

Virtual Voice Switching and Control System (VSCS)

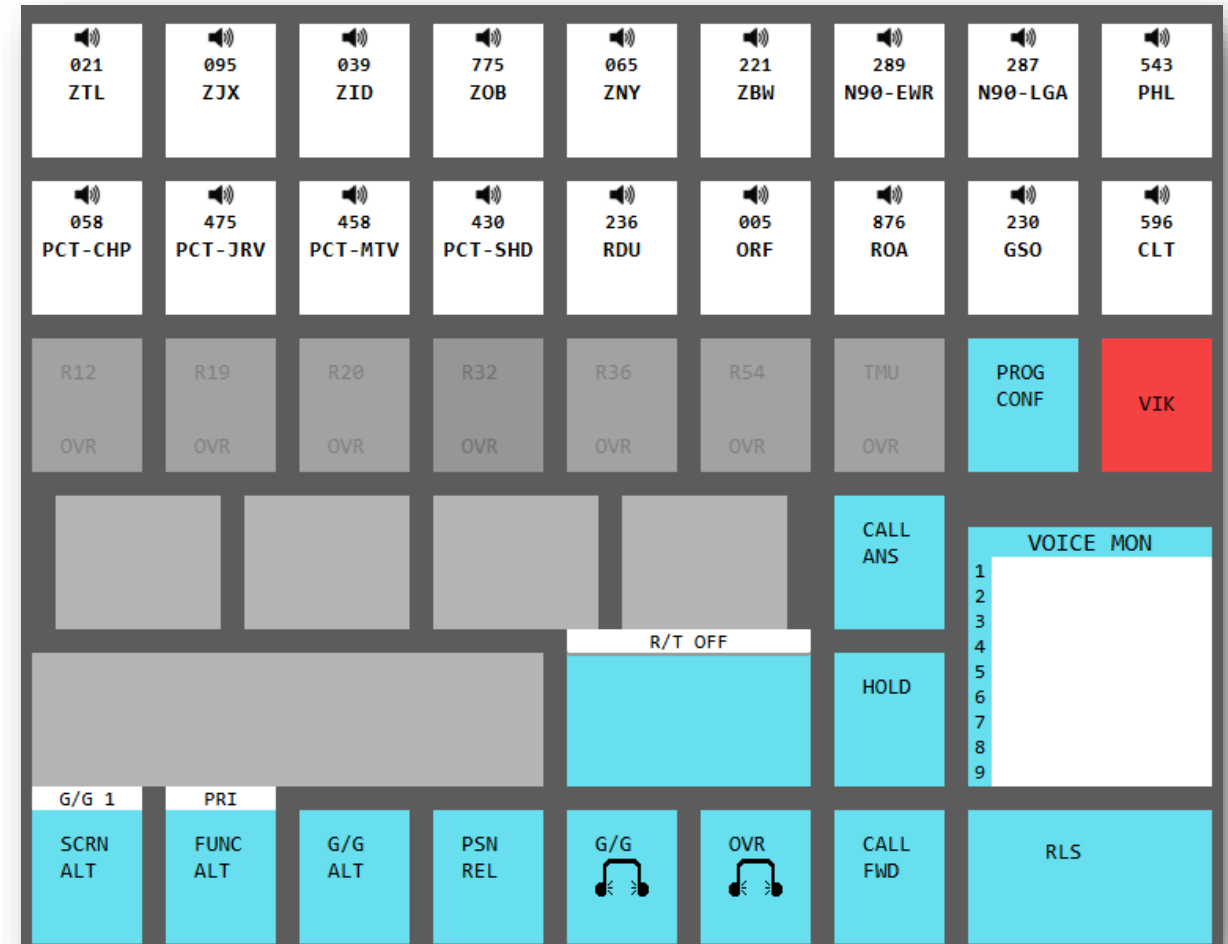
Initial Guidance & Recommended Procedures

13 January 2026



ZDCARTCC
WASHINGTON DC

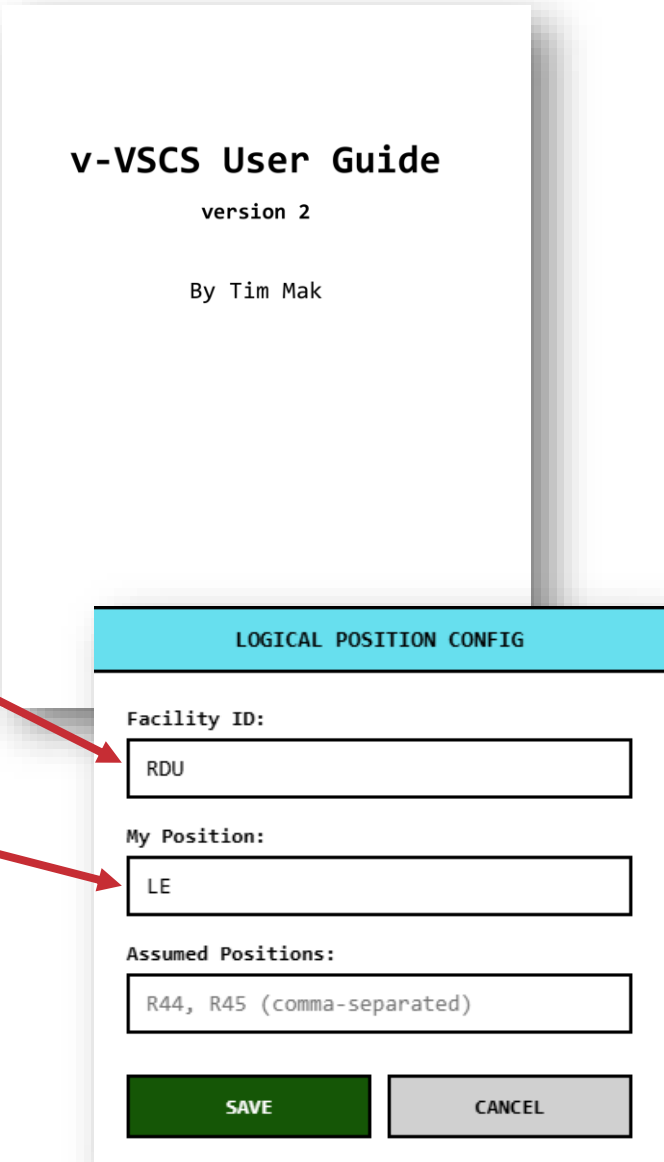
- Initial Settings & Configuration
- Assumed Position Setting
- Loading the Profile
- Understanding Types of Lines
 - Shout vs Override
- Making Calls and Call Ettiquette
- vZDC Standardization



Configuration & Facility Selection

- The [vVSCS User Guide](#) should be used for your initial configuration to understand the basics of each button and the settings you should be setting.
- It is **HIGHLY** recommended that you use **both** the headset and speaker outputs and avoid having everything go straight to your ear. “Shout” lines are shared and meant to start on speaker – putting that extra noise in your ear can be distracting (think being in Teamspeak).
- Setting your facility: for all ZDC facilities, your facility is set using the 3-character identifier for that facility (i.e. ZDC, PCT, RDU, DCA, etc.)
- Setting your position:
 - For enroute positions, use R and the sector number (i.e. R32, R12).
 - For TRACON positions, use the STARS ID for the sector (i.e. 1J, 3M). For cab positions, use CD, GC, LC.

Note: cabs with more than one ground/local position may use different identifiers. Once you load the facility you can see what the override label uses for your specific situation. Change your position to use what is shown on the configured override button.



The image shows a document titled "v-VSCS User Guide" with "version 2" and "By Tim Mak". Below it is a "LOGICAL POSITION CONFIG" dialog box. The dialog has three input fields: "Facility ID:" with the value "RDU", "My Position:" with the value "LE", and "Assumed Positions:" with the value "R44, R45 (comma-separated)". At the bottom are "SAVE" and "CANCEL" buttons. Two red arrows point from the text in the list to the "Facility ID" and "My Position" fields respectively.

v-VSCS User Guide
version 2
By Tim Mak

LOGICAL POSITION CONFIG

Facility ID:
RDU

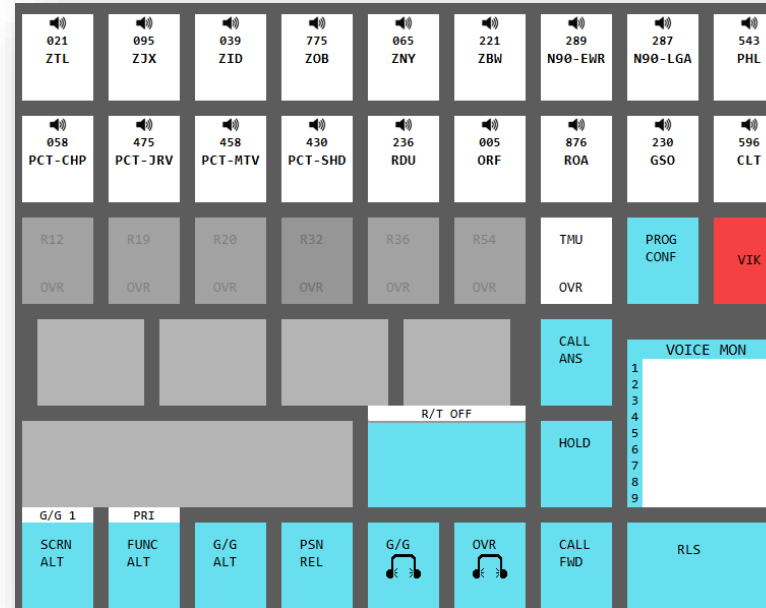
My Position:
LE

Assumed Positions:
R44, R45 (comma-separated)

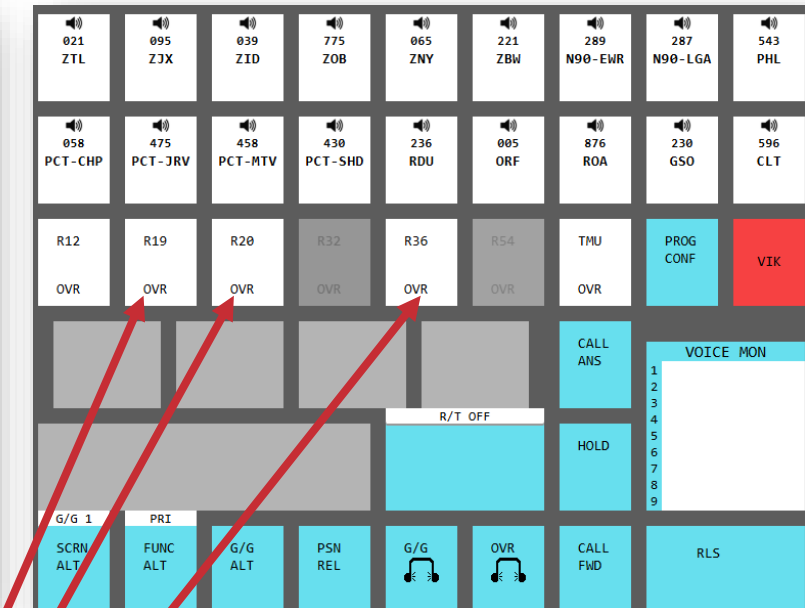
SAVE CANCEL

Assumed Positions

- The assumed position field is where all sectors that are combined to your position may be listed. This will “activate” the override button.
- As an example, 12 has 19, 20, and 36. If assumed is left empty, only R12 would be selectable. If 19, 20, and 36 are shown as “assumed” then they are selectable, and will forward to 12 automatically.



R12's View



R32's View

LOGICAL POSITION CONFIG

Facility ID:

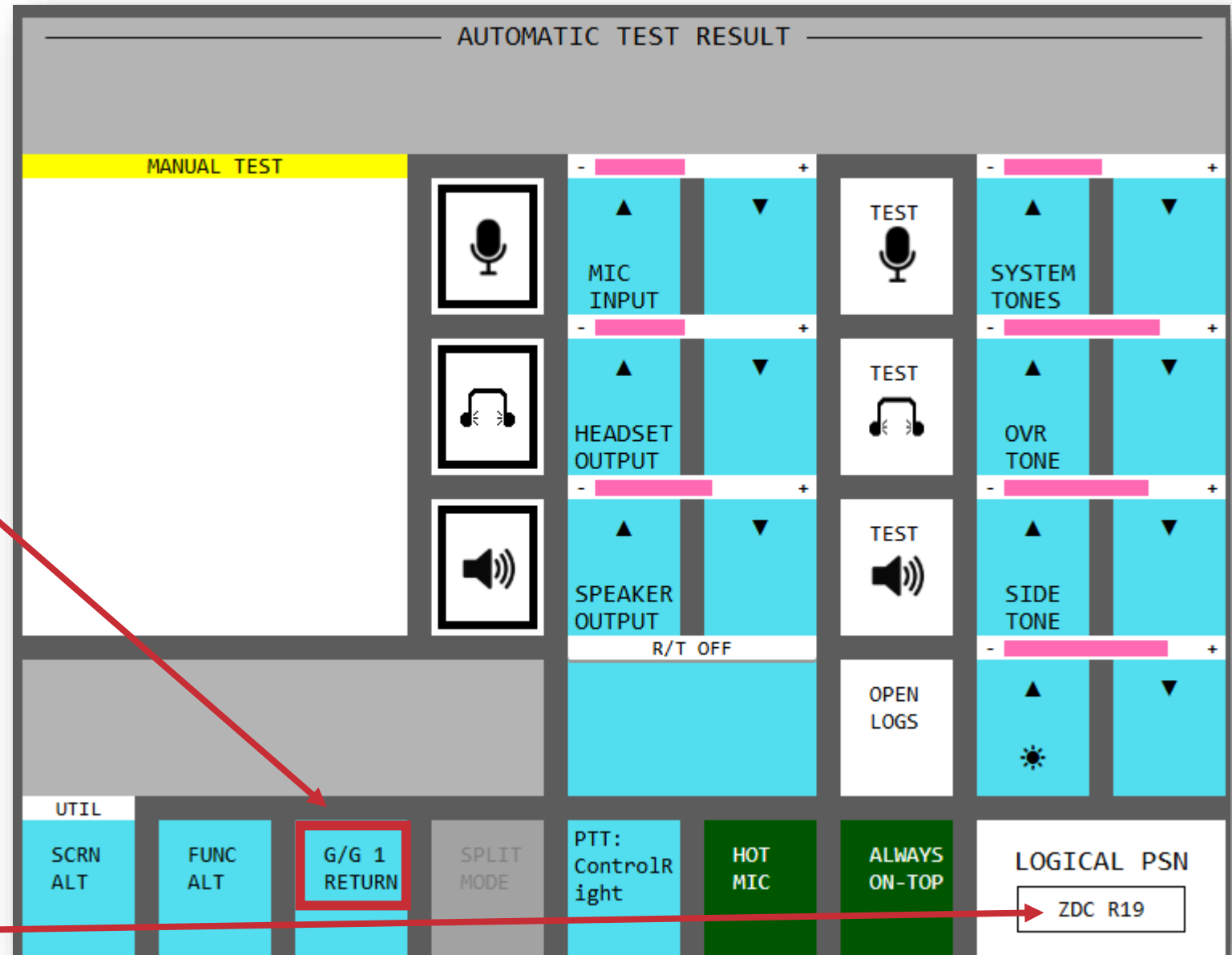
My Position:

Assumed Positions:

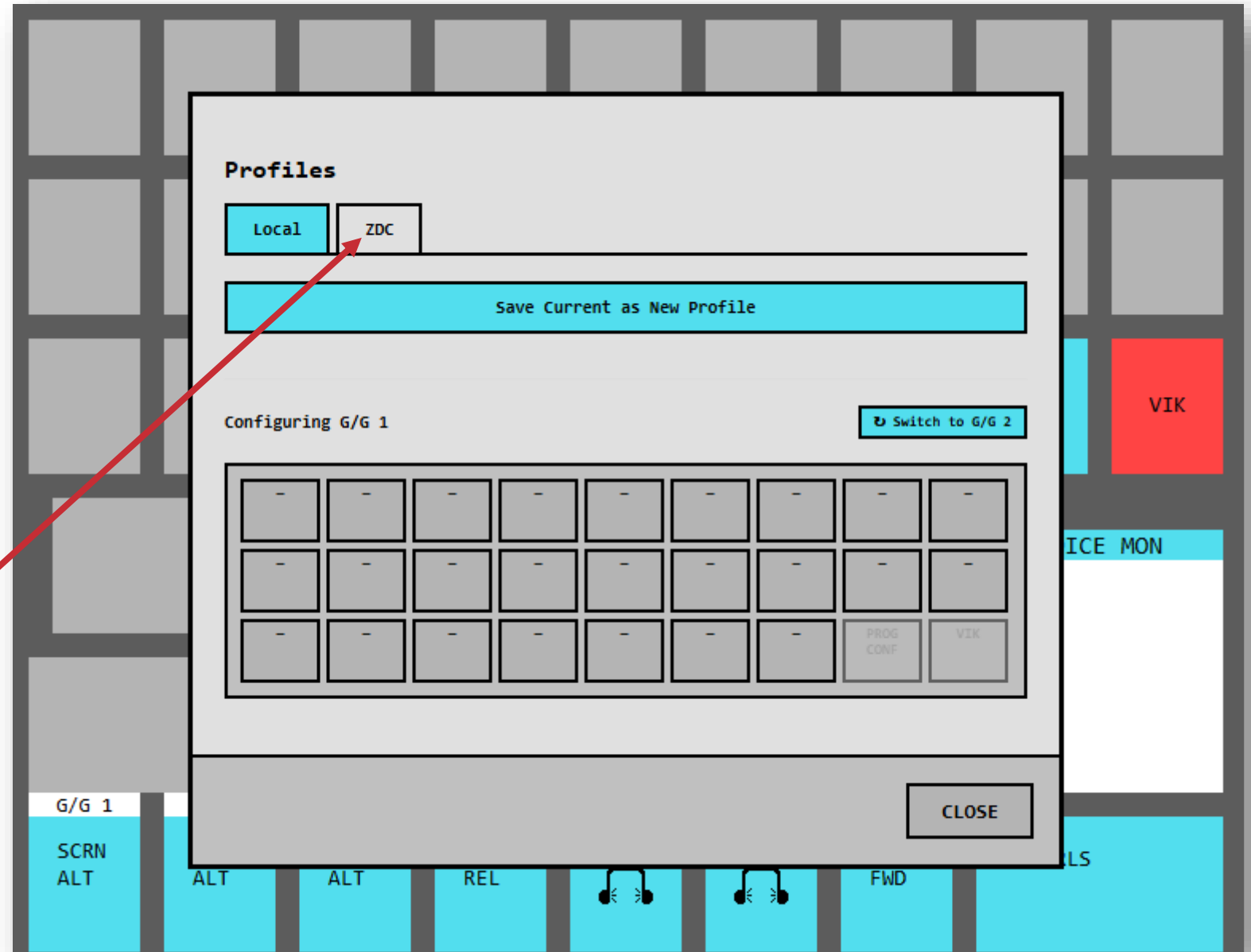
Since R12 “assumed” the extra positions, those override buttons are now selectable and will forward calls to the R12 position.

- After you have set your position, and after all other configuration steps are completed, select “G/G 1 RETURN”

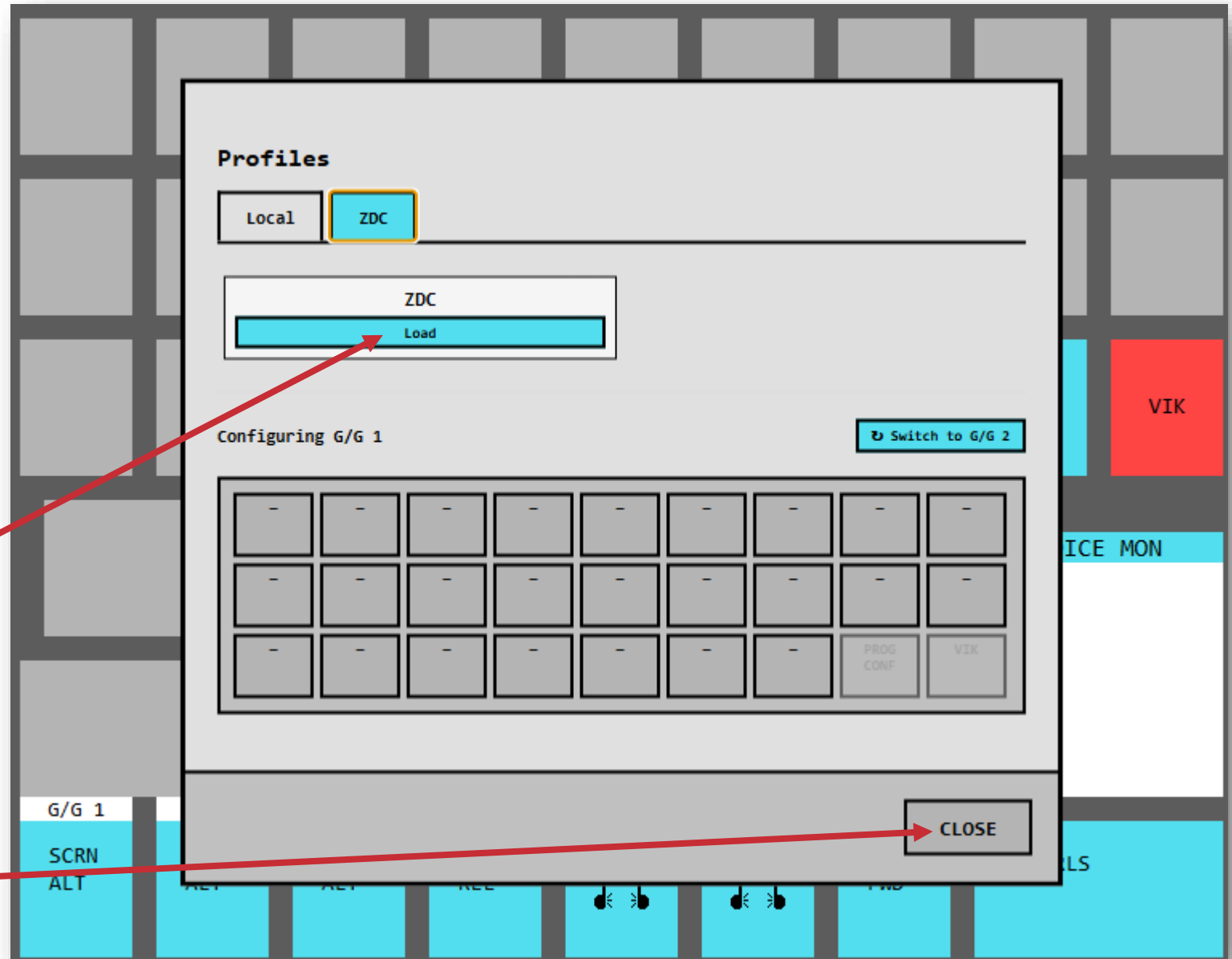
Note: You should see your facility and position selection



- The profile selection window will automatically open once G/G is selected.
- The “LOCAL” tab will open by default and display any profiles you have saved on your device. *vZDC recommends only using the ZDC provided profiles.*
- Select the tab for the facility you are working (this should only display the single tab of the facility you entered in the previous step).



- All available profiles to select will be displayed.
- Most facilities will only display a single profile. If more than one is available, select the most appropriate for the position you will be working.
- Select “LOAD” for the profile. Both G/G pages will now populate with the configured lines.
- Select close after the profile is loaded.



- Shout Lines

- These lines are *shared* by the facility.
- It's a direct line between one facility and one other facility. *Each facility pair has a different line to use.*
- Anyone in the facility with the line configured can select the line and be part of the call
- When a facility calls it will initially come across the speaker. The person working the airspace named in the call should answer the line.
- Use of the designated VSCS push to talk key is required to talk on the line.
- *Both* controllers must select "RELEASE" to hangup the line when the call is complete.

- Override (Intercom)

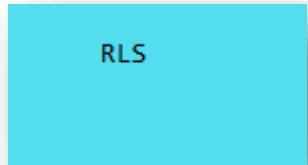
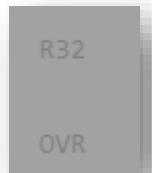
- Overrides are not shared lines.
- Overrides connect one position and one other position that are within the same facility.
- The person being called (person being overridden) does *not* answer and can *not* reject the call.
- If "hot mic" was selected (recommended) then the person being overridden does not have to use a PTT, and, anything said will be heard by the person calling (so they know when to and not to talk).
- The person calling must still use the PTT and must "RELEASE" the call when complete.

Understanding the Buttons



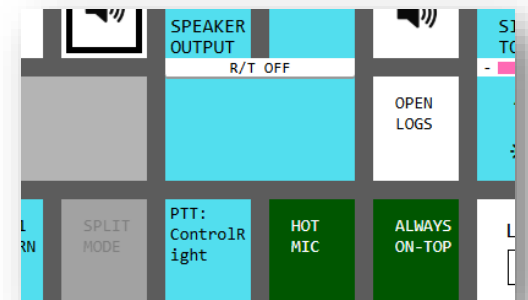
Shout lines will have the speaker symbol, the line number, and will always be selectable (this does *not* mean someone will be there to answer the call!)

Overrides will be greyed out and not selectable unless that position is active, or, has been assumed by an active position. The override will only show a position and OVR as there is no associated line number.



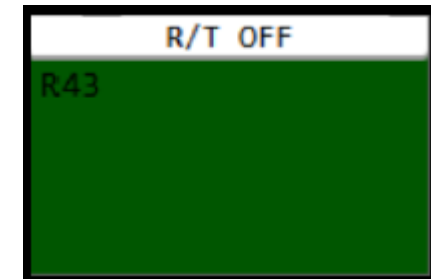
Release is used to end the call. Both users of the shout line must release the call. Only the initiating controller on an override must release the call.

It is highly recommended to use the “HOT MIC” function. This will allow you to speak freely during an override call and not have to use the PTT, and, allows the overriding controller to hear anything you are saying improving communication efficiency.

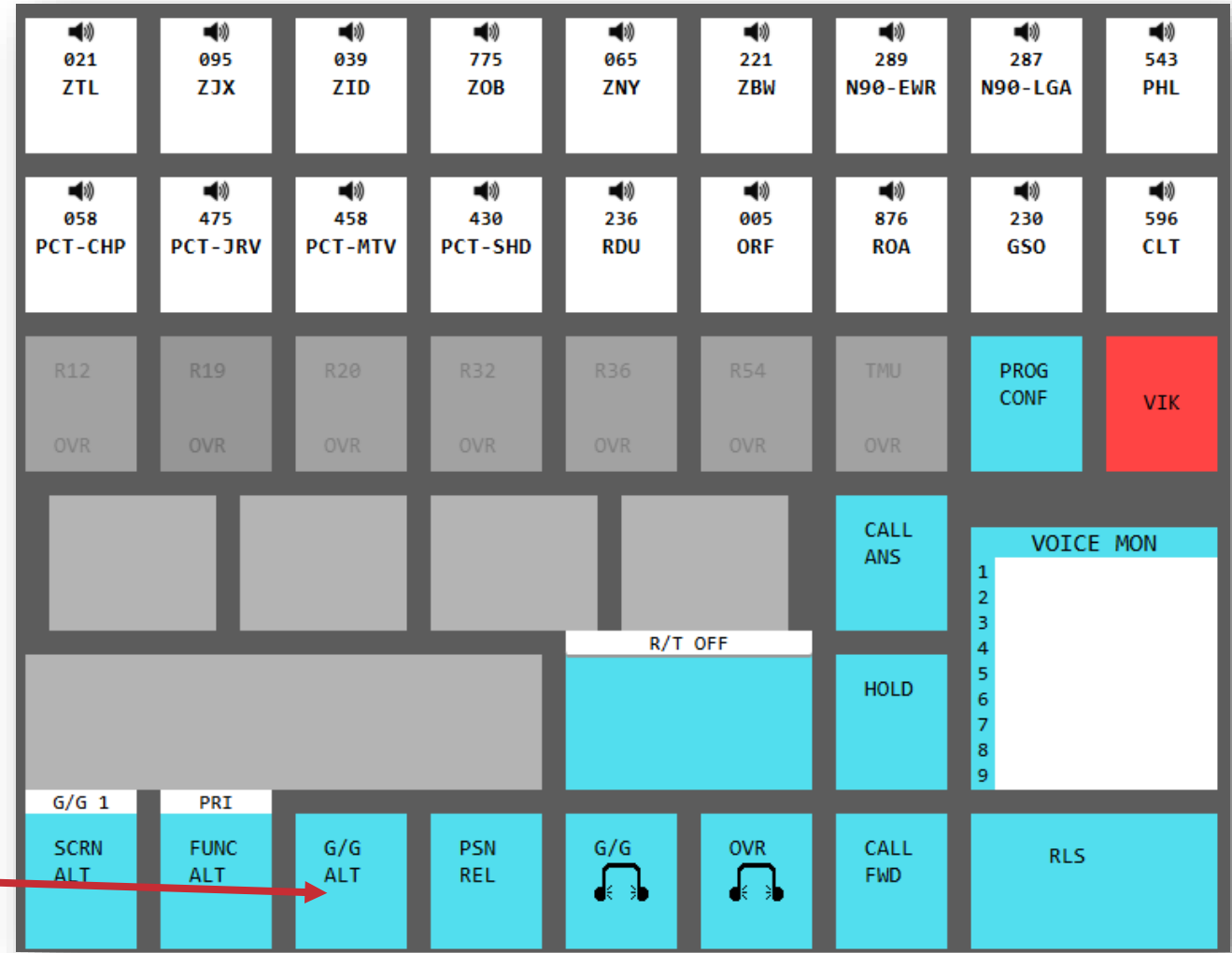


1. Verify the line you will use is not in use.
2. Select the line, use your VSCS PTT, state the position you are calling, who you are, and line number *if more than one line between the facilities exists* (ex: “OJAAY, GORDONSVILLE, 458”)
3. The controller working OJAAY airspace should hear the call come across on speaker, and will select the line to answer (ex: “OJAAY”).
4. The coordination will be conducted and the conversation is ended with each controller stating their initials.
5. *Both* controllers will select “Release” when they are complete.

1. The initiating controller selects the override button and waits for the controller being overridden to answer.
2. The controller being overridden will hear a quick tone to indicate that someone is overriding them (“in their ear”).
3. When you are being overridden, use the R/T window to identify the position(s) that are currently overriding you, and when you are ready for them to speak, acknowledge them (*ex: “43, GO AHEAD”*).
4. Once the coordination is completed, both controllers state their initials to conclude the call.
5. **Only the controller that initiated the override can end the call and must push release – the overridden controller cannot end this call!**



- Lines 1 and 2 are for external facility coordination and are generally organized with most used lines to the left and lessor used lines to the right, with enroute on line 1, and terminal on line 2.
- Line 3 includes the most commonly used sectors of ZDC for override use.
- Select “G/G ALT” to view page 2 of lines.



- G/G 1 includes all external lines (shout lines) that PCT is configured to use. Lines are generally sorted in priority order.
- Enroute is line 1, neighboring TRACONs line 2, underlying towers line 3
- G/G 2 is all internal override lines. As a reminder, lines that are not active are greyed out. Lines that are selectable (staffed or assumed) are white and selectable



The interface displays a grid of external lines (shout lines) and internal override lines. The external lines are organized into three rows:

058	475	458	430	134	233	356	248	687
ZDC-CHP	ZDC-JRV	ZDC-MTV	ZDC-SHD	ZNY	ZOB	HEF-TWR	JYO-TWR	FDK-TWR
141	997	158	992	058	288	044	301	592
DOV	JST	MDT	NHK	ORF	PHL	ROA	ADW-TWR	DAA-TWR
505	605	705	805	012	305	536	PROG CONF	VIK
BWI-TWR	DCA-TWR	IAD-TWR	RIC-TWR	MTN-TWR	CHO-TWR	ZDC-TMU		

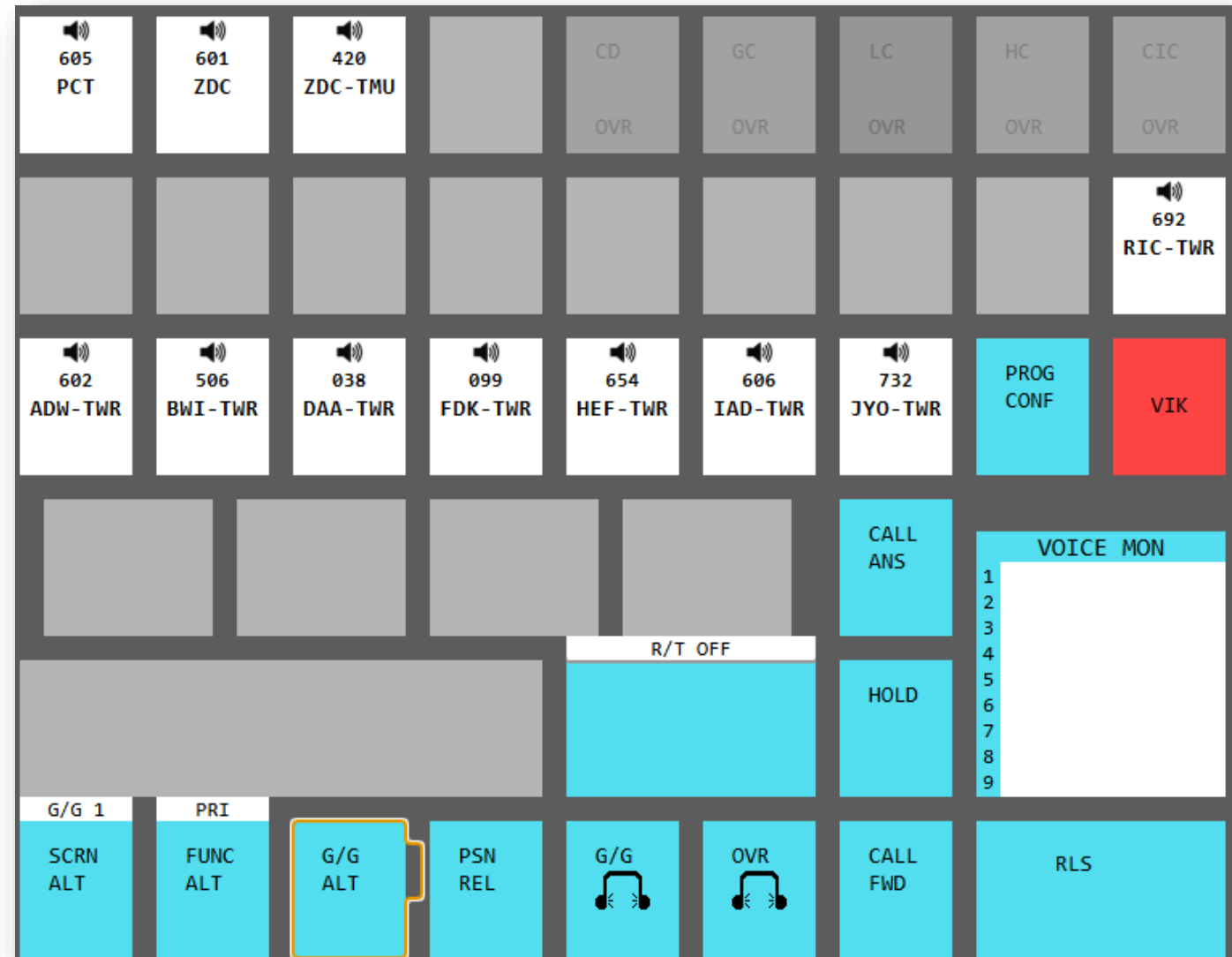
Below the external lines, there are several rows of internal override lines (G/G 2) and control buttons. The internal override lines are organized into three rows:

1S	1H	1G	1W		2P	2M	2E	2L
OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR		OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR
1J	1K	1L	1V	1Y		2X	2W	2F
OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR		OVR	OVR	OVR
3M	3A	3B	3N	3S	3U	3X	PROG CONF	VIK
OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR	OVR		

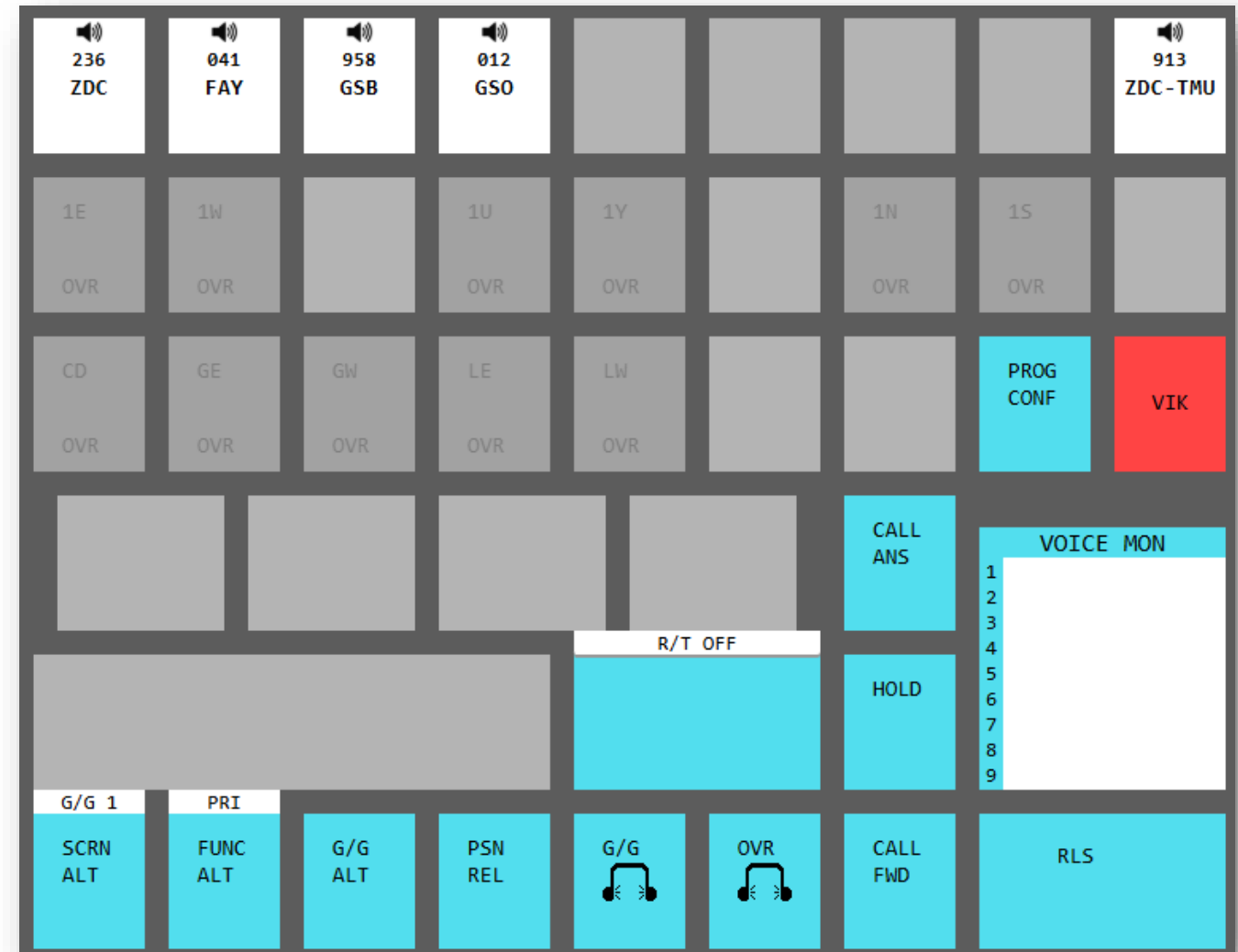
Control buttons and other elements include:

- G/G 1: SCRN ALT
- G/G 2: SCRN ALT, PRI, FUNC ALT, G/G ALT (highlighted), PSN REL, G/G, OVR, CALL FWD, RLS
- CALL ANS
- HOLD
- VOICE MON
- R/T OFF

- Shout lines for potential overlying facilities are included on line 1
- Line 3 includes neighboring towers where a potential need to communicate exists
- All cab positions are configured to override. *When selecting a cab position, LC, GC, CD are default positions but different position identifiers may be used – check the profile after loading!*



- External facility shout lines are configured and generally listed on line 1
- Cab **and** TRACON positions are all configured as overrides since the ATCT/TRACON (up/down) facilities are considered a single facility.
- *Note: this is different than the underlying PCT towers where PCT requires use of a shout line to coordinate.*



- Use the normal facility feedback forms to submit any feedback or issues you experience while using VSCS!