

RCS

Ver 1.3 Model TX15-B Thermostat X-10 Bi-directional Protocol Manual

RCS X-10 compatible HVAC control products incorporate one or more X-10 Unit Code Decode Tables in their firmware. These tables are based on the standard X-10 Unit Code OFF and ON commands for any of the 16 House Codes (A-P). These X-10 commands are mapped to corresponding RCS commands to set system modes and temperature setpoints within RCS products. This mapping technique allows for 32 commands for temperatures and modes to be sent to RCS products.

Bi-Directional Protocol. In order to allow a greater range of commands and to implement information feedback, RCS has implemented a bi-directional extension to its X-10 communications protocol by using the standard X-10 Preset Dim command.

The X-10 Preset Dim command format provides for 32 “levels” **within** each Unit Code. Thus, by sending a unique House Code, Unit Code and Preset Dim Level command, 512 commands become available for each House Code (16 Unit codes x 32 levels). The RCS X-10 protocol maps these Preset Dim Levels into commands it uses for setpoint temperatures and modes and into data messages transmitted back to provide information from the thermostats such as current temperature, setpoint, and mode.

For a selected House Code, the RCS Bi-directional X-10 protocol is structured, as follows, using the Preset Dim Levels of each Unit Code (see the Bi-Directional X-10 Protocol Table on page 6 for details of the individual Preset Level definitions):

Send A New Setpoint (5°- 127°)	Unit Codes 1, 2, 3, 9
Send Commands	Unit Code 4
Request Status	Unit Code 5
Report Status	Unit Code 6
Reserved	Unit Codes 7, 8
Echo Command Back	Unit Code 10
Report Temperature (-60° to +131°)	Unit Codes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

Setpoints may be interpreted by a thermostat/controller as either degrees Fahrenheit or Centigrade depending on the position of the F/C switch on the units. For Fahrenheit mode, the valid setpoints are 40 to 104 degrees. For Centigrade mode, the valid setpoints are 4 to 40 degrees. Any attempt, or command, to set the setpoint lower than 40°F/4°C will automatically be changed to 40°F/4°C.

STANDARD UNIT CODE DECODE TABLES

RCS products have previously used only Unit Code ON and OFF commands as defined in one of several Unit Code Decode Tables for their X-10 communications protocol. The RCS Bi-directional X-10 protocol allows both the Unit Code ON/OFF Command Decode Tables and the Preset Dim Command format to coexist. RCS products using the bi-directional Preset Dim command protocol can select from one of four alternate Unit Code Decode Tables for standard Unit Code ON/OFF communication. The Unit Code Decode Tables are always enabled on power up, but can be disabled (and enabled) by a Preset Dim command in the Unit Code 4 “Send Command” group. See Unit Code Decode Table selection, Page 4.

BI-DIRECTIONAL PRESET DIM DECODE TABLE

The entire RCS Bi-directional X-10 protocol can be described as a single Preset Dim Command Decode Table for all Unit Codes (1-16) and their Preset Dim Levels(1-32), for one of the House Codes (A-P). The RCS Bi-directional Preset Dim Command protocol can be enabled or disabled with a Preset Dim command (levels 19 & 20) in the Unit Code 4 “Send Command” group.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Disabling the Preset Dim Command protocol will cause the thermostat to ignore all Preset Dim commands **except** the PRESET ON command which is **always available** so that the Preset Command table can be re-activated.

MESSAGE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In addition to the expanded command/message Preset Dim Command Table implemented with the RCS Bi-directional X-10 protocol, message acknowledgment capabilities were also added. Two different message acknowledgment methods are available and they are activated by Preset Dim Commands.

ACK MESSAGE When this message acknowledgment mode is activated, an RCS product that receives a valid X-10 message will transmit an acknowledgment message in the form of the standard X-10 "Status" message. The ACK responses are as follows:

Status = ON, message received and command completed.
Status = OFF, message received but command not completed successfully.
No ACK back, message invalid or not received.

NOTE: No acknowledgment will be transmitted for Request Status Commands (Unit Code 5 Preset Levels). Since these commands themselves cause a return message to be transmitted, the returned data accomplishes the acknowledgment function.

The ACK MESSAGE format is enabled by Unit Code 4 "Send Command" group Preset Level 21 and disabled by Preset Level 22.

COMMAND ECHO This message acknowledgment method echoes commands back. It uses the Preset Dim format and only works with the Preset Dim Commands in Unit Codes 1 to 4. When a Preset Level Command is received it is acknowledged by being echoed back as the **same preset level on a different unit code**. For instance, a Setpoint temperature transmitted as a Unit Code 1-3 Preset Level is echoed back in the corresponding temperature Preset Level in the REPORT TEMPERATURE Unit Codes 11-16. A Unit Code 4 Send Command Preset Level is echoed back as the same Preset Level in Unit Code 10.

The COMMAND ECHO format can be enabled and disabled by a Preset Level Command in the Unit Code 4 "Send Command" group.

SAFE COMMAND MODE

To insure that commands which may have become garbled in transmission do not cause erroneous actions, a Safe Command Mode is available. When activated, no command will be acted on unless it is **received twice within a 2 second period**. Use of this mode, in conjunction with message acknowledgment, can insure fail safe communications. This mode is enabled or disabled by a Preset Dim Command in the Unit 4 "Send Command" group.

PRESET DIM COMMAND FORMAT

SEND SETPOINT COMMAND GROUP (Unit Codes 1, 2, 3, 9)

To send a new setpoint to a thermostat using the preset dim format, find the desired setpoint temperature in the temperatures mapped into Preset Levels in Unit Codes 1, 2 and 3, and send the appropriate Preset Dim Level command. The range is 4° to 99°. When a Unit Code 1, 2 or 3 Preset Level is received, the thermostat will update its setpoint to the new temperature per this decode table. **Version 1.3** extends this group with the addition of Unit Code 9 for temperatures from 100° to 131° for pool/spa applications.

SEND COMMAND GROUP (Unit Code 4)

The RCS Bi-directional X-10 Preset Dim Command format has 32 commands mapped as Preset Levels in Unit Code 4. These commands are described below.

SYSTEM MODES. These commands set the System Mode of the thermostat.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 1 = SYSTEM OFF
Preset Level 2 = HEAT MODE
Preset Level 3 = COOL MODE
Preset Level 4 = AUTO MODE

FAN MODE. These commands control the operation of the manual fan for the system.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 5 = Fan ON
Preset Level 6 = Fan OFF

SETBACK MODE. These commands cause the thermostat to go into and out of the setback mode. When the setback mode is turned on, the current setpoint will be changed to a new setback setpoint that is an offset from the current setpoint by a preset number of degrees called the **setback delta**. The default setback delta is 8°F/4°C. **If the mode is set to OFF or AUTO, the setback command is ignored.**

When a SETBACK ON command is received and the thermostat is in the heating mode, the setpoint will be set back 8°F/4°C. In the cooling mode, the setpoint will be set up 8°F/4°C. In either case, the starting setpoint, at the time setback was received, is **saved**. When a SETBACK OFF command is received, the setpoint will be **restored** to the saved setpoint setting.

Example: Mode = Heat, Current Setpoint = 70°, Setback Delta = default of 8°
SETBACK ON command received: Setpoint is changed to 62° and old setpoint 70° is saved.
SETBACK OFF command received: Setpoint is changed back to saved setpoint of 70°.

NOTE: When a SETBACK ON command is received, the current setpoint is **stored** in a return setpoint register. When the SETBACK OFF command is received, it is the **temperature in this register** that is used to restore the setpoint; *no matter if the setpoint has been changed during the setback period, either manually or by another X10 command.*

SETBACK ON and OFF are Preset Levels 7 and 8.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 7 = SETBACK ON
Preset Level 8 = SETBACK OFF

INCREASE SETPOINT/DECREASE SETPOINT These commands will change the current setpoint by 1°.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 9 = Increase Setpoint 1°
Preset level 10 = Decrease Setpoint 1°

SETBACK DELTA SELECTION When a SETBACK ON command is received, the setpoint is changed by a Setback Delta (a preset number of degrees) that is added to **or** subtracted from the current setpoint, depending on what mode the unit is in. On power-up, the Setback Delta defaults to 8°F/4°C, but can be changed to any one of six alternate Setback Deltas using the following Preset Level Commands.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 11 = 6°F/3°C
Preset Level 12 = 8°F/4°C (Default on power-up)
Preset Level 13 = 10°F/5°C
Preset Level 14 = 12°F/6°C
Preset Level 15 = 14°F/7°C
Preset Level 16 = 16°F/8°C

UNIT CODE ENABLE/DISABLE The response to Unit Code ON and OFF commands can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 17 and 18.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 17 = UNIT ON
Preset Level 18 = UNIT OFF

PRESET COMMAND MODE ENABLE/DISABLE The response to the RCS Bi-directional Preset Dim Commands can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 19 and 20.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 19 = PRESET ON
Preset Level 20 = PRESET OFF

ACK MESSAGE MODE ENABLE/DISABLE The message acknowledgment ACK MESSAGE mode can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 21 and 22.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 21 = ACK ON
Preset Level 22 = ACK OFF

ECHO COMMAND MODE ENABLE/DISABLE The message acknowledgment ECHO COMMAND mode can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 23 and 24.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 23 = ECHO ON
Preset Level 24 = ECHO OFF

SAFE COMMAND MODE ENABLE/DISABLE The SAFE COMMAND mode can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 25 and 26.

Unit Code 4 Preset Level 25 = SAFE ON
Preset Level 26 = SAFE OFF

AUTOSEND MODE ENABLE/DISABLE (Ver 1.3) The AUTOSEND mode enables the controller to automatically send a message each time there is a change in temperature/setpoint/fan mode. A report of temperature change is preceded by a "Temp Change" Unit 6 level 9 report status message and a report of change in setpoint is preceded by a "Setpoint Change" Unit 6 level 10 report status message. The temperature or setpoint value is represented as a preset level in the Report Temperature group in Unit Codes 11-16. The AUTOSEND mode can be enabled or disabled by Preset Levels 27 and 28.

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 27 = AUTOSEND ON
Preset Level 28 = AUTOSEND OFF

UNIT CODE DECODE TABLE SELECTION The RCS Bi-directional X-10 format allows for up to four alternate Unit Code Decode Tables. On power-up, the active Decode Table defaults to Decode Table 1. The active table can be changed to one of the alternate tables with a Preset Level Command or Unit.

Preset Dim Command:

Unit Code 4: Preset Level 29 = Decode Table 1, P version (Default on power-up)
Preset Level 30 = Decode Table 2, B version
Preset Level 31 = Decode Table 3, Not used
Preset Level 32 = Decode Table 4, Not used

Unit Code Command: You can also switch between Decode Table 1 and Table 2, by sending the **All Lights On** command to select Table 2 or by sending the **All Units Off** command to select Table 1.

REQUEST STATUS COMMAND GROUP (Unit Code 5)

The RCS bi-directional X-10 protocol implements bi-directional information requests using Preset Dim levels for both the Request Status Commands and the Report Status responses.. The Request Status commands include "Temperature", "Setpoint", "Mode", "Fan Mode", "Setback Mode", and "Setback Delta". When these Request Status commands are received they will cause a response message to be sent back

TEMPERATURE The request for status TEMPERATURE command causes the current temperature to be sent back as the corresponding Preset Level in the Report Temperature Unit Codes 11,12,13,14,15,or 16. The temperature range defined is -60° to 131°F or °C (not all thermostats or sensors are capable of measuring this range).

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 1 Request Status TEMP

SETPOINT The request for status SETPOINT (SP) command is similar to the request for status TEMPERATURE command in that it causes the current Setpoint temperature to be sent back as the corresponding Preset Level in the Report Temperature Unit Codes 11 to 16. The temperature range available is the same, however, setpoints are limited to a range of 40°F/5°C to 99°F/99°C.

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 2 Request Status SETPOINT

MODE The request for status MODE command causes the current MODE of the thermostat (OFF, HEAT, COOL, AUTO) to be sent as a Preset Level (1, 2, 3, or 4) in Report Status Unit Code 6.

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 3 Request Status MODE

FAN MODE The request for status FAN mode command causes the current FAN mode (ON/OFF) to be sent back as a Preset Level (5 or 6) in Report Status Unit Code 6.

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 4 Request Status FAN MODE

SETBACK MODE The request for status of the Setback mode command causes the current Setback status (ON/OFF) to be sent back as a Preset Level (7 or 8) in Report Status Unit Code 6.

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 5 Request Status SETBACK MODE

SETBACK DELTA The request for status of the Setback Delta command causes the current Setback Delta offset (in degrees) to be sent back as the corresponding Preset Level in the Report Temperature Unit Codes 11,12,13,14,15, or 16.

Unit Code 5: Preset Level 6 Request Status SETBACK DELTA

REPORT STATUS GROUP (Unit Code 6)

In response to Request Status commands in Unit Code 5, Report Status message are transmitted to report the current status of the requested MODE. The format for the Report Status message is as follows:

Unit Code 6	Preset Level 1	Report Status	OFF (System Mode)
	Preset Level 2	Report Status	HEAT (System Mode)
	Preset Level 3	Report Status	COOL (System Mode)
	Preset Level 4	Report Status	AUTO (System Mode)
	Preset Level 5	Report Status	FAN ON
	Preset Level 6	Report Status	FAN OFF
	Preset Level 7	Report Status	SETBACK ON
	Preset Level 8	Report Status	SETBACK OFF
	Preset Level 9	Report Status	TEMP CHANGE (Precedes a Report Temp preset level when Autosend is On) (Ver 1.3)
	Preset Level 10	Report Status	SETPOINT CHANGE (Precedes a Report Temp preset level when Autosend is On) (Ver 1.3)

RESERVED UNIT CODE GROUP (Unit Codes 7, 8)

Unit Codes 7 and 8 are reserved for future use.

SEND SETPOINT (Unit Code 9)

Extension of Send Setpoint Unit Code group 1, 2, 3. Adds temperatures from 100° to 131°.

ECHO COMMAND (Unit Code 10)

Echoes the preset level of a Unit Code 4 Command on Unit Code 10 if ECHO mode is On. For secure communications and message acknowledgment.

REPORT TEMPERATURE GROUP (Unit Codes 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16)

In response to receiving a Unit Code 5, Preset Level 1 Request for Temperature Command **or** Preset Level 2 Request for Setpoint Command, a Preset Level reply will be sent back, which corresponds to the temperature map in the Report Temperature Unit Codes 11 - 16.

VERSION 1.3 Firmware ZNXE36 or HCXE20 or later versions

RCS BI-DIRECTIONAL X-10 PROTOCOL - UNIT CODE/PRESET DIM COMMAND TABLE

DIM Level	Preset Level	SEND SETPOINT (SP)			SEND COMMAND	REQUEST STATUS	REPORT STATUS	NOT USED		SEND SP**	Echo ***	REPORT TEMPERATURE					
		Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5	Unit 6	Unit 7	Unit 8	Unit 9	Unit 10	Unit 11	Unit 12	Unit 13	Unit 14	Unit 15	Unit 16
0%	1	4°	36°	68°	SYSTEM OFF	TEMP	OFF			100°	Echo	-60°	-28°	4°	36°	68°	100°
3%	2	5°	37°	69°	HEAT MODE	SP	HEAT			101°	Echo	-59°	-27°	5°	37°	69°	101°
6%	3	6°	38°	70°	COOL MODE	MODE	COOL			102°	Echo	-58°	-26°	6°	38°	70°	102°
10%	4	7°	39°	71°	AUTO MODE	FAN	AUTO			103°	Echo	-57°	-25°	7°	39°	71°	103°
13%	5	8°	40°	72°	FAN ON	SB MODE	FAN ON			104°	Echo	-56°	-24°	8°	40°	72°	104°
16%	6	9°	41°	73°	FAN OFF	SB DELTA	FAN OFF			105°	Echo	-55°	-23°	9°	41°	73°	105°
19%	7	10°	42°	74°	SETBACK ON	OUTDOOR	SB ON			106°	Echo	-54°	-22°	10°	42°	74°	106°
23%	8	11°	43°	75°	SETBACK OFF		SB OFF			107°	Echo	-53°	-21°	11°	43°	75°	107°
26%	9	12°	44°	76°	INCREASE 1 DEG		TEMP CHG*			108°	Echo	-52°	-20°	12°	44°	76°	108°
29%	10	13°	45°	77°	DECREASE 1 DEG		SP CHG*			109°	Echo	-51°	-19°	13°	45°	77°	109°
32%	11	14°	46°	78°	SB DELTA 6°F/3°C		OUTDOOR			110°	Echo	-50°	-18°	14°	46°	78°	110°
35%	12	15°	47°	79°	SB DELTA 8°F/4°C					111°	Echo	-49°	-17°	15°	47°	79°	111°
39%	13	16°	48°	80°	SB DLTA 10°F/5°C					112°	Echo	-48°	-16°	16°	48°	80°	112°
42%	14	17°	49°	81°	SB DLTA 12°F/6°C					113°	Echo	-47°	-15°	17°	49°	81°	113°
45%	15	18°	50°	82°	SB DLTA 14°F/7°C					114°	Echo	-46°	-14°	18°	50°	82°	114°
48%	16	19°	51°	83°	SB DLTA 16°F/8°C					115°	Echo	-45°	-13°	19°	51°	83°	115°
52%	17	20°	52°	84°	UNIT ON					116°	Echo	-44°	-12°	20°	52°	84°	116°
55%	18	21°	53°	85°	UNIT OFF					117°	Echo	-43°	-11°	21°	53°	85°	117°
58%	19	22°	54°	86°	PRESET ON					118°	Echo	-42°	-10°	22°	54°	86°	118°
61%	20	23°	55°	87°	PRESET OFF					119°	Echo	-41°	-9°	23°	55°	87°	119°
65%	21	24°	56°	88°	ACK ON					120°	Echo	-40°	-8°	24°	56°	88°	120°
68%	22	25°	57°	89°	ACK OFF					121°	Echo	-39°	-7°	25°	57°	89°	121°
71%	23	26°	58°	90°	ECHO ON					122°	Echo	-38°	-6°	26°	58°	90°	122°
74%	24	27°	59°	91°	ECHO OFF					123°	Echo	-37°	-5°	27°	59°	91°	123°
77%	25	28°	60°	92°	SAFE ON					124°	Echo	-36°	-4°	28°	60°	92°	124°
81%	26	29°	61°	93°	SAFE OFF					125°	Echo	-35°	-3°	29°	61°	93°	125°
84%	27	30°	62°	94°	AUTOSEND ON					126°	Echo	-34°	-2°	30°	62°	94°	126°
87%	28	31°	63°	95°	AUTOSEND OFF					127°	Echo	-33°	-1°	31°	63°	95°	127°
90%	29	32°	64°	96°	DECODE TABLE 1					NA	Echo	-32°	0°	32°	64°	96°	128°
94%	30	33°	65°	97°	DECODE TABLE 2					NA	Echo	-31°	1°	33°	65°	97°	129°
97%	31	34°	66°	98°	DECODE TABLE 3					NA	Echo	-30°	2°	34°	66°	98°	130°
100%	32	35°	67°	99°	DECODE TABLE 4					NA	Echo	-29°	3°	35°	67°	99°	131°

Note 1. * These Report Status messages are followed by a Report Temp message when Autosend is On.

Note 2. ** This Unit Code is a continuation of Send Setpoint Unit Codes 1, 2, 3.

Note 3. *** A Unit Code 4 command's preset level is echoed back as a Unit Code 10 preset level when Echo is On.

DECODE TABLE 1

X10 THERMOSTAT DECODE TABLES

Version P 1.6

UNIT CODE	ON Command	OFF Command
	°F / °C	°F / °C
1	65° / 13°	73° / 21°
2	66° / 14°	74° / 22°
3	67° / 15°	75° / 23°
4	68° / 16°	76° / 24°
5	69° / 17°	77° / 25°
6	70° / 18°	78° / 26°
7	71° / 19°	79° / 27°
8	72° / 20°	80° / 28°
9	HEAT ON	SYS OFF
10	COOL ON	SYS OFF
11	AUTO ON	SYS OFF
12	FAN ON	FAN OFF
13	SETBACK ON H: Current SP - 8°F/4°C C: Current SP+ 8°F/4°C	SETBACK OFF Return to original SP before ON command.
14	SB = 6°F/3°C	SB = 12°F/6°C
15	SB = 8°F/4°C	SB = 14°F/7°C
16	SB = 10°F/5°C	SB = 16°F/8°C

Unit codes 1-8 set a specific temperature setpoint in the thermostat. °F or °C operation is set by dipswitch/ jumper options in the thermostat units.

Unit codes 9-12 control the Mode of the thermostat. Each unit code ON mode has a corresponding OFF mode.

Unit code 13 ON is a SETBACK ON command that causes the setpoint to change by an offset (delta) from the current setpoint. The default offset value is 8°F(4°C). **If the mode is set to OFF or AUTO, the setback command will be ignored.** In the Heating mode, the setpoint will decrease 8°F(4°C). In the Cooling mode, the setpoint will increase 8°F(4°C). Only one SETBACK ON command will be acted on, subsequent SETBACK ON commands will be ignored until a SETBACK OFF command is received (for instance, you cannot setback 16° by sending two consecutive SETBACK ON commands).

Unit code 13 OFF is a SETBACK OFF command that causes the setpoint to return to the original setpoint *before the setback occurred*.

Unit codes 14, 15 and 16 are optional setback offset (deltas) values. When selected, they replace the default setback offset of 8°F/4°C.

Bright and Dim commands. The “Bright” command will increment the current setpoint by 1°. The “Dim” command will decrement the current setpoint by 1°. Holding down a Bright or Dim button on an X-10 controller will cause the setpoint to ramp up or down until released.

Unit Code Table Select. You can change the Unit Code Decode Table selected by sending an “All Lights On” command to select Decode Table 2 or by sending an “All Units OFF” command to select Decode Table 1.

DECODE TABLE 2
X10 THERMOSTAT DECODE TABLES

Version B 1.5

UNIT CODE	ON Command	OFF Command
	°F / °C	°F / °C
1	72° / 17°	SYSTEM OFF
2	73° / 18°	HEAT MODE
3	74° / 19°	COOL MODE
4	75° / 20°	AUTO MODE
5	76° / 21°	40° / 5°
6	77° / 22°	60° / 6°
7	78° / 23°	62° / 7°
8	79° / 24°	63° / 8°
9	80° / 25°	64° / 9°
10	81° / 26°	65° / 10°
11	82° / 27°	66° / 11°
12	83° / 28°	67° / 12°
13	84° / 29°	68° / 13°
14	86° / 30°	69° / 14°
15	88° / 31°	70° / 15°
16	90° / 32°	71° / 16°

Unit codes 1-16 set a specific temperature setpoint or mode in the thermostat. °F or °C operation is set by dipswitch options in the thermostat control units.

Bright and Dim commands. The “Bright” command will increment the current setpoint by 1°. The “Dim” command will decrement the current setpoint by 1°. Holding down a Bright or Dim button on an X-10 controller will cause the setpoint to ramp up or down until released.

Unit Code Table Select. You can change the Unit Code Decode Table selected by sending an “All Lights On” command to select Decode Table 2 or by sending an “All Units OFF” command to select Decode Table 1.