VC-818 ETTL High-speed Wireless Radio Trigger

User Guide

Description	Page

Introduction

Thank you very much for selecting VC-818TX ETTL High-speed Wireless Radio Trigger. Please read this instruction carefully and keep them handy for your reference.

VC-818TX ETTL radio trigger (for Canon) is engineered to work with Canon ETTL system, and applies to Canon EOS camera. You can use VC-818TX transmitter on camera to trigger remote VISIONS studio flash

Whether you are a photographer or amateur, VC-818TX multiple independent control, simple operation, and reliable wireless from TTL trigger system provides an unparalleled experience of convenient for the studio and location shooting, greatly improves shooting efficiency. It is perfect tool for shooting portraits, weddings and sports, allowing you to get perfect shot anytime and anyplace.

⚠ Safety Note

Do not use the unit in an environment where moisture or flammable vapor is likely to come in contact with the unit. Failure to observe this precaution could result in fire or electric shock.

Do not explore any components in direct sun for a long time or in other areas subject to high temperature. Failure to observe this precaution could result in fire or electric shock.

Do not attempt to disassemble or service the unit on your own to avoid shock hazard.

Always keep out of reach of children. Consult a physician immediately if a child swallows any part of this device.

1/Name of Parts

VC-818TX Radio Transmitter

① -POWER:ON/OFF
② -TEST:Test flash button
③ -GROUP:Select group
④ -MODE : Select mode
⑤ -SYNC/CH: Select Sync mode/Channel
⑥ -MODEL/AF:Set Modeling lamp/ Turn
   ON or OFF AF-Assist beam
⑦ -Select Dial : adjust parameter
⑧ -Ok button : save parameter
⑨ -Radio transmission confirmation lamp
⑩ -LCD screen
⑪ -AF-Assist beam

AF-Assist beam is only applicable to some models of cameras.

⑫ -Battery compartment
⑬ -Locking screw
⑭ -Hot shoe camera connection

2/ VC-818TX Radio Transmitter LCD screen

Gr:Group Flash

Gr : Group Flash

Current selected Channel

Output power of every modeling lamp

Flash exposure compensation amount

Manual flash output

Current selected group

Group

Flash mode
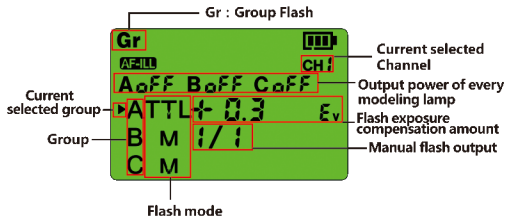
⚠ Note: 1. The LCD screen only shows settings of present application.

2. When press button or rotate dial, the LCD screen illuminates.

ETTL Auto Flash

High-speed / First curtain / Second curtain sync

E-TTL auto flash

Group

Flash ratio

Flash exposure compensation(FEC)

Multi Stroboscopic Flash

Multi Stroboscopic Flash

Manual flash output

Flash frequency

Number of Flashes

3/ Button Operation

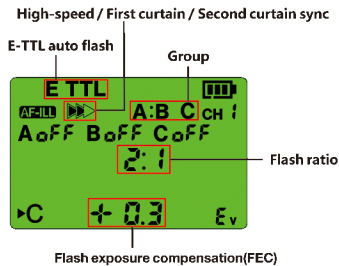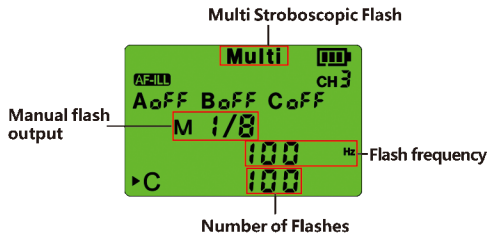| Button	Operation	Function
GROUP	Short press	Select A/B/C group in sequence
MODE	Long press 3s	Gr/ETTL/MULIT
	Short press (Under Gr mode)	Select flash mode for each group in sequence 1. M 1/X: set output power of Flash with HSS function. 2. M: Set output power of VISION manual flash (without HSS function) 3. TTL Mode; 4. Turn off the group
	Short press (Under ETTL mode)	Select flash ratio mode in sequence 1.A:B 2.A:B C 3.All(no signal on screen)
	Short press (Under Multi mode)	Select flash output / frequency / number of flashes in sequence
SYNC/CH	Short press (Under Gr mode)	Select three flash sync mode in sequence 1.First curtain sync (no signal) 2.Second curtain sync 3.High-speed sync
	Short press (Under ETTL mode)	Turn ON/OFF high-speed sync
	Long press	Set up channel and ID
MODEL/AF	Short press	Set output power of modeling lamp of A/B/C group
	Long press	Turn on/off AF-Assist beam
POWER	Switch to right side	Switch on power
	Switch to left side	Switch off power
TEST	Short press	Test flash
Dial	Rotate the dial	Set parameter

4/ Install Battery

Move battery cover backward, open battery compartment. According to positive and negative indicator on the battery compartment, install two AA batteries (Optional) or two 1.2V charging battery (Optional).

⚠ Caution: If out of service in long period, please take out battery. When battery is in low level, replace two batteries together will prevent from missing fire or no fire.

VC-818TX radio transmitter

5/ How to Use Radio Trigger

1. Wireless trigger studio flash (Fig 1)

1-1 When camera is off, mount the transmitter VC-818TX on
camera hotshoe, turn on the camera and transmitter.

1-2 Set VC-818TX transmitter and VISION5 flash at same channel
and ID.

1-3 Press camera shutter button, the studio flash will be
triggered simultaneously.

Note: **VISION**brand VCHHLR, VCHH, VE PLUS, VL PLUS, **VISION4**,
VISION5 and VL PLUS AC/DC studio flash includes build-in radio
receiver. They are compatible with VC-818TX radio transmitter.

Fig1

6/Mount on camera

Slip the transmitter's mounting foot fully into the camera's
hot shoe. Rotate locking ring clockwise, to attach transmitter
on camera firmly. Rotate locking ring anticlockwise, to detach
the transmitter.

7/Power switch

Switch [POWER] button to right side. The power is ON and
the LCD screen illuminates.
Caution: If out of service in long period, please switch off, to
prevent power consumption.

8/LCD illumination

Backlight of LCD screen illuminates when press button or rotate
dial. Backlight of LCD screen goes out 10 seconds after setting.

9/Save Parameters

1. After select parameter, let it stand 10 seconds, the parameter
   will be saved.
2. After select parameter, press [OK] button, the parameter will
   be saved.
3. After select parameter, turn off the power switch, the parameter
   will be saved.

10/Wireless Control

The radio transmitter attached on camera(Master) can directly adjust flashes (slave) that is wirelessly controlled. Parameters set on radio transmitter will be synchronously reflected on flash that is wirelessly controlled.

11/Set Channel 、ID and Group

VC-818TX transmitter has 8 channels and 30 ID. In the same channel, VC-818TX enables you to separately control flashes in three groups simultaneously or independently. You can have as many lights as you want in every group. This is ideal for working with multiply lighting setups. You can work with total control with remote lights, without leaving shooting place.

Set Channel of Radio Transmitter

1. There are 8 channels on radio transmitter, selectable from CH 1- CH 8.
2. Long press [SYNC/CH] button, only CH shows on the screen. Rotate dial to set up proper channel value. Press [OK] button to save the value.

Set ID of Radio Transmitter

1. There are 30 ID on radio transmitter, selectable from 1-30.
2. Long press [SYNC/CH] button, CH shows on the creen. Then, short press [SYNC/CH], ID code shows on screen. Rotate dial to set up proper ID. Press [OK] button to save the value.

Set Group of Radio Transmitter

Press [GROUP] button to choose and set up A /B /C group in sequence.

12/ Switch Operation Mode Gr, ETTL, Multi

Long press [MODE] button 3s on radio transmitter, switch <Gr> / <ETTL> / <Multi> modes in sequence.

13/Gr Mode: Shoot with a Different Flash Mode for Each Group

In Gr mode, you can set different flash mode for A / B / C groups. The selectable modes are <TTL> / <M 1/x> / <M> / <OFF>.

Select <Gr> mode: Long press [MODE] button 3s and set the radio transmitter to <Gr>.

Select flash group: Short press [GROUP] button, to select A or B or C group. The current selected group is pointed by a triangle mark.

Set up flash mode for selected flash group: Short press [MODE] button, <TTL> , <M 1/x> , <M> and <OFF> shows in sequence.

1.**When use <TTL> mode,** set the flash exposure compensation by rotating dial. Flash exposure compensation range is ±3EV and variable in 1/3 EV precise increment.

Caution: Studio flash or hot shoe speedlite should support ETTL.
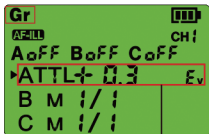

Flash Exposure Compensation

2. **When use <M 1/x> mode,** manually set flash output power by rotating dial. Flash output power range is adjustable from 1/1 to 1 /128 (8 f-stop) and variable in 1/3 precise increment. This Mode is only applicable for flash with HSS function
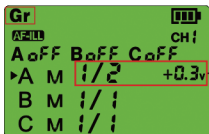

Flash output power

3. **When use <M> mode,** manually set flash output power by rotating dial. Flash output power doesn't reflect on radio transmitter. This mode is only applicable for VISION series of flash light, including VCHHLR, VCHH, VE PLUS, VL PLUS AC/DC and VISION4.
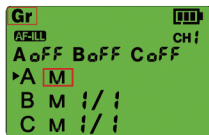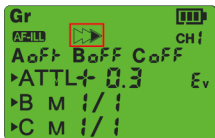

4. **When use <OFF> mode,** there is no icon on the screen. The transmitter can't trigger **flash with HSS function, such as VISICO5, VCHSTTL, VCHSS.**
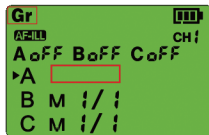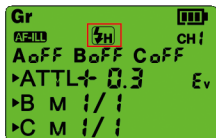
Set Shutter Speed in Gr Mode

In Gr mode, flash shutter speed can be set up to first curtain sync, second curtain sync, or high-speed sync. Short press [SYNC/CH] button, first curtain, second curtain, and high-speed sync are selectable in sequence.
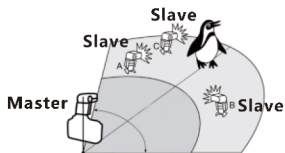

second curtain sync

high-speed sync

⚠ Caution:

1. Second curtain sync is only applicable in manual controlled flash.
2. When using second curtain sync, the effective shutter speed range of camera is 1/25s or slower. When shutter speed is 1/30s or faster, the setting is invalid.

ETTL Mode: Flash Ratio operation

Wireless multiple flash shooting with flash ratio, make total flash output of firing groups result in proper exposure.

Select <ETTL> mode: Long press [MODE] button 3s and set the radio transmitter to <ETTL>.

Choose ratio mode: Short press [MODE] button, select ratio mode <A:B>, <A:B C>, <ALL> in sequence.

1. **Under <A:B> mode,** group A and B fire, and group C doesn't fire. Rotate dial to set up ratio rate between group A and group B. Flash exposure compensation of group A and B can be adjusted through camera, but can't be adjusted by radio transmitter.

The details of the flash ratio settings are as follows:
8 : 1 , 4 : 1 , 2 : 1 , 1 : 1 , 1 : 2 , 1 : 4 , 1 : 8
5.6 : 1 , 2.8 : 1 , 1.4 : 1 , 1 : 2.8 , 1 : 5.6
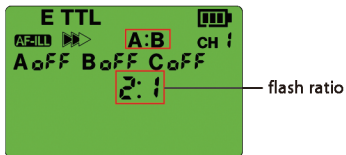
flash ratio

2. **Under <A:B C> mode,** group A and B fire according to flash ratio, and group C fires at the same time without ratio. The setting of A:B is the same as above.

Set up flash exposure compensation of group C: Short press [group] button, the triangle pointed group C. Rotate dial to set flash exposure compensation of group C. Flash exposure compensation is adjustable from -3 to +3 in 1/3 precise increment.

Flash ratio

Flash Exposure Compensation
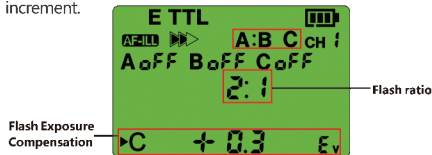
3. **Under <ALL> mode,** group A, B and C are ratio off. All the groups fires with the same flash output. Flash exposure compensation of group A, B and C are adjustable by camera, but can't be adjusted by radio transmitter.

Note: If you need more power, you may use more flashes.
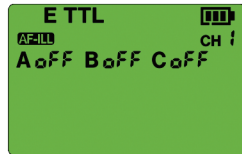
Set High-speed Sync in ETTL Mode

With certain Canon camera, you can achieve sync speed to 1/8000th of a second. When photographers shoot outdoors in bright sun with wide open aperture, fast shutter speed can cut the ambient light, get amazing result as you want.
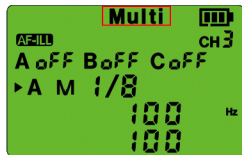
Shortly press <SYNC/CH> button and set shutter speed to high-speed sync< 🔵H >

## Multi Mode: Stroboscopic Operation

To achieve ideal shooting effect, please only use single flash unit in stroboscopic mode.

Select <Multi> mode: Long press [MODE] button 3s and set the radio transmitter to <Multi>.


select group: Short press [GROUP] button to select group A or B or C.

Set up flash output power of selected group: Shortly press [MODE], the triangle pointed <M 1/x>. Flash output power is selectable from 1/4 to 1/128. Rotate dial to set up power. Caution: in Multi mode, max. flash output power is 1/4.
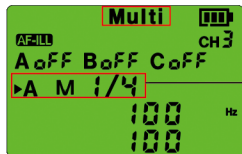
Flash output power

Set up flash frequency of selected group: Shortly press [MODE] button, the triangle pointed Hz. Flash frequency is variable from 1 to 100Hz. Rotate dial to set up proper frequency.
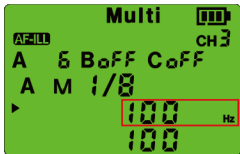

Set up number of flashes of selected group: Shortly press [MODE] button, the triangle pointed numbers of flashes. Numbers of flashes is variable from 1 to 100. Rotate dial to set up proper number of flashes

14/Operating Modeling Lamp

Use radio transmitter to remotely control the brightness of modeling lamp, dimmable in six steps.
Shortly press [MODEL/AF] button, to set up modeling lamp of group A, B, and C in sequence.
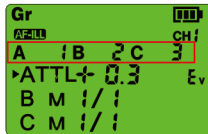
1.**Set modeling lamp of group A:** short press [MODEL/AF] button, the LCD screen only show modeling lamp value of group A. Rotate dial and set up proper modeling lamp output 1/2/3/4/5/6/OFF. Press [OK] button to save setting.
2.**Set modeling lamp of group B:** short press [MODEL/AF] button twice, the LCD screen only show modeling lamp value of group B. Rotate dial and set up proper modeling lamp output 1/2/3/4/5/6/OFF. Press [OK] button to save setting.
3.**Set modeling lamp of group C:** short press [MODEL/AF] button, the LCD screen only show modeling lamp value of group C. Rotate dial and set up proper modeling lamp output 1/2/3/4/5/6/OFF. Press [OK] button to save setting.
Caution: The feature that remotely control modeling lamp is only applicable to a few series of VISION flashes. It is not applicable to other brand of flashes.

15/Test

Press [TEST] button, radio transmission confirmation lamp light in red, can test whether flash is triggered normally.

16/Transmitter Control from Camera's Menu Screen

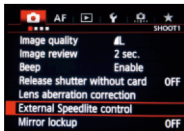Set flash functions, radio transmitter functions from the camera's menu screen.

1.Slip the transmitter's mounting foot fully into the camera's hot shoe. Rotate locking ring clockwise, to attach transmitter on camera firmly. Turn on radio transmitter by turn [POWER] button to the right side.
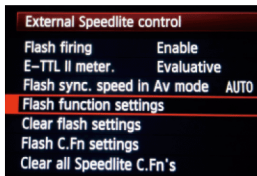
2.Turn on Camera. Set to M manual. Put your camera in manual mode by turing the mode dial to the "M" setting.

3.Press the [MENU] button on camera and select [External Speedlite Control] or [Flash control], and press [SET] button. The screen accesses to [External Speedlite Control]

4.Select [Flash function settings], and press [SET] button.

Note:The setting screen varies depending on the camera.

16-1/ Gr Mode Control from Camera

1.Select channel, ID and group on VC-818TX radio transmitter:
When use radio transmitter in Gr mode, please set radio transmitter and flash at the same channel and ID. According to shooting situation, divide flashes into A / B / C groups. Select the group that you are going to set up on radio trigger. When you want to set up flashes in group A, please press [GROUP] button on radio transmitter and select <A>.
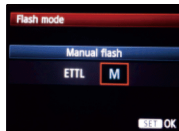
2.Select wireless flash function [OFF]:

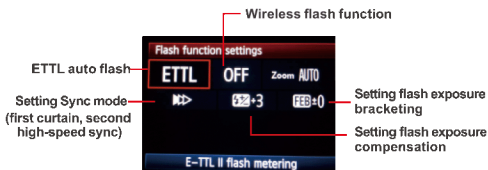Under [Flash function settings] menu, set wireless flash function [OFF].
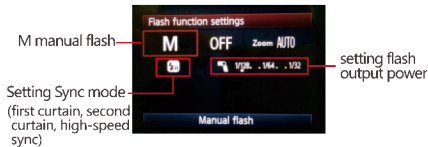

3.Select Flash Mode: Under

[Flash function settings]menu, can select flash mode [M] or [ETTL].

When select [ETTL] mode, output power of slave flash is automatically controlled by camera.
Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC), Flash Exposure Bracketing (FEB), Shutter Sync mode can be set up by camera.


- Wireless flash function
- ETTL auto flash
- Setting Sync mode (first curtain, second high-speed sync)
- Setting flash exposure bracketing
- Setting flash exposure compensation

When select [M] mode, output power of slave flash is adjustable manually through camera.

- M manual flash
- Setting Sync mode (first curtain, second curtain, high-speed sync)
- setting flash output power

16-2/ ETTL Mode Control from Camera

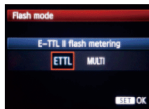**1.Select wireless flash function [ ]:** Under [Flash function setting] menu, set wireless flash function [ ].
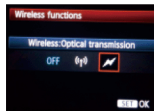
optical transmission

2.Select Flash Mode: Under [Flash function setting] menu, select flash mode [ETTL]. Press [SET] to save setting.

curtain,

3.Select Flash ratio mode: <A:B>,<A:B C>, <ALL>. The flash output power will be automatically controlled by camera.
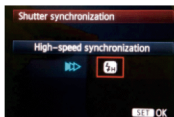

A:B flash ratio

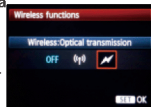Isolated adjustment of Group C flash exposure compensation

4.Choose flash sync speed: Under <ETTL> mode, there are two shutter speed for choice, first curtain sync or high-speed sync.
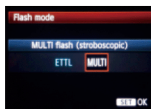

16-3/ Multi Mode control from Camera
1.Select wireless flash function [✈]: Under [Flash function setting] menu, set wireless flash function [✈].
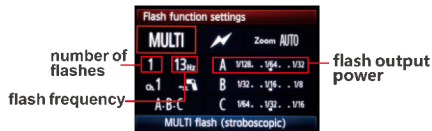

optical transmission

2. Select Flash Mode: Under [Flash function setting] menu, can select flash mode [MULTI]. Press [SET] to save setting.

3.Adjust flash output power: Ajust output power of selected power. Every groups power is adjustable isolated.

4.Set up number of flashes and flash frequency.

number of flashes

flash frequency

flash output power

≡

Specification	
Model No.	VC-818TX
Compatible camera	Canon 1D3/1D4/1DX/450D/200D/5D2/5D3/5D4/5DS/6D/6D2/600D/7D/7D2/70D/700D/750D/80D/800D/1500D
Channel	Ch. 1-8
Wireless radio ID	1-30
Slave unit control	Under every channel controls 3 groups of slave unites isolately (A,B,C)
Transmission distance	25 meters
Flash ratio control	1:8-1:1-8:1, 1/2 f-stop increment
Flash exposure compensation (FEC)	±3 stops in 1/3 increment
Flash exposure lock	Yes
High speed sync	up to 1/8000s
Manual flash	Output control range from 1/1 -1/128 (in 1/3EV increment)
Fireware update	Yes
Power Source	Two AA alkaline battery or Ni-MH battery
Size	90*56*40
Weight	105g

Flash Control   Fully support wireless ETTLL M manual and Multi flash.

TTL flash   Locking VC-818TX transmitter to the hot shoe of a Canon camera, through sending wireless signal,automatically control VISIONS studio flash

Channel and group   VC-818TX transmitter has 8 channels and 30 ID.In the same channel, VC-818TX enables you to seperately control flashes in three groups simultaneously or independently.

Multiple Sync   Support front-curtain sync, rear-curtain sync, high speed sync, max 1/8000s sync speed

Flash power adjustment   Remotely control flash output,wide adjustment range ±3 EV , increase or reduce by precision 1/3EV, quickly achieve optimal exposure.

High-speed Burst. Supports high-speed Burst, capture splendid moments

AF-Assist beams Humanized AF-assist light, works perfectly for low-light focus

Metal hot shoes Metal hot shoe, locking ring, wear resistant, more durable, solid installation, ease of use

Updatee Build-in USB port for firmware upgrades, update the latest settings.