

# Uniden®

**BC355N  
SCANNER**

OWNER'S MANUAL

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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## PRECAUTIONS

Before you use this scanner, please observe the following:

### ***Warning***

Uniden America Corporation does not represent this unit to be waterproof. To reduce the risk of fire, electrical shocks, or damage to the unit, do not expose this unit to rain or moisture.

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Bearcat ® is a registered trademark of Uniden America Corporation.

Close Call ® is a registered trademark of Uniden America Corporation.

## **THE FCC WANTS YOU TO KNOW**

This scanner has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This scanner generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. There is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this scanner does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the scanner on and off, you are encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the scanner and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference, and
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

## **FCC PART 15/IC COMPLIANCE**

### ***FCC COMPLIANCE***

FCC Compliance Statement: This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void your authority to operate the equipment.

Avis de conformité à la FCC : Ce dispositif a été testé et s'avère conforme à l'article 15 des règlements de la Commission fédérale des communications (FCC). Ce dispositif est soumis aux conditions suivantes: 1) Ce dispositif ne doit pas causer d'interférences nuisibles et; 2) Il doit pouvoir supporter les parasites qu'il reçoit, incluant les parasites pouvant nuire à son fonctionnement.

Tout changement ou modification non approuvé expressément par la partie responsable pourrait annuler le droit à l'utilisateur de faire fonctionner cet équipement.

### ***IC COMPLIANCE***

This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void your authority to operate the equipment.

Cet appareil est conforme aux normes RSS exemptes de licences d'Industrie Canada. Son fonctionnement est soumis aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) cet appareil ne doit pas causer d'interférences nuisibles et (2), il doit pouvoir accepter les interférences, incluant celles pouvant nuire à son fonctionnement normal.

Tout changement ou modification non approuvé expressément par la partie responsable pourrait annuler le droit à l'utilisateur de faire fonctionner cet équipement.

## **SCANNING LEGALLY**

Your scanner covers frequencies used by many different groups, including police and fire departments, ambulance services, government agencies, private companies, amateur radio services, military operations, pager services, and wireline (telephone and telegraph) service providers. It is legal to listen to almost every transmission your scanner can receive. However, there are some transmissions that you should never intentionally listen to. These include:

- Telephone conversations (cellular, cordless, or other private means of telephone signal transmission)
- Pager transmissions
- Any scrambled or encrypted transmissions

According to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), you are subject to fines and possible imprisonment for intentionally listening to, using, or divulging the contents of such a conversation unless you have the consent of a party to the

conversation (unless such activity is otherwise illegal). This scanner has been designed to prevent the reception of cellular telephone transmissions and the decoding of scrambled transmissions. This is done to comply with the legal requirement that scanners be manufactured so they are not easy to modify to pick up these transmissions. Do not open your scanner's case to make any modifications that could allow it to pick up transmissions that are illegal to monitor. Modifying or tampering with your scanner's internal components or using it in a way other than as described in this manual could invalidate your warranty and void your FCC authorization to operate it. In some areas, mobile and/or portable use of this scanner is unlawful or requires a permit. Check the laws in your area. It is also illegal in many areas (and a bad idea everywhere) to interfere with the duties of public safety officials by traveling to the scene of an incident without authorization.

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## **ABOUT YOUR NEW BC355N SCANNER**

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The BC355N comes with 6 Service banks for monitoring police, fire/emergency medical services, marine, air, weather, and CB frequencies. In addition, the BC355N has 13 separate band searches.

You can also save up to 300 frequencies that are scanned along with the preset frequencies. So whenever you encounter a newly activated local frequency for any service category, you can add it to the bank for that category. This gives you quick access to the frequencies you want to hear.

### **FEATURE SUMMARY**

The BC355N is a compact mobile/base scanner and one of the most user-friendly communication products available today. The BC355N features include:

- Turbo search – Allows your BC355N to search 180 steps per second. (5 kHz step band only)
- Seven Banks – 6 preprogrammed Service banks and one standard, programmable Private bank. These banks include:

- » POLICE: 1,769 Factory-programmed Police frequencies with 100 open channels (shared with FIRE/EMG), allowing you to program additional police frequencies into this bank.
- » FIRE/EMG: 280 Factory-programmed Fire/EMG frequencies plus an additional 100 (shared with POLICE) open channels for you to program local fire/EMG frequencies into this bank.

**Note: The Police and Fire/EMG banks share a single key – PD/FD/EMG. Pressing this key will toggle between the banks. Additional information is provided in later sections.**

- » AIR: 2,280 Factory-programmed frequencies which covers the complete AIR band, 118.000 to 136.9916 MHz. 100 open channels (shared with MRN) for user frequencies are also included.
- » MRN: 90 Factory-programmed frequencies which cover the complete Marine band. 100 open channels (shared with AIR) for user frequencies are also included.

**Note: The Air and MRN banks share a single key – AIR/MRN. Pressing this key will toggle between the banks. Additional information is provided in later sections.**

- » WX: 7 Factory-programmed Weather frequencies covering NOAA Weather Service.
  - » CB: 40 Factory-programmed frequencies covering CB communications.
  - » PRIVATE: 100-channel, fully user-programmable bank.
- Search Bands (13) – Press **BAND** to select a band to search.

## **BAND PLANS**

Your BC355N can operate using either the common band steps used in the USA or Canada. To select a band plan:

USA: Press **UP** while powering on the scanner.

Canada: Press **DOWN** while powering on the scanner.

The scanner remembers your setting if you power off. However, if you clear memory by turning on the scanner and pressing and holding **PROG** and **L/O**, the scanner is set to the USA band plan.

## ***USA Band Plan***

<b>FREQUENCY (MHz)</b>		<b>STEP (kHz)</b>	<b>MODE</b>	<b>SERVICE</b>
<b>LOWER</b>	<b>UPPER</b>			
25.0000	27.9950	5.0	AM	Petroleum Products & Broadcast Pickup CB Class D Channel Business & Forest Products
28.0000	54.0000	5.0	NFM	10 Meter Amateur Band VHF Low Band 6 Meter Amateur Band
108.0000	136.9916	8.33	AM	Aircraft Band

FREQUENCY (MHz)		STEP (kHz)	MODE	SERVICE
LOWER	UPPER			
137.0000	150.7700	5.0	NFM	Military Land Mobile 2 Meter Amateur Band Military Land Mobile VHF High Band Federal Government
150.7750	150.8125	7.5		
150.8150	154.4525	7.5		
154.4562	154.4787	7.5		
154.4825	154.5125	7.5		
154.5150	154.5250	5.0		
154.5275	154.5350	7.5		
154.5400	154.6075	7.5		
154.6100	154.6475	7.5		
154.6500	157.4475	7.5		
157.4500	157.4650	5.0		
157.4700	163.2450	7.5		
163.2500	173.2000	12.5		
173.2037	173.2100	6.25		
173.2150	173.2200	5.0		
173.2250	173.3875	12.5		
173.3900	173.3962	6.25		
173.4000	174.0000	5.0		

FREQUENCY (MHz)		STEP (kHz)	MODE	SERVICE
LOWER	UPPER			
406.0000	419.9875	12.5	NFM	Federal Government
420.0000	449.9875	12.5	NFM	70 cm Amateur Band
450.0000	469.9875	12.5	NFM	UHF Band
470.0000	512.0000	12.5	NFM	UHF "T" Band*
806.0000	823.9875	12.5	NFM	800 Band
849.0125	868.9875	12.5	NFM	
894.0125	956.0000	12.5	NFM	

\* This scanner cannot decode digital TV transmissions.

### ***Canada Band Plan***

FREQUENCY (MHz)		STEP (kHz)	MODE	SERVICE
LOWER	UPPER			
25.0000	27.9950	5.0	AM	Petroleum Products & Broadcast Pickup CB Class D Channel Business & Forest Products
28.0000	54.0000	5.0	NFM	10 Meter Amateur Band VHF Low Band 6 Meter Amateur Band



FREQUENCY (MHz)		STEP (kHz)	MODE	SERVICE
LOWER	UPPER			
108.0000	136.9916	8.33	AM	Aircraft Band
137.0000	174.0000	5.0	NFM	Military Land Mobile 2 Meter Amateur Band Military Land Mobile VHF High Band Federal Government
406.0000	419.9875	12.5	NFM	Federal Government
420.0000	449.9875	12.5	NFM	70 cm Amateur Band
450.0000	469.9875	12.5	NFM	UHF Band
470.0000	512.0000	12.5	NFM	UHF "T" Band*
806.0000	823.9875	12.5	NFM	800 Band
849.0125	868.9875	12.5	NFM	
894.0125	956.0000	12.5	NFM	
* This scanner cannot decode digital TV transmissions.				

Frequency Band	Sensitivity (Nominal) 12 dB SINAD
25.000 - 27.995	0.4 $\mu$ V
28.000 - 54.000	0.3 $\mu$ V

<b>Frequency Band</b>	<b>Sensitivity (Nominal) 12 dB SINAD</b>
137.000 - 174.000	0.2 $\mu$ V
406.000 - 512.000	0.3 $\mu$ V
108.000 - 136.9916	0.4 $\mu$ V
806.000 - 956.000	0.4 $\mu$ V

<b>Frequency Band</b>	<b>Hum and Noise (Nominal)</b>
25.000 - 27.995	48 dB
28.000 - 54.000	36 dB
137.000 - 174.000	36 dB
406.000 - 512.000	35 dB
108.000 - 136.9916	48 dB
806.000 - 956.000	35 dB

<b>Frequency Band</b>	<b>Close Call Sensitivity (Nominal)</b>
25.000 - 54.000	450 $\mu$ V
137.000 - 174.000	150 $\mu$ V
406.000 - 512.000	130 $\mu$ V

<b>Frequency Band</b>	<b>Close Call Sensitivity (Nominal)</b>
108.000 - 136.9916	200 $\mu$ V
806.000 - 956.000	450 $\mu$ V

## **INCLUDED IN YOUR SCANNER PACKAGE**

- BC355N Scanner
- Telescoping Antenna
- Flexible Window-Mount Mobile Antenna
- AC Adapter
- Vehicle Power Adapter
- DC Power Cord for hard-wiring power from your car to your scanner.
- Bracket
- Screw
- This Owner's Manual
- Other Printed Materials

If any of these items are missing or damaged, immediately contact your place of purchase or Uniden Customer Hotline at: 1-800-297-1023 during regular business hours Monday through Friday.

### ***Optional Accessories***

The following optional accessories for your BC355N are available:

**Mobile Mounting Bracket (Model MB-007)** – For mobile use (In-car Installation); use it to install the BC355N in your car.

**External Speaker (ESP20, ESP12, or ESP5)** – To increase speaker volume in noisy environments.

Contact your local Uniden Dealer or the Uniden Parts Department by calling: (800) 554-3988 during regular business hours Monday through Friday. We can also be reached on the web at [www.unidendirect.com](http://www.unidendirect.com).

## **INSTALLING THE BC355N SCANNER**

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### **FOR HOME USE (DESKTOP INSTALLATION)**

1. Insert the DC plug end of the AC Adapter into the DC 13.8V jack on the rear panel.
2. Plug the AC Adapter into a standard 120V AC wall outlet.
3. Plug the Telescoping Antenna into the ANT connector. Extend the antenna to its full height. For frequencies higher than 406 MHz, shortening the antenna may improve the reception.

Use the desktop stand (fold out from bottom of unit) for a better viewing and operating angle.

## ***Helpful Hints***

- If strong interference or electrical noise is received, relocate the scanner or its antenna away from the source.
- If you are operating the scanner in a fringe area or need to improve reception, use an optional antenna designed for multi-band coverage. (You can purchase this type of antenna at a local electronics store.)
- If the optional antenna has no cable, use 50-70 ohm coaxial cable for lead-in. A mating plug may be necessary for the optional antennas.

## **FOR MOBILE USE (IN-CAR INSTALLATION)**

### ***Temporary Mobile Installation***

A Vehicle Power Adapter is provided for an easy, temporary power supply.

**Warning: Do not use the Vehicle Power Adapter in a positive ground vehicle.**

1. Plug one end of the Vehicle Power Adapter into the vehicle's accessory power jack and the other end into the DC 13.8V jack on the back of the scanner.

2. Connect the mobile antenna plug into the ANT connector on the rear panel. For more information on antenna installation, please refer to the instruction guide that came with your mobile antenna.

### ***Permanent Mobile Installation***

Permanently installing the BC355N scanner into a vehicle involves two main steps - physically installing the scanner and physically connecting the power supply. It does not matter which is installed first; perform these procedures in an order that is most appropriate for your vehicle's configuration.

#### *Permanently Mounting the BC355N Unit*

1. Select a location in your vehicle to mount the BC355N unit. Avoid any locations that could interfere with your driving. In a passenger car, the ideal location is underneath the dashboard on the passenger side.
2. Use the mounting bracket (optional) as a template for marking the location of the mounting screws.

**Note: If there are screws already holding the dashboard, you may be able to use the same screw holes to mount the bracket.**

3. Drill the necessary holes and secure the mounting bracket in place using the screws provided.

**CAUTION: Do not drill into air bags. Do not drill if what is behind the dashboard is unknown.**

4. Mount the scanner to the bracket only after the wiring has been connected to the rear panel.

*Permanently Connecting the Mobile Power Supply*

**CAUTION: If you are not experienced in connecting accessories to the vehicle fuse box, please see your automotive dealer for advice on proper installation.**

1. Check the vehicle battery connections to determine which battery terminal (positive or negative) is grounded to the engine block or chassis. Most of today's vehicles use a negative ground. If your vehicle has a negative ground, follow Steps 2 and 3. Otherwise, skip to the Caution in Step 3.
2. Connect the RED wire of the DC power cord to the accessory contact in your vehicle's +13.8 VDC fuse box.
3. Connect the BLACK wire of the DC power cord to the negative side of the vehicle (usually the chassis).

**Caution: In vehicles with a positive ground, the RED wire connects to the chassis and the BLACK wire connects to the accessory contact in the fuse box.**

4. Insert the DC plug into the DC 13.8V jack on the back panel.

## SCANNER OPERATION OVERVIEW

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### BC355N FRONT PANEL








KEY	PURPOSE
<b>HOLD</b>	<p>Press this key to stop scanning or searching and to remain on the current frequency. <b>HOLD</b> displays on the screen.</p> <p>Press <b>HOLD</b> a second time to resume scanning.</p>
<b>UP</b> and <b>DOWN</b>	<p>Press these directional keys to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manually search up or down for frequencies while in Hold mode.</li> <li>• Change direction of a search during Search mode.</li> <li>• Quickly search up or down for frequencies (hold <b>UP</b> or <b>DOWN</b> keys for longer than 1 second) while in Hold mode.</li> <li>• Select USA or Canada band plan. Press and hold <b>UP</b> for USA or <b>DOWN</b> for Canada when you turn on the scanner.</li> </ul>
<b>PRIVATE</b>	<p>Scans user-programmed channels programmed into the <b>PRIVATE</b> bank.</p>

KEY	PURPOSE
<b>PD/FD/EMG</b>	<p>Press this key to scan the Police, Fire, and Emergency Services bands. Pressing this key cycles through the frequencies in the following order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Police/Fire/Emergency Services - all activated</li><li>• Police department only (turn off Fire/EMG bank)</li><li>• Fire/EMG only (turn off Police bank)</li><li>• None active (turn off both Police and Fire/EMG banks)</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE: The PD and FIRE/EMG banks share 100 PRIVATE channels. These user-programmed channels are scanned after the preprogrammed channels if either service is selected.</b></p>

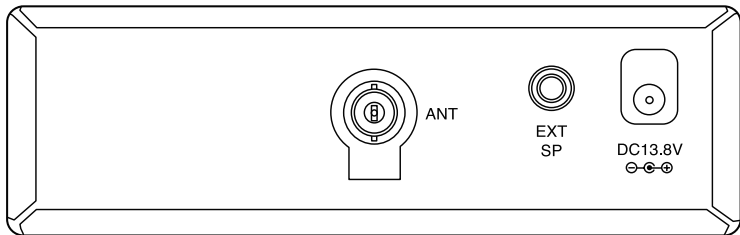
KEY	PURPOSE
<b>AIR/MRN</b>	<p>Press this key to scan the Air and Marine bands. Pressing this key cycles through the frequencies in the following order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air/MRN - both activated</li> <li>• Air only (turn off Marine bank)</li> <li>• Marine only (turn off Air bank)</li> <li>• None active (turn off both Air and Marine banks)</li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE: The AIR and MRN banks share 100 PRIVATE channels. These user-programmed channels are scanned after the preprogrammed channels if either service is selected.</b></p> <p><b>To save a marine frequency into a private channel, first hold on the frequency in the Marine Search, then follow the steps starting on page 55 to save the frequency. The frequency will save in NFM mode.</b></p>

KEY	PURPOSE
<p data-bbox="89 137 259 161"><b>CLOSE CALL</b></p> 	<p data-bbox="313 137 909 239">Press this key to begin monitoring for strong, nearby signals. Pressing this key cycles through the frequencies in the following order:</p> <ul data-bbox="332 267 909 692" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="332 267 909 433">• Close Call <sup>®</sup> Priority  - CC checks for Close Call hits every 2 seconds while monitoring other frequencies. You will hear a slight break in reception while Close Call Priority is on.</li> <li data-bbox="332 443 909 609">• Close Call Do Not Disturb  - Checks for Close Call hits every 2 seconds unless the scanner is already receiving a transmission. This prevents the breaks in audio, but can check less often.</li> <li data-bbox="332 619 909 692">• Close Call Only - Press the Close Call key for longer than 2.5 seconds. The Close Call Priority icon flashes to indicate this mode.</li> </ul>
<p data-bbox="89 714 135 738"><b>WX</b></p>	<p data-bbox="313 714 878 816">Press this key to activate the Weather frequencies (7 NOAA). No other channels are scanned while the <b>WX</b> bank is activated.</p>
<p data-bbox="89 839 125 862"><b>CB</b></p>	<p data-bbox="313 839 878 899">Press this key to monitor 40 programmed <b>CB</b> channels.</p>

KEY	PURPOSE
<b>SEARCH</b>	Press the <b>SEARCH</b> key to search for active frequencies within a selected band range.
<b>L/O</b>	<p>Press this key to temporarily or permanently lock out frequencies or channels from being searched or scanned. (L/O is explained in more detail in a later section.)</p> <p>Turn on the scanner while pressing and holding <b>PROG + L/O</b> to clear all memory.</p>
<b>BAND</b>	Pressing this key displays the upper/lower limits of a band range for 3 seconds (i.e., 405 □ 420) and then begins searching that band range. Continue pressing the <b>BAND</b> key for other searchable bands.
<b>PROG</b>	<p>Press this key to initiate and complete programming a channel or frequency (further detail is provided in a later section).</p> <p><b>Note: If you press a non-programmable bank key (WX, or CB), "Error" will be displayed; press a programmable bank key.</b></p>

ITEM	PURPOSE
<p><b>VOLUME</b> Control/Power Switch</p>	<p>Turn this control clockwise to turn on the BC355N unit. Continue turning this control clockwise to adjust the volume.</p>
<p><b>SQ</b> (Squelch) Control</p>	<p>Adjust <b>SQ</b> to set the scan threshold. When you are monitoring a single channel in Manual Mode, adjust <b>SQ</b> to eliminate the background noise heard in the absence of an incoming signal.</p>
<p>LCD</p>	<p>The Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) shows the current channel or its frequency. It also displays mode, status, and bank indicators. It utilizes a 7-segment LCD pattern for character display. (Go to “Screens” on page 40 for more details.)</p>

## BC355N REAR PANEL



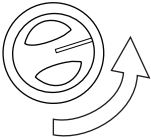
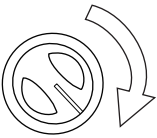
ITEM	PURPOSE
<b>ANT</b>	BNC Antenna Connector. Insert the antenna plug here.
<b>EXT SP</b>	External Speakers. Insert optional external speaker plug here.
<b>DC 13.8V</b>	Power Connection. Connect the specified AC Adapter or DC power cord here.

# USING YOUR BC355N SCANNER

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## SET UP

### *Adjusting Squelch*

To Adjust Squelch -	
	1. Turn <b>SQ</b> completely counterclockwise. You should hear open squelch noise.
	2. Turn <b>SQ</b> clockwise slowly until the sound disappears. This is the threshold point at which the incoming signal is just slightly stronger than the noise will open the squelch.
	3. Adjust the volume to a comfortable listening level.

## OPERATING MODES

The BC355N operates in two modes - Scan and Search:



## **SCAN**

Scanning allows you to scan through channels in various service banks.

Press a service bank key (**PD/FD/EMG, AIR/MRN, WX, CB, or PRIVATE**) to find an active frequency within that bank. All activated banks plus their “private” channels are scanned. Press other bank keys to add banks to scan.

The Bank label/icon for the scanned frequency flashes while that bank is scanned. When an active frequency is found, the scanner stops on that frequency and the Bank label/icon remains steady. When transmission ends, the scanner pauses 2 seconds for a new transmission. If no new transmission is found, scanning resumes. Press **UP** to manually continue scanning. Multiple active banks are scanned in order.

**Note: Before you can scan the Private bank, you must program frequencies into the channels. Refer to “Private Bank” on page 54.**

## **SEARCH**

Search lets you search through pre-grouped bands of frequencies.

Press **BAND** key to select 1 of 13 separate frequency bands to search. Press the **SEARCH** key to begin searching. The scanner displays frequencies as it searches and stops on active frequencies until that transmission ends. If no transmission resumes after 2 seconds, the search automatically continues through the rest of the band. Use the **UP** or **DOWN** key to change the direction of the search or press the **BAND** key again to change bands.

*SPECIAL NOTES FOR SCANNING PD/FD/EMG AND AIR/MRN BANKS*

Two keys are home to multiple banks. The **PD/FD/EMG** key manages the Police and Fire/Emergency Services banks and the **AIR/MRN** key manages the Air and Marine banks.

Pressing **PD/FD/EMG** more than once will cycle through the banks in this order:

1. Police/Fire/EMG
2. Police
3. Fire/EMG
4. None

**NOTE: The PD and FIRE/EMG banks share 100 PRIVATE channels. These user-programmed channels are scanned after preprogrammed channels.**

Pressing **AIR/MRN** more than once will cycle through the banks in this order:

1. Air/Marine
2. Air
3. Marine
4. None

**NOTE: The AIR and MRN banks share 100 PRIVATE channels. These user-programmed channels are scanned after preprogrammed channels.**

## Scanning Service Bank Tips

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Begin scanning	<p>Press any service bank key; the bank label flashes and the <b>SCAN</b> message moves across the display screen. Scanning automatically stops on an active channel and displays that frequency (except for locked-out channels, which will be covered later in this guide). It will stay on that channel until the transmission ends.</p> <p><b>Note: You must program channels into the PRIVATE bank before you can scan it.</b></p>
Set up multiple service banks to scan	<p>Press a desired service bank's key until it displays. Continue pressing other banks' keys until all desired banks are displayed (activated).</p>

<b>If You Want to Do This -</b>	<b>Here's How -</b>
Stop scanning	Press <b>HOLD</b> . The scanner stays on the displayed channel until scanning is resumed. The bank's screen label remains steady and does not flash.
Resume scanning	<p>Press one of the following keys to continue scanning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>HOLD</b> – Press this key to release the Scan Hold and continue scanning. The bank's screen label resumes flashing.</li><li>• <b>UP</b> or <b>DOWN</b> - Press these keys to step to the next/previous frequency. Scan Hold remains active but single channels can be monitored.</li><li>• Any bank key - If you press a different bank key, you will start scanning in that new bank and the bank label will resume flashing.</li><li>• L/O key - Press this key to lock out this frequency and step to the next frequency</li></ul>

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Keep scanning after the BC355N has stopped on an active channel	If the BC355N stops on an active channel that you do not want to monitor but you do not want to lock out, press the bank key or the <b>UP</b> key. You will scan to the next frequency.
Select a different bank to scan	Use one of the following two methods: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="360 433 915 505">1. Use the <b>UP</b> key to move through frequencies and banks.</li> <li data-bbox="360 526 915 626">2. Deactivate the bank(s) you do not want to listen to, leaving only the desired band active.</li> </ol>

### *Searching Band Tips*

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Begin searching	Press the <b>BAND</b> key. The screen displays the last known searched band and then begins searching for an active frequency in that band.

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Keep searching after the BC355N has stopped on an active channel	If the BC355N stops on an active channel that you do not want to monitor but you do not want to lock out, press the <b>SEARCH</b> key or the <b>UP/DOWN</b> keys.
Stop searching	Press <b>HOLD</b> . The scanner stays on the displayed channel until searching is resumed. Press <b>HOLD</b> again to resume searching.
Select a different band to search	Press the <b>BAND</b> key multiple times to search through the available bands.
Select USA or Canada band plan	When you turn on the scanner, press and hold <b>UP</b> (for USA) or <b>DOWN</b> (for CANADA).

## SCREENS

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This section shows typical screen displays:

### SCANNING BANKS



This screen shows BC355N is actively scanning a displayed bank. "SCAN" scrolls from right to left across the screen, and the scanned bank will flash.



This screen shows that the scanner has been put on HOLD to monitor frequency 45.0600 on the Police bank.



## SEARCHING BANDS



When **BAND** is pressed, this screen displays the band range to be searched. Press **BAND** again (or **UP/DOWN** within 3 seconds) to see other band ranges.



This SEARCH screen shows that frequency 409.9875 has been found through an upward search. Pointers (▲ or ▼) indicate the direction of the search - up or down.

## SPECIAL FEATURES

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The BC355N scanner boasts of several special features:

- Lock Out Channels/Frequencies
- Close Call

- Private Bank
- Program Frequencies into Programmable Banks.
- Program Lock
- Clear All Memory

## **LOCK OUT CHANNELS / FREQUENCIES**

Sometimes the scanner may stop on a particular channel or frequency because of noise or other unwanted transmissions. This feature lets you lock out channels and frequencies you don't want to scan. The Lock Out feature skips these channels and frequencies during scanning.

### ***Types of Lock Out***

#### *Temporary Lock Out*

Pressing **L/O** once temporarily locks out the current frequency or channel. The scanner displays "T L/O" for that frequency or channel and continues scanning. All "T L/O" frequencies/channels are restored when the scanner is powered off and back on.

### *Permanent Lock Out*

Pressing **L/O** twice permanently locks out the current frequency or channel. The scanner displays “L/O” for that frequency or channel and continues scanning. “L/O” frequencies/channels can be manually restored; the procedure is provided in this section.

### **Lock Out Limits**

Any of the 300 user-programmed channels can be locked out; however, there is a limit to the number of frequencies that can be locked out of a preprogrammed bank or band search. Up to 100 frequencies can be **permanently** locked out, and up to 100 frequencies can be **temporarily** locked out.

If you try to permanently or temporarily lock out 101 frequencies, the scanner releases the first locked out frequency when you lock out the 101st frequency.

Locking out a frequency in any service bank or search band locks it out in all service banks or search bands. However, it will not affect the frequency if you have saved it in a channel.

You can only lock out all the channels or frequencies in the **Private**, **CB**, and **MRN** banks. If you lock out all the channels or frequencies

in one of these banks, pressing that bank key will make the scanner emit an error tone and the scanner will not scan.

**Note: You cannot lock out any frequencies in the WX bank.**

### ***Lock Out Tips***

<b>If You Want to Do This -</b>	<b>Here's How -</b>
Temporary Lock Out	<p>While on a channel or frequency, press <b>L/O</b> once. The scanner beeps and temporarily locks out that channel and displays <math>\top</math> L/O. If the scanner was not in Hold mode, it then resumes scanning. If the scanner was in Hold mode, it does not resume scanning until one of the following actions is taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Press <b>HOLD</b> again to release the Scan Hold function. Scanning resumes on that bank.</li></ul>


If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Temporary Lock Out (Cont.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Press the bank you were scanning to resume scanning in that bank.</li> <li>• Press a different bank key to begin scanning that new bank.</li> </ul>
Permanent Lock Out	<p>While on a channel or frequency, quickly press <b>L/O</b> key twice.</p> <p>The scanner locks out that channel or frequency, displays <math>\uparrow</math> L/O and then L/O, and then resumes scanning.</p>
Search for Permanently Locked-Out Channels or Frequencies	<p>The scanner does not stop on locked out channels or frequencies while scanning; to search for and display locked out channels or frequencies, press <b>HOLD</b>, then use <b>UP</b> or <b>DOWN</b> to search manually through the bank. L/O appears on the screen to indicate the lock out.</p>

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
<p>Restoring a Single Locked-Out Channel or Frequency</p> <p>(Example: Channel 12 of the Private bank is locked out.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="425 149 915 329">1. Press the appropriate bank key (<b>PRIVATE, PD/FD/EMG or AIR/MRN</b>) to start scanning the bank that has the channel or frequency you want to unlock.</li><li data-bbox="425 356 878 456">2. Press <b>HOLD</b> to stop scanning. (HOLD and SCAN must appear on the screen.)</li><li data-bbox="425 483 895 664">3. Use <b>UP</b> or <b>DOWN</b> keys to find the specific locked out channel or frequency (in this example, Channel 12, which displays L/O). Press <b>L/O</b>.</li></ol>

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Restoring a Single Locked-Out Channel (Cont.)	<p>4. L/O disappears to indicate that Channel 12 is now unlocked and restored for scanning.</p> <p><b>Note: For the factory preprogrammed channels, the earliest channel will be unlocked when you lock out more than 100 channels.</b></p>
Restoring All Permanently Locked Out Channels/ Frequencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. You can unlock all locked out programmable channels and search skip frequencies in any bank at one time. Press a bank key to start scanning.</li> <li>2. Press <b>HOLD</b> to stop scanning.</li> <li>3. Press and hold <b>L/O</b> for more than 2.5 seconds until you hear two beeps.</li> </ol>

If You Want to Do This -	Here's How -
Restoring All Permanently Locked Out Channels/ Frequencies (Cont.)	<p>4. All locked out channels/ frequencies in that bank are now unlocked and restored for scanning.</p> <p><b>Note: When that bank is the Private bank, all locked out channels of the Private bank are restored</b></p>

## CLOSE CALL<sup>®</sup>



The Close Call feature enables you to search for strong signals close to your location. These signals could be from a nearby police car or fire engine or other radio source. Pressing the  key activates the Close Call functions in the following order:

1. Close Call Do Not Disturb
2. Close Call Priority
3. Close Call Off



Pressing and holding the  key activates Close Call Only mode.




## ***Close Call Priority***

Repeatedly press  until the Close Call Priority icon  displays. The scanner checks every 2 second for a nearby transmission. You may hear a slight break in audio during this time.



## ***Close Call Do Not Disturb***


Repeatedly press  until the Do Not Disturb  icon displays. The scanner will periodically make Close Call checks whenever it is not receiving audio in another mode .

## ***Close Call Only***

Press and hold  until the scanner displays a line of dashes and the icon flashes. The scanner is now in Close Call Only mode. It will only try to find Close Call transmissions. This is also the first step to accessing the Close Call Setup modes.

## ***Setting Up Close Call Modes***

1. Press and hold  to enter the Close Call Only mode. The screen displays a line of dashes.
2. Press  again to display the Close Call menu selections:
  - C - C.bAnd - Select which bands Close Call will check.
  - C - C.ALEt - Select alerts on/off.

- C - C.PS - Set Pager screen.
3. Use the **UP** or **DOWN** keys to scroll through the menu selections.
  4. Press **PROG** to select a menu, and then scroll up or down to view the menu options. When you have selected a menu option, press **PROG** to set it.
  5. Press **BAND** key to return to the previous option, or press  to return to the CC mode selection options.

#### Setting - .BAND Options

Use this menu to select which bands get Close Call checks:

Band	Name	Frequency (MHz)
b1 Lo	VHF Low Band	25.0000 - 54.0000
b2 Air	AIR Low Band	108.0000 - 136.9916
b3 Hi	VHF High Band	137.0000 - 174.0000
b4 UHF	UHF Band	406.0000 - 512.0000
b5 800	800MHz Band	806.0000 - 823.9875
		849.0125 - 868.9875
		894.0125 - 956.0000

1. From Step 4 previously, select  $\square$  -  $\square$ .BRND. The first band selection displays (B1 LO is automatically set to ON):



2. Scroll up or down to select bands for Close Call to monitor. Press PROG. The screen displays that selection and "ON."



#### *Setting $\square$ - $\square$ .ALET Options*

This menu controls whether the scanner will sound an alert tone when a Close Call signal is detected. The options are:


- ALt.bEEP - Scanner beeps when a CC signal is found.
- ALt.OFF - Scanner does not beep when a CC signal is found



#### *Setting $\square$ - $\square$ .P5 Options*

This menu controls whether the scanner will screen common pager frequencies. The options are:

- PS.On - Scanner screens out pager frequencies (filter on).
- PS.OFF - Scanner allows pager frequencies (filter off).

### *Close Call Tips*

<b>If You Want To -</b>	<b>Here's How -</b>
Scan for Close Call Transmissions while Scanning other Banks/Bands	Press the  key. The Close Call icon displays. Every two seconds there will be a break in the scanner audio as it searches for a nearby transmission.

If You Want To -	Here's How -
<p>See a Frequency Found Through Close Call</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="401 135 902 314"> <p>The scanner finds a nearby signal through Close Call, it jumps to that frequency but does not display it. It does, however display the band number and flashes "FOUND."</p>  </li> <li data-bbox="401 474 930 615"> <p>Press any key to confirm the frequency. Press <b>HOLD</b> to stay on that frequency. (Press <b>HOLD</b> again to release it.)</p>  </li> <li data-bbox="401 798 905 864"> <p>Audio for that frequency continues until the signal stops.</p> </li> </ol>

## PRIVATE BANK

The BC355N also provides 3 separate banks to hold favorite frequencies. When you find a frequency that you would like to listen to again, you can program it into either the **PD/FD/EMG** or **AIR/MRN** service bank or into the Private bank. The advantage to programming frequencies into the Private bank is that you can scan that bank with other service banks turned off.

**Note: Although it is possible to program a Weather frequency into the Private bank, it is not recommended. Weather frequencies broadcast continuously, and the scanner will not change to other frequencies.**

### *Programming Frequencies and Channels*

Up to 100 frequencies (1 frequency per channel) can be programmed into each of the following banks (300 frequencies combined):

- Police/Fire/EMG
- Air/Marine
- Private

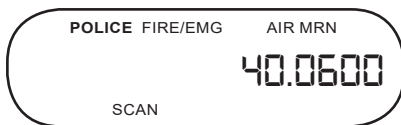
Any displayed frequency for these banks can be programmed into the scanner, and frequencies not currently displayed can be

located through the Search mode and through manually scanning the preprogrammed banks. In addition, websites such as [www.radioreference.com](http://www.radioreference.com) provide listings of local broadcast frequencies.

**NOTE: The CB and WX banks are not programmable. ERROR displays if you try to program a frequency into either of these two banks.**

### *Programming a Channel*

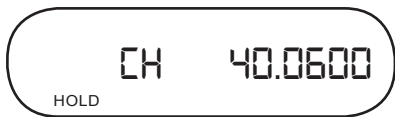
The following steps detail how to program a frequency into a channel for a specific bank when the frequency was found while scanning or searching. In this example, the frequency was found while scanning the Police bank.



This SCAN screen shows that frequency 40.0600 has been found through a search of the active (flashing) POLICE bank.



Press **HOLD**. HOLD displays.



Press **PROG**. CH displays and flashes.



Press the key for the bank you want to program. In this example, **PD/FD/EMG** was pressed.



The screen cycles between two displays. The first screen shows that channel 6 is the lowest available channel on the **POLICE** bank (press **UP** or **DOWN** to select a different channel) and the second screen shows that frequency 40.0600 is available to be programmed.







Press **PROG**. The scanner programs the frequency into the indicated channel and then goes into SCAN HOLD mode.

Press **HOLD** to release the Hold and continue scanning the rest of the programmed channels, starting with the one you just programmed.

### *Deleting a Programmed Frequency (programming "000.0000")*

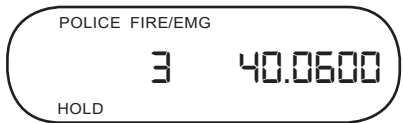
The easiest method of deleting a frequency you have programmed is to overwrite it with a null frequency (000.0000).



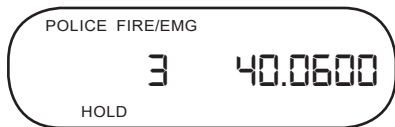
From a normal scan setting (a channel bank is flashing), press **PROG**. **HOLD** displays and **CH** displays and flashes. Press and hold **L/O** for 2.5 seconds.



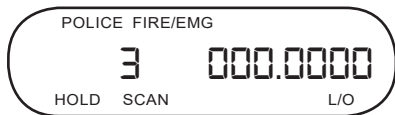
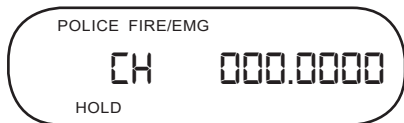
Frequency changes to 000.0000 and CH continues flashing.



Press the bank containing the channel you wish to clear. The screen displays the first programmable channel for that bank. If that channel displays 000.0000, press **UP** or **DOWN** until the channel/frequency you wish to clear displays. (In this example, channel 3 contains frequency 40.0600.)



The screen cycles between two displays. The first screen shows that channel 3 on the **POLICE** bank (40.0600) is selected and the second screen shows that the null frequency (000.0000) is ready to be programmed.



Press **PROG**. The screen displays a null frequency in that channel.

Press the bank key again to resume scanning in that bank.

## PROGRAM LOCK FEATURE

The BC355N has a Program Lock feature to prevent accidentally programming entries or unauthorized programming. Press and hold the **PROG** key for longer than 2.5 seconds to toggle Program Lock on and off. Program Lock is available in the following modes:

- Scan/Scan Hold
- Band Search/Band Search Hold
- Programming
- Close Call

When Program Lock is turned on, the scanner displays “ON PRGLOCK” and then returns to scanning mode. Press and hold the **PROG** key again to unlock this function and return to the previous mode. Attempts to program on a bank with Program Lock activated will display “PRGLOCK” as a reminder. When Program Lock is turned off (press and hold **PROG** for longer than 2.5 seconds), the scanner displays “OFF PRGLOCK” and returns to the previous mode.

## CLEAR ALL MEMORY

Turn on the scanner while pressing and holding **PROG** and **L/O** to clear all memory in your BC355N. The band plan resets to USA.

## TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

<b>PROBLEM</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
Scanner won't work	<p>Try one of these options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Check the connections at both ends of the AC adapter.</li><li>• Turn on the wall switch of your room. You could be using an outlet controlled by the wall switch. Move the AC adapter to another wall outlet.</li><li>• Check the connections at both ends of the DC cord or Vehicle Power Adapter.</li><li>• Check to see if the fuse is blown. Make sure the ignition key in your vehicle is in the Accessory position.</li><li>• Make sure the power switch is turned on.</li></ul>

<b>PROBLEM</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
Improper Reception	Try one of these options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="352 186 880 212">• Check the antenna and its connection.</li><li data-bbox="352 222 621 248">• Move the scanner.</li><li data-bbox="352 259 901 404">• You may be in a fringe area. This may require an optional multi-band antenna. Check with your dealer or local electronics store.</li></ul>
Weather scan won't work	Try one of these options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="352 486 745 512">• Adjust the Squelch control.</li><li data-bbox="352 523 787 549">• Check the antenna connection.</li><li data-bbox="352 559 870 663">• Review each channel's frequency to see if it is still stored in memory and is correct.</li></ul>

<b>PROBLEM</b>	<b>SOLUTION</b>
Scan won't stop	Try one of these options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check and adjust Squelch</li> <li>• Check the antenna connection.</li> <li>• Check to see if all channels are locked out. It is possible that none of the programmed frequencies are active at the time. Try the band search.</li> </ul>
Scan won't start	Try one of these options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Press the bank key again.</li> <li>• Adjust the Squelch Control.</li> <li>• Scan program frequencies into the bank before using (for PRIVATE bank).</li> </ul>
Search won't start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjust the Squelch Control.</li> <li>• Check the antenna connection.</li> </ul>
PROGRAM key won't work	Stop scan or search.
You still have a problem	Call our customer hotline at 1-800-297-1023.

## **GENERAL PRODUCT CARE**

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Turn the scanner off before disconnecting the power.

Always press each keypad button firmly until you hear the entry tone for that key entry.

### **LOCATION**

If strong interference or electrical noise is received, relocate the scanner or its antenna away from the source of the noise. A higher elevation, if possible, may provide better reception. You might also try changing the height or angle of the telescoping antenna.

Do not use the scanner in high-moisture environments such as the kitchen or bathroom.

Avoid placing the unit in direct sunlight or near heating elements or vents.

### **CLEANING**

Disconnect the power to the unit before cleaning.

Clean the outside of the scanner with a soft cloth. To prevent scratches, do not use abrasive cleaners or solvents. Be careful not to rub the LCD window. Do not use excessive amounts of water.



## REPAIRS

Do not attempt any repair. The scanner contains no serviceable parts. Contact the Uniden Customer Hotline at 1-800-297-1023 or take it to a qualified repair technician.

## BIRDIES

All radios may receive undesired signals or birdies. If your scanner stops during Search Mode and no sound is heard, it may be receiving a birdie. Birdies are internally-generated signals inherent in the receiver's electronics. If the interference is not severe, you might be able to turn **SQ** clockwise to cut out the birdie. You can also press **SEARCH** to resume searching.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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Size: 5-3/16"(W) x 5-3/4"(D) x 1-5/8"(H)

Weight: 1 lb 6.5 oz.

Operating Temperature: – 20°C (– 4°F) to + 60°C (+ 140°F)

Power Requirements: DC 13.8V

Certified in accordance with FCC Rules and Regulations Part 15 Sub-part C as of date of manufacture.

Banks: 7 banks total (6 Service banks / 1 Private bank)

- Police (PD): 1,769 Preprogrammed plus 100 programmable channels shared with Fire/Emergency Services
- Fire/Emergency (FD/EMG): 280 Preprogrammed plus 100 programmable channels shared with Police
- Air (AIR): 2,280 Preprogrammed. (Plus 100 programmable channels shared with Marine)
- Marine (MRN): 90 Preprogrammed. (Plus 100 programmable channels shared with Air).
- Weather (WX): 7 Preprogrammed.
- CB: 40 programmed.
- PRIVATE: 100 channels fully user-programmable.

Search Band: 13 searchable bands:

Scan Rate: 50 channels/second

Search Rate: 60 steps/second  
180 steps/second  
(5 kHz steps band only)

Scan Delay: 2 seconds

Audio Output: Max.0.9 W

Antenna: 50 ohms (Impedance)

Features, specifications, and availability of optional accessories are all subject to change without notice.

## **WARRANTY**

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### One Year Limited Warranty

Important: Evidence of original purchase is required for warranty service.

WARRANTOR: UNIDEN AMERICA CORPORATION (“Uniden”)

ELEMENTS OF WARRANTY: Uniden warrants, for one year, to the original retail owner, this Uniden Product to be free from defects in materials and craftsmanship with only the limitations or exclusions set out below.

WARRANTY DURATION: This warranty to the original user shall terminate and be of no further effect 12 months after the date of original retail sale. The warranty is invalid if the Product is (A) damaged or not maintained as reasonable or necessary, (B) modified, altered, or used as part of any conversion kits, subassemblies, or any configurations not sold by Uniden, (C)

improperly installed, (D) serviced or repaired by someone other than an authorized Uniden service center for a defect or malfunction covered by this warranty, (E) used in any conjunction with equipment or parts or as part of any system not manufactured by Uniden, or (F) installed or programmed by anyone other than as detailed by the owner's manual for this product.

STATEMENT OF REMEDY: In the event that the product does not conform to this warranty at any time while this warranty is in effect, warrantor will either, at its option, repair or replace the defective unit and return it to you without charge for parts, service, or any other cost (except shipping and handling) incurred by warrantor or its representatives in connection with the performance of this warranty. Warrantor, at its option, may replace the unit with a new or refurbished unit. THE LIMITED WARRANTY SET FORTH ABOVE IS THE SOLE AND ENTIRE WARRANTY PERTAINING TO THE PRODUCT AND IS IN LIEU OF AND EXCLUDES ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR ARISING BY OPERATION OF LAW, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER OR

PROVIDE FOR THE REIMBURSEMENT OR PAYMENT OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. Some states do not allow this exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

LEGAL REMEDIES: This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state. This warranty is void outside the United States of America and Canada.

PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING PERFORMANCE OF WARRANTY:

If, after following the instructions in the owner's manual you are certain that the Product is defective, pack the Product carefully (preferably in its original packaging). The Product should include all parts and accessories originally packaged with the Product. Include evidence of original purchase and a note describing the defect that has caused you to return it. The Product should be shipped freight prepaid, by traceable means, to warrantor at:

Uniden America Corporation  
C/O Saddle Creek  
743 Henrietta Creek Rd.  
Roanoke, Texas 76262

**[www.uniden.com](http://www.uniden.com)**

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PURCHASING A  
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A World Without Wires

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