document for more information.

10 Installation

10.1 Connection Diagram

The use of an external 1A fuse is recommended. Connect the supply terminals to your aircrafts power supply. The INFO-1 can be used on both 12V and 24V without the use of any pre-regulators. Ensure that the supply voltage will not drop below 8V during operation as this may result in incorrect readings.



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10.2 Cable connections

D15HD Pin	Color	Function
1	Red	8-30Vdc power via power switch / circuit
		breaker and fuse.
2	Black	Ground. Connect the ground to the engine
		block, and the engine block to the battery
		negative. Do not connect the INFO-1 ground
		directly to the battery negative. This must be
		routed via the engine block.
3	=	RS232 Transmit data (Firmware upgrading)
4	-	RS232 Receive data (Firmware upgrading)
5	Green	Current sender input
7	Orange	OAT Sender input
10	Grey	Flight timer remote start/stop
		(Leave open if remote start stop not required)
		Low = Run flight timer
		Open = Stop flight timer
15	White	Alarm Output (Open collector)

Main connector (D15HD connector: Unit Female, Cable Male)

11 Changing the internal battery

The INFO-1 uses an internal Lithium battery to supply power to run the internal clock. If you find the INFO-1 looses time when you switch off main power you should replace the battery. This battery is of type CR2032. It is used in many calculators and similar equipment and is easy to obtain. Remove the 2 securing nuts next to the D-15 connector and remove the unit from its enclosure. The battery holder is located on the circuit board behind the display. Observe correct polarity when installing a new battery. The side marked "+" will be viewable once the battery is inserted.

12 Cleaning

The unit should not be cleaned with any abrasive substances. The screen is very sensitive to certain cleaning materials and should only be cleaned using a clean, damp cloth.

Warning: The INFO-1 is not waterproof, serious damage could occur if the unit is exposed to water and/or spray jets.

13 Warranty

This product carries a warranty for a period of one year from date of purchase against faulty workmanship or defective materials, provided there is no evidence that the unit has been mishandled or misused. Warranty is limited to the replacement of faulty components and includes the cost of labor. Shipping costs are for the account of the purchaser.

Note: Product warranty excludes damages caused by unprotected, unsuitable or incorrectly wired electrical supplies and or sensors, and damage caused by inductive loads.

14 Disclaimer

Operation of this instrument is the sole responsibility of the purchaser of the unit. The user must make themselves familiar with the operation of this instrument and the effect of any possible failure or malfunction.

This instrument is not certified by the FAA. Fitting of this instrument to certified aircraft is subject to the rules and conditions pertaining to such in your country. Please check with your local aviation authorities if in doubt. This instrument is intended for ultralight, microlight, homebuilt and experimental aircraft. Operation of this instrument is the sole responsibility of the pilot in command (PIC) of the aircraft. This person must be proficient and carry a valid and relevant pilot's license. This person has to make themselves familiar with the operation of this instrument and the effect of any possible failure or malfunction. Under no circumstances does the manufacturer condone usage of this instrument for IFR flights.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

You must make your own determination if the products sold by MGL Avionics are safe and effective for your intended applications. MGL Avionics makes no representations or warranties as to either the suitability of any of the products we sell as to your particular application or the compatibility of any of the products we sell with other products you may buy from us or anywhere else, and we disclaim any warranties or representations that may otherwise arise by law. Also, we offer no specific advice on how to install any of the products we sell other than passing along anything that may have been provided to us by the manufacturer or other issues. If you are in need of further information or guidance, please turn to the manufacturer, FAA Advisory Circulars and guidance materials, the Experimental Aircraft Association, or other reputable sources.

The manufacturer reserves the right to alter any specification without notice.

Other instruments in the Stratomaster Vega series

- AHRS-1 Artificial Horizon and Magnetic Compass Indicator
- ALT-5 Altimeter and Vertical Speed Indicator (VSI)
- ASI-4 Airspeed Indicator (ASI)
- ASV-1 Altimeter, Airspeed (ASI) and Vertical Speed Indicator (VSI)
- **EMS-1** Engine Monitoring System
- FF-4 Fuel Computer
- **INFO-1** Information Display (G-Force meter, UTC and Local Time, Slip Indicator, Outside Air Temperature (OAT), Battery Voltage, Current and charge display, Flight Timer & Flight Log, Stopwatch, Countdown Timer and Alarm)
- MAG-1 Magnetic Compass Indicator
- MAP-3 Manifold Pressure and RPM Indicator
- **RPM-1** Universal Engine / Rotor RPM Indicator
- TC-4 4 Channel Thermocouple (EGT/CHT) Indicator
- TP-3 4 Channel Universal Analog Input (Pressure/Temperature/Current/Volts) Indicator