# **SOLAR POST GUIDE: OAK BUTTONS**

Operation of the Solar Post Oak Button could not be easier, users simply...

Push button 1 to hear audio track 1 Push button 2 to hear audio track 2

Note: Post can be configured (in factory) to play a bespoke number of sequential messages, this number is not user changeable and must be preordered.

# First time Set Up



The Solar Post will be in 'Transit Mode' when it arrives and pressing a button should activate a blinking red light within the grill.

To get out of Transit mode simply place your included Programming Dongle (pictured above) in the 4 slots above the grill and press a button. This will activate a greeting message and you can begin to use your Solar Audio Post. See the 'Programming' section for instructions on how to upload your audio.

# **Configuring Your Solar Post**

There are various configuration options for your Solar Post. To access these settings ensure no messages are playing then insert the Dongle (supplied)

into the required 4 slots above the grill.

Now press a button and wait approximately 2 seconds for the Solar Post to take you through the settings options.



Follow the audio instructions and remove the dongle when you hear the function you require. Repeat this process to access consecutive functions. The functions are listed in the following order;

- 1. Adjust volume settings
- 2. Update Media Content (Program)
- 3. Night time configuration
- 4. Timer configuration
- 5. Playback Statistics
- 6. Erase Statistics
- 7. Battery and solar test
- 8. Put unit into transit mode
- 9. Exit Menu

# **Adjust Volume**

Remove the dongle at the Adjust Volume Settings option, then replace the dongle when instructed. The solar post will now go through volume levels 1-10, when you get to the desired level remove the dongle and this level will be stored.

# **Update Media Content (Program)**

Here you update the audio messages available on your Solar Post. Please see the programming instructions on page 3.

# Night Time Configuration (auto power off)

This setting allows you to configure the Solar Post to power off at a certain level of light (i.e you can set it to power off at night).

Remove the dongle at the Night Time Configuration option, then replace the dongle when instructed. The Solar post will now go through two options, either disable night time mode (standard) or store the current light level.

If you remove the dongle and 'store the current light level' the Solar Post will measure the current light levels and power off when that level is reached each day. We advise you only do this at night to ensure the Solar Post does not simply power off during low light conditions.



BUTTON SOLAR POST AUDIO PRODUCT MANUAL Note: When powered down the Solar Post will still allow access to the configuration settings with the use of a dongle.

## **Timer Configuration (message delay)**

This setting is mainly for use with the PIR Solar Post, however can also be used for the Button version. It dictates how long between the activation of a message the Post waits to activate a message again.

Remove the dongle at the Timer Configuration option, then replace the dongle when instructed. The Solar post will now go through timer options, first minutes from 0 - 5 in increments of 1 minute then seconds from 0 - 55 in increments of 5 seconds. You will be told what settings you have chosen once finished.

## **Playback Statistics**

This setting allows you to access the playback statistics for your Solar Post, remove the dongle at the Playback Statistics option then replace the dongle when instructed. It will list a number of statistics in the following order;

- 1. Total messages played for this period (can be reset in the Erase Statistics Option)
- 2. Total messages played for each Track (1& 2) (can be reset in the Erase Statistics Option)
- 3. Total messages played (this statistic can not be erased)

Each statistic is given in 6 digits, i.e if Track 1 has been played 25 times, the Post will say Zero Zero Zero Two Five.

Removing the dongle while these statistics are being listed will not affect them in any way.

## **Erase Statistics**

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This setting allows you to erase the playback statistics for;

- 1. Total messages played for this period
- 2. Total messages played for Track 1 & 2

Remove the dongle at the Erase Statistics option, then replace the dongle when instructed. You will then be warned that the statistics are about to be reset, to cancel this remove the dongle before the 5 beeps end.

## **Battery and Solar Test**

This setting allows you to perform a battery and solar test for your Solar Post. Remove the dongle at the Battery and Solar Test option, then replace the dongle when instructed.

You will then be informed of your battery level in Volts, and whether or not there is a charge from the Solar Panels.

Note: The Solar Post will inform you when the charge falls below 4v and no longer play messages.

# **Put Unit Into Transit Mode**

This setting is used when the Solar Post is in transit and effectively shuts it down for travel. Remove the dongle at the Transit Mode option then replace the dongle when instructed.

When in transit mode messages will not be activated, if a button is pushed you will just see a blinking red light inside the speaker.



To exit transit mode simply insert the Settings Dongle and press a button, you will then be greeted by a message that only plays when exiting transit mode.

# **Exit Menu**

Here you can exit the settings menu, the Solar Post will continue to loop through each menu option until you decide to exit.

Remove the settings dongle when you reach this option then replace when instructed.

You will hear a beep and the Solar Post will revert to its standard operating state.

## PROGRAMMING

Programming the Solar Audio Post couldn't be easier. You will need 3 things;

### Note: Files must be .mp3 format

- 1. Audio files 1 & 2 (.mp3 format)
- 2. A Programming Dongle included
- **3.** The USB stick provided with Programming Dongle

Please note: If provided USB stick is not available use a USB stick less than 1GB in size if possible, if you have issues uploading your files please first retry with a different USB stick.

#### Step 1

Place your audio files on a USB stick. Transfer your files one file at a time, the sequence in which you transfer the files is important not their title.

The first file you transfer will play on button 1, the second file you transfer will play on button 2.

#### Step 2

Attach your USB stick to the USB Dongle then select the 'Update Media Content' option from the menu by removing and replacing the dongle (with USB attached) when prompted.

#### Step 3

The Solar Post will now tell you it's transferring your files or inform you if there is an issue.

You will be asked to wait until it's finished. This could take a number of minutes depending upon the size and length of files you are transferring.

When finished the Solar Post will inform you and ask you to remove the Dongle. The Solar Post is now ready to use with the updated messages. Test each message just to be sure, and enjoy!





# MAINTENANCE

#### Battery

Each audio solar post uses 4 rechargeable AA 2900mAH nickel metal hydride batteries which need to be replaced approximately every 2 years.

### Tools

T20H Torque Bit (security bit) Cross Head Screwdriver 5.5mm Spanner

#### Procedure

1. Unscrew the 6 security screws from the front panel using the T20H pin torque screwdriver.

- 2. Pull the front panel forward **slowly**; do not exceed the solar cable.
- 3. Unplug the solar cable and remove the solar electronics from the post
- 4. You will need to open the electronics box by removing the 6 cross head screws and nuts.
- 5. Locate the black battery box inside and remove the small cross head screw from the back.
- 6. Slide the box cover open.

7. Replace the old batteries with the new. Its a good idea to push a button to ensure the batteries are connected and the audio player is working.

- 8. Replace cover and screw to secure the battery box.
- 9. Replace the 6 cross head screws and nuts to seal the electronics.
- 10. Re-connect the solar panel cable.
- 11. Replace the 6 screws to secure the front panel in place.

12. Test by pressing a button. We advise checking after replacing batteries that charge is being received by the electronics (you will need a sunny day for this)

At the end of each message a red light located in the lower half of the grill will blink if the electronics are receiving charge.

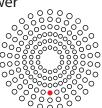
#### Cleaning

We advise cleaning the solar posts and panels annually. Mild soap and water is best for general cleaning. Rinse with clean water after washing. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge, using nothing harsher than natural bristle brushes; do not scour painted surfaces.

### How can you tell if your solar post is charging?

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At the end of each message a red light located in the lower half of the grill will blink if the electronics are recieving charge.  $\circ_{\circ\circ\circ}^{\circ\circ}$ 



## **INSTALLATION**

The Solar Audio Post Oak can be supplied with a stand or in-ground mount;

#### With Stand

The Tall Metal Post is installed into a solid surface (usually cement) via 4 x M8 fixing bolts through 4 holes available in the stand.

#### In Ground

When supplied with an in-ground mount the Solar Audio Post can be installed directly into the ground.

**IMPORTANT:** The wooden body of the post must not be sunk into the ground, this will result in decay over time.

1. Dig hole of the appropriate size.

2. Place Post in hole and fill with cement, ensure you leave a 20mm Top Gap between body of Post and cement. Allow cement to harden.

3. Fill Top Gap with top soil, wood chippings or gravel etc. This allows water to escape away from the body of your Post.



# **SPECIFICATIONS**

#### Messages

Message storage medium:	64MBit Flash Memory (on board)
Maximum number of messages:	4 files @ 8MB max total size.
Message encoding format:	Мр3
Maximum total message length:	>16 minutes @ 64kbs

Message selection via 2 buttons

#### Bitrate (kbs) / Average length of all audio (minutes)

16kbs	67.00
24kbs	43.00
32kbs	30.00
64kbs	16.00
96kbs	11.00
128kbs	8.00
160kbs	6.30
192kbs	5.15
256kbs	4.00
320kbs	3.00

Note: times may vary depending upon the audio complexity, this is only a guide

### Message Output

Playback sample:	
Audio output:	
Freq. range:	

Mono 1W into 80hm speaker 75Hz-20kHz

### Power

4 built in Solar Panels charging 7ah long life battery at up to 100mA per hour.

### Weight

Tall oak 15kg

