# **Quick Start RF Transceiver Evaluation Kit**

# 1. Introduction

The RF Transceiver Evaluation Kit exists to provide familiarity with the functionality of Atmel<sup>®</sup>'s UHF ASK/FSK transceivers. For this purpose, software is included which enables the user to configure the registers easily and conveniently.

# 2. Kit Contents

The transceiver kit consists of a transceiver base station board, an SPI2LPT interface board, a DC supply cable, a parallel port cable, and a CD-ROM with the appropriate software, as depicted in Figure 2-1. The transceiver board and the SPI2LPT interface board have to be ordered separately.







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# **Application Note**

4888B-RKE-07/06





### 2.1 Transceiver Board

- Transceiver base station board
- Whip antenna
- BNC to SMB adapter

## 2.2 SPI2LPT Interface Board ATAB-SPI-LPT

- Interface board
- DC supply cable
- Parallel port cable
- CD-ROM Transceiver S2L
- CD-ROM Products

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## 3. Hardware

## 3.1 Transceiver Board

The transceiver base station board is available for different frequency ranges in high power mode, that is, with an RF output power of approximately 10 dBm at  $50\Omega$ . The different kit versions, transceiver board ordering codes, and SPI2LPT interface board ordering codes are in the selection guide, which can be found on the Atmel web site (**Products -> Automotive & Industrial -> Automotive Control -> Tools & Software**). Note that the transceiver board and the interface board have to be ordered separately.

### 3.2 Interface Board

The SPI2LPT interface board forms the connectivity between a parallel port of the PC and the SPI interface of the transceiver. Furthermore, a stable 5V supply voltage is generated by means of an on-board voltage regulator. Figure 3-1 shows the interface board and its building blocks.



Figure 3-1. Building Blocks of Interface Board





## 3.3 Connecting the Transceiver Kit

To ensure proper operation, the following steps should be carried out before starting the transceiver software:

- 1. Assemble the transceiver kit as shown in Figure 3-2.
- 2. Connect the parallel cable to an unused port of the PC.
- 3. Set switch S1 to VInt.
- 4. Connect the DC power cable to a 12V power supply unit.
- 5. Switch on the 12V DC power supply.
- 6. Switch on the PC and boot into the operating system.

To measure the current of the transceiver itself, the procedure is as follows:

- 1. Assemble the transceiver kit as shown in Figure 3-2.
- 2. Connect the parallel cable to an unused port of the PC.
- 3. Set switch S1 to VEva.
- 4. Connect 5V to pin VEva and the corresponding ground level to pin GND.
- 5. Connect the DC power cable to a 12V power supply unit.
- 6. Switch on the 12V DC power supply.
- 7. Switch on the PC and boot into the operating system.

Figure 3-2. Assembly of the Kit



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# 4. Software

## 4.1 Installation

On the CD-ROM there are different versions *setup.exe* for the different supported evaluation boards. Go to the appropriate directory on the CD-ROM (for example, ATAB5811\_12) for the evaluation board in use and run that *setup.exe* to install the transceiver software. To use the parallel port, the driver *pport.exe* must be installed.

## 4.2 Getting Started

- 1. Start the transceiver software.
- Under Options -> XTAL Frequencies, select the appropriate crystal frequency according to Table 4-1.

Table 4-1.Crystal Frequencies

RF Frequency [MHz]	Crystal Frequency [MHz]
315	12.7319
433.92	13.2531
868.3	13.4119
915	14.1332

- 3. Choose **Setup** -> **Transfer Rate** and set the fastest supported value.
- 4. Select the connected port under Setup -> Parallel Port.
- Under File -> Load Settings, four sample settings are predefined. For example, if 433.92MHZ\_RX-MODE\_FSK\_2.4KBIT/S is selected, a configuration for receiving polling mode with FSK modulation and a data rate of 2.4 kBits/s is loaded. If 433.92MHZ\_TX-MODE\_FSK\_2.4KBIT/S is selected, the appropriate configuration for transmit mode with FSK modulation and a data rate of 2.4 kBits/s is loaded. LIM\_MIN sets the TX\_BAUDRATE. Clicking WRITE ALL starts the PLL running, but the PA remains off.

In receiving polling mode, the integrated logic searches periodically for a valid transmitter signal. In the presence of a valid signal, the transceiver switches to permanent receiving mode and the data is received.

Depending on the configuration of the transceiver, the data stream is stored in the integrated TX/RX data buffer or is available on pin SDO\_TMDO.

If the status register is read in buffered mode, the number of received bytes is shown as the counter value in the TX/RX buffer window. Clicking **READ** displays the received data stream in the TX/RX buffer window.

In transmit mode, the data can be sent using the TX/RX data buffer, or the data stream can be applied on pin SDI\_TMDI.

To use the TX/RX data buffer, the following steps have to be carried out:

- Set the data stream bit-by-bit including a preburst and a start bit.
- Press WRITE to send the data. After the data is sent, a continuous carrier is emitted.
- Set the transceiver back to the desired mode using the control register CREG1.

Further details on the different settings, operation modes, flowcharts, etc. are described in the datasheet.





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