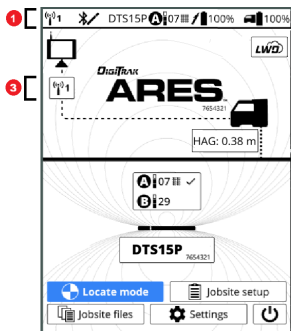




1. Screen and Bluetooth® port
2. D-pad control
3. Trigger
4. Locator battery

1. Install the battery and hold the trigger for 2-3 seconds.
2. Click to acknowledge the warning.
3. Use the D-pad to scroll menu options and buttons, toggle on/off switches, and click the trigger to select.

Home screen after setup



1. Status bar
2. myDCI™ subscriptions
3. Remote display telemetry channel*
4. Locator type and serial number
5. HAG™ (Height-Above-Ground) set distance*
6. Transmitter settings*
7. Transmitter model and serial number*
8. Navigation to other screens and off button (Locate mode selected)

* Click on these items to see more detail or make changes.

1) Pair a transmitter

The first time you start the Ares locator, the **Home** screen prompts you to **Add a transmitter**.

1. Install transmitter battery and end cap. When the Bluetooth light flashes green, it's ready to pair.
2. Hold the locator near the transmitter at Bluetooth range, (within 3-4 m), and select **Add transmitter**.
3. Select the transmitter from the list. The serial number of the transmitter is etched on the transmitter. The Bluetooth LED blinks blue while connecting and turns solid blue when connected.
4. After connecting, select **Frequencies**.

2) Select frequencies and calibrate

There are three methods for selecting frequencies with detailed on-screen guidance:

Automatic selection - Eagle Tech™, exclusive to DigiTrak Ares, selects the best bands, scanning 8000+ frequencies along the entire bore path. Best performance for multiple interference sources.

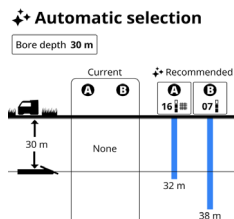
Manual selection - Hand-select your bands, scanning 8000+ frequencies in one location. Good for when one or two areas of the job are problematic.

Transmitter defaults - The fastest method scans 1000+ frequencies in two default bands at one location. Ideal for simple jobs and first-time setup when you may not be at a job site.

Interference varies from jobsite to jobsite; always walk the entire borepath to verify selected frequencies will work for a given job. All methods allow you to enter the expected bore depth for the job and display the achievable bore depths for the selected frequencies.

First-time setup with Automatic selection

1. On the **Frequencies** menu, select **Automatic selection**. Select **Bore depth**. Enter the expected depth for this job, and then **Save**.
2. Select **Ready to scan** and walk along your entire bore path.
3. Select **Done walking**, and then **Confirm**.
4. Eagle Tech displays the achievable depth of the best two bands.
5. Walk back to the start of the bore path watching the bands to confirm at least one recommended band reaches the required bore depth at the deepest part of the bore.
6. While in Bluetooth range, select **Load** to move the recommended frequencies to **Current**, and continue to **Calibration**.
7. The Home screen and status bar display the selected frequencies.

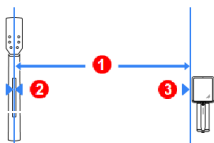


Calibrate both bands and all power levels at once

Calibrate in an interference-free environment. You need to calibrate every time you choose new frequencies or change housings.

1. Install the transmitter into the housing and place the locator the distance displayed on the screen.

2. Measure from the center of the transmitter to the side of the locator, and then select **Run calibration**. Ares calibrates both **A** and **B** band and all three power levels at the same time.
3. Validate the distance of both bands with a measuring tape. You can change the validation distance, if needed.



1. Distance to measure (3 m to calibrate or other distance to check)
2. Center line of the transmitter is parallel to the locator
3. Inner edge of the locator (look for calibration marks)

4. Select **Locate mode**, and then **Begin locating**.

3) Locate and send depth

Select **Locate mode**. The **Locate mode/Jobsite menus** show you the current jobsite settings, including HAG, bore logs, and roll offset.

Basic locating steps

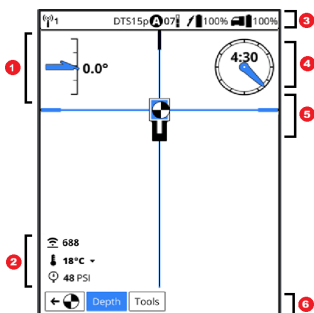
1. Find the Front Locate Point (FLP) and Rear Locate Point (RLP) by centering the target ball in the box. Mark the positions.
2. At the FLP, select **Depth** for a predicted depth reading. (See the Depth screens on the next page.) The Locate Line (LL) may not appear if this step is skipped.
3. Find the LL by centering the line in the box between the FLP and RLP (see Locate mode screen). Chevrons indicate the direction.
4. View depth by selecting **Depth** at the LL on the line between the FLP and RLP.
5. Select **Send Depth** to send depth to the remote display. If there is an active log, selecting **Log data point** will also send depth to the remote display.
6. Return to Locate mode and repeat for other locate points as the drill head advances along the bore path.

See the **DCI DigiGuide App** for detailed steps.



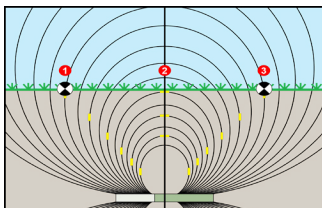
To improve depth/data readings, on the **Tools** menu, select **Max Mode™**.

Locate mode screen

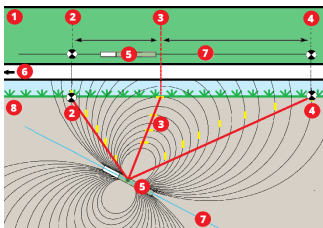


1. Pitch
2. Transmitter data (signal strength, temperature, and pressure)
3. Status bar
4. Drill housing clock (offset is off)
5. Target box, lines, and ball
 - Target box - blue, if the ball is in the box and centered on both crosshair lines
 - Crosshair lines - blue, if the ball is centered on a line
 - Ball - black and white, if centered in box
 - Locate line (not shown) always blue over black box and cross hairs
6. Depth reading button (selected) and **Tools** button

Visualize the transmitter signal field geometry



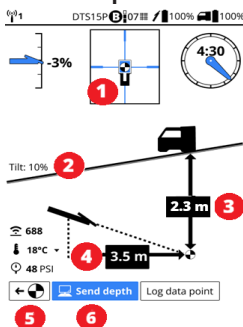
1. RLP: Rear Locate Point
2. LL: Locate Line
3. FLP: Front Locate Point



1. Bird's-eye view (top down)
2. RLP: Rear Locate Point
3. LL: Locate Line
4. FLP: Front Locate Point
5. Transmitter
6. Drill rig
7. Bore path
8. Side view (underground)

If the transmitter is pitched or the ground is not level, the LL and FLP will have different depth readings and the RLP depth is not valid. For more information, search the **DCI DigiGuide App** for "Steep and Deep."

Locate depth screen



1. Ball-in-the-Box® at the FLP or RLP
2. Ground tilt
3. Transmitter predicted depth (Not valid at RLP)
4. Horizontal distance between transmitter and locator
5. Return to Locate mode screen
6. Send depth data to remote (selected)

Selecting **Depth** if you are on the boreline between the LL and FLP, will result in an *estimated depth reading*. Estimated depth cannot be sent to the remote display.



The Depth screen is clearly labeled **Depth estimate** and the estimated depth measurement is displayed with a warning icon.



The further the drill head is from the locator the less accurate the estimated depth. It is not accurate past 10.7 m. For safety, do not use estimates alone to determine a position for crossing utilities or obstacles. The depth calculation should therefore only be used as an estimate of the projected path.

DCI USA

19625 62nd Ave S. Suite B103
Kent, WA 98032 USA

DCI.USA@digital-control.com

US & Canada
1.800.288.3610

International
1.425.251.0559

DCI China

368 Xingle Road Huacao Town
Minhang District Shanghai 201107, P.R.C.

DCI.China@digital-control.com

China
+86.400.100.8708

International
+86.21.6432.5186

DCI India

Unit No. 1022, 10th Floor, DLF Tower B.
Jasola District Center
New Delhi 110025 India

DCI.India@digital-control.com

India
+91.11.4507.0444

International
+91.11.4507.0440

DCI Australia

2/9 Frinton Street
Southport QLD 4215 Australia

DCI.Australia@digital-control.com

Australia
+61.7.5531.4283

International
+61.7.5531.2617

DCI Europe

Brueckenstraße 2
97828 Marktheidenfeld Germany

DCI.Europe@digital-control.com

Europe
+49.9391.810.6100

International
+49.9391.810.6109

DCI Philippines

404-405 Energy Opt. Bldg. Prime St, Madrigal
Business Park 2
Alabang Muntinlupa City, Philippines 1780

DCI.Philippines@digital-control.com

Philippines
(02)79802647

International
+632-79802647

For detailed information, scan the QR code to install the **DCI DigiGuide app** from your smart device's app store. If you have questions, contact your regional DCI office or Customer Service at 1.425.251.0559 or 1.800.288.3610 USA/CA.



Watch our DigiTrak training videos at

www.YouTube.com/DCIKent

Ball-in-the-Box, Digital Control, the DCI logo and DigiTrak are registered trademarks and Ares, DigiGuide, Eagle Tech, HAG, and myDCI are common law trademarks of Digital Control Incorporated. Bluetooth is a registered trademark of Bluetooth SIG. Additional trademark registrations are pending. ARES content and UI are protected by U.S. copyright law. U.S. and foreign patents apply to the product covered by this guide. For details, please visit <https://digital-control.com/legal>.



Printed:
04/28/2026