

SECTION 5. OPERATION

SECTION 5.1 PRELIMINARY SETTINGS

Before you turn on the amplifier, push the STANDBY button on the function switch. Turn on the amplifier with the circuit breaker on the front of the cabinet. The dial lights, blower and STANDBY light should come on when you turn on the power. The 3CX1200A7 requires no significant warmup period so you may use the amplifier within a few seconds of turning it on.

Push the operate button on the function switch and check that the POWER light comes on. Key the exciter to switch the amplifier into the transmit mode, BUT DO NOT APPLY POWER YET. Check that the operating parameters are approximately as follows:

With the SSB/CW switch in the SSB position:

Model	Grid Current	Plate Current	High Voltage
3K Classic Mk II	0 ma	140 ma	3200 VDC
3K Classic X Mk II	0 ma	130 ma	3900 VDC
5K Classic	0 ma	200 ma	4500 VDC

With the SSB/CW switch in the CW position:

3K Classic Mk II	0 ma	70 ma	2200 VDC
3K Classic X Mk II	0 ma	70 ma	2900 VDC
5K Classic	0 ma	100 ma	3500 VDC

The high voltage and resting current are very dependent on the AC line voltage at the operating position.

If the tube parameters are significantly different than the above reading, there may be a problem with the amplifier, or the high voltage taps on the power transformer may need to be changed.

SECTION 5.2 SSB OPERATION

Set the SSB/CW switch to SSB and make sure that the output of the exciter is turned to zero. Set the BAND switch to the appropriate position for the operating frequency. If you have an RF wattmeter, connect it in the output line of the amplifier. The wattmeter must be capable of reading at least 2500 watts. Switch the exciter to the CW mode.

Step 1. Preset the TUNE and LOAD controls of the amplifier using the calibration readings from the TUNE and LOAD settings table in the back of the manual.

Step 2. Gradually increase the power from the exciter to drive the amplifier to about 400 ma of plate current. If you have used the calibration settings provided by the factory, you should see some output power. Adjust the TUNE and LOAD controls alternately for maximum RF power, or maximum plate current if you do not have a wattmeter.