

# **ECTACO® Partner® ER400 Professional**

**English↔Russian  
Professional Talking Electronic Dictionary  
&  
Phrasebook**

**USER MANUAL**

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## INTRODUCTION

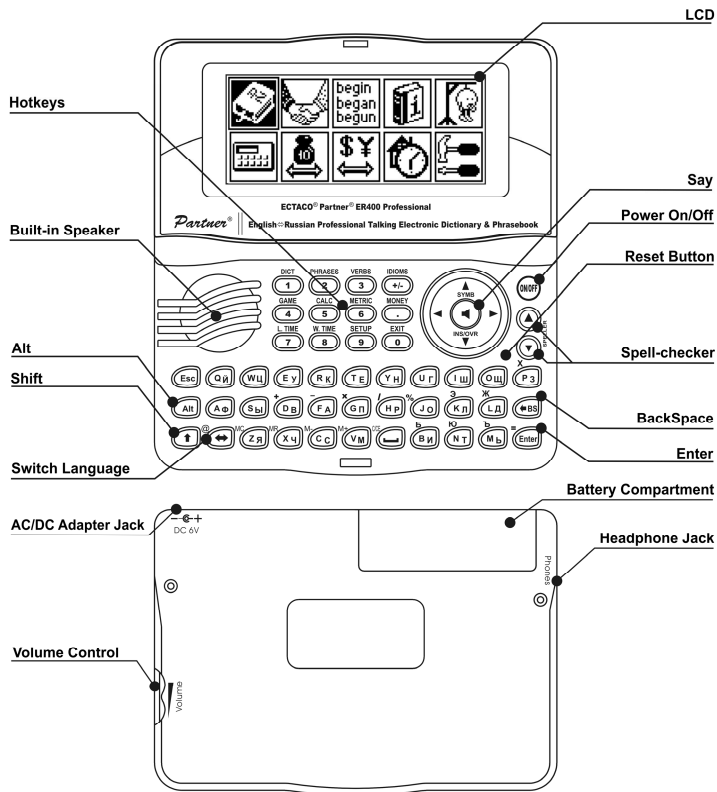
Congratulations on purchasing the ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional! This product is the result of the combined efforts of Ectaco's linguists, engineers, and programmers, and represents the last generation of the highest-performance integrated linguistic systems available.

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional features:

- ❖ 1,100,000-word English ⇔ Russian dictionary database including specialized vocabulary: business – 25,000 words, finance – 57,000 words, law – 69,000 words, medicine – 34,000 words, oil and gas – 43,000 words, information technologies and telecommunications – 24,000 words
- ❖ 14-topic English ⇔ Russian phrasebook with a total of 2,900 phrases for daily communication
- ❖ Unlimited voice function in English and Russian
- ❖ Instant reverse translation
- ❖ Russian Standard and Phonetic keyboard layouts
- ❖ Look-up function
- ❖ Award-winning Vector Ultima™ spell-checking system
- ❖ Phonetic transcription
- ❖ English irregular verbs
- ❖ Over 200 popular American idioms
- ❖ Word game
- ❖ Metric and currency converters
- ❖ Local and World time
- ❖ Calculator
- ❖ Slang lock
- ❖ Bilingual interface
- ❖ AC adapter jack
- ❖ Headphone jack
- ✓ As continuous efforts are being made by the manufacturer to ensure the best quality and performance of the ECTACO Partner® products, some characteristics of the device you have purchased may slightly differ from their description in this manual.

## General View

The general view and external features of the ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional are shown below.




## Power Supply

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional is powered by two AAA (LR03) batteries.

When the batteries become weak, a warning message will be displayed. In order to prevent excessively discharging the batteries and undergoing a resulting loss of data in RAM, the *Say* function will be disabled if battery power is low.

To restore full functionality of the device, replace the complete set of batteries as soon as possible. Do not mix old and new batteries.

- ✓ If you plug in the AC adapter, the  indicator will disappear and full functionality of the device will be restored during 1 minute.

### How to replace the batteries

- Ensure the power is off. Press *ON/OFF* to turn the device off.
- ✓ Never try to remove batteries from the device when the power is on. This can seriously damage the device. If you experience difficulty turning the device off, press the *RESET* button on the right-hand side of the keyboard (over the *O* key) and reset the system.
- Remove the battery compartment cover by sliding it away from the device.
- Remove the used batteries and replace them with new ones.
- ✓ When replacing the batteries, you have about 30 seconds to place new ones in the device without risk of losing user-defined settings stored in RAM. Neither the manufacturer nor the dealer may be held responsible for loss of user data.
- Make sure to place the batteries according to the polarity marks (+ -) inside the compartment.
- Replace the battery compartment cover by sliding it toward the device. Make sure the cover sits in place properly.

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional is equipped with a jack for external power supply.

- ✓ Use of an inappropriate external power supply may cause failure of the device and may void the warranty. The AC/DC adapter should provide 6V and min 300mA DC.

### Initialization

The initialization of the dictionary is performed:

- when ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional is turned on for the first time;
- when you remove the batteries (e.g. during replacement);

- after the system has been reset with the *RESET* button.
- ✓ The *RESET* button is located on the right-hand side of the keyboard (over the *O* key). It can be accessed with any thin object like a paper clip. Never use a needle or pin for this purpose since it can damage the device.
- If you see the *Initialize system? (y/n)* message, press the *N* key to abort initialization and customization.
- ✓ The *System initialized!* message indicates that system initialization has been completed and the factory defined default settings have been restored.

## Keyboard

The standard American QWERTY keyboard is combined with Russian layout.

- Enter the desired symbol from the keyboard by pressing the corresponding key.
- To enter the Russian letters X, Э, Ж, Б, Ю, Ъ, press the corresponding key and then press the ALT key. To enter such letters in caps, press SHIFT+key+ALT<sup>1</sup>.

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional has standard and phonetic modes of entering Russian letters. *Russian standard mode* allows you to enter Russian letters corresponding to the keyboard marks. *Russian phonetic mode* allows you to enter Russian letters by their phonetic consonance with English letters, e.g. you can press the *F* key to enter the Russian letter "Ф".

The table below shows the Russian and English layouts in the Russian phonetic mode.

<b>q</b>	<b>w</b>	<b>e</b>	<b>r</b>	<b>t</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>u</b>	<b>i</b>	<b>o</b>	<b>p</b>
я	ш/щ <sup>2</sup>	е/э	р	т	ы	у/ю	и	о	п
<b>a</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>d</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>g</b>	<b>h</b>	<b>j</b>	<b>k</b>	<b>l</b>	
а	с	д	ф	г/ж	х	й	к	л	
	<b>z</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>v</b>		<b>b</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>m</b>	
	з	ь/ъ	ц/ч	в		б	н	м	

<sup>1</sup> Key1+Key2 here and further on signifies the combination of keys to use – first press and release Key1, then press and release Key2.

<sup>2</sup> Press ALT to enter letters shown after the slash (/) in the table.



- ✓ Unlike PC keyboards, there is no need to keep a key (such as SHIFT) down while pressing another one. It is enough to press it only once and release.

The available set of national characters is dependent on the selected keyboard mode.

- Use ⇔ to switch between English and Russian keyboard modes in the *Dictionary* section.

### Function shortcut keys

ON/OFF	Turn the device on or off
RESET	Re-initialize system
SPELLER (SHIFT+ ▼ or ▲)	Launch spell-checker
◀	Pronounce headword or a highlighted item
SHIFT+▶	Pronounce translation

Other shortcut keys open sections corresponding to the marks over the buttons (press SHIFT+ shortcut key; for example, SHIFT+DICT).

### Control and edit keys

←, →	Move cursor / highlight
↓, ↑	Highlight / scroll lines / change values. Use SHIFT+ ↓ to switch between the <i>Insert</i> and <i>Overtyp</i> e modes.
▼, ▲	Scroll pages
ENTER	Execute
⎵	Enter space
ESC	Close active window / cancel / return to the previous page
ALT	Enter the Russian letters X, Э, Ж, Б, Ю, Ъ
SHIFT	Type in uppercase
←BS	Delete character to the left of the cursor
⇔	Switch translation direction
SHIFT+⇔	Enter "@"

SHIFT+↑ Enter additional symbols<sup>3</sup>

SHIFT+EXIT Switch to *Main Menu*

## Display


ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional features a high-resolution screen (160x64 pixels).

The indicator line is at the top of the display and shows the following indicators:

SHIFT SHIFT key pressed

EDIT Text input available

INS *Insert* mode selected

 Batteries low

 *Slang lock* is on

▼▲ Vertical scrolling or paging enabled (more text available)

◀▶ Horizontal scrolling enabled

## Main Menu

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional *Main Menu* consists of 10 functional icons, which visually organize access to the corresponding sections.

To display the *Main Menu*, turn the device on, or close a current section.

- Move between icons using ↓, ↑, or ←, →.
- To open a section which icon is highlighted, press ENTER.

The icons shown in the *Main Menu* represent the following sections:



Dictionary



Calculator



Phrasebook



Metric Conversion



Irregular Verbs



Currency Conversion

<sup>3</sup> Press ▼, ▲ to move between three lines of symbols. Press the corresponding numeric key to enter the desired symbol.



Popular Idioms



Local and World Time



Hangman Word Game



Setup

## DICTIONARY

ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional features 1,100,000-word English↔Russian dictionary database including specialized vocabulary: business – 25,000 words, finance – 57,000 words, law – 69,000 words, medicine – 34,000 words, oil and gas – 43,000 words, information technologies and telecommunications – 24,000 words.

- Enter the *Dictionary* section.
- Use ⇔ to switch the translation direction.

### Viewing entries

- Enter your word from the keyboard.

```

English⇔Russian
dictiona|
dictionary
  
```

- ✓ If the *Advanced Search* mode is turned on, the headword closest in spelling to the portion you have entered so far will be displayed under the input line.
- When the desired word is displayed, press ENTER to see its translation(s).

```

dictionary
['dik.ʃə.nəri]
[N]
словарь [М], справочник,
построенный по
  
```

Use:

- ↓, ↑ to scroll through the translations;
- ▲, ▼ to switch between adjacent entries.
- To return to the input line, press ESC or any letter key.

Meanings of certain words depend on the case of letters the word is written. For example, Archer – Стрелец [астр.]; archer – стрелок из лука, лучник. Such words are shown in different entries.

## **Parts of Speech and Gender Labels**

Translations of a headword are shown with their parts of speech.

A – adjective	ID – idiom	PHR – phrase
ABBR – abbreviation	INTRJ – interjection	PREF – prefix
ADV – adverb	N – noun	PREP – preposition
ART – article	NPR – proper noun	PRON – pronoun
AUX – auxiliary	NUM – numeral	SUFF – suffix
CONJ – conjunction	PART – particle	V – verb

Russian nouns are marked with gender and number labels.

F – feminine	MN – masculine or neuter
FN – feminine or neuter	MPL – masculine plural
FPL – feminine plural	N – neuter
M – masculine	NPL – neuter plural
MF – common gender	PL – plural
MFPL – masculine or feminine plural	

Certain words and expressions in the dictionary are marked with the following abbreviations:

anat. – anatomy	геол. – geology	поэт. – poetic
bact. – bacteriology	геом. – geometry	психол. – psychology
biochem. – biochemistry	горн. – mining	радио – radio
biol. – biology	грам. – grammar	разг. – colloquial
bot. – botany	греч. – Greek	рел. – religion
chem. – chemistry	груб. – vulgar	римск. – Roman
comm. – commerce	детск. – nursery	ритор. – rhetorical
comp. – computers	др.-греч. – Ancient Greek	с.-х. – agriculture
econ. – economics	др.-рим. – Ancient Rome	сл. – slang
el. – electronics	ж.-д. – railways	собир. – collective
fin. – finance		спец. – special
jur. – law		стих. – versification

mech. – mechanics	иск. – art	стомат. – stomatology
med. – medicine	ист. – historical	строит. – building
opt. – optics	карт. – cards	театр. – theater
pharm. – pharmacy	кино – cinema	текст. – textile
physiol. – physiology	книжн. – literary	тех. – technical
psychol. – psychology	кож. – tanning	типогр. – printing
stomat. – stomatology	комм. – commerce	уст. – obsolete
vet. – veterinary	комп. – computers	фарм. – pharmacy
акуш. – obstetrics	косм. – cosmonautics	фехт. – fencing
амер. – American	кул. – cooking	фиг. – figurative
анат. – anatomy	лат. – Latin	физ. – physics
арифм. – arithmetic	лингв. – linguistics	физиол. – physiology
арх. – archaic	лит. – literature	филос. – philosophy
археол. – archaeology	льжн. – skiing	фин. – finance
архит. – architecture	мат. – mathematics	фон. – phonetics
астр. – astronomy	метал. – metallurgy	фот. – photography
бакт. – bacteriology	метео – meteorology	фр. – French
библ. – biblical	мех. – mechanics	хим. – chemistry
биол. – biology	мин. – mineralogy	церк. – ecclesiastical
биохим. – biochemistry	миф. – mythology	шахм. – chess
бирж. – stock exchange	мор. – nautical	шотл. – Scottish
бот. – botany	муз. – music	шутл. – jocular
брит. – British	неценз. – obscene	эк. – economics
бухг. – bookkeeping	опт. – optics	эл. – electrical
вет. – veterinary	охот. – hunting	энт. – entomology
воен. – military	перен. – figurative	юж.-аф. – South African
вулг. – vulgarism	полигр. – printing	юр. – law
вчт. – computers	полит. – political	

If the translation you are currently viewing is a term, you will also see the name of the corresponding specialized dictionary.

<p><b>слово</b>          [N][N]          word, say, syllable, faith  <b>Law dictionary:</b>          floor, word</p>
--

## Reverse Translation

For your convenience, the ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional provides a *Reverse Translation* for all words and expressions in the *Dictionary*.

To obtain a reverse translation:

- press ←, → to select a word or expression for the reverse translation;

<p><b>explanation</b>          [ˌɛkspləˈneɪʃən]          [N]          объяснение [N],          разъяснение [N],</p>
---

- press ENTER.

Use:

- ESC to close the *Reverse Translation* windows.<sup>4</sup>
- ESC or any letter button to return to the input line.

## Vector Ultima™ Spell-checker

When you are unsure of the spelling of a word, the multilingual spell-checker *Vector Ultima™* will help you.

- Type the word as you hear it. For example, "foil" for "fall".
- Press SHIFT+SPELLER (SHIFT and either of the ▲, ▼ keys). You will see a list of suggested variants, if any.
- Select the desired word and press ENTER.
- ✓ If the spell-checker is unable to suggest alternative words, the *No variants* message will appear.

---







<sup>4</sup> The windows will be closed in the reverse order.

## **Pronunciation of words and sentences**

The *Text-To-Speech* technology provides pronunciation of words and phrases for the English and Russian languages in the *Dictionary*.

- Display an entry.

Use:

-  to listen to the pronunciation of the headword;
- SHIFT+ to listen to the pronunciation of all translations currently displayed on the screen.
- You can also listen to the pronunciation of separate words or phrases listed in the entry. Simply make the selection by using ,  and press the  key.
- ✓ For both English and Russian, the device is able to generate pronunciation of any text, not limited to *Dictionary* entries. Simply type a word or phrase in the input line of the corresponding dictionary and press the  key to listen to its pronunciation.

## **PHRASEBOOK**

The phrasebook contains over 2,900 phrases in the English and Russian languages. Translation direction depends on the selected *Interface language*. The phrases are divided into 14 conversational topics.

Basics	Bank	Sport / Leisure
Traveling	Communication means	Health / Drugstore
Hotel	In the restaurant	Beauty Care
Local transport	Shopping	Calling for police
Sightseeing	Repairs / Laundry	

Each topic contains subtopics.

- Enter the *Phrasebook* section.

<b>Phrasebook</b>
Basics
Traveling
Hotel
Local transport

- Select a topic. Press ENTER to see its subtopics.
- Select a subtopic. Press ENTER to see the phrases.

When viewing phrases:

- use ▼ or ▲ to scroll through the phrases;
- press 🔊 to listen to the pronunciation of the phrase;
- use SHIFT+🔊 to listen to the pronunciation of the phrase translation.

## IRREGULAR VERBS

All commonly used English irregular verbs with their Past Simple and Past Participle forms are stored in alphabetical order in the *Irregular Verbs* section.

- Press SHIFT+VERBS to enter the *Irregular Verbs* section.
- Start typing the desired verb. To see the forms and translation of the verb, press ENTER.
- Use ▲, ▼ to scroll through the verbs.

## POPULAR IDIOMS

Over 200 widely used American idioms and their equivalents or translations are included in the *Popular Idioms* section.

- Press SHIFT+IDIOMS to enter the *Popular Idioms* section.
- Start typing the desired idiom. To see the translation of the idiom, press ENTER.
- Use ▲, ▼ to scroll through the idioms.


## HANGMAN WORD GAME

The ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional features the learning game *Hangman*, which can improve your spelling skills and enhance your personal vocabulary.

- Enter the *Hangman* section.
- Select the target language for the game by pressing ↔. Once the language is chosen, a new game will begin.
- Try to guess letters in the word by entering them from the keyboard.



If you guess a letter correctly, it will appear in place of an asterisk in the word.

- When playing, press ENTER to display the translation of the hidden word (which will count as one try). To hide the translation, press ESC.
- Press the  button to hear the hidden word (counts as one try).

After the game ends, the hidden word and its translation(s) will be shown.





- Press ESC to return to a new game.

## CALCULATOR

- Enter the *Calculator* section.
- ✓ When entering numbers and operations from the keyboard, there is no need to press the SHIFT key while in the *Calculator* mode. Use this application as an ordinary pocket calculator.

## METRIC CONVERSION

With the ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional you may easily convert measurements from the British-American system into the metric system commonly used in Europe and vice versa, as well as convert within each system.

- Enter the *Metric Conversion* section.
- Choose a subsection by pressing , . Press ENTER.
- Input the value.
- ✓ There may be more than four units of measure in a subsection – if applicable, use ,  for scrolling.

## CURRENCY CONVERSION

The *Currency Conversion* function allows you to instantly calculate conversion values between twelve pre-installed currencies and three user-defined currencies.

- Enter the *Currency Conversion* section.

### ***Setting and Checking Rates***

- Select the *Set rate* subsection to specify currency names and rates.
- Select a currency. Press ENTER.

- ✓ You can specify or change the names of any of the currencies listed. New currencies may be added in place of ???.
- Change/specify the currency name. Press ENTER to open the next window.
- Specify an exchange rate relative to the basic currency (whose rate should equal 1).
- ✓ The default exchange rate for all currencies is 1.
- Press ENTER to save changes.

## **Conversion**

- Enter the *Calculation* subsection.
- Select a currency name and enter an amount.

While you are typing a new amount, the conversion is being performed.

## **LOCAL AND WORLD TIME**

Using the *Local and world time* section, you may view the current time in cities around the globe.

- Enter the *Local and world time* section.

### **Local Time**

- Select the *Local time* subsection and press ENTER.

The *Local time* screen shows the names of the selected city and country, day of the week, the date, and the current time for that city. You may specify these settings in the *Setup* section.

### **World Time**

- Select the *World time* subsection.

<b>Local time</b>
New York
USA
Tue, September 18, 2007
02:14:05 PM

The *World Time* screen shows the names of the selected city and country, day of the week, the date, and the current time for that city.

- To see information for another city, scroll through the alphabetic list by using ↓, ↑.
- To see information for another city of the same country or switch to another country, scroll through the alphabetic list by pressing ▼, ▲.
- Also, you can quickly find a desired city by entering the first letter of its name and scrolling through the list by using ↓, ↑.
- When you find the desired city, press ENTER to save changes. The next time you enter this section, the city you have chosen will be displayed first.

## SETUP

Personalize your ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional by selecting options in the *Setup* section.



- Enter the *Setup* section.
- Most of the *Setup* section options are very easy to adjust. Unless stated otherwise, enter a subsection and select the desired option with ↓, ↑ and ←, → (if applicable). Then press ENTER to confirm your choice.

### ***Interface language***

Use this subsection to switch the interface language between English and Russian. The default interface language of the ECTACO Partner® ER400 Professional is English.

### ***Slang lock***

In this subsection you can hide slang words or phrases contained in the *dictionaries*. For example, you may forbid your children to access slang. *Slang lock* is on by default. To set *Slang lock* off, enter the **showslan** password and press ENTER.

- ✓ When *Slang lock* is on, the  indicator is displayed at the top of the screen in the *Dictionary* and *Hangman* sections.
- ✓ In the *Hangman* section, the  indicator is always displayed because slang words are not used in the game.

## Advanced search

If the *Advanced search* mode is turned on, the headword closest in spelling to the portion you have entered so far will be displayed under the input line. *Advanced search* is on by default.

## Russian keyboard mode

In this subsection, you can choose one of the available Russian keyboard modes: *Standard* or *Phonetic*.

Russian *Standard* mode allows you to enter Russian letters in accordance with the keyboard marks. Russian *Phonetic* mode allows you to enter Russian letters by their phonetic consonance with English letters, e.g. you can press the *F* key to enter the Russian letter "Ф".

## Key tone

This feature is designed to produce a short beep every time you press a key on the device's keyboard. The *Key tone* is turned on by default.

## Clock

In this subsection you can choose the city to display in the *Local time* section and adjust the current time.

- Enter the *Clock* subsection.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Set local time</b></p> <p>MM/DD/YY = 09/18/2007</p> <p style="text-align: center;">02:24 PM</p>
---

- Specify the current date and time.
- Use the "A" and "P" keys to specify AM and PM respectively.
- Press ENTER to save changes.

The next section displayed will allow you to select the local city.

<p>New York USA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-05:00 (GMT)</p>
---

This display shows the city and country names and the city's GMT offset. Refer to page 19 to learn how to find the desired country or city in the list.

- When you find the desired city, press ENTER to save changes.

### ***Date format***

The Month-Day-Year date format can be changed to Day-Month-Year.

### ***Time format***

The American 12-hour time format can be changed to the 24-hour format.

### ***Set contrast***

To change the default contrast setting, select the *Set contrast* item.

- Change the contrast level by using ←, →.

### ***Speech options***

Suit your own pronunciation by adjusting the speed and frequency of the built-in speech synthesizer.

- Use ENTER to move between the *Speech frequency* and *Speech speed* bars, and ←, → to adjust the levels of each option.

### ***Set sleep time***

The automatic power off has a preset delay of 3 minutes. This feature saves battery life by shutting down the device after a specified period of inactivity. The adjustable range is from 1 to 5 minutes.