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 Receiving Satellite Signals
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Sonicview
SV-360 Elite PVR
ريسيفر مسجل شهر الاستخدام

تقرير اختبار
INFOSAT
V055
Primary Focus Dish
طبق خفيف الوزن لاستقبال C Band

Spaun
التجهيزات عالية الجودة

تقرير لنهاية الاستقبال
Reception Experiments
تجربة استقبال Ka Band في مدى 20 جيجا هرتز

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yang Mudah Digunakan

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V055
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C Band

Výrobce špičkových
příslušenství

DX reportáž
Experimenty s příjmem
Průzkum Ka pásma v
20 GHz rozsahu

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High Quality Accessory
Manufacturer

DX-er Report
Empfangsexperimente
Auf Entdeckungsreise im
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Easy To Use PVR Receiver

Test Report
INFOSAT V055
Primary Focus Dish
Lightweight for C Band

English

High Quality Accessory
Manufacturer **SPAUN**

DX-er Report
Reception Experiments
Exploring Ka Band
In the 20 GHz Range

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Receptor de PVR Fácil de Usar

Informe de Prueba
INFOSAT V055
Ligero para la B

Español

Fabricante de Accesorios de
Alta Calidad **SPAUN**

Informe de DX-er
Experimentos de recepción
Explorando la Banda Ka en
el Rango de 20 GHz

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Sonicview SV-360 Elite PVR
رساننده ضبط و پخش با کارایی آسان

گزارش آزمایش
INFOSAT V055
Primary Focus Dish
نورسبک برای پاندا C

فارسی

تولیدات چینی با کیفیت بالا

گزارش ماهواره بازان
جریه دریافت
اكتشافات پاندا KA در محدوده فرکانسی
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Rapport de Test
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Récepteur PVR facile à utiliser

Rapport
INFOSAT V055
Parabole légère p

Français

Fabrica
cessoires
de qualité **SPAUN**

Rapport d'un radioamateur
Experimentations de réception
Exploration de la bande Ka
dans la plage des 20 GHz

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ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ

Αναφορά Δοκιμής SV-360 Elite PVR Δέκτης PVR Ευέλικτος στην Χρήση

Αναφορά Δοκιμής INFOSAT V055 Ελαφρύς Υψηλής Κατάστασης Εξοπλισμός Υψηλής Απόδοσης SPAUN

Αναφορά DXer Πειράματα Λήψης Εξερυνώντας την Ka Band στην Περιοχή Συχνοτήτων 20 GHz

Αναφορά Δοκιμής **TOPFIELD**® PVR ready TF7700HSCI - Κομψός PVR HDTV

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Ηrvatski

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Test uređaja INFOSAT V055 Imagary Focus lepa antena

DX reportaža Pokusi s prijemom Istraživanje Ka pojasa u opsegu od 20 GHz

Test uređaja **TOPFIELD**® PVR ready TF7700HSCI - Elegantni HDTV PVR

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Italiano

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HUN A világ legnagyobb műhold magazinja # 207

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Teszt beszámoló SV-360 Elite PVR Egy könnyen kezelhető kiváló személyi képfelvevő

Teszt INFOSAT V055 Egy pelyhsúlyú műhold antena

DXer beszámoló Vétel kísérletek A Ka-sáv kutatása a 20 GHz-es tartományban

Teszt beszámoló **TOPFIELD**® PVR ready TF7700HSCI egy kiváló magasfelbontású TV személyi képfelvevő

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Farfurie de antenă în focus primar
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Reportaje DX-er
Experimente de recepționare
Eplorând banda Ka în gama
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SV-360 Elite PVR
Простой в использовании
PVR приёмник

Тестируем INFOSAT
INFOSAT V055
Легковесная антенна д
С-диапазона

Производителя аксессуаров
высокого качества
SPAUN

Отчёт о дальнем приёме
Reception Experiments
Экспериментальный приём в Ka
- диапазоне, на частоте 20 ГГц

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Tillverkare av högkvalitativa
tillbehör
SPAUN

DX-rapport
Mottagningsexperiment
Utforska Ka-bandet
i 20 GHz-området

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Kolay Kullanımlı PVR
Uydu Alıcısı

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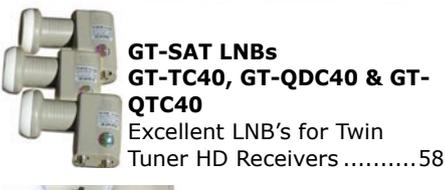
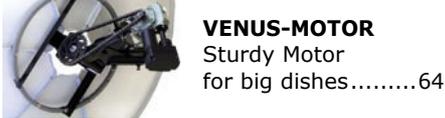


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Dear Readers

How is the current global financial crisis affecting the satellite industry? There seem to be two differing opinions about this. Some actually foresee an increase believing that people in uncertain times are more likely to stay at home and would be thus more inclined to take advantage of all the variety that satellite TV has to offer. If you're uncertain about your job security, if you're concerned about the money you have in your savings accounts and if you're keeping a sharper eye on how much money you do spend, you are more likely to sit back at home and enjoy your favorite satellite TV channels.

But there's also the other side of the coin. They cite the same reason but with an opposite effect: if you're in a saving-money mode, you're less likely to spend money on a new satellite receiver. In the end though, they are overlooking the fact that satellite TV is actually a cost-effective way to receive a large number of TV channels - an investment in a satellite system would ultimately be worth it.

These arguments assume that freely receivable channels are involved, otherwise known as FTA (free-to-air). The PayTV picture, however, looks quite a bit different. Personally, I have always wondered how anyone can pay money to watch TV and the current financial crisis might force more people to think along those same lines. PayTV providers will feel the affects of this.

How will satellite product manufacturers deal with this? Can manufacturers produce enough products if banks are hesitant to give out credit? If you've been reading the company reports in this and the previous issues of TELE-satellite, you'd know that today's manufacturers run very lean operations and are managed



by professionals. Financially sound companies will always have access to enough credit and therefore the current financial situation should not have much of an affect on these companies.

Is it really all that bad? For the satellite industry, it certainly doesn't look that way. On the other hand, we are very happy to welcome a new group of FTA satellite TV viewers to the fold: this would be bank managers from Wall Street in New York and the Canary Wharf in London. After having to sell their Ferraris and their second Porsches as well as canceling their PayTV service, they now need a brand new HD-PVR satellite receiver for the large flat-screen TV that still hangs in the living room. These ex-financial managers certainly have enough time now to watch TV.

**Sincerely,
Alexander Wiese**

P.S.: My favorite radio station of the month: NRJ on ASTRA 19.2E (12.207V) with continuous hit songs from France. The music selection is minimal and the songs are continuously replayed but for now it is enjoyable.

Satellite Reception: Sonic Satellite Meter 100
Country Report: „The Pharmacist“, South Africa 102

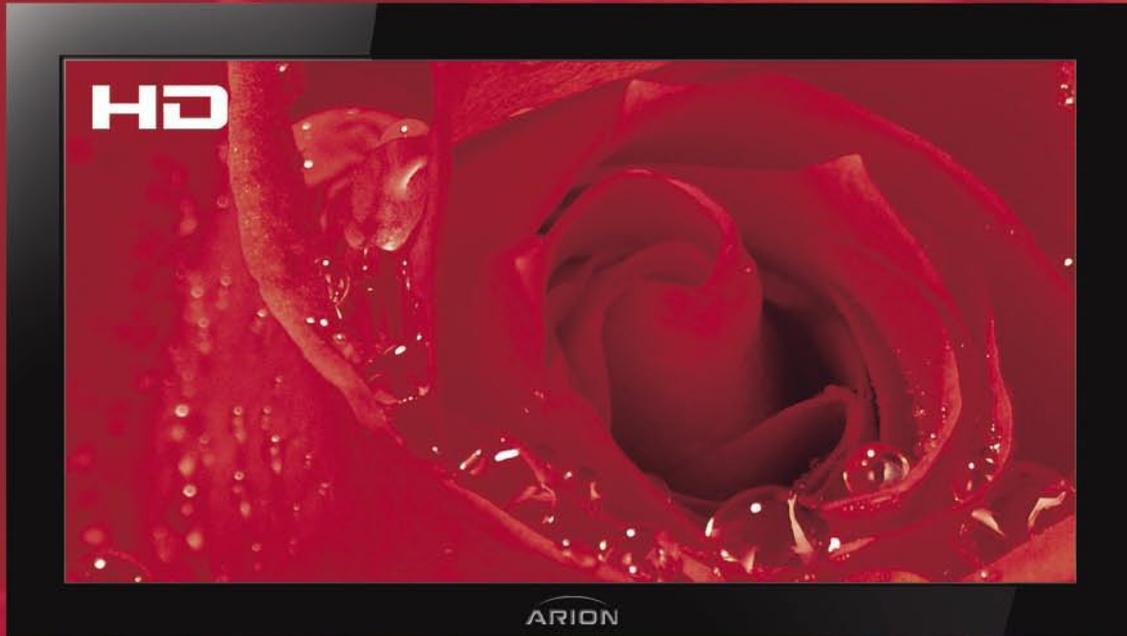
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NEW TECHNOLOGIES – NOW ON STOCK



We are official **HUMAX** distributor

TOPFIELD **NEW** Topfield Media Solution



Features available at launch

- Fully compliant with DVB-S2
- * High profile level 4.1 H.264/AVC streams @ 30fps
- * High or main profile level 3.1 H.264/AVC streams @ 60fps
- * HD MPEG2 4:2:0 streams @ 30fps
- * SD MPEG2 4:2:0 streams @ 60fps
- Supports DiSEqC 1.0, 1.1, 1.2 and USALS protocols for dish control.



PVR
Playing recorded programmes at up to 64 times speed at maximum



GAME
Featuring a double-player game „Battle Tank“



UCC
Playing media contents of YouTube



DivX
Supporting video files of DivX 3.11, 4.1 and 5.x

Experience the future of digital receiver

- Stores up to 7,000 TV services and 3,000 radio services.
- Displays picture-in-picture with two HD services.
- Supports time-shift up to 5 hours at maximum.
- Records two services simultaneously while displaying another service.
- Able to record directly to both an external hard drive and a built-in hard drive (USB/eSATA).
- Playing recorded programmes at up to 64 times speed at maximum.
- Enables you to sort out any undesirable parts such as commercials during the programme.
- Supporting video files of DivX 3.11, 4.1 and 5.x.
- Displays JPEG image files.
- Featuring a double-player game "BATTLE TANK".
- Plays media contents of YouTube.
- Firmware updates available: over-the-air, with a USB memory stick, and from the Topfield's firmware server via Internet.

Features will be available by firmware updates

- Enables you to record the video from an external device such as a digital camera.
- Enables you to chat with other users via Internet.
- Enables you to enjoy the double-player game with other users via Internet.
- Enables you to transfer media files between the PVR and your computer with embedded web & FTP servers.
- Supports MediaHighway EPG
- Supports Sony tvtv EPG



TOPFIELD **NEW** TF 5050CI HDMI



- Fully DVB-S compliant
- 2 Common Interface
- 5000 TV & radio services programmable
- 256 colors On-Screen Display (OSD)
- Service & Favorite service list editable
- Electronic Program Guide (EPG) supported
- Exciting games embedded
- Firmware upgrade by Over-The-Air
- HDMI output



TOPFIELD **NEW** TF 6500T HDMI



DVB-T Receiver

- HDMI outputport, 576p, 720p, 1080i
- Fully DVB-T compliant
- 2000 service TV & Radio programmable

TF 6000 FE

Digital Satellite Receiver

- MPEG-2 Digital and fully DVB compliant
- DiSEqC 1.0, 1.1, 1.2 and USALS (DiSEqC 1.3)
- 5000 services (TV and Radio) programmable

Measuring Instruments

emitor MEGALOOK

MEGALOOK helps professional users to do exact adjustments and maintenance of satellite dishes and of cable TV and terrestrial networks.



- Input frequency: 2-900 MHz and 920-2150 MHz
- 4.5" B/W Monitor for PAL/NTSC
- Lots of memory positions for spectrum pictures
- RS232 for PC-connection
- Built in, rechargeable battery.
- Only 7.5kg complete with carrying case

- ALSO AVAILABLE:**
- Combolook
 - Digital Satlook NIT
 - Satlook Micro +
 - Satlook Mark IV

emitor DIGISAT PRO ACCU

Measuring instrument for dish-properties. Check two LNBs at the same time. With DiSEqC tester.



ALSO AVAILABLE:

- Digisat
- Digisat+
- Digisat Pro
- Digisat Multi

DIGIAIR dB

The meter to use for easy Digital terrestrial installations. Very sensitive, easy to maximize weak and strong signals.

- Frequency range of 47-862 Mhz
- Shows the signal strength in dBμV
- Shows the complete spectrum in one picture
- Presents one channel readout with high resolution or six channels simultaneously

Satlook Micro G2 **NEW**



- Measure on two LNB's at the same time
- Spectrum-analyzer with zoom function
- Super bright 3" LCD display
- Digital BER, QPSK and S/N-ratio
- Readout NIT -gives Satellite ID and TV/Radio-channel info
- DiSEqC according to level 1.0, 1.1 and 1.2

ALSO AVAILABLE:

Upgrade-KIT for Satlook Micro **NEW**

- You need a PC with internet-access in order to be able to upgrade Your old Micro with the new G2 version. Satlook Micro G2 upgrade contains:
- CD with software
 - New G2 carrying-case
 - Owners manual

HUMAX F3 FOX CI



Digital Satellite Receiver with CI Slot

- Scrambled channel receivable with DVB CI.
- MPEG-II Digital & Fully DVB Compliant.
- Max. 4000 channels receivable.
- Channel list mode
- 4 Favorite channel groups
- DiSEqC version 1.0, 1.2 USALS compliant

NETWORK streaming client

EMANVISION EV-8000S



- Linux Operating System
- Ethernet Card 100 Mbit
- USB 1.1 Host Controller
- IBM Power PC ("STB04500/Pallas")
- Recording 2 channels simultaneously while playback another from HDD and many more features

PCMCIA-Modules

- CONAX
- IRDETO
- VIACCESS
- ASTON / SECA
- CRYPTOWORKS
- CRYPTOWORKS (Arena)
- PREMIERE



- ALPHACRYPT Light
- ALPHACRYPT Classic
- ALPHACRYPT TC
- VIACCESS MPEG 2+4
- CONAX MPEG 2+4

Satlook NIT Color **NEW**



- DVB satellite-receiver 920-2150MHz
- Spectrum-analyzer with expanded spectrum
- 5" 16:9 LCD color display
- DVB-S (Free to Air) and Analog TV-picture
- Digital BER, QPSK and S/N-ratio
- DiSEqC according to level 1.0, 1.1 and 1.2
- KU- and C-band (normal/inverted video)

Türkçe konuşan personele sahibiz !

Мы говорим и даём консультации на русском языке!



HDTV Receiver Selection

HUMAX

iCORD



Twin HDTV PVR Receiver

- Recording 4 channels
- Time shifted recording for 2 hours
- Integrated 250 or 500 GB HDD
- 1080i, 720p, 576p, 576i video resolution
- AV File transfer by USB 2.0 port
- 2 Common Interfaces
- HDMI output

TOPFIELD

TF-7700 HD PVR



HDTV Digital Satellite Receiver with Personal Video Recorder

- Fully DVB-S / DVB-S2 (H.264) HD compliant
- With 2 tuners
- Time shift supported
- USB memory supported

TOPFIELD

TF-7700 HSCI / TF-7700 HCCI



HDTV for satellite and cable reception

- Supports MPEG-2, MPEG-4, H.264 and fully DVB compliant
- 2 Common Interfaces
- USB 2.0 supported for fast PC interface
- VFD Display for service information

Motors

Aktuatoren/ Actuators

- Mini Actuators – 6", 8", 10", 12"
- Regular Actuators – 12", 18", 24"
- Heavy Actuators – 24", 36"



H-H Mounts

- SG 99 / SG 99 II – up to 1,00 m
- SG 107 – up to 1,10 m
- SG 2100 A DiSEqC 1.2 – up to 1,00 m
- Stab HH100 DiSEqC 1.2 – up to 1,00 m
- Stab HH120 DiSEqC 1.2 – up to 1,20 m

LNBs

- MTI
- BEST
- INVACOM
- ALPS
- INVERTO
- MAXIMUM
- TITANIUM, etc.



- Single Universal
- Twin Universal
- Quattro Universal
- Quad Universal
- Octo LNB
- Monoblock Single Universal
- Monoblock Twin Universal
- Monoblock Quad
- C Band
- Circular and many more

MAXIMUM

V-Series



AVAILABLE AS:

- V-1 Single
- V-11 Single + DiSEqC
- V-2 Twin
- V-40 Quattro
- V-4 Quad
- V-8 Octo
- V-21 Single Monoblock
- V-22 Twin Monoblock
- V-24 Quad Monoblock

Full LNB range MAXIMUM available from stock

Multiswitches / DiSEqC - Switches

- SPAUN
- DTRON
- JAEGER
- JOHANSSON
- MAXIMUM
- BEST



From 2 in/1 out up to 17 in/36 out

sa SPAUN Full Range

Parts

Multifeederholder for 2, 3, or 4 LNB



Wallmounts

- 15 cm distance – Aluminium
- 25 cm distance – Aluminium
- 35 cm distance – Aluminium
- 45 cm distance – Aluminium
- 55 cm distance – Aluminium
- 35 cm distance – Steel
- 45 cm distance – Steel
- 50 cm distance – Steel
- 70 cm distance – Steel



- F-Connector – 7 mm
- F-Connector – 7 mm waterresistant
- F-Connector – 4 mm and more

Remotesystems

- AV-Linker – Videosender for remote control
- Remote Blaster
- Zapline 2 and more



Koaxialcable

- High Quality coax cable
- Minicable Coax
- Mini-Twincable Coax
- > 100 dB / > 110 dB



invacom QDH 031



AVAILABLE AS:

- SNH-031
- TWH-031
- QTH-031
- QDH-031
- SNF-031
- TWF-031
- QTF-031
- QDF-031

Full LNB range INVACOM available from stock

MICROELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY INC.

High-Line-Series



AVAILABLE AS:

- MTI AP 8 T2NRC Single
- MTI AP 82 XT2N Twin
- MTI AK54 XT2N Quad

- 40 mm
- 0,2 dB

Full LNB range MTI available from stock

Inverto digital-labs

NEW

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Unicable-Standard one cable solution. Cascadable multiswitch for up to 16 users.



Dishes

CIBERTINI TRIAX emme esse

- 40 cm – White
- 70 cm – White, Black, Red
- 90 cm – White, Black, Red
- 100 cm – White, Black, Red
- 120 cm – White
- 130 cm – White, Black
- 160 cm – White

Big Dishes directly from our warehouse!

- SDI 1,50 m
- SDI 1,80 m
- Irte 2,00 m
- Irte 2,40 m

Flat-Dishes

NEW

SELSAT H 10 D



- Works on all Ku-band Satellites
- Cross polarization improved
- Ideal for High Definition (HD) reception

MAXIMUM Flat-1



- Receives alle programs broadcasted by european satellites
- 2 LNB (twin) output for 2 set-top-boxes plugged
- 60/70 cm equivalency

Multifocus Dish

MAXIMUM

E-85 Multifocus 48° Dish



- Ellipse shaped dish
- LNB holder for 5 LNBs, 48°
- Turnable mounting bracket for optimized reception
- Steel with polyester coating

Balcony mounting parts

- 25 cm distance – Steel
- 50 cm distance – Steel



120 cm length – Ø 6 cm

ALSO AVAILABLE:

- Balcony stand 100 cm Aluminium
- Balcony stand 100 cm Steel
- Balcony stand "Holland"
- Balcony holder L-form 25 cm
- Balcony holder L-form 50 cm



Edited by
Branislav Pekic

EUROPE

EUROPE

EU CHANGES CABLE RULES

The European Commission has decided that telecom operators must open their cable ducts to rivals, a move that should pave the way for a range of new services over the so-called Next Generation Access broadband. NGA fibre-optic networks are needed for high-definition content such as HDTV, online gaming and interactive applications. Management consulting firm McKinsey estimates the investment required to replace Europe's networks at US\$ 430 billion. The commission's plans still need to complete the EU's long decision-making and consultation process and will be formally adopted next year.

ASTRA 1M TO BE LAUNCHED IN NOVEMBER

The SES-owned telecommunications satellite Astra 1M is due to be launched from Baikonur at the beginning of November, by the Proton M carrier rocket and the Breeze M upper stage rocket. The satellite was built by EADS Astrium on the Eurostar E3000 platform and carries 36 transponders. The spacecraft will be operating in the geostationary orbit for 15 years, providing television and communications services, including HDTV, for users in Europe, Northern Africa and the Middle East.

IPTV SUBSCRIPTIONS TRIPLE IN WESTERN EUROPE

IPTV subscriptions in Western Europe are set to nearly triple over a three-year period, jumping from 5 million in 2007 to 14.7 million in 2010, according to research group Gartner. The figures show that subscriptions will hit 8 million this year, while revenue will jump from US\$ 1.4 billion in 2007 to US\$ 2.5 billion this year, US\$ 3.9 billion in 2009 and US\$ 5.6 billion in 2010. However, the year-to-year subscriber growth will slow, from 74.3% in 2007 to 28.6% in 2010.

OVERON SELECTS TANDBERG FOR HDTV SOLUTION

Tandberg Television is providing an MPEG-4 AVC high definition (HD) encoding system to Spanish-based broadcast solutions provider Overon for the delivery of National Geographic Channel HD to broadcasters and TV service providers across Europe. NGC HD's innovative factual programming will be distributed to broadcast head-ends across Europe via satellite using the Tandberg Television EN8090 encoder. This MPEG-4 AVC solution enables a substantial reduction in the bandwidth required for distributing HDTV services.

TWO EUTELSAT SATELLITES IN ORBIT FROM NOVEMBER

Arianespace and Eutelsat Communications have confirmed the upcoming launch of the Ariane 5 ECA will orbit Eutelsat's Hot Bird 9 and W2M satellites in the last week of November. The Hot Bird 9 satellite, equipped with 64 transponders, will join Eutelsat's 13 degrees East position to increase in-orbit sparing at the Group's premium video neighbourhood. Hot Bird 9 is identical to Hot Bird 8 which was launched to 13 degrees East in August 2006 and Hot Bird 10 which will be orbited by Arianespace at the beginning of 2009. W2M will be positioned at Eutelsat's 16 degrees East position and is equipped with 26 Ku-band transponders and up to 32 depending on

operational modes. It will replace W2 and provide additional capacity for further service expansion.

AUSTRIA

ORF SELECTS NTT ELECTRONICS FOR HDTV EQUIPMENT

NTT Electronics' AVC/H.264 HDTV/SDTV encoders/decoders HV9100 Series have been by the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) for broadcasts of the EURO 2008, the UEFA European Football Championships, in high definition using encoding and decoding technology from NTT Electronics. The device used was the HV9100 Series AVC/H.264 HDTV/SDTV encoders/decoders. This allowed the ORF to offer real-time HD transmissions through the ATM network of Telecom Austria. The HV9100 Series was reportedly the world's first to offer AVC/H.264 High 4:2:2 Profile support.

CZECH REPUBLIC

QUICKMEDIA TO LAUNCH HDTV ON IPTV

IPTV service QuickMedia has added ten channels to its Plus 1 package, and has also revealed plans to launch a bouquet of high-definition channels. The ten new channels are Leo TV, Private Spice, Sport 5, Sky News, Nat Geo Wild, Arte, Extreme Sports Channel, Nostalgia, TA3 and the Fishing & Hunting Channel. A package of high-definition channels called "HD Plus" is also being prepared by local company HDD, which will be launched simultaneously with a new set-top box developed in cooperation with Czech firm Coprosys. The service currently uses Amino's Aminet 110 MPEG-2 set-top boxes, and is offered in partnership with local operators.

SMART TO DELIVER IPTV IN BRNO

Local operator Smart is planning to build a fibre to the home network in the city of Brno in order to deliver triple-play services of broadband, IPTV and VoIP in the city, with a planned footprint of 6,600 homes upon service launch in September next year. SMART expects to start construction of the network in January of next year, with around 1,600 flats expected to be connected in newly-built areas around Brno in the first quarter of this year, with a further 5,000 flats to be networked in the second quarter of 2009. The network will be based on Cisco's IP network architecture.

DENMARK

TILGIN, NORDIJA PROVIDE HDTV FOR TRE-FOR

Broadband solutions provider Tilgin and Nordija, an independent developer of middleware for IPTV environments, are providing a HD IPTV solution to Danish utility company Tre-For. Nordija has been contracted to provide IPTV middleware with additional adaptation to their requirements based on their choice of Tilgin's IP Set-top media centre. Tilgin will provide its HD IPTV set-top solution, including its IPTV server software for large-scale IP networks, named MBS. Tre-For Bredband has a current client base of approximately 140,000 residential homes with the option to supply multi-play services to another 260,000 residential homes.

ESTONIA

AMINO SIGNS STB DEAL WITH ELION

Amino has signed an agreement that will see its new H.264 HD based AmiNET530 PVR STB play a key role in the expansion of Estonia's IPTV market. Elion will begin introducing the PVR capabilities in November, with the HD service following later in the year. The number of Elion digital television users increased 16% on the first half of 2008, reaching 67,700 by the end of Q2 2008.

FRANCE

ATEME H.264 VIDEO SERVES 1 MILLION HOMES WITH HD IPTV

Ateme's H.264 encoding solutions are now serving over one million French homes in HD. Major French broadcasters including M6 and France2 Television have chosen to use Ateme's H.264 encoders to provide HD video over low bit rates in order to reach millions of IPTV customers. Using Ateme's bandwidth efficient H.264 solutions, ISPs are able to reach more customers over further distances with HD IPTV services.

GERMANY

DEUTSCHE TELEKOM AND MOTOROLA COLLABORATE ON IPTV

Motorola and Deutsche Telekom announced a collaboration to deliver IPTV in Germany and Deutsche Telekom will use Motorola's High Definition (HD)-ready IPTV set-tops for its "T-Home Entertain" services. Motorola will provide T-Home with its VIP1616E set-top -- known to T-Home customers as Media Receiver 300 Type A. With the device, subscribers to T-Home's Entertain service will be able to view premium sporting content in full HD. Moreover, T-Home viewers can use the device's electronic program guide to plan, record, and store what they want to watch.

MEDIA BROADCAST AIRS FOOTBALL IN HD

Alcatel-Lucent is providing a nationwide broadcast next-generation network (broadcast NGN) for Media Broadcast, Germany's leading service provider for the broadcasting and media industry. Once complete, HDTV signals will be transmitted live for the first time from venues of the 1st and 2nd Bundesliga, to broadcasting studios across the country. This allows Media Broadcast customers to deliver high-quality, uninterrupted transmissions of the games to the living rooms of millions of fans via DVB-H, DVB-T, DSL or cable. At the heart of the broadcast NGN is the Alcatel-Lucent 7750 Service Router, which manages voice, video and data signals.

IRELAND

MAGNET TEAMS UP WITH INUK FOR IPTV SERVICE

Magnet Networks has selected Inuk Networks' 'igloo' virtual set-top box to extend delivery of its IPTV service to subscribers' PCs and Macs. The PC service provides subscribers with a range of free TV channels, which will be expanded over the next few months to include pay channels and video on demand content. Inuk's igloo virtual set-top box is designed to emulate the operation and user interface of a standard STB on a Windows or Apple-based platform. Magnet Entertainment offers broadband at speeds of up to 50 Mbps, along with IPTV and telephone services, delivered over its ADSL2+ and Fibre to the Home network.

ITALY

TELECOM ITALIA SECURES ALICE TV WITH NDS VIDEOGUARD

NDS is supplying its VideoGuard conditional access and DRM solution for Telecom Italia's 'Alice TV' IPTV service. The operator is using Alcatel's Open Media Platform IPTV service delivery and management solution. Telecom Italia passed 180,000 IPTV subscribers at the end of the first half of this year, and is reportedly targeting 300,000 by the end of 2008.

LITHUANIA

ALPHA LINKS WITH WIDEVINE FOR KAVA IPTV SERVICE

Digital rights management company Widevine has been selected by IPTV operator Alpha komunikacijos to provide its Widevine Cypher for the secure delivery of premium broadcast and video-on-demand content for its Kava IPTV service. Alpha komunikacijos chose Widevine because of its established record of securing Hollywood and European content on STBs as well as PVRs, PCs and Macs. Kava offers a full range of TV, VOD and interactive services to their subscribers with plans to grow their service to more than 80,000 households in Lithuania.

IBM AND WIDEVINE HELP SKYNET TO PROVIDE PREMIUM CONTENT

IBM and Widevine Technologies are helping ISP Skynet (owned by the Penki Kontinentai group) to provide premium TV content to all 25,000 Skynet users in Lithuania. Skynet will launch a new service later this year, with basic and premium television channels to compete with mainstream cable, satellite and other IPTV providers in the region. Skynet will deliver pay-TV services to set top boxes at their 'PenkiTV' subscribers and are planning to expand service delivery to PCs in the very near future. IBM will manage design, delivery and maintenance for the digital video head end from Cisco and content protection from Widevine.

PORTUGAL

SONAECOM AND ERICSSON TRIAL IPTV MIDDLEWARE

Ericsson is providing Portuguese triple play operator Sonaecom to provide and integrate its open, standards-based, end-to-end IPTV solution, including Ericsson's new IMS-based IPTV (Internet Protocol Television) middleware that enables operators to deliver personalized and interactive TV experiences to its subscribers. The Ericsson IPTV ecosystem is based on open standards, designed to comply with the Open IPTV Forum specifications.

PORTUGAL TELECOM WITH 200.000 IPTV SUBSCRIBERS

Portugal Telecom has reached 200,000 subscribers for its Meo pay-TV service, delivered via IPTV and satellite, a target which was previously expected to be reached at the end of the year. Meo's 200,000 subscribers are estimated by the telco to represent 30% of its ADSL clients and 7% of its fixed-line clients.

RUSSIA

COMSTAR EXPANDS IPTV WITH TANDBERG

Comstar-Direct, Russia's leading provider of broadband Internet access services, is expanding its IPTV head-end with Tandberg Television to support MPEG-4 AVC encoding and transcoding. The addition of Tandberg's single module iPlex transcoding means the operator can ingest widely available MPEG-2 feeds and convert them to MPEG-4 AVC without the need to decode and re-encode. This one-step approach to transcoding is cost-effective, helps preserve picture quality and makes it considerably easier to re-synchronize video with subtitles.

BCC SELECTS BITBAND IP VIDEO DELIVERY SOLUTION

BitBand's Content Delivery Network has been chosen by Russian systems integrator BCC as an IP video delivery solution to be supplied to Russian operator UTK, the main fixed-line service provider in the Southern Federal District. BitBand's Maestro content distribution and management suite and Vision VOD & TVOD appliance servers were also selected for the deployment, based on UTK's requirements for scalability and growth scenarios. Once deployed the platform will support services including video on demand, network personal video recording, time-shift TV and programme restart.

COMSTAR WITH 146.000 IPTV SUBSCRIBERS

Comstar reached 146,000 Moscow-based subscribers for its double-play service of broadband and IPTV in the second quarter of this year, up 44% from the same period of 2007, while average revenue per user for the period reached US\$ 21.40. The operator also reported that its pay-TV subscriber base across all Russian regions it operates in rose by 32% between April and June this year to reach 142,000.

RUSSIAN HDTV PLATFORM SELECTS EUROIRD 9 SATELLITE

The new Russian HDTV platform, Platforma HD, has selected the Eurobird 9 satellite operated by Eutelsat to deliver new HD content across western parts of Russia to the Urals. Platforma HD has signed a contract with Eutelsat for a full transponder and this capacity is already broadcasting the new platform's initial offer of four HD channels (Eurosport HD, National Geographic HD, HD Life and Kinopokaz HD). Platforma HD has selected DRE

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encryption for the system, with two types of decoders available (Humax HDCI-2000 and General Satellite's HD-9000).

SCANDINAVIA

TANDBERG MPEG-4 AVC COMPRESSION FOR TELENOR

Tandberg's MPEG-4 AVC compression and IP multiplexing solutions has been selected by Telenor Satellite Broadcasting to provide IP video contribution and direct-to-consumer IPTV services in Scandinavia. Tandberg is providing encoding and multiplexing from six locations across northern Europe and Scandinavia, with all video distributed across an IP transport network for IPTV consumer services in Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

TELIASONERA SELECTS MEDIAFLEX SMART WI-FI SYSTEM

TeliaSonera has selected and is deploying Ruckus Wireless' MediaFlex Smart Wi-Fi systems to provide customers flicker-free wireless distribution of the popular IP-based digital TV service (IPTV), Telia Digital-TV, throughout their homes. Telia Digital-TV, which has some 300,000 customers, offers subscribers around 70 TV channels, 24-hour on-demand library of movies and network-based, time-shifted TV services.

SERBIA

TELEKOM SRBIJA LAUNCHED IPTV IN OCTOBER

Telekom Srbija launched an IPTV service on October 15. According to Vladimir Lucic, director of Telekom's mobile division, the service will be offered to the operator's ADSL customers free of

charge during a promotional period lasting until December 1, offering 80 domestic and foreign channels. This capacity is expected to be increased to carry around 200 TV channels in the future.

SWITZERLAND

NETSTREAM SELECTS ENTONE SOLUTION FOR IPTV SERVICE

Swiss Internet service provider Netstream has selected customer premises equipment from US firm Entone for its high-definition managed IPTV deployments with operators around Switzerland. Netstream provides managed services and systems integration to a number of telecoms operators, including a managed white-label IPTV service, and selected Entone's Hydra HD IPTV video gateway and Amulet HD IPTV set-top boxes. Hydra HD and Amulet HD also support a number of home networking technologies, including HomePlug, 802.11n and HomePNA 3.0, enabling the provision of new revenue-generating services such as whole-home DVR.

TURKEY

TURKEY TO LAUNCH TWO NEW SATELLITES IN 6 YEARS

Turkey plans to launch two new satellites, Turksat 4A and Turksat 5A, in the next six years, which is planned to cover north and central Africa. As a result, the coverage area of Turkish satellites will stretch out from eastern coast of the United States to China, and also from Arabian Peninsula to central Africa. Turksat plans to invite bids for Turksat 4A at the end of 2008 and launch the satellite in 2011. Turksat also projects to build one more satellite within six years with 100% national software. Turksat 5A would be built at

facilities of the Turkish Aerospace Industries in 2012 and was planned to be launched in 2014.

UNITED KINGDOM

BRITISH TELECOM CRITICAL OVER KANGAROO IPTV

British Telecom has become the latest party to warn that proposed BBC, ITV and Channel 4 on-demand joint venture Kangaroo raises serious competition concerns. The firm, behind the BT Vision IPTV service, has claimed that Kangaroo would "very likely" reduce competition in the UK VoD space – something that would be particularly harmful to its own interests. BT Vision launched at the end of 2006 and now has over 280,000 subscribers but hopes to reach two to three million within the next three to five years. BT now fears, however, that this target could be dented by the arrival of Kangaroo in the marketplace, especially given the UK-centric nature of the programming the proposed service will make available.

SETANTA OFFERS IPTV SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Sports broadcaster Setanta has signed a deal with IPTV service provider Inuk to broadcast its service to students at more than 40 universities in the UK. The Inuk service allows students to watch more than 50 TV channels on their PCs through the UK university data network, Janet, which connects all UK universities. For a £9.99 monthly subscription, students will be offered a Freewire Extra package, adding subscription channels such as Setanta Sports, as well as channels from other broadcasters including MTV and FX. More than 40,000 people are now receiving digital television through Inuk's Freewire TV IPTV service.

TEHNIC B

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DIGILINE SINGLE LNB



THB-SAT TWIN LNB



WALLMOUNT SPD 21 cm



WALLMOUNT SPL 38 cm



INTELSAT-HOTBIRD
DOUBLE LNB HOLDER



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TELEMANN 1600
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XT 9500 HD



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MAKE THE FUTURE PRESENT

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BRITISH TELECOM TO PROVIDE HD CONTENT

BT is to offer High Definition (HD) content to users of its V-box Personal Video Recorder using their IPTV (basically TV over broadband) 'Vision' service. BT Vision is a digital TV service that offers DTT, a DVR (their V-Box), and supports TV and video content that's accessed on-demand over a BT Broadband connection. BT has announced an agreement with NBC Universal to include a selection of feature films in High Definition (1080i) format from the NBC Universal catalogue. Current films will cost £4.95 while older library titles will sell for £2.95. Films will have a 48 hour time limit for viewing.

ORANGE TO OFFER ON DEMAND MOVIES ON IPTV SERVICE

Orange is likely to build its IPTV service around on-demand films when it eventually launches a home TV service to take on Sky, Virgin, Freeview and BT Vision, late this year or the early part of next year. Nationwide trials for the TV service have been running in earnest, with trialists using the on-demand film service only in Leeds.

SKY ADDS NEW CHANNELS

Seven new HD channels will launch on the Sky+ HD service in October 2008, including six genre-themed Sky Movies channels in HD and a new HD version of Sky Real Lives. The addition of the new channels in October will increase the total number of HD channels on the Sky platform to 26, compared with nine channels when Sky+ HD made its debut in May 2006. The number of hours of native high definition content on the Sky platform will increase to around 10,000 per month, more than 2.5 times the amount of standard definition content offered by the five main terrestrial channels combined.

NORTH AMERICA

GALAXY 19 LAUNCHES SUCCESSFULLY

Intelsat's Galaxy 19 satellite was successfully launched on September 24 aboard a Sea Launch Zenit-3SL rocket. The satellite, built by Space Systems/Loral, will operate from 97 West, replacing the Galaxy 25 spacecraft. Galaxy 19 will provide 50-state coverage, in addition to reaching the Caribbean, Canada and Mexico, to video, government and network customers.

CANADA

MTS ALLSTREAM TO USE ETI OSS

MTS Allstream will use ETI's Triad OSS to integrate Microsoft's Mediaroom IP video technology to their CRM and billing infrastructure. Triad completely automates the provisioning of IPTV services to MTS Allstream's expanding subscriber base. Operating under the MTS brand in the province of Manitoba, the division offers consumers next generation wireless, high-speed Internet and data, digital television and wireline voice services, as well as home security services.

NIMIQU 4 SATELLITE SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

Telesat, which is 64 percent owned by Loral and the world's fourth largest fixed satellite services operator, has successfully launched its state-of-the-art Nimiq 4 satellite. Nimiq 4 is fully leased to Bell TV, and will enable Bell TV to expand its advanced digital satellite television services over Canada by offering more HDTV, specialty channels and foreign-language programming. The satellite will be located at 82 degrees West.

UNITED STATES

HOTWIRE SELECTS MOTOROLA FTTH SOLUTION

Hotwire Communications is using Motorola's gigabit passive optical networking fibre to the home solution, MPEG-4 high-definition encoder and IP set-top box offerings to support IPTV and other services. Hotwire, which focuses on delivering fibre-based broadband to multi-family communities and home developments, student dormitories and military housing, serves customers in parts of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York.

AT&T IPTV ARRIVES TO MICHIGAN AND ARKANSAS

AT&T Inc. has launched the company's integrated suite of AT&T U-verse(SM) services, including AT&T U-verse TV, AT&T U-verse High Speed Internet and AT&T U-verse Voice in Michigan and Central Arkansas. AT&T is the only national service provider to offer a 100 percent IPTV service which includes more than 45 High Definition channels.

HILL COUNTRY SELECTS INFINITE VIDEO IPTV PLATFORM

Texas-based Hill Country Telephone Cooperative has selected an IPTV platform from Infinite Video, a subsidiary of Canadian firm Even



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Technologies, to trial high-definition video services over its existing network. The trial will reach all of HCTC's 14,000 customers and deliver high-definition broadcast television, local programming, video on demand and features such as web browsing and electronic programming. Infinite Video's IPTV solution uses Even Technologies' video compression to deliver HD video at 3 Mbps over legacy networks.

TELUS OPTS FOR HOME PNA STANDARD FOR IPTV

Telus is extending approach to wiring their existing customer homes for IPTV by leveraging the ITU's Home Phone Network Alliance (HomePNA) standard. Working in conjunction with silicon vendor CopperGate, Telus will integrate HomePNA technology into STBs and gateways for its Telus TV service offering.

NEULION AND NTOUCHTV OFFER ROMANIAN TV ON IPTV

JumpTV and NeuLion, leading providers of live and on-demand international and sports programming over the Internet, have signed a new partnership with nTouchTV. NeuLion is now extending its unique service to Romanian audiences in North America. nTouchTV will be providing Romanian content to consumers' televisions through NeuLion's set-top-box technology. The initial service delivers 12 live channels, plus an extensive video on demand library offering hundreds of hours of current and classic Romanian movies.

AT&T BOOSTS MPEG-4 COMPRESSION

AT&T CTO John Donovan has announced that MPEG-4 video compression for the company's U-verse TV service will improve to around 5 Mbps next year from its present rate of about 6 Mbps to 8 Mbps. That efficiency gain also will

help AT&T support more simultaneous streams with its new whole-home DVR service in use-- three live streams and four recorded streams.

AT&T DROPS DISH NETWORK FOR DIRECTV

AT&T has decided to end its distribution agreement with Dish Network and instead will market and sell a co-branded version of DirecTV's satellite TV service after 31 January 2009. AT&T will market DirecTV services to households in areas where it doesn't provide U-verse TV. As of June 30, the company had 549,000 U-verse TV customers and the operator has said it expects to top 1 million subscribers by year's end. The service is available to more than 11 million living units in 53 markets.

VERIZON FIOS TO ADD SIX HD NETWORKS

Six start-up HD networks—with original programming about cars, comedy, pets, travel, food and entertainment—will debut by the end of 2009 with launches on Verizon's FiOS video service. The new HD channels Cars.TV, Pets.TV, Comedy.TV, MyDestination.TV, ES.TV and Recipe.TV have been created by Entertainment Studios, which bills itself as the largest independent producer and distributor of first-run syndicated shows for TV stations.

RCN INCREASES HD CHANNELS IN WASHINGTON D.C.

RCN Corporation has converted analogue spectrum to All-Digital in the Washington, D.C. area for all Cable TV customers. This move enables RCN to improve the picture quality, make the network easier to maintain, and dramatically increase the number of Standard Definition and High Definition (HD) channels it can offer to subscribers. The company has already initiated the Project Analog Crush in its Boston, Chicago, New York City and Philadelphia markets. The conversion will enable RCN to deliver

up to 10 standard-def digital or 3 HD channels per analogue channel, with the new line-up starting with 75 HD channels. In addition, RCN is increasing its VOD content, including hundreds of hours for free.

MASN TO LAUNCH HD CHANNEL IN 2009

MASN has announced the launch of a full-time high definition channel in March 2009 and will more than double the number of HD telecasts of Orioles and Nationals games next season. Expanding on its first season utilizing HD technology, MASN will air up to 200 Major League Baseball games in HD in 2009, broadcasting one HD game every night of the season. MASN distributors who will carry the full-time HD channel include Comcast, DirecTV, Cox, and RCN.

DIRECTV EXPANDS HD CHANNEL OFFER WITH HARMONIC

DirecTV has expanded its deployment of Harmonic's MPEG-4 AVC (H.264) video processing solutions to support its high definition (HD) national channel service. DIRECTV is now delivering more than 130 HD channels to its customers. Harmonic's DiviCom Electra 7000 HD H.264 encoders and ProStream 1000 stream processing platform with DiviTrackIP statistical multiplexing solution power DirecTV's continued HD expansion.

DIRECTV AND TIVO TO OFFER NEW HD DVR

TiVo is launching a new high-definition digital video recorder under an extended agreement with DirecTV Group. The new development deal extends the companies' agreement by five years to 15 February 2015, and calls for DirecTV to market TiVo's DVR products to new customers for the first time since DirecTV began using a rival DVR. The new TiVo-DirecTV DVR is expected to be available mid- to late 2009.

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SW updates over : Internet or USB
Network communication via Ethernet
7 days EPG



Watch HD, Record on HDD



C500
C CA USB



S500
S2 CA USB



S650
S2 USB



S460
S2 PCI



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- Multiple CA Support (S500/C500)
- Vista 32/64 bit & Linux driver Support

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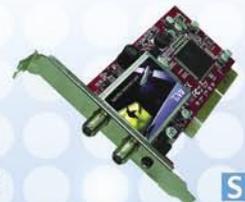
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S 600



S 420



CANBY TELECOM OFFERS 36 HDTV CHANNELS

Canby Telcom, based in the northern Willamette Valley of Oregon, has added over two dozen high-definition channels to its IPTV service 'Canby Digital Television', thanks to assistance from SES Americom's IP-Prime transport solution. Canby Telcom currently offers over 200 channels on IPTV, including 36 high-definition channels, EPG, VOD, PPV, and Caller ID on TV. The new channels added thanks to IP-PRIME include Discovery, Disney, Showtime, Fox News, ESPN, A&E and the Food Network, plus a handful of local broadcast services, all delivered in MPEG-4 format to the operator via a single satellite antenna.

LATIN AMERICA

VOOM HD TO LAUNCH IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Voom HD Networks is set to debut its international high-definition channel in Central and South America for the first time. The agreement gives DLA the task of getting carriage deals for the international Voom HD channel in Mexico, Central America, South America and several Caribbean islands. The channel, comprised of titles from Voom HD Networks' various US high-def services, will have English audio, plus Spanish and Portuguese subtitles.

IPTV REVENUES TO EXCEED US\$ 3.9 BILLION BY 2013

IPTV in Latin America will enjoy "robust" growth from 2009, according to a study by Signals Telecom Consulting, with service revenues projected to exceed US\$ 3.9 billion by 2013. The consultancy also estimates that Telefonía and Telmex will represent 58% of the region's IPTV market by 2013, when approximately 19% of all pay-TV subscribers in the region's seven largest markets are predicted to be using IPTV services.

COLOMBIA

ETB TO LAUNCH IPTV SERVICE IN 2009

ETB has revealed new details of its plan to launch IPTV trials in 2009 and start commercial operations in July of that year. The operator is currently building its business model for the service, and aims to have a trial service in operation by the second quarter of next year. ETB will start the service in Bogotá, and aims to have around 18,000 subscribers for the service by the end of next year. The telco has been optimising its network in Bogotá and claims it can now offer speeds of up to 15 Mbps across almost all of the capital.

MEXICO

MAXCOM PREPARES EXPANSION OF IPTV SERVICE

According to Mexican broadband provider Maxcom's director General Rene Sagastuy, the operator is set to expand its fibre network with the aim of delivering IPTV services to more cities in the country. Sagastuy said that Maxcom is focusing on the development of its IPTV technology, adding 12,000 TV customers in just ten months, or 12% of the total.

ASIA & PACIFIC

TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE TO LAUNCH SATELLITE

Taiwan's Chunghwa Telecom (CHT) will set up a joint venture with a Singapore's SingTel to prepare for the launch of Taiwan's second commercial satellite in the fourth quarter of 2010. CHT's subsidiary in

Singapore will invest NT\$1.35 billion (US\$42 million) in the joint venture, giving it a 38% share, while the remaining 62% will belong to Singapore Telecom. The new satellite, dubbed ST-2, will replace its predecessor, the ST-1, which was launched by the two companies in August 1998. It will cover a wider area including Taiwan, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, China, India and the Middle East.

IPTV SUBSCRIBERS TO REACH 8.7 MILLION IN 2012

The Asia-Pacific IPTV subscriber base will reach 6.5 million in 2008 and grow to 8.7 million in 2012, according to a Gartner report. Revenues from IPTV services in the region will reach US\$ 3.5 billion in 2012. Hong Kong's PCCW is the region's best performer, WITH 758,000 registered users for its "nowTV" service, and is expected to eventually serve over 40% of the estimated 2.3 million households in Hong Kong.

MEASAT SELECTED AS BEST REGIONAL SATELLITE OPERATOR

Measat Satellite Systems has been awarded 'Regional Satellite Operator of the Year' at the 12th World Summit for Satellite Financing in Paris. The Malaysian company has won the award in 'Excellence in Satellite Management' category. The annual awards is decided by a panel of judges from EuroConsult, Satellite News and Satellite Finance, based on an assessment of the achievements and results of the world's regional satellite operators.

AUSTRALIA

AUSTAR AND THOMSON TO PROVIDE HDTV

Pay-TV operator Austar has selected Thomson to develop and supply a four tuner High Definition Personal Digital Recorder (PDR) platform along with extensive systems' integration services. The combination High Definition STB will mirror Austar's current MyStar STB, which features both dual Satellite and dual Terrestrial tuners, and will enable Austar to watch and simultaneously record both satellite content plus local Free-To-Air terrestrial services.

CHINA

BAIDU EXPANDS IPTV SERVICES

Leading web search site Baidu is expanding its cooperation with partner UiTV, operator of the country's largest Internet TV platform. Under the terms of the agreement, Baidu will contribute assets related to the operation of Baidu Internet TV Channel to UiTV in exchange for an 8.3% stake in UiTV and US\$ 15 million. Baidu Internet TV Channel, a website where users can download movies and TV programs, will continue to be hosted on movie.baidu.com and it will be operated by UiTV. The service works with most of China's online movie and TV service and content providers, including TVB, Enlight Media.

INDIA

IPTV OPERATORS TO CARRY 8 DD CHANNELS

In a memorandum issued to all IPTV owners, the information and broadcasting (I&B) ministry has listed eight, including Doordarshan and Parliament channels, on the must-carry list. The other must-carry channels are Lok Sabha Television, DD Rajya Sabha, DD-1 or national channel, DD News, DD Sports, DD Urdu, Gyan Darshan and DD Bharti.

UTSTARCOM GETS AKSH OPTIFIBRE DEAL

UTStarcom has signed a new contract with New Delhi-based Aksh Optifibre to deploy its RollingStream IPTV in 20 cities in India. The system will be carried over Bharat Sanchar Nigam's ADSL network, infrastructure built by

UTStarcom that supports more than 75% of the active wire lines in India. The IPTV offering, which will include live TV, VOD and gaming, will be available to more than 250,000 subscribers

BSNL IPTV SERVICE TO COVER 100 CITIES

State-run telecom operator Bharat Sanchar Nigam (BSNL) has set an ambitious target of bringing almost one-fourth of the total cable TV subscriber base (82 million cable homes) in the country with the launch of its IPTV service in the country. The company, which recently launched its IPTV services in Rajasthan, is planning to bring around 100 cities under this service by March of next year. Currently, the service costs Rs 200 a month.

HFCL INFOTEL TO ROLLOUT IPTV IN PUNJAB

HFCL Infotel will roll out its IPTV services in Punjab by the end of 2008, hoping to sign up 20,000 during the first phase. HFCL Infotel has tied up with Smart Broadband Services, allowing HFCL to use its infrastructure to launch IPTV services by way of rental arrangement. For its part, Smart Broadband in collaboration with MTNL has announced the launch of IPTV service for MTNL customers in Delhi.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES IPTV GUIDELINES

The Indian government has unveiled guidelines for the rollout of IPTV, which would require either a computer and software media player or an IPTV set top box to decode the images in real time. Under the new guidelines those eligible for providing IPTV include telecom Access Service Providers who have licence to provide triple play services and ISPs with net worth more than Rs.1 billion (around US\$ 25 million).

BIG TV SELECTS THOMSON HEADEND

Indian TV Group Reliance BIG TV has selected Reliance has selected Thomson's solutions for launching and managing a hybrid distribution network of satellite DTH and IPTV over broadband, for 300 high-definition (HD) and standard-definition (SD) video services throughout India. Using Thomson's video head ends, Reliance is able to optimise its distribution network to launch a large number of channels, ensure excellent quality of service, and reach more viewers.

INDONESIA

PT TELEKOM TO BID FOR NEW SATELLITE

Indonesia's largest telecommunication firm, PT Telkom, plans to bid for a new satellite during October at a cost of US\$ 150-200 million, according to a report by The Jakarta Post. The potential providers of the satellite are Lockheed Martin, Alcatel, OCbitel, GreatWall, and Mitsubishi. The satellite, which will be called Telkom-3 Satellite, is expected to be launched into orbit in 2010 or 2011. PT Telkom is currently operating its Telkom-2 satellite, which was launched in 2005.

JAPAN

SKY PERFECT LAUNCHES HDTV CHANNELS

SKY Perfect Communications plans to increase the number of HDTV channels to over 70 in a year and over 100 by fiscal 2012 ending in March 2013. The company aims to have one million subscribers in four to five years, according to its president, Masao Nito. A package of five HDTV channels and 68 standard-definition channels costs 3,500 yen per month.

JORDAN

ORANGE LAUNCHES IPTV WITH INTRACOM TELECOM

Orange has launched its 'Orange TV' IPTV service in Jordan, in collaboration with Greece's Intracom

PASAT ANTENNY

SATELLITE AND COMMUNICATION ANTENNAS

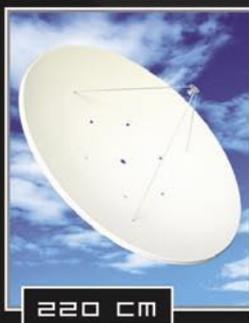
■ solid ■ aluminium ■ prime focus



250 CM



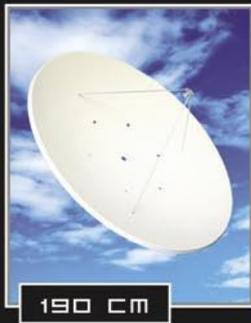
240 CM



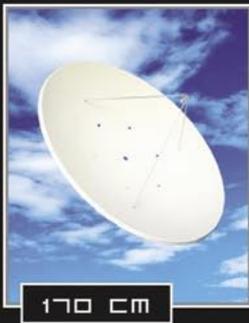
220 CM



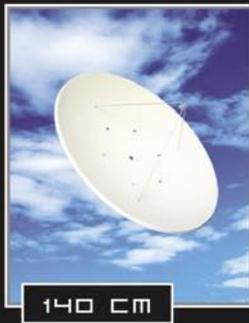
210 CM



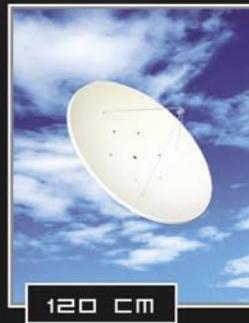
190 CM



170 CM



140 CM



120 CM



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Telecom and the Arab Radio and Television Network (ART). The service offers broadcast TV, VOD and interactive services such as weather, news and local information, and the offering will reportedly feature premium Arabic and international content. The new IPTV service offers two subscription tiers, with the basic tier costing JOD 25 (US\$ 35) and offering 21 satellite channels, while the higher tier costs JOD 30 and offers an extended tier of 25 channels. VOD streams cost JOD 1.50 per request.

KAZAKHSTAN

NETRIS AND SECUREMEDIA PARTNER ON IPTV PROJECT

US content security firm SecureMedia and Russian systems integrator Netris have partnered to deliver an end-to-end IPTV installation in Kazakhstan for local operator JSC Kazakhtelecom. The new IPTV solution will allow JSC Kazakhtelecom to roll-out IPTV services including broadcast content, VOD, PVR, time shifting, HD content and more. It will initially be available in Astana and will then extend to other major cities throughout Kazakhstan. The IPTV platform delivered by Netris includes IPSoft iVision middleware, Netris' advanced platform for interactive service delivery and SecureMedia's Encryptonite ONE System software-based content protection.

PAKISTAN

PTCL LAUNCHES IPTV SERVICE

Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has launched an IPTV service under the brand name PTCL Smart. The PTCL Smart Line service includes Interactive Television, Broadband and voice Telephony all at the same time on PTCL's telephone line. Smart TV is offered in multiple tariffs, which includes 'Smart Line' Tariff, which is 512 Kbps for Rs 1499/month; 2Mbps for

Rs 5299/month and 1Mbps for Rs 2299/month. The package also includes equipment charges with one time Purchase Price Rs. 9995 and STB Rental/month Mandatory for 24 Months Rs 500. Smart TV offers a total of 12 channels.

PAKISTAN TO LAUNCH SATELLITE BY 2011

Pakistan plans to have a communications satellite by 2011 as part of its National Satellite Development Programme. The country currently has the leased satellite Paksat-1, and this will hopefully be replaced with the state-of-the-art Paksat-1R communications satellite in three years, according to Air Commodore Arshad Hussain Siraj, Secretary of the Pakistan Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO).

SOUTH KOREA

SOUTH KOREA TO LAUNCH NEW SATELLITE IN 2010

South Korea's largest communications service provider KT has signed a contract with France's Arianespace to launch the satellite Mugunghwa-Six in August 2010 from French Guiana. The new satellite will replace the current Mugunghwa-Three, whose mission will end in December 2011. The Mugunghwa-Six will allow KT to meet the increasing demand for high-definition broadcasting, as terrestrial broadcasting must go fully digital by 2013.

SK BROADBAND LAUNCHES IPTV SERVICE

Korea's broadband TV operator Hanarotelecom has rebranded itself as SK Broadband and launched an IPTV service in October. The company has already signed output deals with more than 270 content providers, including Walt Disney, Sony Pictures and local giant CJ Entertainment, to supply programming for its 'broad&tv' IPTV service, as well as the "Hanabox" video-on-demand system.

The company will invest a total of US\$ 502 million will be spent acquiring content by 2012.

KT LAUNCHES IPTV SERVICE

KT has launched an IPTV service called Mega TV, which will initially carry 12 TV channels including KBS1, EBS, home shopping channels, and movie channels such as Catch On and Sky HD. KT plans to invest W1.7 trillion until 2012 to expand the list of serviced channels to 130, and provide closed users group (CUG) service to specific groups like churches and companies. Interactive shopping and VOD services will also be featured. KT aims to secure at least 300,000 subscribers by the end of this year, 1.1 million by next year, and 3 million by 2011.

3 IPTV SERVICE PROVIDERS SELECTED

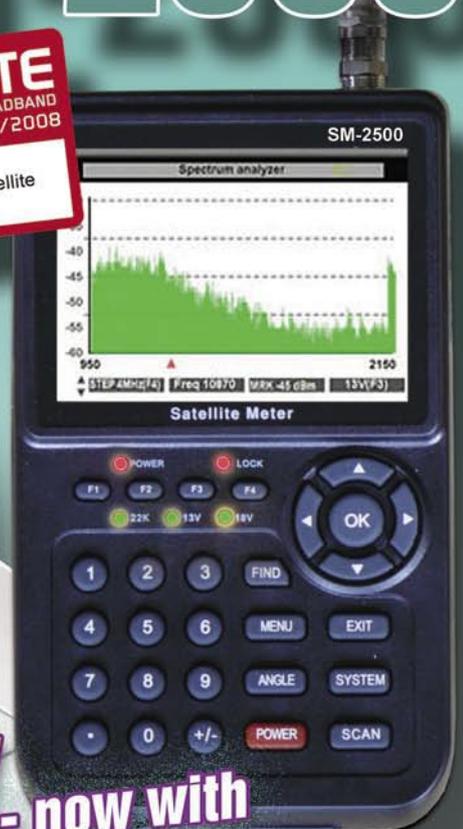
KT, Hanaro Telecom and LG Dacom were selected as the country's three IPTV service providers. The decision came after the Korea Communications Commission assessed four applicants including the three companies and Open IPTV in a general meeting. Launched by Daum Communications, Open IPTV was eliminated for failing to meet the financial requirement among the set evaluation criteria. The three service providers have started delivering programs from free-to-air channels including KBS and MBC in real time.

HANARO TELECOM SELECTS CORRIGENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Hanaro Telecom has selected Israeli firm Corrigent's CM-100 product line as a main network infrastructure to deliver premium IPTV services. Corrigent's technology was chosen to enable the provision of legacy TDM services as well as advanced data services, including IPTV, for which the operator reportedly plans to increase its penetration using FTTH and offer value added

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SRI LANKA

SRI LANKA TELECOM OPTS FO OPTIBASE ENCODERS FOR IPTV SERVICE

Optibase's advanced encoders have been selected by UTStarcom as part of an end-to-end integrated IPTV solution to Sri Lanka Telecom. Sri Lanka Telecom will use UTStarcom's RollingStream advanced IPTV solution, which incorporates Optibase's H.264 streaming platforms, to offer the country's first ever triple play services. Optibase's H.264 Media Gateway (MGW) 5100 encoding platforms, renowned for their top video quality and quick deployment, offer a highly reliable streaming solution.

TAIWAN

CHUNGHWA TELECOM REVISES IPTV TARGET

Chunghwa Telecom has revised its year-end subscriber target for its IPTV service from 1.2 million to 800,000, according to research firm Media Research Asia. The operator's Olympic coverage was reported to have boosted IPTV subscriber numbers by around 15%, and Chunghwa currently has about 570,000 users with average revenue per user of TWD 107 per month. The operator is also planning to spend TWD 30-31 billion (US\$ 943-975 million) in IPTV-related capital expenditure this year.

THAILAND

TRUEIPTV RELAUNCHES OPERATIONS

TrueIPTV Co, the IPTV arm of True Corp, has completed business and organisational restructuring. It now has a new shareholding structure, a clearer business role and definition of the target market segments for IPTV and TrueVisions' conventional cable and satellite Pay-TV services. Paisit Vatjanapagorn, general manager, said TrueIPTV has relaunched as a "premium service" targeting affluent Thais and foreigners living in Bangkok. The company is offering 12 TV channels including multi-language soundtracks, knowledge-based programmes and karaoke-on-demand. It hopes to double the subscriber base to 6,000 early in 2009.

THE PHILIPPINES

ECI TELECOM PROVIDES BROADBAND ACCESS TO PLDT

ECI Telecom has signed an agreement for the supply of broadband access solutions to Philippines Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT). ECI's Hi-FOCuS-5 Multi-Service Access Node (MSAN) central office and outside plant solution was chosen to support PLDT's nationwide expansion of high-speed internet DSL services for both business and residential customers over the operator's existing copper infrastructure. Part of ECI's 1Net business framework, the Hi-FOCuS is a carrier grade, future-proof MSAN solution, providing PLDT with the optimal transition path to a next-generation network solutions as it looks to deliver new services such as IPTV and VoIP in the future.

WORLD

AMINO SIGNS GLOBAL DEAL WITH ERICSSON FOR IPTV INTEGRATION

Set-top box manufacturer Amino Communications has signed a global deal with Ericsson to integrate its IPTV systems with the telecoms giant's new software. The news came as Amino also unveiled a plug-in solution enabling telecom operators to provide their IPTV subscribers with personal video recording (PVR) capability without the need for hard drives. The solution allows users to attach a USB drive to their existing set-top box and access their files, transferring them to view on any set-top box. The PVR concept will be offered over the next few months.



SONICVIEW



SV-360 Premier



SV-360 Elite



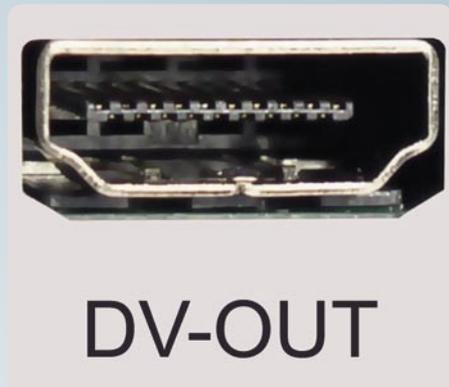
SV-HD8000

The Features of a New Satellite Receiver

Heinz Koppitz

Satellite receivers have undergone some significant improvements over the past several years. Not only has the transmission technology improved, they've become much more intelligent, faster and more comfortable – and even more energy efficient. We've put together a list of features that you should look for when buying a new satellite receiver.

HDMI with 1080 Lines



High definition television brought with it a substantially better picture: a fully digitized data transmission and the jump from PALs 576 lines (480 lines for NTSC) to 1080 lines. This only goes to show that the analog video signal with S-Video and even the Scart system with RGB outputs has become obsolete. Modern satellite receivers now come with the new small HDMI output that carries the 1080 lines of resolution from the receiver to the TV.

HDMI also works with standard resolution. This is accomplished with "upscaling". These satellite receivers calculate the lines that are missing and add the result to the standard signal such that 1080i resolution is achieved. This "upscaled" signal can be viewed on any modern "HD-Ready" LCD TV. Keep in mind that this is not the real high definition TV that is possible with 1080p resolution.

Alphanumeric Display on the Receiver



Up until now the display of channel names on the front panel was only avail-

able in a few receiver models. But today this technology is considered standard and you'll find this feature now even on lower-end receiver models. This type of display shows the title of the program and sometimes even programming information. The increasing number of radio listeners that utilize quality satellite reception no longer need to turn on their TV; the name of the radio channel is shown in the receiver's display.

USB Connection for Data Transfer

In earlier receiver models it was the serial interface that allowed communication between the receiver and a PC. Today it's the USB interface that takes care of this task. But USB lets you do much more: you



can insert a USB memory stick to handle an ever increasing number of functions: upload a new channel list, upgrade the receivers operating software and even temporarily record time-shifted programs.

User-Settable Blind Scan

Searching for digital signals has just about reached the same capability as that for analog signals where a user simply had to press a Scan button. The disadvan-



tage of digital and compression technology where multiple parameters needed to be entered is now a thing of the past. Receivers have become so intelligent that they can find not only parameters such as symbolrate, polarization and PIDs all by themselves, but transponder frequencies as well. A Blind Scan can differentiate between a channel carrying a TV signal and one that is data only. In many cases the user can optimize the scan speed by adjusting what frequency steps to use during a blind scan, whether to look for radio or TV channels and also what symbolrate range should be used.

Easy Channel Organization

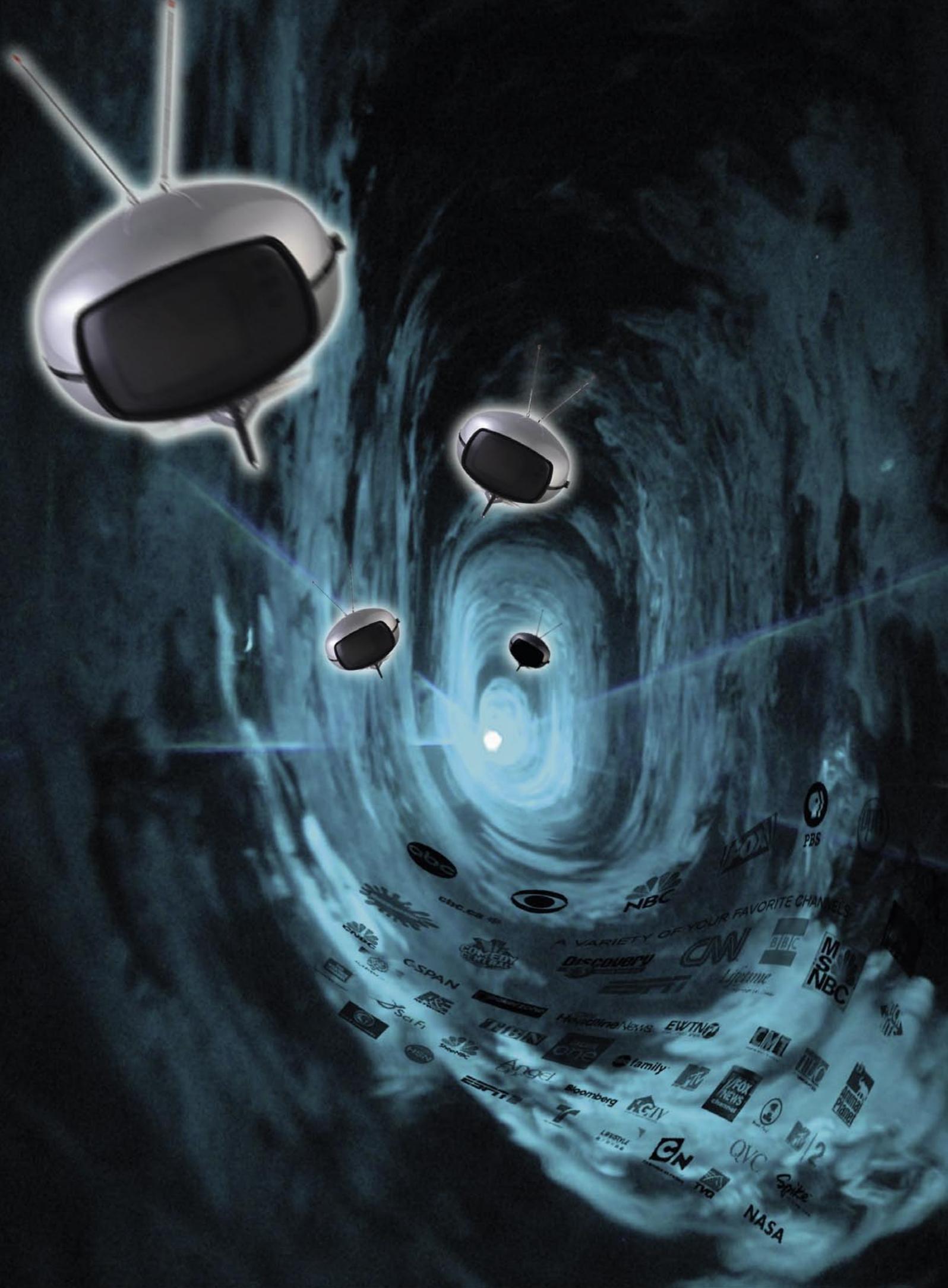


Where in the past it was more difficult to arrange the TV and radio channels in a more logical order for quicker channel access, today multiple Favorites lists make this much easier. But if you prefer to select a channel directly from the main channel list, you will also find easy-to-use editing functions here such as moving and deleting channels. External editors allowing users to organize channel lists on a PC are also becoming more and more standard – a feature especially useful with multifeed and motorized systems.

Environmental Friendliness

Satellite receivers are consistently being designed to use less and less energy. 12W in use and 4W in standby are becoming the norm. Main power switches let you completely turn off power to the receiver. New boot routines guarantee that no settings data will be lost when a receiver is turned back on and that reception will quickly be restored.

Because of all these improvements, it would be well worth it to eventually, or at the very least when you go out and buy a new LCD TV, to replace your current satellite receiver with a newer model that incorporates all of the previously mentioned features.



Jiuzhou DTS6600

A HDTV PVR

for all walks of life

For Jiuzhou it goes without saying that they provide up-and-coming market segments with innovations. This is also why we were hardly impressed to find a pre-release model of Jiuzhou's HDTV DVB-S/2 PVR receiver in our test lab. After all, HDTV in combination with PVR functionality is a clear step into the future. And with the DTS 6600 Jiuzhou intends to become a significant player in future.

The receiver comes in a rather plain but nonetheless good-looking silver case. The front panel supports a very easy to read 4-digit segment display, flanked by two LEDs to indicate the box's operating mode.

Hidden behind a flap are seven keys to operate the DTS 6600 without remote control, as well as two CI slots which accept all standard modules such as Irdeto, Seca, Viaccess, Conax, Nagravision and so on. Only the standby button can be reached without opening the flap.



The back panel reveals a comprehensive range of connections such as the satellite input and loop-through output, a HDMI interface for fully digital video and audio transmission, three sockets for YUV as well as three additional RCA jacks for stereo audio and composite video and – specifically for the European market – two scart euro-connectors.

A digital audio output makes sure any home cinema system is fed with crystal-clear audio and a USB 2.0 port is available for connection external storage media to use the PVR functionality. The perfect overall impression is rounded off by a main power switch.

The included remote control sits nicely in your hand, its buttons are easy to reach, clearly labelled and provide convenient feedback when pressed.

The user's manual is drawn up just as smartly and provides a clear structure, features illustrations where they are needed and answers all questions that might arise when using the receiver. To sum up, this receiver creates a good first impression in terms of workmanship and hardware quality, even though some might lament the somewhat conservative design.

Everyday use

The Jiuzhou DTS 6600 does offer an installation wizard and our test model arrived with a pre-set list of

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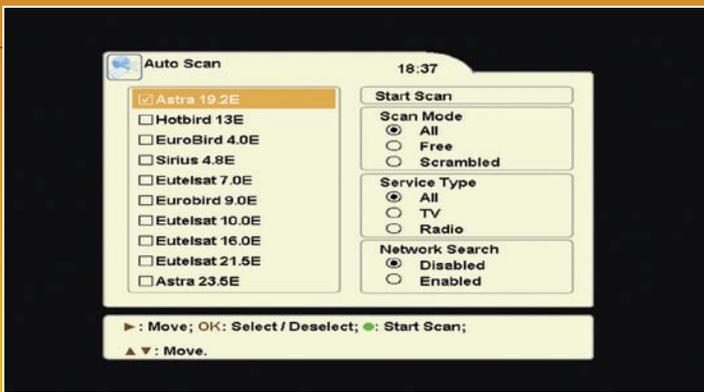
122 mainly German language channels. On a positive note we can state that all available HD channels from the German and English countries transmitted via ASTRA 19.2° East and ASTRA2 28.2° East were already included in that list.

In order to customise the box according to personal preferences all you have to do is press the MENU button to

call up a clearly structured and well-organised menu of available options. The main menu is divided into five groups with a number of sub-groups each. For the time being the latest Jiuzhou receiver is not yet a genuine globetrotter as the OSD is only available in German, English, Dutch or French. You can be assured, however, that this list will be extended by the manufacturer in one of the upcoming software updates.

In order to allow full use

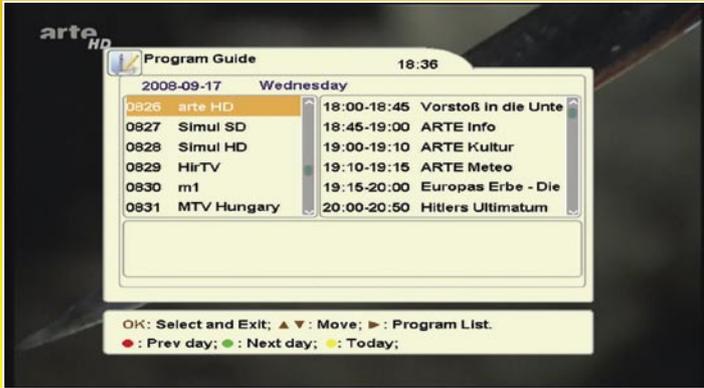




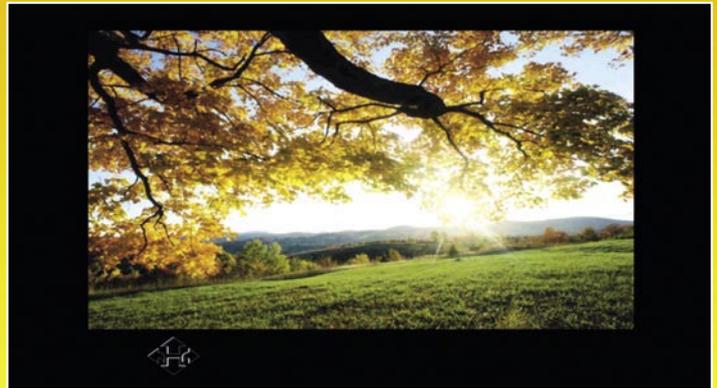
Automatic search |



Info bar |



EPG |



JPEG Viewer |

of the HDMI connection the receiver supports video output in 576p, 720p or 1080i. The only feature we missed was an automatic switch, but we assume that the manufacturer will add this feature in due time as well.

If you connect a regular CRT TV set to the box you will most probably decide to use the RGB video output mode. CVBS is available as well and if your TV set has the corresponding inputs you may also use the YUV output.

Of course, basic features

takes the correct time directly from the satellite signal, or you can decide to set the time manually, if you so desire.

What we like: you can set the receiver to show the current time instead of the channel number even when it is turned on. Before you can actually use all the features of the DTS 6600 it first has to be set up to work with your existing reception system. To this end DiSEqC protocols 1.0 for up to four satellites, 1.1 for up to 16 satellites as well as 1.2

turing 56 European satellite positions is pre-stored and we noticed that even the transponder data must have been updated only recently as they are very up-to-date. With an easy-to-use satellite and transponder editor it is child's play to add, delete or edit satellites as well as transponder entries.

Apart from receiving Ku band signals the Jiuzhou HDTV receiver can also be used for C band signals and thanks to freely selectable LOF data

even the most exotic LNBS can be made to work with this receiver. A whole range of options for switching between bands and polarisations makes it even more versatile.

Now that the basic setup is completed the 5000-channel memory needs to be filled with entries. To accomplish this, automatic or manual search modes can be selected. And here we were in for another pleasant surprise: the channel search OSD is remarkably clear and self-explanatory. An



such as the 16:9 aspect ratio and a number of 4:3 options are all implemented, as is a digital optical audio output which can provide a PCM or Dolby Digital (bit-stream) signal.

and 1 . 3 (USALS) for motorised antennas are available.

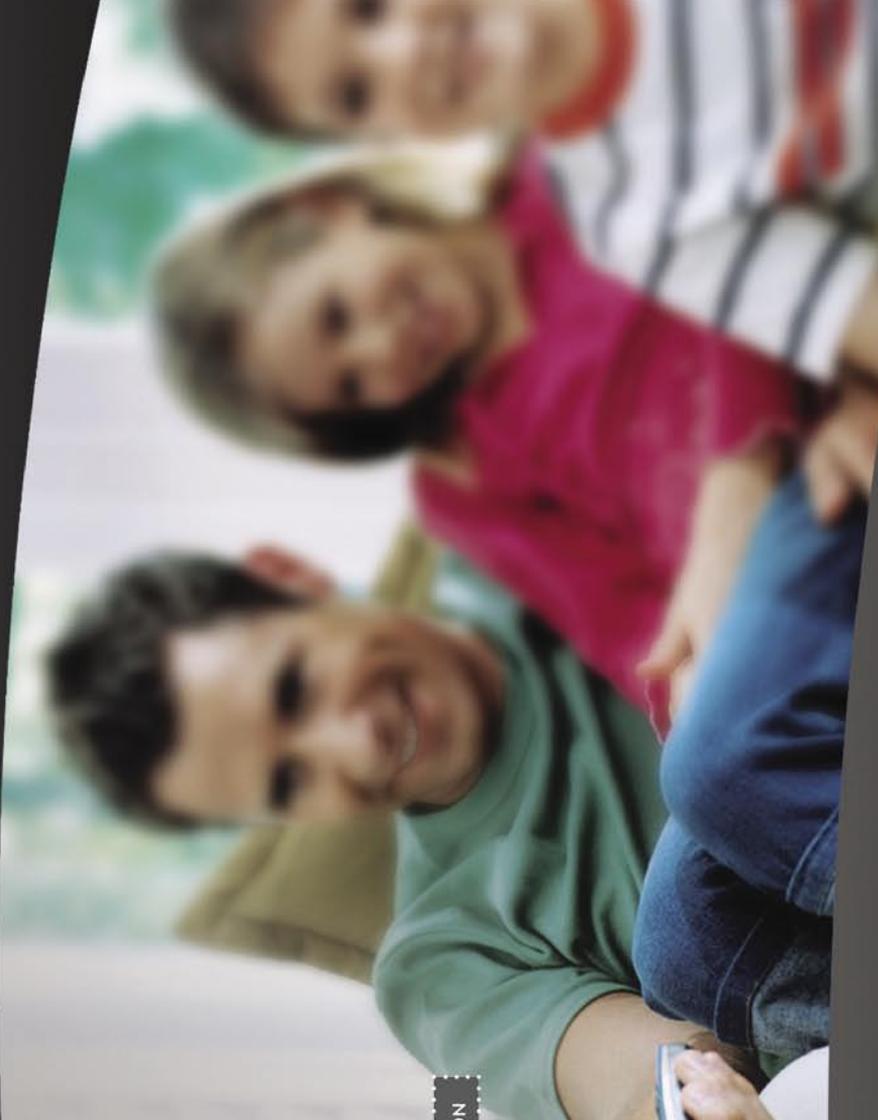
This latest Jiuzhou receiver A current satellite list fea-

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indefinite number of available satellites can be chosen for an automatic search, which are then scanned in a single go. You can of course define whether FTA, encrypted or all channels should be found. In addition, you can tell the box whether you're after TV channels, radio stations or both.

If required, you can also activate network scan so that any pay TV transponders that are not yet pre-stored will also be detected by the receiver. For our test satellite with just over 100 transponders finally took almost ten minutes, which means it is a little on the slower side.

Naturally, a manual scan gives you even greater options and you can manually enter frequency, symbol rate, polarisation, PID, modulation (with the receiver supporting QPSK in DVB-S and QPSK as well as 8PSK in DVB-S2) and FEC.

several satellites we ended up with thousands of more or less useful channels, which is way too many for real viewing pleasure. So what needed to be done next is bring some order and tidiness into this huge mess.

Luckily, the DTS 6600 offers a number of options for achieving this. Individual channels can be deleted, moved, renamed or protected with a PIN code to keep your kids from watching unsuitable material. A total of eight favourite lists are available to be filled with just the channels you really watch on a regular basis.

During our test editing both the channel and favourite lists went about smoothly and flawlessly. Here again the manufacturer has come up with a logical and user-friendly concept which even novices will come to understand in next to no time.

filled and well organised we can exit the main menu by pressing the – you guessed it! – EXIT button. This prompts the receiver to switch to the first channel on the list. The OK button calls up the channel list which lists all available channels in a clearly arranged way. Using the FAV and SAT buttons of the remote control you can either call up the channel list of a different satellite or one of the favourite lists.

Sorting the channel list can be done by pushing the Zoom button on the remote.

The new Jiuzhou receiver is reasonably fast when switching between channels, which holds also true for changing between SD and HD offerings. What we really appreciated in our test was the video quality via HDMI on a 42-inch plasma and a 40-inch LCD flat screen TV. There really was nothing to be left desired.

switches to a new channel it inserts an info bar with details regarding the currently showing and next event as well as icons for encryption, subtitles, DD audio etc. Signal quality and signal strength as well as satellite and frequency of the currently watched channel are also shown.

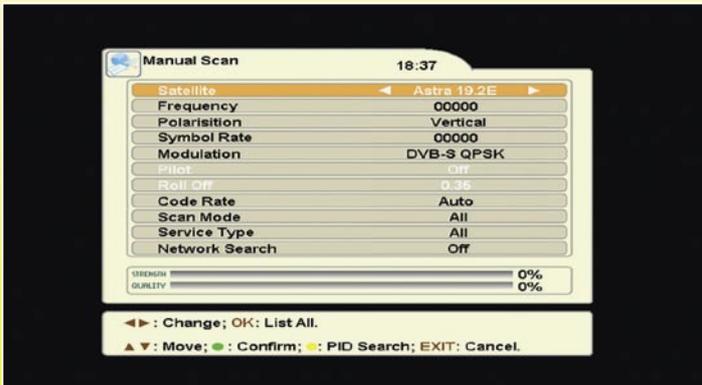
The remote control comes with dedicated keys for selecting the audio track and subtitles (if provided). In case your TV set has no built-in teletext decoder you can always fall back on the integrated software teletext decoder of the Jiuzhou box. While the DTS 6600 does not (yet) offer automatic output resolution switching, it can be done easily by pushing the Function key on the remote control to quickly change between the available options.

This is very handy whenever a HDTV channel transmits in 1080i (and can best be viewed when this resolution is set for the receiver as well)

After our test search on

Now that the channel list is

Whenever the receiver



Manual search



Playing back a recorded HDTV



and you then zap to a SDTV channel, when either 720p or 576p should be chosen for best video display.

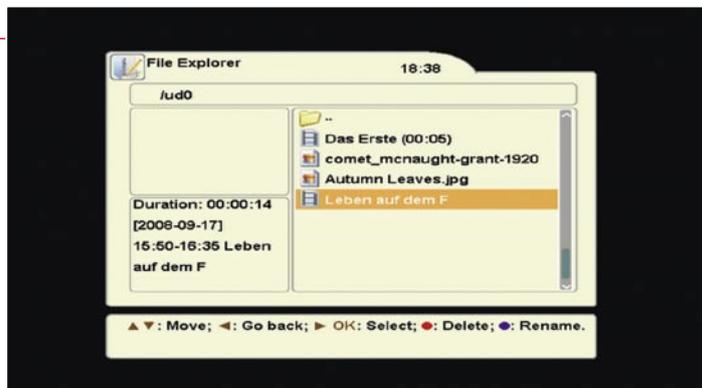
The EPG menu always shows information for six channels at a time. With the help of the colour-coded buttons you can change the date or jump to the current time. Of course the info bar provides information on currently showing and next events as well. If you need to make sure not to miss a particular event you can define up to eight timer entries. These have to be set up manually.

Just like all our test receiver the Jiuzhou DTS 6600 finally had to prove its worth when

the going gets tough. What we liked in this regard was that it delivered useful results even when the signals came in very weakly, such as for horizontal transmission from NILESAT 7° West or ASTRA 2D 28.2° East at our location.

SCPC was a different story, though, as we could not verify the manufacturer's claim of 1 to 45 Ms/s. We even encountered problems when trying to receive various TURKSAT 42° East transponders with symbol rates of way above 2 Ms/s. Yet, once the tuner is able to lock a signal reception becomes very reliable.

Finally, we want to address one of the main features of



Overview of recorded events and images |



Editor for satellite and transponder entries |



Expert opinion

+

The Jiuzhou DTS 6600 is an easy to use HDTV DVB-S/2 PVR receiver with hardly anything left to be desired thanks to its wide range of features. It is perfectly suited for everyday use and will delight beginners and experts alike.



Thomas Haring
TELE-satellite
Test Center
Austria

-

The product we received for our tests was a pre-release model, which means that some details turned out to not yet fully operational. SCPC is a point we would like to address in this regard, as well as the time it takes to perform a search, and the missing timeshift feature. We do assume, however, that the manufacturer will have solved these teething problems by the time the receiver hits stores.

this receiver, the USB 2.0 interface. It can be used to attach external hard disk drives or USB memory sticks, which transform the DTS 6600 into a genuine PVR receiver. This feature worked without a glitch in our test and both HD and SD recordings could be played back perfectly, including the time shifting. The remote control does not come with a PVR key, which means that the ZOOM button and the colour-coded buttons are used for PVR commands.

replacement for those old-fashioned slide projectors.

Apart from PVR functionality and displaying JPEGs the USB interface is also used to update the receiver's operating software, which is first downloaded from the Jiuzhou's website to the PC and is then installed on the receiver with the help of a USB stick. If you prefer it the easy way you will also be able to download new software directly via satellite as this feature will be implemented by the time the final product hits the shelves.

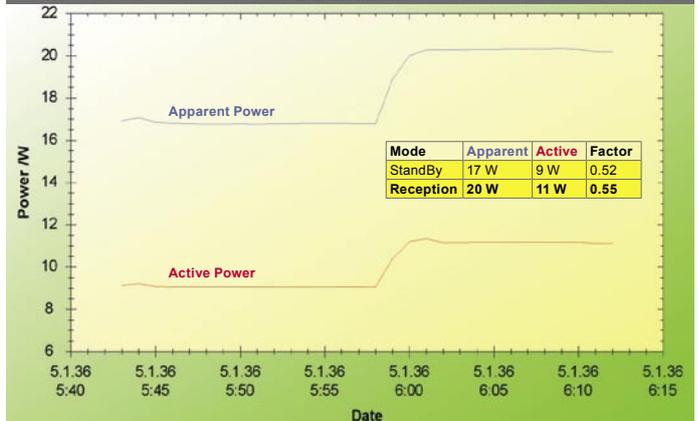
A FileExplorer can be accessed via the main menu and is used to show data located on the external storage medium. The DTS 6600 does not only list all available recordings, it can also list and display JPEG images on the TV screen, which is a very handy feature and an excellent

Summing up, the new Jiuzhou DTS 6600 is a HDTV receiver with great potential. It includes a number of useful ideas which are combined with just the right mix of ease of use and comprehensive features.

TECHNIC DATA

Manufacturer	Sichuan Jiuzhou Electric Group Co., Ltd. Jiuzhou Electric Building, Southern No. 12 Road Hi-Tech Industrial Park, Nanshan District, Shenzhen, China
Fax	+86 755 26748419
E-Mail	huangwei@d-telemedia.com
Model	DTS6600
Function	Digital PVR satellite receiver for SDTV/HDTV in DVBS and DVBS2 (QPSK/8PSK) MPEG2 and MPEG4
Channel memory	5000
Symbolrates	1-45 Ms/sec.
SCPC compatible	yes
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
USALS	yes
HDMI connection	yes
Scart euroconnectors	2
Audio/Video outputs	3 x RCA
Component output	3x RCA
S-Video output	no
UHF Modulator	no
Digital audio output	yes
EPG	yes
C/Ku band compatible	yes
PVR function	yes (with external USB 2.0 storage medium)
Power supply	90-250 VAC, 50/60 Hz
Dimension	34/26.5/6cm
Weight	2.8kg

ENERGY DIAGRAM



The receiver is in standby for the first 15 minutes, followed by another 15 minutes with active reception and channel switching, PVR playback, etc.



Celebrating 50 years-Jiuzhou!

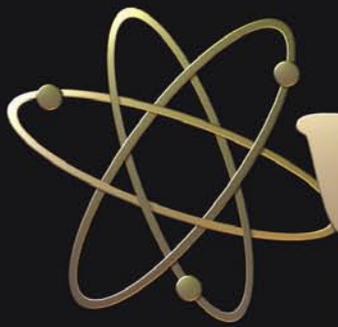
50 Years Jiuzhou!

On 16th November 2008 Jiuzhou officially celebrates its 50th birthday. The state-owned company started in 1958 and is specialized into digital television systems,

which also include LED, RFID products, Broadband Network Systems, optical and coaxial cable, and of course satellite receivers, which are being exported for their most parts. Jiuzhou belongs to the Top 100 companies in China in the electronic information sector. Furthermore, Jiuzhou belongs to the Top 500 group of most successful enterprises in China and with its turnover of up to USD 1 billion in 2008 it also belongs to the Top 1000 largest enterprises in China. For 2009 Jiuzhou's

ambitions even aim to reach the USD 1.5 billion turnover target. Jiuzhou's aim is to become a leading company in the top ranking enterprises in China and amongst the companies worldwide operating in the digital TV technology.

A more detailed report on Jiuzhou has been published by TELE-satellite in its 02-03/2008 issue, which is available for download at www.TELE-satellite.com



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OPENSAT XT-9500 HD

Designed for High Definition

I'm one of those people who prefers function over aesthetics – beauty is only skin-deep after all. There's no point in something looking good if it doesn't do the job. But I have to admit, as soon as the box was opened, I was seduced by the minimalist good looks of the OPENSAT XT-9500 HD. This classy black receiver from distributors ABC BIZNIZ of Slovakia boasts HD reception and good connection options at an attractive price, could we have both style and substance in a single package?

The front panel contains an on/standby button, and the vertical set of buttons control channel and volume. These light up in red when the unit is powered up, and they're quite bright too - almost too bright when watching TV in a dark room. A crisp text display shows the name and number of the channel being received, or the clock in standby. In standby mode, the button lights are still on, joined by the matching red glow of the on/standby button.

Under the flap on the front panel we find two CI slots for

pay-TV modules and even a Smart card reader. Also under the flap is a USB socket, used to upgrade the receiver's firmware from a USB stick.

Initial setup

There's plenty of options to choose from when it comes to hook-up time. Two Scart sockets are available for TV and VCR. Helpfully for recording purposes, the VCR Scart always outputs in standard definition, so even HD channels can be easily recorded to DVD or videotape if required. The TV Scart



can be set to use component video, so if your TV can handle such signals and only has a Scart connection available, you can still get HD resolution. HDMI, the standard connection for HD is also present along with component video RCA jacks. A composite video output is also available, but there's no place in the modern world for our old friend the UHF antenna loop.

I am somewhat unusual in having an old-tech CRT TV which can handle HD signals via a component input. After just a few minutes of head-scratching, I was viewing BBC HD from ASTRA 2.

Whilst the type of connection in use can be switched between RGB, Composite, or Component in the menus, a dedicated button on the remote sets the screen resolution. Available resolutions range from 480p

up to 1080i. This gives an extra use for the permanently standard definition VCR Scart, and this cured my initial confusion. You can use this as a backup when finding the correct resolution for your TV.

If you end up with a scrambled picture in a resolution your TV does not support as I did, you can switch over to the VCR Scart and still see the menu. Once I'd got it up to 1080i, I had a perfect HD picture and could say goodbye to the temporary VCR Scart route.

The picture quality of HD is, as you'd expect, superb. My usual everyday TV viewing setup consists of standard definition broadcasts via a Sky+ receiver, and I am usually quite proud of the picture quality from an RGB Scart connection with good quality cables. The quality increase though

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between this and HD delivered via component is amazing, and makes the usual picture look quite fuzzy by comparison. So much for RGB then!

Sadly, we're still in the early days of HD so there are few FTA channels to choose from. We can still get the benefits though, as standard definition broadcasts are upscaled when viewing through component video or HDMI. This results in a notice-

able increase in picture quality and sharpness over the standard Scart, but of course it's not close to the clarity of a true HD broadcast.

Audio output is available via the traditional RCA connectors, or a S/PDIF digital optical output.

The receiver's menus are clear, simple, and logically laid out. Choice of language is very



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OPENSAT XT-9500 HD
Style and substance in a single package



good, with 18 languages available. Most major European languages are covered plus Arabic and Persian, and those in Eastern Europe will be pleased to see Czech, Slovak, Slovenian and Hungarian included alongside the more usual choices.

The installation menu is the first port of call when setting up for the first time. A comprehensive list of 51 satellites is pre-programmed into the receiver, and these can be edited, deleted or added to as required. The corresponding transponder lists appear to be equally comprehensive and up-to-date.

DiSEqC 1.2 and USALS are included to give easy control of a DiSEqC motor for multi-satellite users. DiSEqC switches are

also supported and all necessary LNB parameters are editable, so most setups will be easily catered for.

Channel scanning is well-thought out. All transponders can be scanned, or just a single one. Network scanning is also available which is very useful on large satellites like ASTRA and HOTBIRD. A nice addition is a PID filter function, allowing scanning of only TV or radio channels. The satellite and transponder menus work together, aiding any editing required. The transponder list menu also contains a PID editing function, invaluable for those rare but important times where PIDs need to be entered manually.

Searching an entire satellite

is quite fast – an entire network scan of ASTRA 2 takes 16 minutes to scan 83 transponders. After the scan is complete, the list of found channels can be edited before they are committed to the receiver's memory. There's no blind scan function, but as this is a receiver designed to be used to watch standard TV rather than search for unusual channels, it doesn't really feel like it is missing.

With the channels safely in memory, we get to the further editing of the list to suit our individual preferences. This is never much of a pleasurable experience, but the XT-9500 does a good job here of making it easier than most.

All the editing, sorting and filtering functions we need are available, and are easy and intuitive to use. Eight favourites lists can be set up, and adding to these is easy too. A second window appears next to the channel list ready for channels to be copied into it. This can then be switched to, allowing arranging and editing in the same way as the main list.

Everyday use

Once we have our lists set up, finally we can sit back and watch some TV, and everyday viewing is helped by some good design here too. The main channel list can be sorted or filtered alpha-

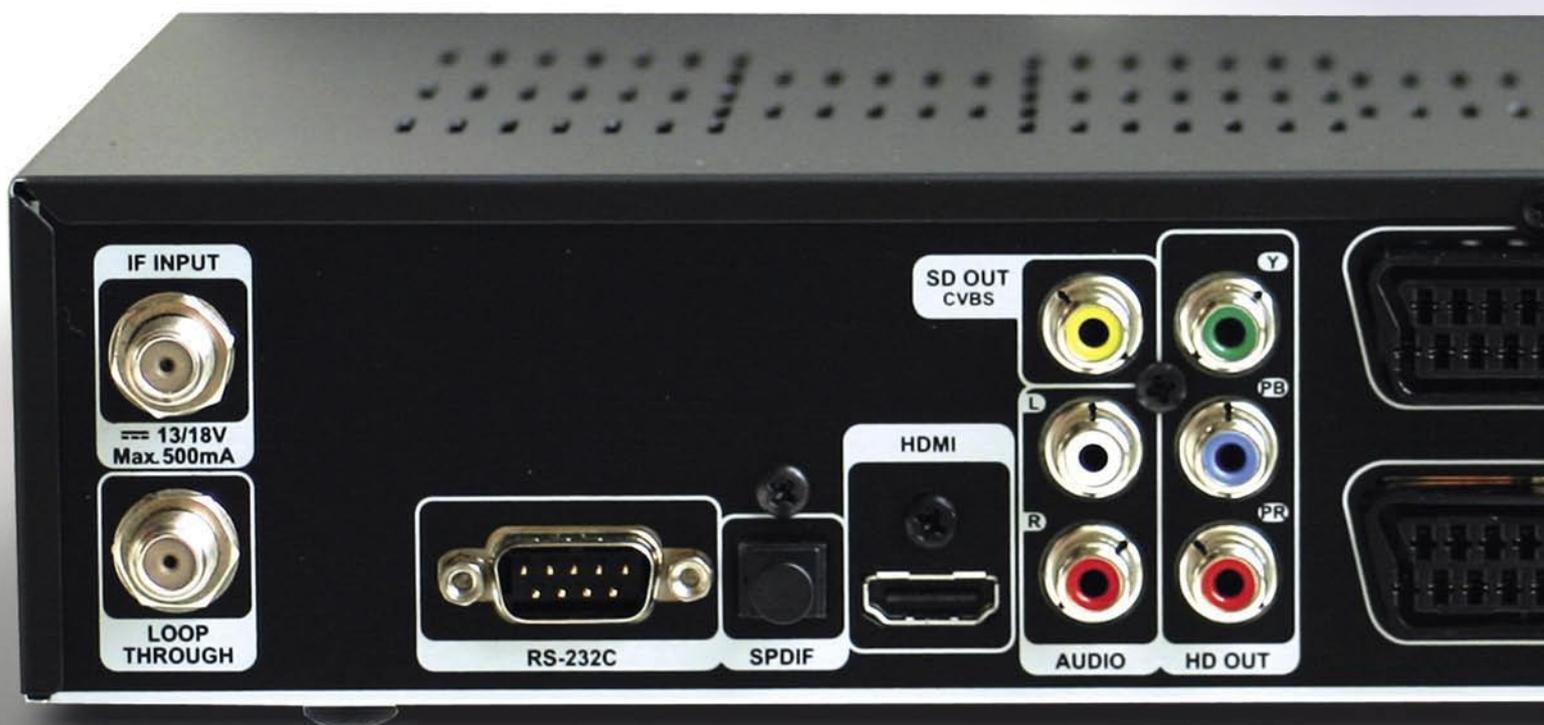
betically, or by FTA/encryption status – and even filtered by just one encryption system if more than one is in use – perhaps useful if using more than one CAM.

The best feature relating to channel lists though is perhaps the most obvious, yet so often forgotten when receivers are designed. The receiver remembers which favourites list is in use, or what type of filter you have applied, until you decide to choose a new one. This alone makes the receiver so much nicer to use on a regular basis than so many others I've used in the past.

One possible criticism however is that the channels keep their original numbers even when a favourites list or filter is being used. There are advantages in this, as long as you can remember the numbers.

I personally might have found it easier to have the channels numbered 1,2,3 based on whatever list I'd chosen, rather than their original numbers – especially after I'd manually moved them around. But it's still easier to navigate than many other receivers.

I was initially a little disappointed there was no "view the last channel" button, which is always good for those of us



who try to keep up with two channels at once. But OPEN-SAT have included a little surprise along these lines, one that's not even mentioned in the manual. The "back" button is usually used to exit a menu to the previous level. But pressing it when no menu is displayed produces a list of the last eight channels viewed to select from. Not quite the one-touch zapping solution we've seen before, but it is still a nice feature to include.

It's good to also see teletext fully supported. Here in the UK, it's rapidly losing out as its inferior digital counterpart

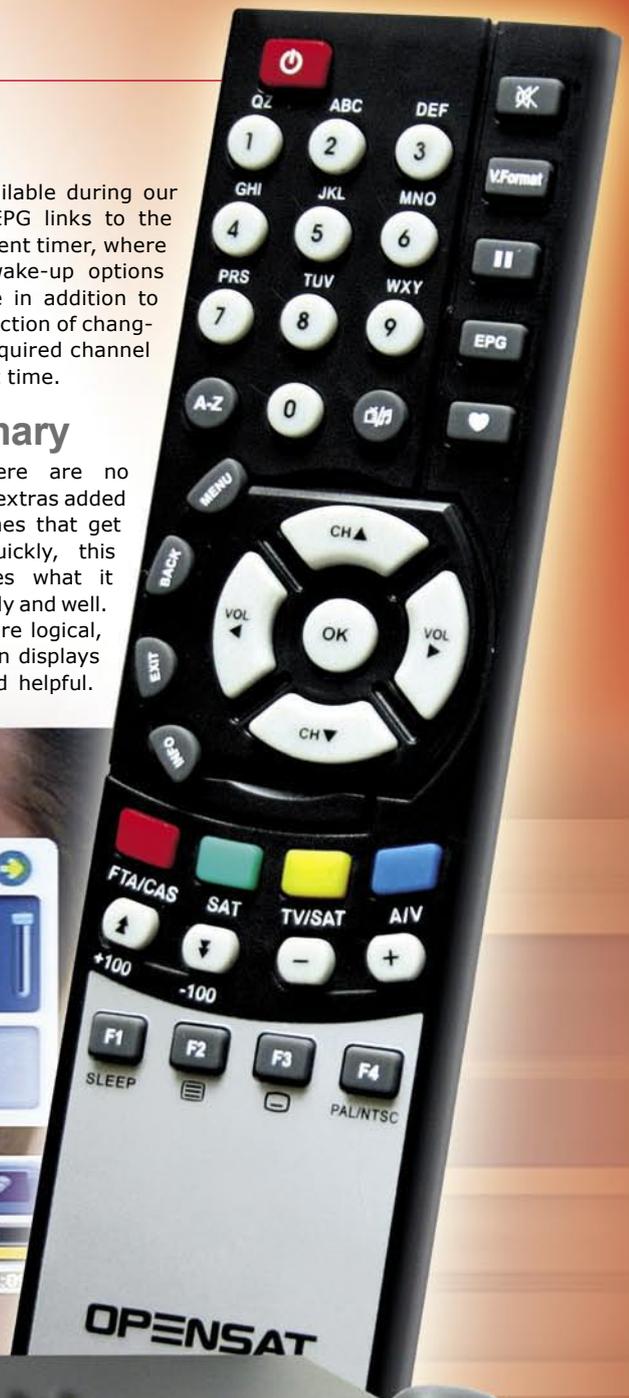
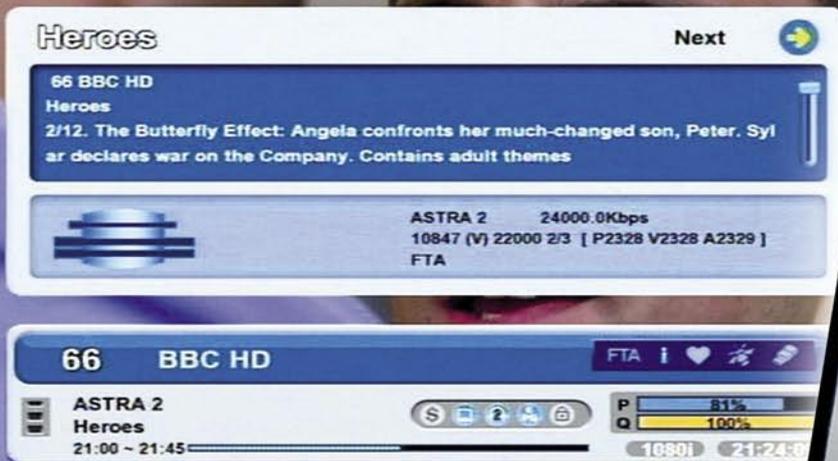
takes over. When our analogue transmissions end, so will traditional analogue text. But while it lasts, the XT-9500HD gives us a choice of both ways of receiving teletext – either through the receiver's inbuilt decoder, or on the TV itself via VBI insertion.

The XT-9500HD's EPG is also clear and easy to use, bearing in mind the limitations of the usual now/next data transmitted. Buttons are available to scroll forward and back by 24 hours, so perhaps in some places it can find further programme information, although I couldn't find anywhere where

this was available during our tests. The EPG links to the receiver's event timer, where sleep and wake-up options are available in addition to the usual function of changing to the required channel at the preset time.

Summary

Whilst there are no gimmicks or extras added such as games that get forgotten quickly, this receiver does what it needs to easily and well. The menus are logical, the on-screen displays are clear and helpful.



The remote is well laid-out and matches the receiver's beautiful black and silver looks. There are few downsides to the receiver. Perhaps a dimmer function, or one to turn off the front panel lights altogether could be good for viewers who like to view in the dark without distractions.

One thing I did quickly notice is how hot the case becomes, even in standby mode. I suppose that's the price we have

to pay for the extra horsepower needed to get pictures in HD quality onto our screen. A new software should help to solve this problem.

It's just a pity that there is not so much FTA HD material out there to watch at the moment. That will no doubt change in the near future, and when it does I'd certainly be very happy to have the XT-9500 as a permanent fixture in my living room.

Expert Opinion



Great looks and design
Intuitive menus, easy setup and editing
Well implemented favourites lists and channel list filtering



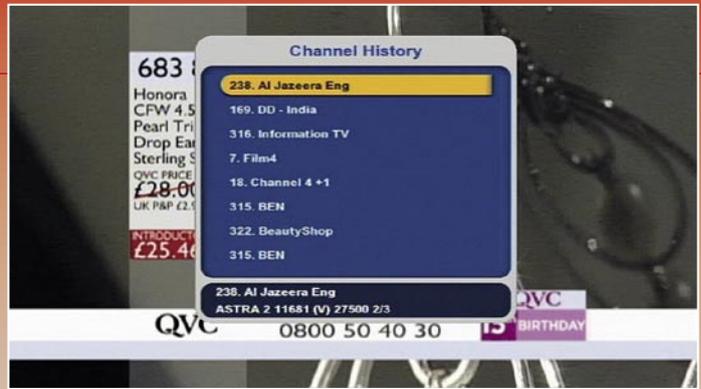
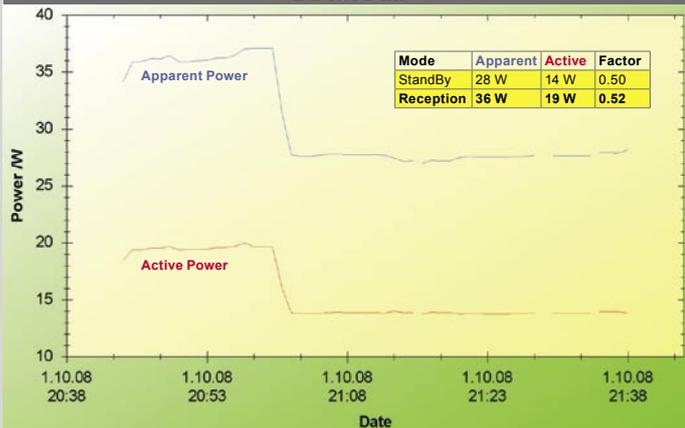
Andy Middleton
 TELE-satellite
 Test Center
 UK

Generates a lot of heat
Bright always-on front-panel lights

TECHNIC DATA

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Tel/Fax	Tel +421 38 5313508 - Fax +421 38 5313508
Contact	info@abcbiznis.sk
Websites	www.abcbiznis.sk, www.opensat.sk
Model	XT-9500 HD
Function	Digital HDTV receiver for DVB-S and DVB-S2
Satellites / CI + Card	51+ / 2 Common Interfaces + 1 Smart Card Reader
Modes	MPEG-2 MP@ML, MPEG-4 Part 10/H.264
SCPC compatible	yes
DiSEqC / USALS	1.2 / yes
Scart connectors	2 / USB2.0 Connector for Software Upgrades
Symbol rates	1000-45000
Audio outputs	2 (L&R)
Video outputs	1x composite, Component, HDMI
Video Resolutions	480p, 480i, 576p, 576i, 720p, 1080i
Digital audio output	yes, S/PDIF
RS-232 / EPG	yes / yes
C/Ku-band compatible	yes
Power supply	100-250V AC, 50/60Hz

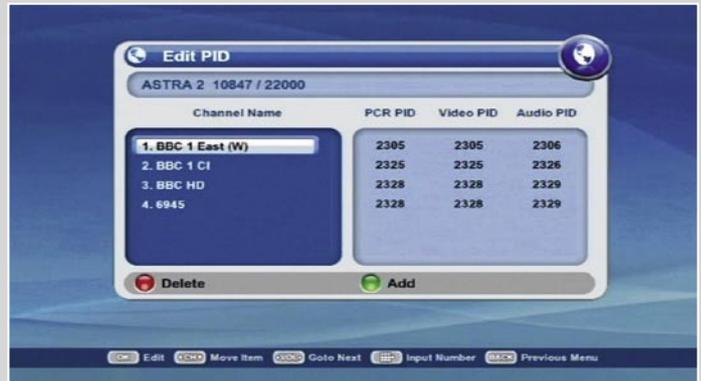
ENERGY DIAGRAM



The secret channel history screen |



EPG |



PID editor |



Satellite setup |



User preferences |

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Teen room



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TeVii S650 – DVB-S2 USB Box

Small but powerful

With the S650 Taiwanese manufacturer TeVii introduces a further development of its DVB-S USB Box S600, which is now also capable of receiving high-definitions channels (HDTV).

The S650 Box comes in a metal case which gives it a very sturdy look and the level of workmanship is also very high. Its backside features a satellite IF input as well as a loop-through output. An external power pack – which is also connected to the rear panel – provides the box with all the power it requires.

On one side we find a USB host interface for connecting the box to a Windows or Linux

based PC with USB 2.0. In case you're wondering: yes, it's true – TeVii also offers a Linux driver for its latest product. An infrared LED is located behind a protective cover on the front panel for picking up commands from the remote control, a feature that worked brilliantly in our test.

The complete package comes fully equipped with the S650 USB box, the external power pack, a USB 2.0 cable, the

remote control, a short user's guide, batteries for the remote control as well as a CD with all required software and drives. A comprehensive instruction manual is available as PDF.

Everyday use

As minimum system requirements for its new USB Box TeVii specifies Intel Pentium 3 1 GHz or higher, for HDTV capabilities the box requires Intel Pentium 4 2 GHz with 128 or 256 MB RAM respectively, DirectX 9 or higher as well as a graphics card with a minimum of 16 MB dedicated memory. Of course a USB 2.0 port is also required. In general, most modern PCs will be able to meet these requirements, particularly as MS Windows 2000, XP and Vista are all supported. Linux drivers are available as well.

TeVii ships the box with a whole range of software applica-



TELE SATELLITE & BROADBAND AWARD
12-01 / 2009

TEVII S650 – DVB-S2 USB BOX
Compact HDTV receiver for PC or laptop computer with comprehensive software

tions such as the TeVii in-house software suite, software for Internet-via-satellite, SkyGrabber – which we will discuss later in more detail – and the well-known and popular ProgDVB PC software for DVB-S/2. Our Windows Vista PC recognised the TeVii S650 box right after plugging it in and prompted us to insert the driver CD. Thankfully TeVii does not only provide 32-bit Windows drivers but also all 64-bit drivers that Windows Vista64 users need. This was an unexpected surprise and a point we cannot praise highly enough. It can only be hoped

that other manufacturers follow TeVii's example and that way push the upgrade to 64-bit operating platforms.

The required drivers are installed in a breeze and as a next step we recommend installing the full software package from the CD. The installation process of the individual applications is for the most part self-explanatory. When the TeVii software is launched for the very first time the user is greeted by a black window and an empty channel list, as there are no pre-stored chan-

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Turkish	Türkçe	www.TELE-satellite.com/TELE-satellite-0901/tur/tevii.pdf

Available online starting from 28 November 2008



nels available. The user interface of myTeVii is clearly structured and looks quite straightforward. To the right we find the channel and satellite list, with the actual TV channel being shown to the left of that. Of course the window size of the TV channel can be changed as required and it goes without saying that a full screen presentation mode is available as well. myTeVii is quite international and can be customised for the following languages: English, German, French, Arabic, Chinese, Finnish, Italian, Polish, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

The TeVii box supports DiSEqC protocol 1.0 for up to four LNBs as well as protocol 1.1 which means it can be used with a multi-focus antenna. Owners of motorised dishes are looked after as well because both hardware and software are compatible with DiSEqC protocols 1.2 and 1.3 (USALS). USALS settings can be adjusted very conveniently via the settings menu of the TeVii software which fully controls a 1.3-based motorised dish.

In general TeVii's in-house software allows a huge range of configuration options, such as defining individual LOF parameters for each satellite. The corresponding values for the Ku and C bands as well as for LNBs used for the reception of circular signals are already pre-stored. In addition, a few mouse clicks is all it takes to change the DiSEqC parameters as well.

Once the software has been configured to work with the existing antenna equipment the next step consists of performing a channel search to fill the virtually unlimited channel memory with data. To that end, a pre-set satellite list with 177 European, Asian and American position is available. This and the corresponding transponder data are very up-to-date, and even if the odd parameter might not be 100% accurate this can be corrected in a whiz by looking up the required settings at www.SatcoDX.com.

Obviously it is possible to edit satellite and/or transponder data by updating existing entries with only a few mouse clicks or by entering new satellites or transponders just as quickly. If you want to fill the TeVii box's channel memory it is enough to mark one, several or all transponders of a satellite entry and activate the channel search. The software

took a little less than eight minutes to scan a satellite with just over 100 transponders, which is a slightly above average achievement.

During our test the TeVii box delivered some remarkable results. On the one hand it turned out to have a low threshold and to be able to also handle weak signals, such as transmissions from ASTRA 2D 28.2° East at our test location in Munich, for example. On the other hand it works very well with SCPC signals and has no problems processing low-bandwidth SCPC signals. Our test transponder on TURKSAT 42° East with a symbol rate of just over 2000 KS/s came in flawlessly.

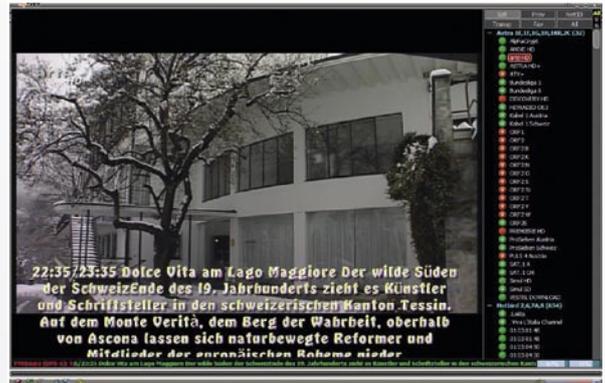
In reception mode the TeVii can be set to display EPG information in the status bar of the application window, if these data are provided by the respective channel. In addition, a full OSD insert can be called up, which is particularly handy when controlling the box from the couch with the included remote control. We believe the OSD layout deserves special praise as it does not only display the channel name when zapping, but also scrollingly provides extended EPG information and this way offers much more detailed background information than we would normally expect when switching channels. This is a truly great feature that we really love! Speaking of special praise, the software turned out to communicate brilliantly with the included remote control which is clearly labelled and convenient to use.

The channel list is another high point and offers a whole lot of sorting and adjusting options. For example, channels can be sorted according to bouquets, transponders or satellites, TV or radio channels can be faded out with a simple click of a button and you are free to set up several favourite lists. The channel list can be edited directly in the main window. Individual entries can be updated via satellite, renamed or protected with a PIN code from unauthorised viewers, such as children.

For a DVB-S/2 PC solution channel switching is ok with about three seconds. Between HDTV and SDTV channels it takes a little longer. The one major advantage of DVB receivers for the PC is the option to record onto the PC's hard disk, and this is also one of the draw cards of the



Main window |



EPG insert |



Satellite and transponder list |



Channel search |



Sorting the channel list according to providers |

YOUR SAT-SPECIALIST FOR NOW AND THE FUTURE



The new Generation "COMPACT LINE"

- Full product range available on all items
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- Best value for reliability
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TeVii. Timer records can be set up effortlessly and time shift is available, meaning that you can freeze the current program at any time and later continue from exactly that point with a single touch of a button. Another practical feature is the TeVii's software capability of recording all events in a special DVD-compatible mode, in addition to the standard transport stream.

The integrated EPG is a beauty as well and displays all information in an organised way. Events can be marked for recording directly in the EPG, and you can even set up the timer to record daily or weekly events. To make sure you don't miss a single scene you may even add extra time before the beginning and after the end of every recorded event.

The perfect overall impression of the TeVii software is rounded off by a dedicated plug-in interface. This allows software developers to create extensions and add-ons for myTeVii and to offer new and useful features. The only thing we missed really badly during our test was being able to use CI modules for pay TV reception. However, the manu-

facturer will bundle the card with a USB card reader for some areas at the time when this report gets published.

Image representation and processing power

Our test PC was equipped with an Intel Core2 Duo 1.8 GHz processor and was able to display SDTV and HDTV in either 720p or 1080i absolutely flawlessly, even without draining too much processing power from the system. This means you can work with other applications while watching satellite TV using the myTeVii application. With a slightly older Intel Pentium IV system interference-free HDTV was at first only possible with 720p, while 1080i resulted in a number of dropouts, but the manufacturer responded quickly and released a new software version during our test, which fixed even this problem.

Additional software

While most metropolitan areas have high-speed Internet infrastructure the situation is a little less satisfactory in some rural regions. Frequently there are no cable networks and DSL solutions sometimes don't work due the large distance between interchange and user. In such cases Internet-via-satellite may become a real alternative and the TeViiData application that comes with the S650 constitutes the right software tool for that. When installing the software it installs a network

SkyGrabber



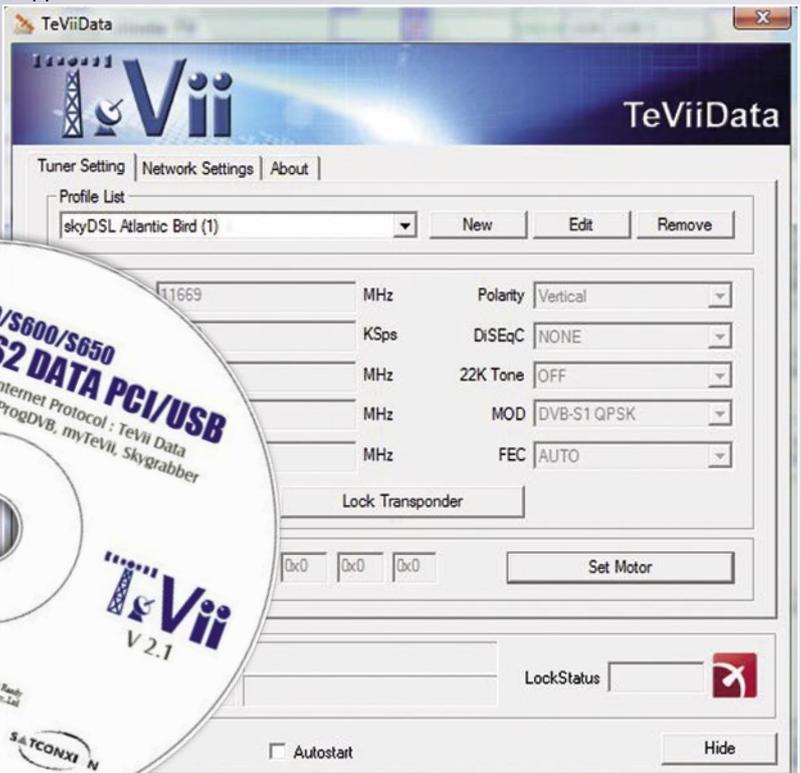
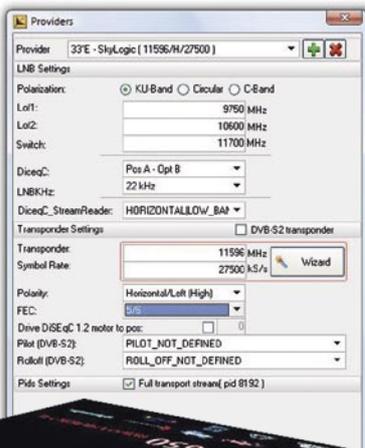
Various configuration options |



LNB settings/DiSEqC |



Timer settings |



TeVii Data



driver which allows to set and edit all required TCP/IP parameters. It suffices to select the desired provider (out of a list of 27 providers/satellite positions) or you may choose to enter all details manually. The software then checks if the antenna is aligned correctly and activates Internet access. The SkyGrabber demo software also comes from the field of internet-via-satellite and relies on the fact that – contrary to landline Internet access – internet-via-satellite sends data not to one user specifically, but basically to everyone within the satellite's

footprint. Data received from the satellite are filtered and SkyGrabber tries to assemble pieces of music, films etc. to create complete files. Please note, however, that saving third-party material may be illegal under certain circumstances.

Before we finish we have one word of advice for all DX enthusiasts out there: of course you can use the TeVii S650 with, for example, the ProgDVB software with Elecard codec to receive MPEG 4:2:2 feeds, for example from EUTELSAT W3A at 7° East.

SPAUN multiswitches are provided with energy saving switched mode power supplies. Switched mode power supplies made by **SPAUN** feature a high effectiveness (low power consumption) with a wide range of tolerance regarding the input voltage.



Furthermore, the switched mode power supplies reduce the transport weight, save precious raw materials (lower copper content in comparison with transformers) and allow a standby function with a very low power consumption.



SCPC reception via TURKSAT 42° East

Expert opinion



The TeVii S650 USB box is a compact DVB-S/2 receiver for the PC. For SD reception it does not require the latest PC equipment and should work smoothly with most systems. The included software suite is very comprehensive and leaves nothing to be desired. TV reception (SDTV and HDTV) worked absolutely flawlessly in our test with an Intel Core2 Duo 1.8 GHz processor.

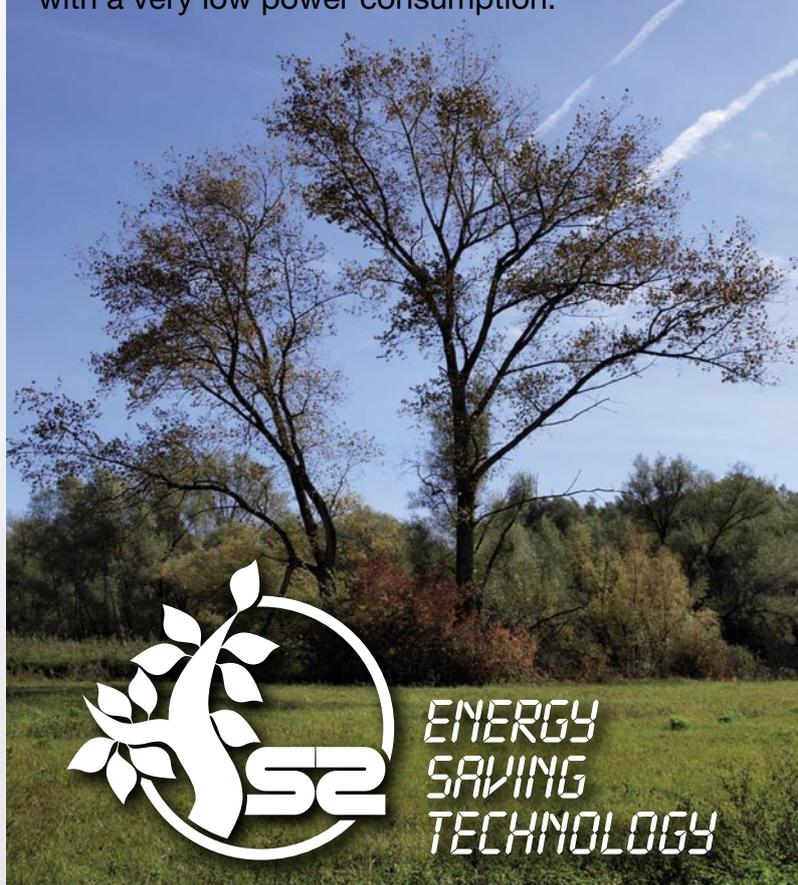


Thomas Haring
TELE-satellite
Test Center
Austria

We would have liked to be able to use CI modules with the TeVii S650.

TECHNIC DATA

Manufacturer	TeVii Technology Ltd. Taiwan
Email Sales	patricia@teyii.com
Email Support	peterson@teyii.com
Model	S650
Function	USB box for the reception of SDTV and HDTV, radio and data on the PC
Channel memory	unlimited
Satellites	177
Symbolrates	2-45 Ms/sec.
SCPC compatible	yes (approx. 2.2 MS/s and above in our test)
USALS	yes
DiSEqC	1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3
EPG	yes
C/Ku Band compatible	yes

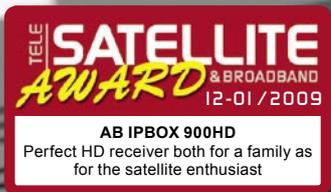


ENERGY SAVING TECHNOLOGY

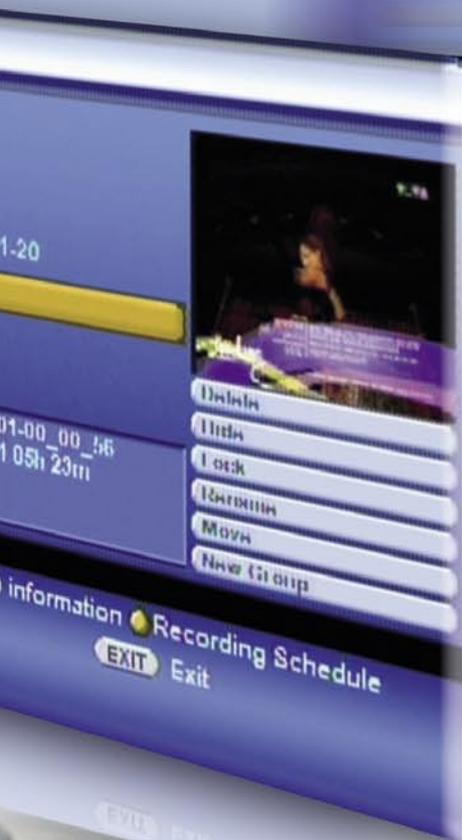
AB IPBox 900HD

Promising feature-loaded multisystem Linux-based HDTV PVR receiver

ABCom has already positively surprised us with several brilliant IPBoxes recently. Such Linux-based receivers are especially valued by the satellite enthusiasts, who love to experiment. At the same time, ABCom designed its own firmware in a way, that it would be understandable to all family members. Hardcore DXers always had a rich variety of alternative firmware variants to choose from.



But time doesn't stand still, more and more attention is attracted by HDTV nowadays. Number of living rooms, where the prime position is taken by a plasma or LCD TV-set, is grow-



Playing MP3s from a USB dongle



ing dramatically. Of course, HDTV receivers also started to appear, but most of the early ones left the satellite enthusiasts unsatisfied. It took quite a while, before really powerful HDTV boxes could hit the market.

However, ABCom, which has a major experience in manufacturing Linux-based receivers, succeeded to go even further. What about a box, that could handle it all? Both HDTV and SDTV, in DVB-S and DVB-S2. With a possibility to quickly replace the satellite tuner and make it receive cable and terrestrial transmissions. With a user-friendly PVR, network connection and all other goodies that the penguin used to bring to the Linux-based receiver owners? This was the idea behind the two "brothers" - IPBox 9000HD, that we presented in one of the previous issues of TELE-satellite, and 900HD, which gets a closer look in this article.

The "younger" brother, as we first thought, would be less impressive, then 9000HD. This started to prove wrong already from the moment we opened the box, delivered to our test lab. It looks much more compact, then 9000HD, but is also stylishly designed, and features an easy-to-read matrix VFD display in the middle of the front panel. With a help of seven buttons, located right under it, you access the menu, change channels, confirm selections, adjust the volume, all basic functions are perfectly covered, should something go wrong with the remote control.

The bottom left corner contains the standby button, while the right one - a magnet-held flap, which covers two CI slots, providing access to encrypted transmissions. The rear panel is simply loaded with connec-

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Turkish	Türkçe	www.TELE-satellite.com/TELE-satellite-0901/tur/abcom.pdf

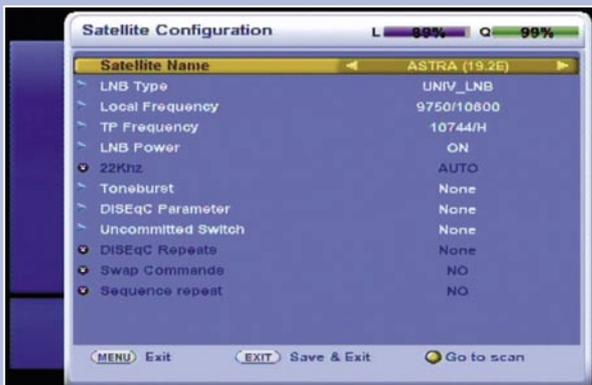
Available online starting from 28 November 2008



Firmware update over the Internet |



Main Menu |



Satellite Configuration |



DVB-S2 Manual Channel Search |

part, we got here an E-SATA port, and even a 5V output to supply your external HDD with power. Now that's what we call "caring about the user" !

We had contradicting impressions about the remote control at first. Yes, it's also packed with buttons, but some of them are located in places, where you wouldn't expect them to be at first. But once actual tests started, we could get used to it amazingly fast. Actually, it was so logic to locate the "Menu" and "Next" buttons to the left and right side of the cursor keys respectively! Already after initial setup, your finger would intuitively search for them there, raising a question, why hardly anybody ever thought to organize the buttons so logically before. Each part of the remote control has buttons grouped for a special purpose - either for the PVR controlling, for the channel list organizing, for accessing the multimedia features etc. But the good part from the previous ABBoxes' remote control remained - you can easily program it to control also your TV-set. Quite a large list with various TV models can be found on the last 11 pages of the user manual.

Which, in its turn, also deserves some good words. Every single menu item of the official firmware is explained in details. With a step-by-step installation guide, you won't get lost, even if it's the first receiver you're ever installing. Several connection variants are also clearly explained, and, in case you ordered a terrestrial or a cable tuner as well, full channel versus frequency charts are included, so you won't have to google around for this information.

Initial Setup

Once the mains plug of IPBox 900HD gets into the electricity socket in your home for the very first time, you'll land in an installation wizard, which will first try to clear the language issue, offering you to select preferred languages for the on-

screen menu, audio, subtitles and teletext. There is a lot to choose from - English, Russian, French, Italian, Dutch, German, Danish, Slovak, Czech, Hungarian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Greek, Turkish, Korean, Croatian, Bosnian and Serbian.

Second step lets you set up the current date and time, and choose whether you'd like to have it automatically set in the future. Third screen finally gets you closer to channel reception, in case of a satellite tuner, this is the place where you have to enter the parameters of your system and program the satellites you plan to receive. Even an advanced system should be no problem, since all DiSEqC versions, 1.0, 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 (USALS) are supported. LOF can be freely changed for every satellite, so even an exotic LNB would work perfectly.

Once all the basic satellite data is stored, press the yellow button to proceed to the Channel Search menu. Here you have the two expected options - Manual or Automatic search. The latter just asks you, whether you'd like to have only FTA, only Crypt channels, or both, and if a network search would make you more happy, by filling the list with as many channels as possible. That's all it takes here, just click "Search" and have a cup of coffee. Or not? Since ASTRA 19.2E position was fully scanned in 5 minutes, resulting in 1092 TV and 217 Radio channels. So if you just can't wait to get that picture on the screen, you'd better stick around!

In case of the manual search, you've got all the options you need for locking to DVB-S and DVB-S2 transponders, with modulation (QPSK or 8PSK) and special FEC variants for the latter. Entering PID codes is possible in a special menu, and IPBox 900HD has no problem with SCPC reception, Calabria Channel from HELLAS SAT 2 at 39.0E with SR of just 1425, was locked in a flash!

The on-screen menu is logically organized, you can find any needed option in a couple of sec-

tors. Let's start with the main power switch. Since the box we got for testing was equipped with DVB-S/S2 tuner, there is an IF input and the loop-through output, USB, RS-232 and Ethernet ports, one Scart-connector, three RCA jacks for video and audio output, another three - for YUV video output. Since we are talking about a HDTV receiver, HDMI socket couldn't have been left out. S/PDIF output is also useful, if you pay extra attention to the audio quality. As for the PVR

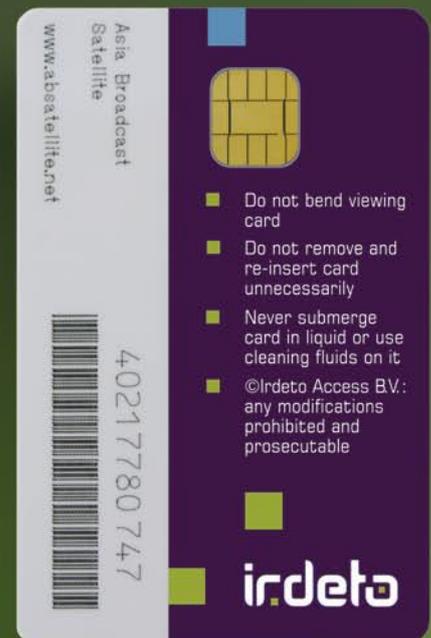




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Automatic Search |



HDD Setup |



Information screen with recording in progress |

onds. For example, the AV settings screen, where you can select the aspect ratio, TV system (SD-PAL, SD-NTSC, 720p-50 Hz, 720p-60 Hz, 1080i-50 Hz or 1080i-60 Hz), as well as the parameters of the Dolby Digital audio.

Installation of the AB Boxes that we know wouldn't be complete without connecting it to your home network, or directly to Internet. In case you have a router, just connect the IPBox 900HD to it with an Ethernet cable, and you're set. DHCP should take care about all the IP address setting hassle etc, but if for whatever reason it doesn't work, all the parameters can be set up manually. If you're connecting directly to the Internet, ADSL user information take just seconds to be entered. At the moment it can mainly be used for the convenient software upgrade from www.abipbox.com. IPBox 900HD automatically logs in to the FTP server, offering you several firmware versions to choose from.

You can forget about all the trouble getting the latest software to your receiver via RS-232 or USB port, the needed files downloaded and installed earlier then you can realise it. And this makes sense, for example, in the latest firmware version, ABCom added the support of FAT32 file system for the MP3 files and images you have on your USB dongle, so an endless search for nfs/ext formatting and access utilities for your Windows-based PC is a nightmare to forget. The hard disk for recording transmissions still has to be formatted in ext, but this is something IPBox 900HD can perfectly take care of.

Everyday Use

Once the channel search is completed, IPBox 900HD attempts to get the picture from the last channel it succeeded to store. Should it be unavailable for whatever reason, just press "OK" button to access a perfectly thought through channel list. It might seem a bit minimalistic at first, but try clicking around, and you'll discover that it's quite feature-loaded. Pressing the red button once or several times lets you sort the channel list in different ways - by alphabet, by package, by satellite, by provider, FTA/encrypted. FAV button toggles between the main list and favorite list display, by default there are five - Sports, Drama, News, Movie and Music, but you can create as many new ones as you wish. However, to add channels to them, a special menu should be called, where the main list and the favorite group appear at the same time, so it's not enough just to mark the needed channels in the main list. Returning to the channel list itself, pressing an "i" button allows you to delete, hide, lock, rename or move the selected channel, and, what we especially liked, adjust it's default audio volume. It can be so annoying, when zapping around you endlessly have to adjust the volume on your TV-set or the receiver, because the providers didn't care to make it perfectly equal. With IPBox 900HD it's a one-time work to program it, and you would never have to worry about it again.

Talking about zapping, it might not be surprisingly fast, but still, channel changing time will not get disturbing. It ranges from 0.5 up to 1.5 seconds, depending the chan-





EPG in List mode |



EPG - program details |



EPG in Program Guide mode |

nel pair considered. It's longer to go from one HDTV channel to another, located on a different transponder, and almost hardly noticeable between SDTV ones within the same transponder. Once the channel is chosen and IPBox 900HD locks to it, you can enjoy the perfect picture and sound, provided by this receiver. But when the broadcaster goes for a commercial break, you can play around a bit. Pay some attention to the buttons in the third top row of the remote control. Pressing the right one allows you to select another channel from the same transponder, and its live picture appears in a small window in the bottom right part of the screen. Two pictures can be made equally big by the leftmost button, the second left button can move the smaller picture around the screen, and with a second right button you can switch channels - the "sub-channel" becomes the main one, one more click - and it goes vice-versa. To exit the PiP mode, press the leftmost button again. It's worth noticing, that besides watching two channels from one transponder in such a way, the third one can simultaneously be recorded.

PVR would also hardly disappoint you. You think there is just one "Record" button and that's it? No way. Besides the most obvious path, you can select the programs to be recorded in the EPG, by manually entering the start/stop time, or you can pre-set the time shift buffer, first watch the show, and then decide, if you want its recording stored. Timeshifting can also be helpful if, for example, you receive an important phone call, but don't want to miss some exciting moments

in the football match you've been watching. Just "pause" it, and once you've done talking, your favorite football players wait for you right where you left them. As for the other recordings, you can quickly access them, by just pressing the "Envelope" button on the remote control

EPG is available in two variants - the simplified "list" mode, and in the full "program guide" mode. Click "EPG" once or twice for each of them respectively. Make sure you've set the correct time in the Local Time Settings menu, and you can easily check what's on tonight, or what your favorite movie channel is going to show on Saturday evening. The "list" mode actually lists the upcoming events for the selected channel, with a possibility to get extended information about each of them, by pressing the "i" button. The "program guide" mode shows neighbouring channels as well, you can easily navigate between the programs, channels and days of the week, and even search for the program you're interested in, by actually typing in its name. Pretty convenient, isn't it? But, although, cyrillic and other special characters are perfectly displayed, the search function is restricted to latin only, which is somehow understandable.

As for the multimedia features that we've already mentioned, there are two special buttons on the remote control, clearly reading "Music" and "Photo". They provide quick and direct access to your media files, stored on a USB dongle, hard disk or at a specified network location





Expert Opinion

+

Promising feature-loaded Linux-based receiver for HDTV and SDTV, supporting satellite, cable and terrestrial reception, depending on the installed tuner.

Satellite tuner that we've tested is quite sensitive.

No family member should have problems with operating it.

Logically designed remote control.

Support of FAT32 for the USB dongles.

Built-in power supply for external hard disks.

Adjusting an average channel audio volume in the channel list.

Extended searching possibilities in the EPG.

User-friendly PVR with timeshift.



Nickolas Ovsyadovskiy
TELE-satellite
Test Center
Hungary

-

900HD, compared with its "older brother", 9000HD, can have only one tuner at a time installed, but for a regular home usage this shouldn't be a big problem. However, it still would have been nice to leave a possibility to install the HDD "internally", so users upgrading from IPBox 250S or 350S could just move their HDD with recordings into the new 900HD, and get immediate access to them.

Minor issue, which can hopefully be fixed in one of the coming versions - 900HD doesn't detect the DRE-crypt CI module, which is widely used in some East European countries.

TECHNIC DATA

Manufacturer	ABCom s.r.o., Gogolova 1, 95501 Topolcany, Slovakia
Tel	+421-38-5362-611
Fax	+421-38-5322-027
Internet	www.abipbox.com info@abcom.sk
Model	IPBox 900HD
Function	Digital Linux-based HDTV PVR receiver for DVB-S, DVB-S2, DVB-C and DVB-T reception
Channel memory	10000
Symbol rate	1~45 Ms/sec.
SCPC	yes
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
USALS	yes
Scart	1
HDMI	yes
A/V output	3 x RCA
YUV output	3 x RCA
UHF output	no
S-Video output	no
0/12 Volt connection	no
Dig. Audio connection	yes
Ethernet port	yes
USB 2.0 port	yes
RS232 interface	yes
EPG	yes
C/Ku band compatible	yes
Power supply	110-245 VAC, 50/60 Hz
Dimension	300x60x240mm

tion. MP3 player might look simple, but it perfectly does its job. And, as also already mentioned, the latest version of firmware supports FAT32 for the USB sticks, so you no longer have to worry about formatting it in a less popular file system.

Upgrading the firmware to the most actual version also helped curing some hangs that we've experienced during the early stages of our tests. It clearly

shows, that ABCom is busy working on improving it. But, the beauty of the whole thing is that it's a Linux-based receiver! Alternative firmware is already starting to appear including even the legendary Enigma. A video of a first Enigma HD test version can be seen at their website www.abipbox.com. So although it's more a family receiver at the moment, we can already expect its full potential to be uncovered soon.

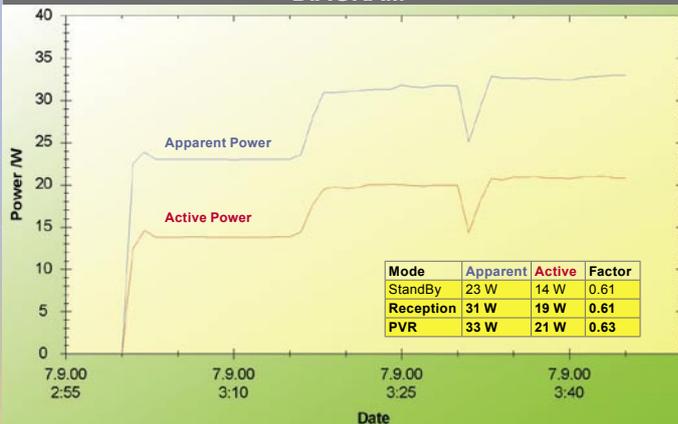


Adjusting the channels' volume in the list



SCPC reception with SR of just 1425

ENERGY DIAGRAM



Starting with a switch-on peak the box stays 15 min in StandBy, then regular receptions starts for another 15 min. Then an external HDD with its own power supply is connected to the USB and PVR is started.

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GT-TC40, GT-QDC40 and GT-QTC40 of GT-SAT

Excellent LNB's for Twin Tuner HD Receivers



Today's modern receivers often have 2 tuners on board. To take full advantage of such receiver you need to use a twin LNB. If more than one receiver is in the house, you should think of a quad or quattro LNB. Only then will you have a full freedom of what to view and what to record at the same moment. On the other hand, we have more and more HD channels worth watching. They are often coded in DVB-S2 with high FEC values and because of that they require a signal of somewhat better carrier-to-noise ratio than the common SDTV channels we got used to. Such signal we can get either from a bigger dish or a better (low noise) LNB.



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GT-TC40, GT-QDC40 AND GT-QTC40 OF GT-SAT
Excellent performance with outstanding low noise performance perfectly suited for twin tuner HD receivers



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- + Integrated Mediaplayer: Playback XVID, AVI, JPG and MP3 files from the connected USB2.0 device on the TV
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- + Same specifications as the NanoXX 9500HD for satellite reception but DVB-C Tuner



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- + 10.000 Channels Memory,
- + Fast Blind Scan Tuner for scanning with 5, 4, 3, 2 or 1 MHz steps
- + USB1.1 Plug for Software, Channellist Upgrades + JPG-Foto Show
- + 2 Smart Card Reader for Conax, X-Crypt, DG-Crypt, Firecrypt and Crypton
- + Nanoxx 9400: same as 9200 but additional 2 Common Interface Slots



NanoXX 9300C

Digital Cable Receiver of Premium Quality

- + 10.000 Channels Memory, DVB-C Standard, Blind Scan 5,4,3,2,1 MHz
- + QAM 16, 32, 64, 128, 256
- + USB1.1 Plug for Software + Channellist Upgrades + JPG-Foto Show
- + 1 Smart Card Reader for Conax, X-Crypt, DG-Crypt, Firecrypt and Crypton
- + 2 Common Interface Slots



NanoXX 9600IP

Digital Satellite Receiver incl. IP PVR Function*

- + Record Video in MPEG format directly over your LAN Home Network to the hard disk of your Personal Computer (Windows). The needed Software Tool is included on CD Rom.
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- + 1 Smart Card Reader for XCrypt



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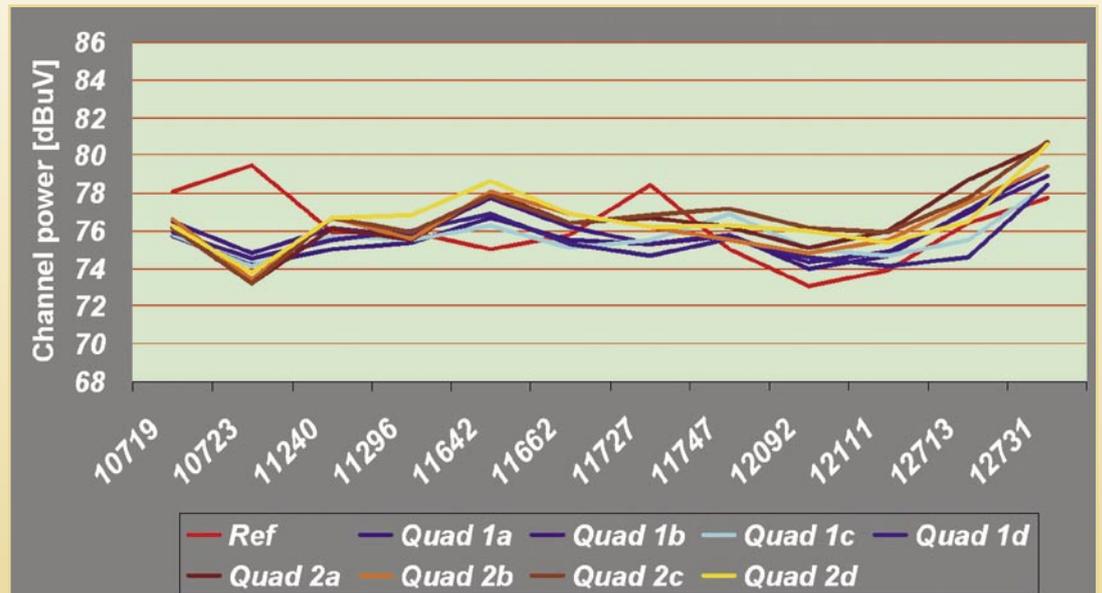
Get the Power!
NANOXX



■ Fig. 1. Output power for the twin and quattro LNB's.

GT-Sat company is already familiar to our readers. We presented their high output power LNB's in the TELE-satellite issue 09/2008. The products were surprisingly good having increased output power without compromising the noise performance. No wonder that we were anxious to test their new line of LNB's. This time we received: GT-TC40, GT-QDC40 and GT-QTC40 devices. Twin, quad and quattro LNB's respectively.

Our first impression: very good workmanship and small size. The small size is especially true for the quad and quattro version. We even made a photo to show you the difference between the quad LNB described in the previous issue and the current one (GT-QD40D vs. GT-QDC40). Of course the bigger one has the increased output power but even if com-



■ Fig. 2. Output power for the quad LNB's.

pared with the quads of other manufacturers, GT-QDC40 is smaller and also somewhat lighter.

We received two LNB's of every type and we measured all of them. It meant more work for us but thanks to that

the final results are more credible for our respected readers. Due to large number of measurements, you can see a lot of graphs. Let's try to analyze them one by one.

Figure 1 shows the output power (signal strength) at the output of the twin GT-TC40 and quattro GT-QTC40 device compared to the reference LNB (single, 0.2 dB). It is significantly greater what means that we can use longer cables between an LNB and a receiver without spoiling the signal.

The performance of quad devices is presented in figure 2. Although the output is not greater than our reference



■ GT-QDC40 is really smaller than other quad LNB's



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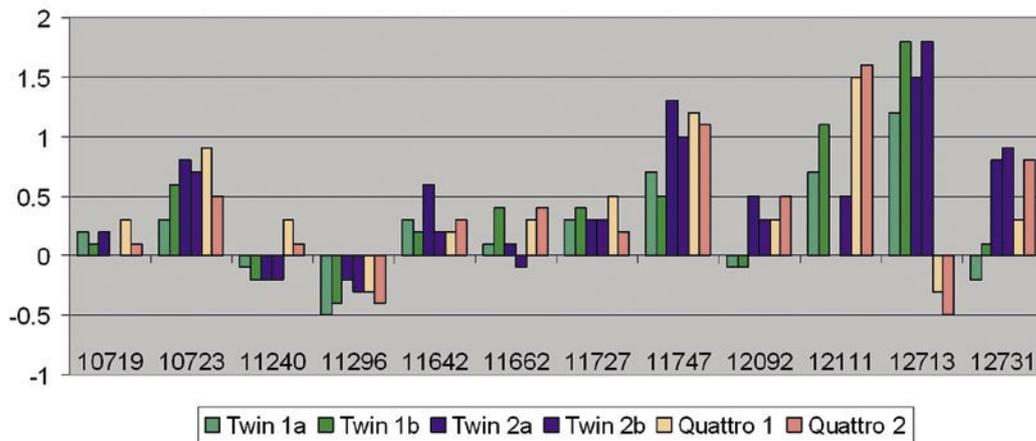
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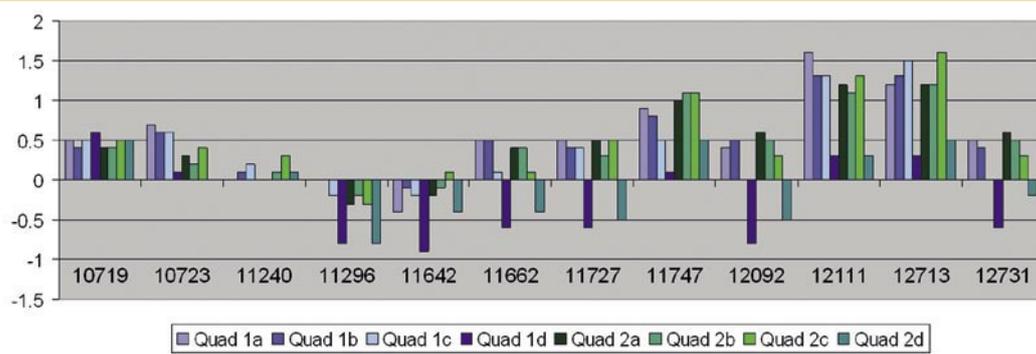
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■ Fig. 3. MER as compared to the reference LNB for twin and quattro models.



■ Fig. 4. MER as compared to the reference LNB for quad models.

model it is not smaller either. We can say the quad models produce as strong signal as our very good reference LNB.

As usually, we were even more interested in noise performance. Why? Only some of us

need very strong signal (those who need to use long cables) but practically all of us need signal with low noise content. Low noise means possibility to receive weak transponders and bigger margin for bad weather conditions.

Now, in figure 3 can you see what our measurements revealed for twin and quattro LNB's. The positive bars mean that the modulation error ratio (MER) was better than that for a reference LNB, negative

– that it was worse. All tested LNB's were better than our reference device almost for every transponder we chose for testing! And the difference of 1 dB or greater really counts. As you can see the performance was especially magnificent for the higher portion of Ku-Band. We expected worse performance for the quad models. But to our big surprise, also they proved to be excellent. You can see that in figure 4. Again very good results near the higher end of Ku-Band.

DC power consumption was typical for such devices. Twin models consumed 150~170 mA, quad: 200~230 mA and quattro: 260~280 mA. Typically, the receivers are prepared to deliver at least 500 mA. Not a single receiver shall have a problem to power any of the LNB's.

Finally, we checked the performance for a weak transponder reception. We tuned to 11670 on 5° East and got C/N = 9 dB for a reference LNB. After installing twin LNB's (one by one) we got the same result: 9 dB. No matter what we measured: MER or C/N, strong or weak transponders, the noise performance of the tested LNB's was excellent!

TECHNIC DATA	
Manufacturer/Distributor	GT Sat International s.a.r.l 16, Rue Millewee, L-7257 Helmsange-Walferdange, Luxembourg
E-mail	info@gt-sat.com
Telephone	+352-26432203
Fax	+352-26432204
Models	GT-TC40 (twin), GT-QDC40 (quad) and GT-QTC40 (quattro)
Description	Universal Ku-Band LNB's for Offset Dishes
Noise Figure	0.2 dB (typical)
LOF	9.750 and 10.600 GHz

Expert Opinion

+

Excellent LNB's with outstanding noise performance for all models and additionally increased output power for twin and quattro types. Products especially suited for new twin tuner HD receivers.



Jacek Pawlowski
TELE-satellite
Test Center
Poland

-
none



Quattro outputs are described at the bottom ■

■ Sliding connector cover



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- Custom program files available on request (e.g. VSAT)
- L-Band, C-Band, Ku-Band and Ka-Band capability
- Quality indicator (Pre BER) displayed alongside RF Level (dBuV)
- Pre and Post BER can be displayed with their actual values (setup option)
- Toggle to display Post BER and Carrier to Noise (dB)

- DiSEqC switch commands (available from sub menu)
- Symbol rates 2Msymb to 45Msymb
- Frequency range 950 to 2150MHz
- Input impedance 75 Ohms
- LNB Pass / Fail test function
- LNB short circuit protection
- Satellite cable integrity test
- Upgradeable firmware
- Intelligent internal AC charger 100 to 240 V AC
- Automatic fast and trickle charge modes
- 12 volt in car charger supplied
- USB lead supplied
- CE approved
- Compliant with EN 61326-1 : 2006 (EMC) and EN 61010-1 : 2001 (Electrical safety)
- Registered design
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Available online starting from 28 November 2008

The Venus Motor

TELE **SATELLITE**
AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01/2009

VENUS MOTOR
Sturdy motor for use
with large dishes

Large dishes require a heavy motor – the Venus motor of Subur Semesta from Indonesia tested on a Venus dish

Most large satellite antennas are motorised, because using such a big construction to focus on a single satellite position is not economical enough. Making a large dish a motorised dish thus makes sense to receive signals from a number of other satellites as well. The fact that the C band offering on most positions is rather limited also contributes to that.

For VENUS branded satellite dishes made by Indonesian manufacturer PT. Subur Semesta and presented in TELE-satellite issue 09/2008 the company also offers a dedicated heavy-duty motor. By way of a geared chain the motor rotates the antenna mast. This construction system allows moving dishes with large mounts, which directly translates into much better wind resistance. After all, these motors must resist the frequently violent storms in Indonesia.

The motor is connected with four wires to a receiver with 36-Volt actuator socket, such as the Venus New Millennium II-EP, which was presented in the previous TELE-satellite issue 11/2008. This receiver allows saving up to 60 satellite positions, which is more than sufficient for a large dish.

We particularly appreciated the fact that the Venus motor system allows rotating the dish for a complete 180° angle, which is also more than enough for standard installations.

At our test location in Lyon, in southeast France, we were only able to test a 130° angle in a real life setup, which means we were able to go from INTELSAT 9 at 302° East (58° West) to INTELSAT 4 at 72° East.

Fully mounted motor with a **VENUS** dish, which also produced by PT. Subur Semesta. ■



■ Motor from PT. Subur Semesta with chain transmission from the gearbox to the axis





■ Thanks to a water level with magnetic holder, which is also part of PT. Subur Semesta's product range, the motor can be exactly aligned very easily.

The motor needed 57 second to complete this arc. With a 0.42 A at 230 Volts power consumption is kept at a reasonably low level.

PT. Subur Semesta offers this motor as a suitable alternative for large dishes. It combines great stability with large wind resistance.



■ The Venus motor is able prove its worth close to the equator: shown on the picture is the installation of the Venus motor at the SatcoDX AutoScan station in Pontianak (Kalimantan Barat province) in Indonesia.

Expert opinion

- + Easy assembly and installation
- No user's manual, previous technical knowledge is required for installing dish motors



Sylvain Oscul
TELE-satellite
Test Center
France



■ With the Venus New Millennium II-EP receiver all satellite positions can be saved. A professional measuring device is then used for fine-tuning the antenna alignment.



■ SatcoDX AutoScan manager Vincent Witjhun with his son in front of the fully assembled motorised Venus dish in Indonesia.

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12-01 / 2009

JIUZHOU DTS6600
A brilliant blend of ease of use and great functions



Manufacturer	Jiuzhou
Website	www.jiuzhou.com.cn
Function	Digital PVR satellite receiver for SDTV/HDTV
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	5000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01 / 2009

OPENSAT XT-9500 HD
Style and substance in a single package



Manufacturer	ABC BIZNIS
Website	www.opensat.info
Function	HDTV satellite receiver with two CI slots
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	!
DiSEqC	1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01 / 2009

TEVII S650 – DVB-S2 USB BOX
Compact HDTV receiver for PC or laptop computer with comprehensive software



Manufacturer	TeVii Technology
Website	www.tevii.com
Function	USB box for the reception of SDTV and HDTV, radio and data on the PC
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	unlimited
DiSEqC	1.0, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	— / —

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01 / 2009

AB IPBOX 900HD
Perfect HD receiver both for a family as for the satellite enthusiast



Manufacturer	AB-COM
Website	www.abcom.sk
Function	Digital Linux-based HDTV PVR receiver for DVB-S, DVB-S2, DVB-C and DVB-T
DVB-S2/LAN	● / ●
Channel Memory	10000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
10-11 / 2008

IMPERIAL SATBOX HD
Perfect HDTV Reproduction with Ease of Use and Extraordinary Display



Manufacturer	DVB-Shop
Website	www.dvbshop.net
Function	HDTV satellite receiver
DVB-S2/LAN	● / ●
Channel Memory	7000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
10-11 / 2008

TOPFIELD TF7700HSCI
A solidly built SDTV and HDTV receiver that includes a variety of very practical features



Manufacturer	Topfield
Website	www.topfield.co.kr
Function	HDTV-PVR satellite receiver
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	5000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
10-11 / 2008

SONICVIEW SV-360 ELITE PVR
A family-friendly receiver and easiest to use with a multitude of features



Manufacturer	Sonicview USA
Website	www.sonicviewusa.com
Function	Digital satellite PVR receiver with two tuners
DVB-S2/LAN	— / —
Channel Memory	6000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2
S-Video/HDMI	● / —
Scart/Digital Audio	— / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
10-11 / 2008

VENUS NEW MILLENNIUM II-EP
Easy to use receiver for big motorized dishes at an economic price



Manufacturer	PT. Subur Semesta
Website	www.subursmt.com
Function	Digital satellite receiver for motorized dishes
DVB-S2/LAN	— / —
Channel Memory	4000
DiSEqC	1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	— / —

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
08-09 / 2008

ABCCom IPBOX 9000 HD PLUS
A huge range of connection options make this box a true all-rounder – yet it remains easy to use as a family receiver.



Manufacturer	ABCCom
Website	www.abipbox.com
Function	HDTV PVR for DVB-S, DVB-S2, DVB-C and DVB-T
DVB-S2/LAN	● / ●
Channel Memory	10000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
08-09 / 2008

IMPERIAL DB 1 CI HDMI
Practical and user-friendly interface – the perfect match for satellite radio listeners and DXers



Distributor	DVBShop
Website	www.dvbshop.net
Function	Digital satellite receiver with CI-Slot
DVB-S2/LAN	— / —
Channel Memory	5000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
06-07/2008

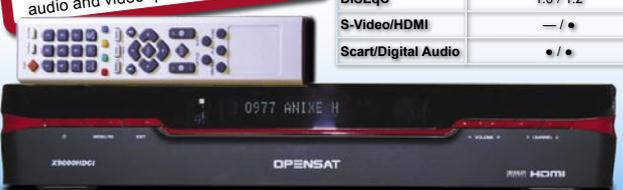
ARION AF9400PVR HDMI
A solid and easy to use receiver that with its Scaler can present satellite channels in excellent quality.



Manufacturer	Arion, South Korea
Website	www.arion.co.kr/global
Function	Digital satellite PVR receiver with built-in Scaler
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	8000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
04-05/2008

OPENSAT X9000HDCI
Fasten your seatbelt: super fast channel zapping combined with superb audio and video quality in SD and HD



Manufacturer	ABC BIZNIS
Website	www.opensat.info
Function	DVB-S/S2 MPEG2/4 HD receiver with single tuner
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	4000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
04-05/2008

METABOX HD COMBO CI
HD all-rounder for satellite and terrestrial reception with perfect usability – great as a box for the whole family



Manufacturer	Metamultimedia
Website	www.metamultimedia.net
Function	HDTV receiver for DVB-S, DVB-S2 and DVB-T
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	10000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
04-05/2008

NANOXX 9500HD
Small enclosure, superbly crisp picture, extremely fast channel search, and connection for HDD



Manufacturer	NanoXX
Website	www.nanoxx.info
Function	Digital HDTV PVR receiver
DVB-S2/LAN	● / ●
Channel Memory	10000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
04-05/2008

TOPFIELD TF7720HSIR
Ideal HDTV Receiver for FTA and Irdeto encrypted channels



Manufacturer	Topfield
Website	www.topfield.co.kr
Function	DVB-S, DVB-S2 HDTV receiver with Irdeto CA
DVB-S2/LAN	● / —
Channel Memory	5000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
02-03/2008

TOPFIELD TF7700 HDPVR
Fully capable twin receiver with proven HDTV technology and outstanding picture quality.



Manufacturer	Topfield
Website	www.topfield.co.kr
Function	Digital DVB-S, DVB-S2 HDPVR receiver with ethernet connection
DVB-S2/LAN	● / ●
Channel Memory	5000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	● / ●
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
02-03/2008

AB IPBOX 350PRIME PVR
A Linux-based Receiver as Powerful as Never Before



Manufacturer	AB-COM
Website	www.abcom.sk
Function	Linux-based receiver for terrestrial, cable and satellite DVB reception
DVB-S2/LAN	— / ●
Channel Memory	4000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
02-03/2008

NANOXX 9600 IP
Perfectly working CA receiver with smart use of network interface



Manufacturer	NanoXX
Website	www.nanoxx.info
Function	Digital CA satellite receiver with PVR functionality via network
DVB-S2/LAN	— / ●
Channel Memory	6000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.2 / 1.3
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01/2008

NANOXX 9400
Very fast low-threshold blind scan receiver – ideal for DXers



Manufacturer	NanoXX
Website	www.nanoxx.info
Function	Blind scan receiver with USB
DVB-S2/LAN	— / —
Channel Memory	10000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.1 / 1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	● / ●

TELE SATELLITE AWARD & BROADBAND
12-01/2008

INFOSAT ZIMPLE BOX 3
Fast and easy to use receiver for FTA reception with a very sensitive tuner



Manufacturer	Infosats
Website	www.infosats.com
Function	MPEG2 FTA receiver with Blind Scan
DVB-S2/LAN	— / —
Channel Memory	1000
DiSEqC	1.0 / 1.2
S-Video/HDMI	— / —
Scart/Digital Audio	— / —

Being 'SMART' in Germany's Black Forest

When you hold this issue of TELE-satellite in your hands the company Smart Electronic will only have been in existence for less than a year. It doubtlessly is a very young company, but still it can boast its own production facilities and dedicated sales channels. How can a start-up business develop so fast? That's exactly what we wanted to find out when we set out on our journey to the south-western corner of Germany, home of the world-famous Black Forest cuckoo clocks and a by-word for precision and the art of craftsmanship.

■ The two Smart managing directors Peter Löble (left) and Christoph Hoefler (right) on the roof of the company's business premises. Christoph Hoefler has been active in the field of satellite technology since 1988. Starting as a radio and television technician he moved on to the purchasing and sales department of a specialised electronics store before starting as field manager for Nokia. In 2005 he finally became head of sales at Wela and with the foundation of Smart Electronic his new job was managing director there. Peter Löble, the second managing director, has been working in the satellite field since 1997. He also worked for an electronics store and joined Wela in 2001 as product manager. Both have known each other since 1997 and consider themselves a great team.

TELE-satellite World

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Dual Tuner HD COMING SOON!

Christoph Hoefler und Peter Löble are the two managing directors of Smart and they give a brief account of the run-up to the current business: Smart Electronic was spun off of the long-running trading company Wela Electronic at the beginning of 2008. At the same time Smart also took over a fully operational manufacturing site for assembling satellite receivers from third-party components. Incidentally, satellite receivers make up only one segment of the complete product range. "We also supply LNBS, multi-switches and mounting material, which means we can offer everything a specialised satellite dealer needs," explains Peter Löble.

Christoph Hoefler then continues by providing some insight into how the company performed in the first year of business. "We had anticipated a first-year turnover along the lines of 20 million EUR, with a 10% increase for 2009." All employees that had been involved in satellite technology were taken over from Wela Electronic. According to Christoph Hoefler "30 employees work in receiver manufacturing, while 15 members of staff take care of sales and 10 persons work in administration." The marketing department was set up from scratch and already has a head count of four members of staff. Smart is in expansion mode, that's for sure!

So what are the actual goals of expansion? Peter Löble summarises the company's markets as follows. "Some 50% of sales are generated in Germany, 20% each go to Western and Eastern Europe and 10% to North Africa." For 2009 Peter Löble expects some shifting of markets in combination with increased turnover. "We believe that 45% of our sales will go to Germany, 15% to Western Europe, 25% to Eastern Europe and the North African share will rise to 15% as well."

He also explains why he is so optimistic about the development of sales in Northern Africa: "A few months ago we set up a branch there which means we are now able to supply our customers in that region very quickly and with reduced turnaround times."

Smart has a clear focus on receiver production, and this is a segment where the two managing directors also identify the core strengths of Smart. Christoph Hoefler: "We are able to react swiftly to customer demands, because we manufacture our receivers right here in the Black Forest region and therefore are not faced with long and winding delivery channels for our customers in Europe and Northern Africa."

Christoph Hoefler lists some examples: "Depending on the required language we package the appropriate instruction manual or adapt the on-screen menu to the local language." After all, Smart lives by its credo "Connect, watch". Customers need to be happy with their Smart receiver right from the start, which can be guaranteed by

"usability in combination with quality made in the Black Forest," according to Christoph Hoefler, who hits the core of the Smart philosophy with this statement.

Peter Löble visits the sales office in Morocco almost on a monthly basis and he adds that "Smart is open for new sales partners mainly in Europe, but also in non-European countries. We are able to adapt our receivers to local requirements very quickly," he hastens to add.

Even though Smart has only been in existence for less than a year the company is already in the process of developing new products. Some of these will already be available by the time this issue of TELE-satellite is published. "We're introducing a new LNB series with extremely small dimensions," reveals Peter Löble. And



■ View of the production floor: here, the components sourced as cabinets are equipped with tuners. Explains Peter Löble: "This way we are able to cover several markets with a single base unit, depending on the individual market demands and with the added advantage of being able to guarantee quality assurance." Three product ranges are manufactured here: fully fledged HD receivers with CA, CI, USB and VFD display, basic models with limited features and – recently added – LINUX-based receivers.

Christoph Hoefler adds that "these are particularly suited to multi-focus antennas." One of the other innovations is a power pack with ultra-low power consumption of only one Watt in standby mode. As far as multi-switches are concerned Peter Löble explains that "we will also launch a Unicable-compatible multi-switch", which will allow users to connect up to eight Unicable-compatible receivers to a single Quattro LNB. "This will surely be a big thing in future," Peter Löble enthusiastically adds, because "using a Unicable setup you can simply connect one receiver to another."

Speaking of usability, Christoph Hoefler explains that "all of our receivers are equipped with RAPS." This means they are constantly kept up to date – new satellite channels are added automatically to

the channel list. "The RAPS signal is currently transmitted via ASTRA, but will also be available via HOTBIRD shortly." As long as a receiver catches signals from one of these positions it will stay up to date without users having to worry about a thing.

When you consider the enthusiasm and high spirits of the two Smart managing directors you can be sure that innovation will go a long way at Smart. The Black Forest based company is well on the way to becoming a recognised quality manufacturer of satellite technology.

The business premises of Smart Electronic in St. Georgen, smack in the middle of Germany's Black Forest.



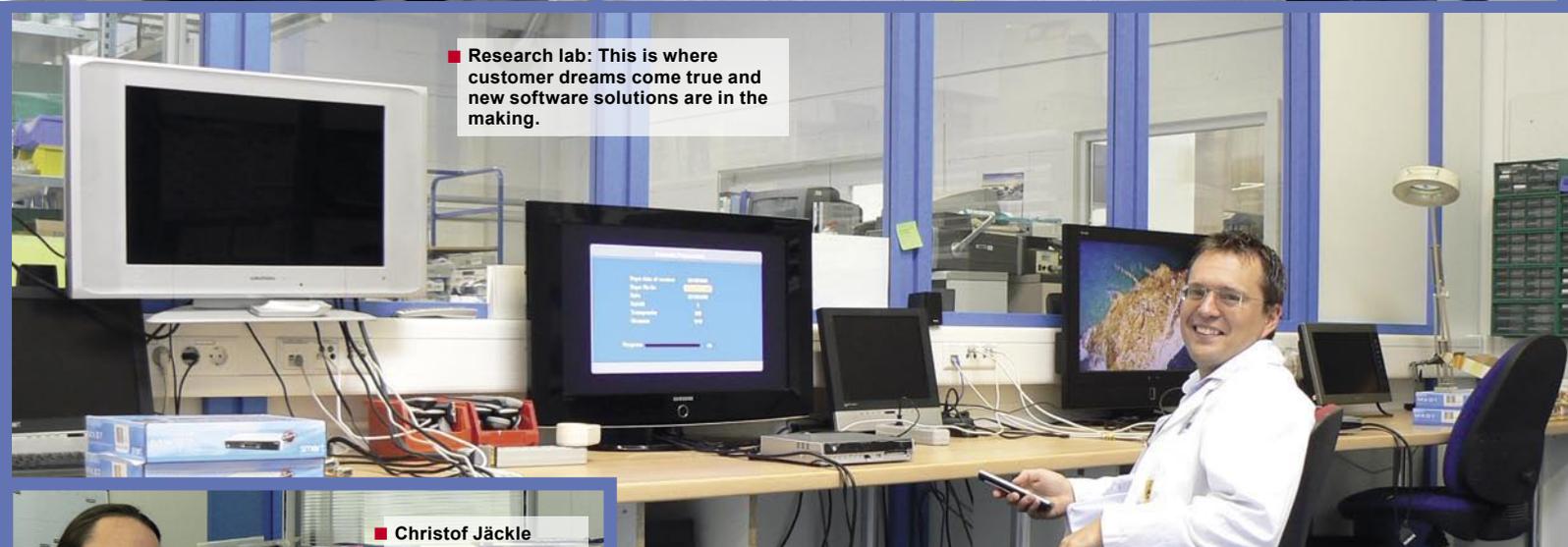
■ Each receiver is individually tested and given ■
a dedicated serial number.



■ Is this batch going to Russia, Italy, or a different market altogether? Whatever the destination, Smart has the corresponding instruction manuals in store. Depending on the order situation the appropriate manuals are packaged with the receivers.



■ View of the warehouse: Apart from receivers Smart also offers complete packages, such as for camping.



■ Research lab: This is where customer dreams come true and new software solutions are in the making.



■ Christof Jäckle does not only take care of technical documentations but also designs the packaging. The Smart energy logo – as seen on his monitor – is one of his creations.



■ The sales room: From here, Smart stays in touch with customers from all over the world.



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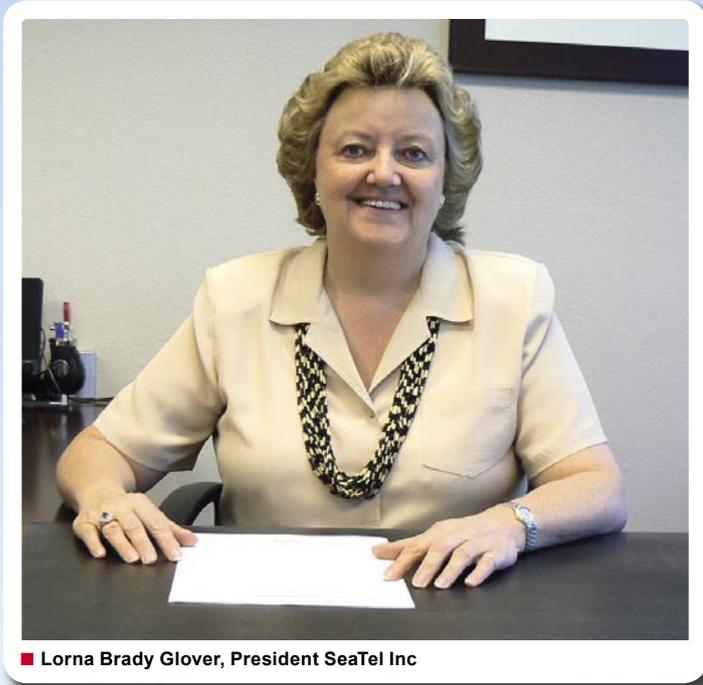
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Leading Edge Technology Made in USA

Alexander Wiese

There are some sectors of satellite technology where the USA is clearly on top. One of them is motorized satellite two-way tracking antennas that are used mostly on ships. The market leader of this technology is SeaTel in California.



■ Lorna Brady Glover, President SeaTel Inc



Bobby Johns is TVRO Product Manager and is seen here in front of the SeaTel building in Concord, east of Oakland and San Francisco in northern California. ■

Lorna Brady Glover is President of SeaTel, Inc. and she refers to a recently publicized study by COMSYS in which it is reported that SeaTel has a 73% portion of this market segment. SeaTel, Inc. belongs to the Cobhan Satcom Group and has 205 employees in its Concord location in northern California. Human Resources Manager Audrey Anderson breaks it down for us:

"113 employees are in Production, 12 are in Sales, 20 in Customer Service, 39 in Technical Development (Engineering) and 21 in Management (Admin, Accounting and IT)". TELE-satellite recently reported (issue 03/2008) on their European branch office that was opened in 1996 by Lorna Brady Glover, operating under the name SeaTel Europe and currently run by James Boul-

ton. Another branch office was just recently opened in Singapore and SeaTel also operates an office in Fort Lauderdale, USA.

Lorna Brady Glover is very satisfied with the way business has been progressing: "It is regularly increasing! One reason for this is the US Dollar exchange rate and how that has changed, making our product more

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■ A look in the Development department. Susan Fu is their Senior Software engineer developing the three-axis control.

ship passengers are becoming more and more demanding”, explains Bobby Johns. Not only do they want their TV, but they also want their Internet access on these types of ships.

Those are very nice prospects for increased sales; SeaTel is certainly doing its part by consistently developing new products. Brand new to the scene is the model USAT24. USAT stands for “Ultra Small Aperture Terminal” and 24 represents its

affordable in other regions of the world.” Bobby Johns, TVRO Product Manager, explains their product line: “25% of our reception systems are meant for TV signals with the remaining 75% covering data services, i.e. Internet uplinks and downlinks.” Lorna Brady Glover is very optimistic about the way business is moving forward.

Geographically, Lorna Brady Glover sees the Asian market as the one with the most potential for growth and she is looking much closer at the container ship and tanker market: “They want to offer more entertainment and have access to the internet on these ships, which helps with crew retention, and they are ordering more and more of our satellite reception systems.”

“It’s also interesting”, adds Bobby Johns, “that there is a trend towards second and fourth dish antennas.” Cruise ships in particular are installing not just one dish but two so as to provide redundancy, or deal with blockage issues. Some already have two dishes in service to receive two different satellites or Internet services; then even four systems are being installed. “Cruise



■ A prototype is put together here by Josh Lahommedieu.

■ Quality control is extremely important for SeaTel. Chris Holt is their Quality Assurance inspector and uses a state-of-the-art Coordinated Measurement Machine to check the precision of the incoming turntables that are to be installed on the antennas.



■ Michael Rahbari is one of the five customer service engineers. When a customer has a problem with their system, they call SeaTel. The engineers then attempt to solve the problem. “We can be reached from 08:00 to 16:30 PST”, explains Michael Rahbari, “there is an on-call service available until midnight and on weekends. On weekdays, after midnight, our colleagues at SeaTel Europe take over.” This guarantees that SeaTel customers can reach a competent person every day around the clock. “We get between 250 and 300 calls every week”, says Michael Rahbari, “and if the problem can’t be solved over the phone, we’ll go on location to take care of it.”

size, in this case 24 inches or 60cm. “This dish will be used for the Internet”, explains John Phillips, Vice President of Engineering. It is a modified version of the Coastal 24 system, a 24” (60cm) TV antenna. These two antennas give yacht owners both TV and broadband Internet.

With the printing of this issue of TELE-satellite, the first ship-borne multi satellite system will make its appearance on the market! This project is headed by Bobby Johns who is responsible for TV reception products. This is accomplished with motors for three axes since azimuth and elevation are not enough; with multiple satellite reception the relative position of the LNBS must also be kept constant. This was quite a challenge for the SeaTel Engineers.

SeaTel has the market gap between motorized antennas and satellite tracking antennas completely under control. With consistently new products and developments, new niche applications are readily being conquered.

SeaTel has expanded satellite reception into areas that previously could not be realized. Typically American: challenges are there to be overcome!



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■ A look in the warehouse: the small radomes are waiting for the assembled systems.



Henry Adams is Inventory Control Supervisor and keeps an eye on the central inventory. The base stands are used with the larger dishes. The base stand next to Henry Adams is for a 2.0-meter diameter antenna and the larger ones are for 3.6-meter dishes. "Our stockroom turnover time is about one week", explains Henry Adams. SeaTel has incorporated the Just-in-Time principle. He continues: "Base stands are actually delivered to us every two days." Ian J. Smith is Operations Coordinator and adds, "Smaller pieces such as screws and washers are filled up twice a day." This allows SeaTel to keep its in-house stock to a minimum. This is not only cost effective but also necessary when considering the available space.



■ Transporting such large systems requires special considerations. The individual pieces are packed and secured in custom-sized cartons. Robert McNeally is one of the shipping employees who makes sure the individual pieces are properly anchored for transport.

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New at SeaTel: Multi-Satellite Motorized System

■ Brand new to the market: this 60cm system can receive five satellites.



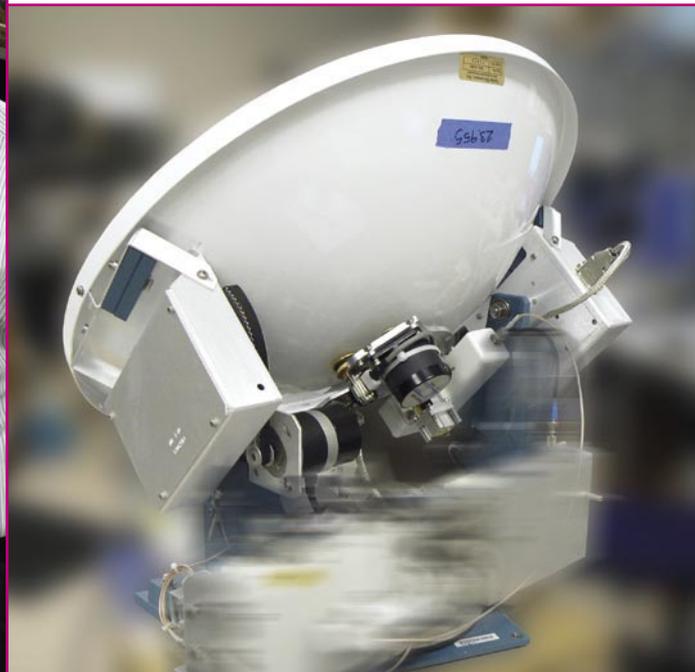
■ Yes, it's five satellites, even if it looks like only three: the central feed receives three satellites – 101° in the center and 99° and 103° on either side. The two feeds to the left are for 110° and 119°. Bobby Johns, product manager of this system, is searching for monoblock LNBS with 2° offset. "This would provide a more elegant solution to the reception problem."

For the more experienced TELE-satellite readers the reception unit we see here involves circular polarization and a multiswitch built in to the housing. This explains the four "F" connectors.



John Phillips is Vice President of Engineering and presents their newest development: a 60cm Internet system with uplink and downlink – the model USAT24 Broadband at Sea. The small black box in the dish is a GPS receiver that has for several years now been included by SeaTel as a standard accessory.

New at SeaTel: Miniature Up-/Downlink System



■ The small antenna is controlled by complex electronics. In the box to the lower left is the BUC (Block Up Converter) and in the box to the right is the antenna control.

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4



5



6



7



11

■ Daniel Blair is Manufacturing Engineer and responsible for the individual assembly steps that ultimately lead to the finished product.



How a maritime 3-Axis system is built

Step 1: The first step is handled by SeaTel employee Sandy Sneed: she puts together the base assembly, the heart of the rotating antenna system. An illustrated handbook helps her place assemble it correctly.

Step 2: Next the motors are installed; the resulting assembly is called the Canister. Diane Perno-Spiridonov is seen here at work. As with all production employees, she is wearing safety glasses.

Step 3: With the incorporation of the level beam the canister is finished and becomes the stabilization assembly. The basic assembly for a three-axis dish antenna system is thereby complete.

Step 4: Depending on dish size, a dish frame is installed. Eddie Estrada is seen at work here.

Step 5: The electronic components are installed at this point.

Step 6: Bobby Hughes installs the actual base stand.

Step 7: The dish is prepared. Jim Miller is seen here installing a feedhorn on a 2.4-meter offset reflector.

Step 8: The moment of truth! The dish is lowered onto the canister with a crane and both pieces are then connected together.

Step 9: Now the waveguide can be installed. This links the feedhorn to the electronics.

Step 10: Is the assembly complete? No, not yet. Jarvis Walker's work is only just beginning. He balances the antenna system with counterweights. The V-belts are all removed from the motors so that the antenna can swing freely. The antenna is placed in the horizontal position and should not drift to either side. If it does drift to one side, counterweights are added to the opposite side. A system like this with a 2.4-meter dish weighs roughly 200 kg (440

LBS) and thus needs to be perfectly balanced. Balancing the antenna is done manually after which the motor's V-belts are reinstalled so that further electronic fine adjustments can be performed. The small balance issues that might still be there can be found through differences in motor power usage in next step.

Step 11: The finished product is tested. Joaquin Sanchez fires up the motors and moves the antenna in every direction. If any balance problems are discovered, the necessary counterweights are then installed.

Step 12: Finished! The assembly is perfectly balanced and properly tested. Michael Flood tests how easy the dish can be moved.

Step 13: No, still not quite finished. At the customer site, the antenna is installed in a radome such as this one to provide weather protection. Here we see Ian J. Smith, SeaTel's Operations Coordinator.



■ A look in the production facility.

Two X's Mark the Spot in Frankfurt

NANOXX

The trademark of the receiver manufacturer's NanoXX product are the two X's. These two X's also appear in the MatriXX company name. We wanted to find out about the secret of the two X's. We found Marcel Hofbauer in the small town of Liederbach north of Frankfurt, Germany. He is the founder and President of MatriXX and chose the name NanoXX for his line of receivers. It's actually a clever name in that the two large X's truly stand out.

Marcel Hofbauer has been involved in the satellite industry since it started. His father ran an antenna shop and when satellite reception began at the end of the eighties, Marcel Hofbauer was there helping his father install satellite systems. "I remember the first LNBs that had noise figures of 2.4 dB", comments Marcel about the old days.

In 1994 he began his professional career as a distribution manager at an antenna wholesaler. When this business was sold in 2003, Marcel Hofbauer took the opportunity and went into business for himself: "My wife helped me", he remembers, "and with a third person we started our three-employee company MatriXX Systems. One of our success products back then was the distribution of the Dreambox."

MatriXX was and still is a wholesaler of any component a satellite installer could possibly need. But something was bothering Marcel Hofbauer: he had several ideas for satellite receivers. "But none of my suppliers wanted to implement any of my ideas", he explains. There was another weak spot with his suppliers: "I was not satisfied with the customer support and wanted to improve it." So, in 2006 he created his

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own receiver brand: "I found a manufacturer in South Korea who I worked with to turn my ideas into reality." In addition to the improved customer service, in particular the after-sales support, that Marcel Hofbauer could now really expand and continuously improve thanks to customer feedback, he was also able to realize his technical ideas.

Marcel Hofbauer is particularly interested in network compatibility. "That is the future!" he is convinced. The incorporation of receivers in the Internet is his vision. "The world of multimedia is coming", he predicts and then cites an example, "We are working on making our top receiver model 9500HD compatible with a web cam." The thought behind this move? To use the network camera as a security device. You could, for example, easily install the camera outside and with the simple push of a button on

With a degree in engineering, Marcel Hofbauer is founder and President of MatriXX Systems and inventor of the NanoXX receiver brand name.

The map behind him came from logisticians which work together with MatriXX. "40% of our customers are in Germany, 50% can be found in the EU with the remaining 10% outside of the EU", explains Marcel Hofbauer and regarding product distribution, "Up until now 50% of our sales were from our wholesale products; the other 50% were from the distribution of our NanoXX receiver brand. We are expecting the latter to strongly increase."



MatriXX's building in Liederbach near Frankfurt. In the front part of the building are the offices; in the back is the warehouse. At present the company has eight employees.





Daniel Sam is Director of Sales and explains, "We are currently working with distributors in Switzerland, Austria, Sweden and Great Britain and are open to distributors from other European countries." Seven receiver models are currently available. The flagship receiver is the NanoXX 9500HD that TELE-satellite recently introduced. Another update is in the works and TELE-satellite will tell you all about it once it is available.



Logistics Manager Nico Schumann has a lot to do in the warehouse. "I not only organize shipping but I am also involved in the technology", he comments, "and with larger orders I work with other employees to ship the products as fast as possible to the customers."



Even the best product sometimes has an error. But, not to worry, Service Technician Andrea Nestola finds every problem.





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■ Creativity is a good thing, but there still needs to be organization. Ana Maria Hofbauer, Marcel's wife, has been taking care of the books since the company began operations.

the remote control the image from the IP camera would be blended in to the currently running TV program. "The subject of security is becoming more and more important", comments Marcel Hofbauer, "a camera, for example, installed by the front door would also be interesting for end users." Marcel Hofbauer is looking beyond the normal use of a satellite receiver and is offering users realistic additional capabilities.

The two X's in the name therefore represent double usage: the obvious use and the not-so-obvious additional use. Very clever!



■ Sales Assistant Gisela Hanley is always wearing the headset: "I am always on the phone with our customers from around the world."



■ Marcel Hofbauer knows his way around satellite reception. Years ago together with his father (left) he erected this C-band satellite antenna.

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Instead of buying a big satellite dish as a finished product, it is also possible in India to buy the antenna frame and a thick roll of wire mesh panels and assemble the dish yourself. That's exactly what Satheesan Puzhakkara from the SatcoDX Autoscan station in Thiruvananthapuram in southwestern India did when he added the newest dish to his antenna farm.



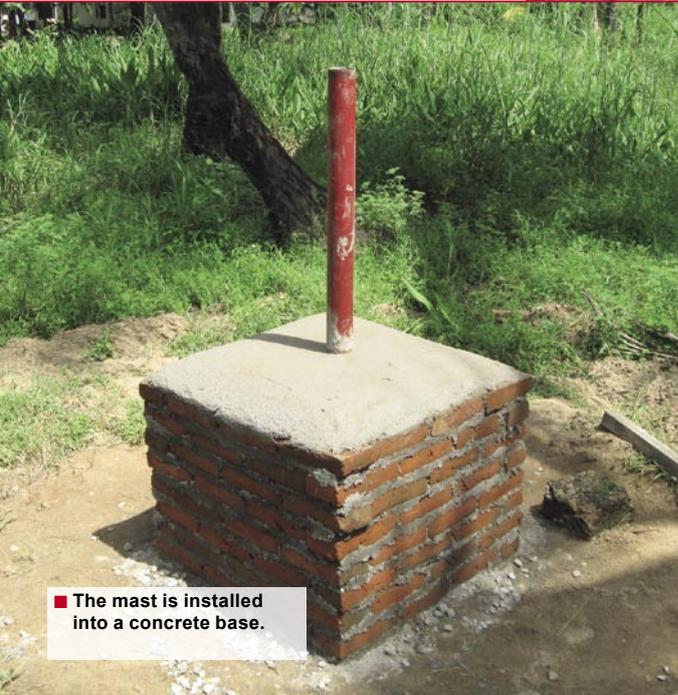
These dishes are offered by a local provider and the installers have many years of experience mounting the wire mesh panels to the antenna frame. This type of antenna is not really good for Ku-band reception, the precision of the parabolic form is not what it should be, but it works very well for receiving C-band signals.

The greatest advantage of this type of construction is the ease in transportation; shipping a 3.65-meter antenna can be a logistical problem. But shipping an unassembled dish is much easier especially in areas where the network of roads still need to be modernized.

Satheesan Puzhakkara explains, "The dish alone costs about 235 Euros." Add to that the foundation for the mast, "this costs roughly 65 Euros", making the total cost about 300 Euros for a fully assembled 3.65-meter antenna.



■ The 3.65-meter (12-foot) antenna ready for delivery with the completed sections of the frame. The wire mesh panels are rolled up in a single roll.



■ The mast is installed into a concrete base.



■ The assembly begins: the sections of the frame are put together first.



■ After installation of the support straps, the parabolic form takes shape.



■ Now the wire mesh panels are screwed in place one after the other.

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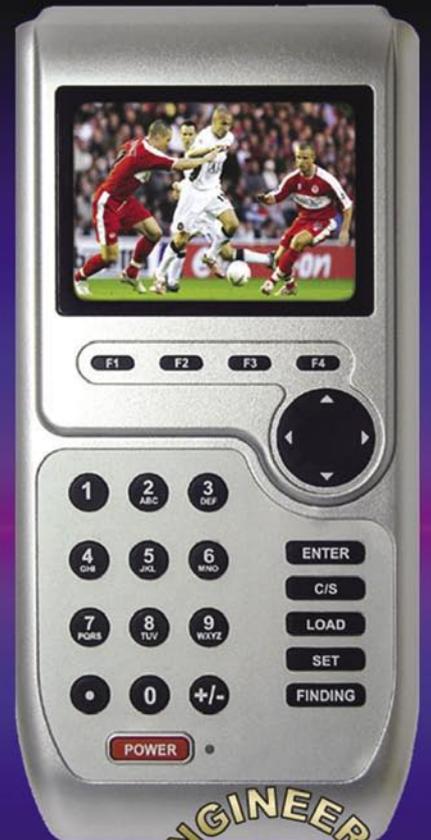
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■ The parabolic form takes shape automatically as the wire mesh panels are placed on the frame.



■ This is what one of the rolled out panels looks like before installation.



■ Finished! All of the panels have been installed.



■ The Az/EI mount of the dish.



■ After preparing the mast foundation and the installation of the feed arms and the LNB, the dish is ready to be put to work!



Now the fun really starts. The new dish is aligned with INSAT 2E, 3B, 4A at 83.0 east. The two LNBs to the right of the focal point are pointed to THAICOM 2,5 (78.5E) and TELSTAR 10 (76.5E). The first LNB to the left of the focal point is used to receive both ST 1 (88.0E) and CHINASTAR 1 (87.5E). The remaining LNBs are aligned to MEASAT 3 (91.5E), INSAT 3A, 4B (93.5E), EXPRESS AM 33 (96.5E) with the far left LNB pointed to ASIASEAT 2 (100.5E). All of these satellites are continuously scanned by AutoScan PCs; the results of these scans can be seen at any time in the SatcodX satellite charts: www.satcodx3.com/0766, www.satcodx3.com/0786, www.satcodx3.com/0831, www.satcodx3.com/0880, www.satcodx3.com/0875, www.satcodx3.com/0916, www.satcodx3.com/0935, www.satcodx3.com/0965 und www.satcodx4.com/1005.
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US TV in Europe

Alexander Wiese

One of the most frequently asked questions in Europe is: "Can you receive TV from the USA?"

The typical answer is, "No, the US satellites are below the horizon and even so don't have any beams pointed to Europe."

But, is this answer really correct?

To find out the truth we paid a visit to Diego Fernando Sanchez Rosende in Tenerife. Tenerife geographically belongs to Africa but politically the Canary Islands, of which the largest is Tenerife, belong to Spain which is in Europe. Is it possible to receive US TV here?

Diego shows us a 1.8-meter dish that he bought used and told us, "About a year ago I discovered that I can receive the ECHOSTAR/RAINBOW satellites at 298.5° east

(61.5° west). I can receive the Dish Network promotional channel on 12.456 GHz." By the time we came to see this for ourselves, it became clear that Dish Network in the course of transitioning over to HDTV has not been transmitting any MPEG-2 signals from this transponder since August of 2008. "I can receive four transponders but all four of them are modulated in Turbo Code", explains Diego. This is a proprietary technology used by Dish Network.

How is it possible to receive US satellites in Tenerife? Diego has a theory: "We are located in an extreme westerly position, in other words, relatively close to the USA." The elevation of the dish that can receive ECHOSTAR is a comfortable 31°, not low on the horizon at all. Add to that Diego's location on Tenerife is at an altitude of 800m and plus there is very little industrial pollution on the island. "Tenerife has very little atmospheric attenuation", comments Diego. This may explain why he has such

a strong signal. His best reception is on the vertical beam in the high band. "These are the transponders I can receive with a continuously strong signal: 12.456 GHz, 12.486 GHz, 12.515 GHz and 12.546 GHz. These are most likely transponders from the east coast beam."

■ **Diego Fernando Sanchez Rosende on the roof of his home in the southwestern corner of the island of Tenerife giving the "thumbs up" sign: he can receive two American satellites! With the 3.1-meter prime focus dish to the left he receives AMAZONAS signals from South America and with the 1.8-meter offset dish to the right he receives ECHOSTAR/RAINBOW from North America. Other dishes on his roof include a 1.0-meter antenna for HOTBIRD and ASTRA 1 (on the back of the roof), another 1.8-meter dish for reception of NSS 806 at 319.5° east (40.5° west), as well as a 0.8-meter antenna in the foreground for HISPASAT at 330° east (30° west) plus one more 1.35-meter dish that Diego uses for tests such as C-band reception.**

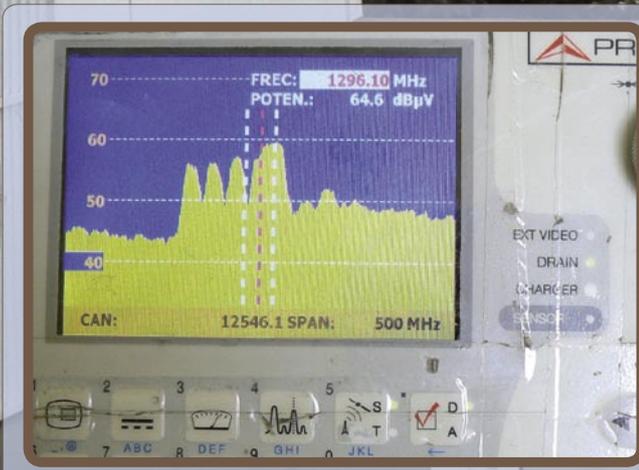
Diego shows us the spectrum of the ECHOSTAR satellite on his Promax signal analyzer: "This peak at 12.567 is particularly strong but ECHOSTAR is not responsible for this." The AMAZONAS bird at 299.0° east (61.0° west) transmits a data signal on a European beam. It's not hard at all to receive this transponder in Europe but Diego, who by now was extremely excited, wanted to know exactly what was going on. In addition to the 1.8-meter antenna, he also has a 3.1-meter prime focus dish. He turned his larger dish to this satellite position and was able to confirm, "Even here the spectrum shows a large number of transponders."

Unfortunately, the signal strength is not good enough to decode a TV signal. Diego contemplates, "If I were to erect a 5.0-meter antenna and point it to AMAZONAS I would then be able to get those signals with a receiver." Almost all of the channels on AMAZONAS are encoded; he would have to acquire a proper card from South America. "The best transponders to receive are in the low band and with horizontal polarization", Diego says as he provides a suggestion for other DXers. He dreams of the day when he can erect a 10-meter antenna: "That would let me easily receive both satellites!"

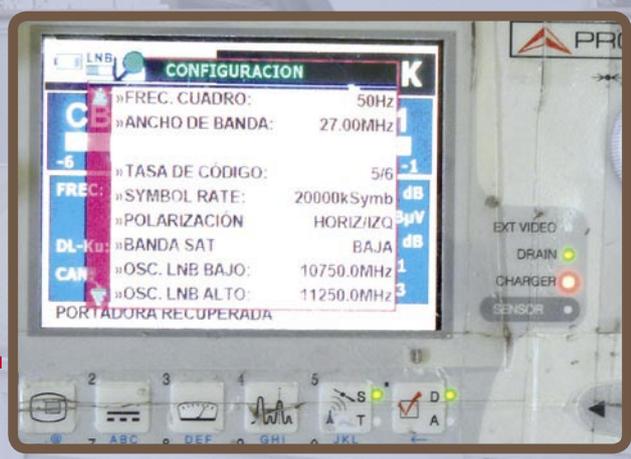
Our visit to Diego in Tenerife gave us these conclusions: with a proper receiver and activated card from Dish Network it would be possible to receive four HDTV transponders consistently and with sufficient signal strength. A larger diameter dish would produce more transponders.

For the AMAZONAS satellite, a larger dish would permit the reception of all the transponders. Diego recommends that other DXers living in Spain, Portugal, Great Britain, Ireland and western France should simply give it a try. If you already can receive INTELSAT 9 at 302° east (58° west), you're most of the way to ECHOSTAR. Keep in mind that ECHOSTAR transmits in circular polarization and AMAZONAS in linear polarization.

Of course, installing a large satellite antenna is not practical for everyone in Europe. For many a 1.8-meter dish is already stretching the limits and naturally it would help if your location doesn't have too much atmospheric attenuation. But then there's the other side of the coin: can satellite enthusiasts on the American east coast with larger dishes receive European satellites? TELE-satellite would love to hear from you!



■ The Promax spectrum analyzer shows the four ECHOSTAR transponders that Diego can receive with a consistently high signal level.



■ ECHOSTAR transmits with a symbolrate of 20000.

Sonic Satellite Meter



■ Moslem Dayani developed the Sonic Satellite Finder and manufactured it as a prototype. Now he's looking for a manufacturer to convert his idea into a market-worthy product.

There are many satellite meters available today but how many of them can tell you what satellite you are pointed to? Moslem Dayani from Iran thought about this and developed a small satellite meter that can do just that.

Anyone who ever set up a satellite antenna is certainly familiar with this problem: is the dish really pointed to the right satellite? The display on the satellite meter shows a signal but could it be a different satellite that the dish was pointed to? Moslem Dayani explains, "To solve this problem I built a satellite finder with which you can hear the audio from one of the satellite channels."

Moslem Dayani simply modulated the audio output from the satellite receiver onto the coaxial cable from the LNB and with the proper alignment of the dish you will hear the audio from a previously set up channel in the receiver.

"You will only hear the channel's audio if you are aligned to the correct satellite", comments Moslem Dayani, "The Sonic Satellite Finder has two adjustments, one for volume and the other to match the level of the LNB." Some LNBS deliver only weak levels forcing an adjustment to the level so that the measurement unit has enough room to play with.

Moslem Dayani sees himself as an inventor and is not interested in manufacturing and distributing the Sonic Satellite finder himself. Anyone who is interested in marketing this kind of product should contact Moslem Dayani directly at moslem_dayani@yahoo.com



■ The developer of the Sonic Satellite Finder using the device to erect a satellite dish.



■ Connection of the Sonic Satellite Finder to a standard receiver.

The Sonic Satellite Finder in a small black box with connections for the audio output from the receiver and the coax cable for the receiver. The cable from the receiver is connected to the Sonic Satellite Finder. With a satellite dish the coax cable from the LNB is passed through the Sonic Satellite Finder. The installer can use headphones to determine if he found the correct satellite.

„The pharmacist“



Pieter Redelinghuys lives in the small town of Klerksdorp, some 200 km southwest of Johannesburg in the North West Province and is one of the pioneers of satellite reception in South Africa. As early as in 1981 he was spending his free time building from scratch his first – no, not satellite antenna, but UHF antenna. Back at that time there was only the EKRAN satellite in the sky broadcasting Ostankino in the UHF range, the former Soviet Union's Channel One. TELE-satellite also reported on that bird in 1981, while Peter even to this day remembers its orbital position: "It was located at 99° East." A pharmacist by profession and the head of the pharmaceuticals supply at the local Klerksdorp public hospital until his retirement, Pieter finally decided to buy a 3.8 metre antenna in 1993, which he set up to receive signals from INTELSAT 1 at 27.5° West. Today this dish points to BADR at 26° East, above all to receive 'Dubai One', a channel broadcasting many new and recent TV series in English. Even though Pieter is a native speaker of Afrikaans he is not too fond of Dutch-language channel BVN, which he can of course also pick up. "Too much news," he criticises. Apart from his giant dish he also uses a smaller 1.8 metre antenna which is aligned towards BADR at 26° East as well but receives this position's Ku band signals, as well as three more 90 cm offset dishes pointed to TELSTAR 10, PAS 7 and PAS 10.

Pieter Redelinghuys is justifiably proud of his antennas, all of which he set up completely by himself. What he lacks in technical experience he makes up with his patient and meticulous manner.



In his shack Pieter demonstrates that everything works brilliantly, despite the chaos. The reception signal is transmitted right to his bedroom by way of a wireless transmitter, so that he can always stay hooked to his favourite channels such as CNN, Dubai One, National Geographic or Discovery Channel.

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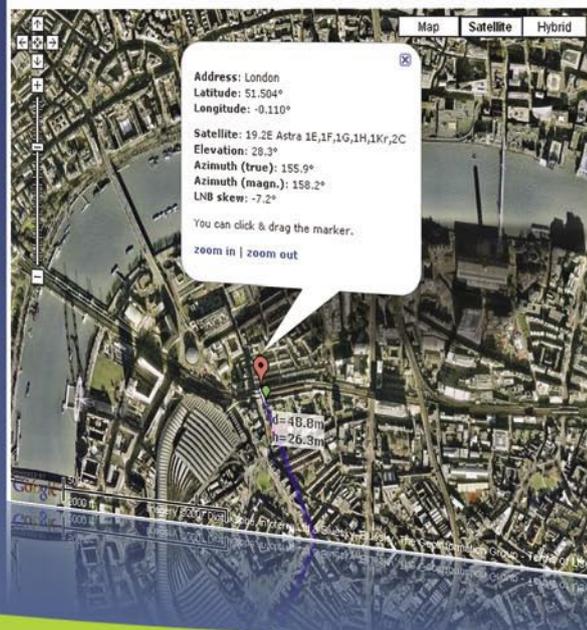
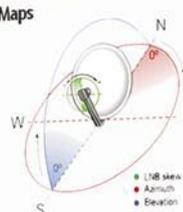
International location: e.g. streetname, postcode, geocode:

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Popular Satellites:

28.2E Astra 2A-B-D
13.0E Hotbird 6,7A,B
19.2E Astra 1E,1F,1G,1H,1Kr,2C
42.0E Turksat 1C, 2A
16.0E Eutelsat W2
26.0E Badr-2,3,4/Eurobird 2
5.0E Sirius 2,3
5.0W Atlantic Bird 3
7.0W Nilesat 101,102, Atlantic Bird 4
1.0W Intelsat 10-02

All Satellites & Multi-LNB Setups: 19.2E Astra 1E,1F,1G,1H,1Kr,2C



References



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Edited by
Branislav Pekic

EUROPE

EUROPE

VIASAT RECEIVES EUTELSAT KA-BAND CONTRACT

ViaSat has received a US\$ 50 million contract award from Skylogix, the broadband subsidiary of Eutelsat Communications for on-ground baseband infrastructure for the previously announced high-capacity KA-SAT Ka-band satellite system. Under the contract, ViaSat will deliver and install broadband equipment for 10 KA-SAT gateways in Europe. The gateways will connect subscribers of Eutelsat Tooway satellite broadband service to the Internet. The ViaSat ground infrastructure will be available for the KA-SAT launch scheduled for the third quarter of 2010.

RICHARDSON TO DISTRIBUTE AVAGO PRODUCTS

Avago Technologies has selected Richardson to distribute its wireless products in the European market. Effective immediately, this is an expansion of Avago's existing distribution agreement with Richardson, which previously covered Southeast Asia, Japan, and the entire western hemisphere. Avago RF/microwave devices provide solutions for all base station, repeater, RF data terminal and handset designs. Benefits include small packages, superb power efficiency and industry-leading performance specifications. Avago products include RFICs, transistors, both Schottky and PIN diodes, and millimeter wave integrated circuits (MMICs).

METRACOM AND DATHPATH PARTNER FOR NETWORK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Satellite and wireless communications networks provider DataPath has formed a strategic partnership with French company Metracom to provide sales and integration support for the MaxView Network Management System in Europe. Metracom specializes in engineering and system integration, technical assistance, training and consulting services in support of satellite communications. The companies are targeting sales of the MaxView software product line to the European government, broadcast and satellite operator market segments. MaxView's customers can remotely monitor and control teleports, VSAT networks and TV head-ends.

DENMARK

A. P. MOLLER – MAERSK SELECTS INMARSAT FLEETBROADBAND

Global shipping company A.P. Moller - Maersk has signed a contract with Marlink for a large-scale retrofit of Inmarsat FleetBroadband across its Maersk Supply Service and Maersk Tankers Fleet. The two-year retrofit program is believed to be the largest in the history of maritime satellite communications, with over 150 vessels being converted to FleetBroadband in the first phase.

GERMANY

SWR ORDERS SNG VEHICLE FROM NDSATCOM

The German public broadcaster Südwestrundfunk (SWR) has ordered an SNG vehicle

(Satellite News Gathering) with satellite uplink and TV production technology from NDSatCom, an SES ASTRA company. The satellite uplink consists of a SkyRAY Compact 1500plus antenna subsystem and is HD/SD-ready. The satellite communications technology is operated by a complete NDSatCom Monitoring & Control System for SNG vehicles.

ITALY

AVANTI SIGNS DISTRIBUTION DEAL WITH CO.NA

Avanti Communications Group has signed a distribution agreement with CO.NA, Italy's largest consortium of VSAT suppliers and installers delivering services to residential and enterprise customers across Italy. The partnership will focus on pursuing rural broadband projects funded by the Italian Regions in an effort to address the below average broadband take up in Italy.

ORBIT AND MILANO TELEPORT ORDER ORSAT SYSTEMS

Orbit Orbit Technology Group, a provider in the field of advanced mobile SatCom and tracking antenna systems for marine, air, train and other ground application, and Milano Teleport announce an additional order for Orbit's OrSat systems, worth in excess of US\$ 1.6 million. This is an add-on order to an original contract of US\$ 1.9 million. Both companies have also signed a service agreement aimed at bolstering and streamlining on-location product support. According to the terms of this agreement, Milano Teleport will provide service and technical support as the Advanced Service Centre (ASC) of Orbit in Italy.

POLAND

AVANTI SIGNS BROADBAND DISTRIBUTION DEAL WITH TTCOMM

Satellite operator Avanti Communications Group Plc has signed a broadband distribution deal with Polish VSAT satellite communication company TTComm. No financial details were given. The company, which plans to launch its first satellite next year, said it now has broadband distributors in Scotland, England, Ireland, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, Albania, Serbia, Germany and now Poland. The company's first satellite, Hylas, is under construction and due for launch in 2009. Avanti expects the market for satellite broadband in Europe to be worth up to GBP 4 billion (US\$ 7.14 billion) per year by 2016.

UNITED KINGDOM

VIASAT TO SUPPLY ACCELENET WAN TO BENTLEY WALKER

ViaSat will supply its AcceleNet wide area network (WAN) optimization software for the LinkStar satellite networking system to Bentley Walker Telecom. The LinkStar satellite network is a data-grade, secure network, with a capacity to support voice over IP, VPNs, VLANs and other network protocols. AcceleNet WAN is a software-only solution for remote and mobile users and employs a unique combination of technologies. ICT says that nearly 1.5 million customers use the AcceleNet software globally. Bentley Walker Telecom provides broadband Internet and other services via satellite in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and South America. By deploying this software, Bentley Walker Telecom can increase the capacity of the bandwidth on its Star Nova S2 network and also offer a better user experience to its customers.

TALIA LAUNCHES IP NETWORK WITH IDIRECT PRODUCTS

Talia, a leading UK-based provider of satellite broadband services, has launched a next-generation broadband IP network built on iDirect's Evolution DVB-S2 product line with Adaptive Coding and Modulation (ACM). The network incorporates 500 Evolution X3 Satellite Remote Routers and represents the largest iDirect Evolution implementation spanning Europe, the Middle East and Africa. iDirect is a world leader in satellite-based IP communications technology. Capacity on T12 will provide services to Europe and the Middle East in Ku-band, while BADR-6 C-band services will cover the Middle East, North Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa.

NORTH AMERICA

CANADA

TELESAT SIGNS CONTRACT WITH NEWWAVE BROADBAND

Satellite operator Telesat has signed a contract with NewWave Broadband to provide the equivalent of three transponders on Telesat's soon-to-be launched Telstar 11N satellite. The new capacity will be key to further expansion of NewWave Broadband's ability to deliver broadband services to land-based, as well as aeronautical and maritime, markets worldwide. With over 500 vessels globally, NewWave now has one of the largest maritime VSAT networks in the world. In addition to its maritime resources, NewWave is also rolling out its first iDirect DVB-S2 platform to support land-based VSAT services. Launch of T11N is scheduled between December 2008 and February 2009.

UNITED STATES

CAPROCK PROVIDES DISASTER RECOVERY COMMUNICATION PACKAGES

Global satellite communications provider CapRock Communications deployed disaster recovery communication packages to clients with critical operations throughout the Gulf Coast area. During major storms, CapRock has deployed emergency packages to shore bases, corporate and regional offices and vessels, providing bandwidth from 256 Kbps up to multi-megabit. The VSAT packages are complete mobile communications solutions, providing true broadband Internet and voice services when traditional means are unavailable. Based on the market's response, CapRock continues to offer its DR-VSAT packages, which launched in 2006. The DR-VSAT program enables subscribing customers to reserve equipment upfront, guaranteeing equipment and service availability in the event of an emergency.

EDUCATIONAL MEDIA FOUNDATION ORDERS TUNER CARDS FROM WEGENER

California-based not-for-profit company, Educational Media Foundation, has ordered 600 DVB-S2 tuner cards from Wegener. The Educational Media Foundation has placed the order for upgrading their currently deployed Wegener Unity 4600 satellite receivers to the latest high efficiency satellite modulation. Currently, this not-for-profit company deploys Wegener Unity 4600 satellite receivers, iPump 6400 and iPump 6420 media servers for live and file-based radio broadcasts. Educational Media Foundation, which has been using a terrestrial connection to monitor Wegener satellite receivers and media players, intends to eliminate that terrestrial link by launching a VSAT low-data wide area network (WAN). Wegener said this network will be used for

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transmit and back haul operations between affiliates and Educational Media Foundation's central operation hub. The not-for-profit company is switching its entire satellite network to DVB-S2 modulation as part of that VSAT launch, and expects to achieve approximately 20-30 percent in operational cost savings. DVB-S2 modulation is a newer, standards-based, satellite modulation scheme offering significant performance gains over DVB-S modulation, according to Wegener's sources.

VIASAT GETS US\$ 7 MILLION ORDER FROM SPAWAR

ViaSat has been awarded an additional order valued at approximately US\$ 7 million for Multi-functional Information Distribution System or MIDS terminals by the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR). The order enhances the US\$ 52 million Lot 9 delivery order received by ViaSat as part of the MIDS annual Lot procurements. According to the company, the Lot 9 add-on comprises primarily of Low Volume Terminals or LVT(2)/LVT(11) ground-based terminals, along with LVT(1) airborne terminals. LVT is part of a tactical radio system used for data collection from various sources and displays an electronic overview of the battlefield using secure, high capacity, jam resistant, digital data and voice.

CAPROCK LAUNCHES MAP-BASED TRACKING SERVICE

CapRock Communications has launched the AssetTrax, its new map-based tracking service that monitors the position and movement of critical assets around the world. As a provider of satellite communications to remote and harsh environments, AssetTrax is the latest value-added solution clients can integrate seamlessly into their operations using CapRock's VSAT services. AssetTrax is ideal

for rig managers and fleet operators needing the capability to view real-time locations and historical paths of critical assets, such as drilling rigs and maritime vessels, including supply boats, tankers, cargo ships and construction and repair vessels.

WAVESTREAM ORDERS MATCHBOX AMPLIFIERS FROM TCS

Wavestream Corporation, a manufacturer of compact, highly efficient solid-state power amplifiers, has received initial orders for its Ku-band and Ka-band Matchbox Block Upconverters (BUCs) from TeleCommunication Systems, Inc.(TCS). Wavestream's Matchbox BUCs will be integrated into TCS' SwiftLink product line for its U.S. Army Program, and include 40W Ku-band and 12W Ka-band Matchbox solid-state power amplifiers, which lead the industry in compactness and efficiency. TCS' SwiftLink VSAT will provide multimedia communications capabilities to convey encrypted voice, video and imagery data. The U.S. Army is acquiring TCS' VSATs through the \$5 billion World-Wide Satellite Systems (WWSS) contract vehicle, which is available to support all federal communications missions, including disaster relief and homeland security efforts.

TCS GETS US\$ 23.4 MILLION OF SATELLITE SOLUTIONS UNDER SNAP PROGRAM

Wireless communications provider TCS received a US\$ 23.4 million follow-on order for deployable satellite solutions under its Secure Internet Protocol Router (SIPR) and Non-secure Internet Protocol Router (NIPR) Access Point (SNAP) VSAT Satellite Systems Program. This U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command (CECOM LCMC) Program has a potential value of US\$ 246 million over the next 39 months if fully funded. Following the July 2008

US\$ 2.6 million order for initial shipments, the U.S. Army CECOM LCMC has now procured with this US\$ 23.4 million order, an additional 122 satellite systems from TCS' highly reliable SwiftLink deployable communications product line.

VIASAT RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR TERMINAL

ViaSat received Inmarsat Case Approval for the ViaSat VRT-100 Broadband Global Area Network (BGAN) terminal, which can be invaluable to first responders of civil emergencies such as fire, police homeland security, relief agencies, and news media personnel. The ViaSat VRT-100 enables one to quickly set up reliable communications even in the midst of extreme weather conditions. With Case Approval, the VRT-100 can be used throughout the Inmarsat BGAN network. The VRT-100 part of the family of Inmarsat terminals is a ruggedized BGAN terminal for operation, deployment, and transport in extreme conditions.

SPACENET TEAMS UP WITH GLOBECOMM FOR SATELLITE SERVICES

Satellite networking services provider Spacenet has teamed with Globecom Services to support its expansion of services to Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Spacenet will offer both custom and pre-packaged satellite solutions for voice, video, and data communications exclusively for US based enterprise and government organizations with overseas operations. Globecom will provide high security co-location facilities and international logistics including installation and field maintenance. Spacenet will design and manage the international services network, as well as provide 24 x 7 customer support. The new international satellite services, provided by Spacenet and Globecom, help to solve not

only the logistical challenges of communicating with overseas operations, but many of the quality and security concerns as well. Remote satellite (VSAT) terminals are linked to geosynchronous satellites that are connected to a secure teleport just outside of Washington D.C. Critical customer data never has to land in foreign facilities or traverse uncertain local infrastructures. All sites can be connected directly to US telecom networks including the Internet and public switched telephone network (PSTN). International locations can also be connected directly to private networks or handed-off to certified gateways for access to high security government environments. The core satellite network infrastructure is based on Spacenet's field proven SkyEdge VSAT system and will be managed through its 24 x 7 Network Operations Centers in Atlanta, Georgia and McLean, Virginia.

NORSAT AWARDED DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACTS

Norsat International has signed satellite system contracts, totalling about \$1.2 million, with the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). The contracts are expected to be fulfilled in the company's fourth quarter. As per the terms of the agreement, Norsat will sell Navisystem's marine satellite terminals under the Norsat brand in North America, and Navisystem will act as a non-exclusive reseller of Norsat's satellite systems in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. In addition, the two companies will explore opportunities for joint development projects, working to leverage each company's respective technology expertise to introduce a suite of marine satellite terminals that meet the varying needs of government and commercial maritime markets worldwide.

LATIN AMERICA

COSTA RICA

ICE DEPLOYS GILAT SKYEDGE BROADBAND SATELLITE NETWORK

Gilat Satellite Networks has been selected by Costa Rica's national telecommunications operator Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (ICE), to provide a Gilat SkyEdge broadband satellite communications network that will serve end users throughout Costa Rica. ICE will use the new VSAT network to expand its programs to provide toll-quality telephony to rural citizens, meeting its Universal Service Obligations. The network will also provide satellite backhaul for wireless Internet access to those citizens. Using this mix enables the service provider to benefit from the advantages of each technology -- satellite's nationwide reach and wireless' cost-effective, "last mile" access.

HONDURAS

GILAT DEPLOYS SKYEDGE BROADBAND SATELLITE NETWORK

Gilat Satellite Networks has completed deployment of a SkyEdge broadband satellite network for Administradora de Redes (Aduanett), a private company owned by Honduras' leading customs brokers. Administradora de Redes will use the VSAT network to provide customs offices and other Honduran businesses with private networking services including interactive data, broadband Internet access, and Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). Gilat's SkyEdge is a satellite communications system that delivers high-quality voice, broadband data and video services over a powerful unified system.

MEXICO

CONDUX AWARDS CONTRACT TO CAPROCK

CapRock Communications, a global provider of satellite communications to remote and harsh environments, has signed a three-year agreement with Condux S.A. de C.V. to deliver VSAT communication services onboard its fleet of construction vessels. Condux, a leading offshore construction services company and subsidiary of Mexican-based Grupo Protexa, has chosen CapRock's services to provide its clients with reliable communications to support daily offshore operations. CapRock will deploy a seamless turnkey solution that includes equipment, service, maintenance and support for a fixed monthly price. The solution represents Condux' initial adoption of an always-on communication service.

ASIA & PACIFIC

3DI TECHNOLOGIES IMPLMENT IDIRECT ACCELERATOR

3Di Technologies, a provider of VSAT systems and Enterprise Internet Telephony services, has implemented more than 20 iDirect SkyCelerator Network Accelerators on a secure U.S. Government Type 1 communications system in Southwest Asia. iGT is a world leader in satellite-based IP communications technology to military and government organizations. iDirect Government Technologies (iGT) is a wholly owned subsidiary of VT iDirect and a provider of satellite-based IP communications technology to military and government organizations. The SkyCelerator suite of products from iDirect is an ideal solution for government



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AFGHANISTAN

TS2 SATELLITE COMPLETES SATELLITE PROJECT FOR US ARMY

TS2 Satellite Technologies has completed the tender documentation for JCC-I/A and a satellite network project for the Marines bases in Afghanistan. The government contract concerns establishing and maintaining full communications in new locations for all soldiers stationed there during next two years. The USA is going to transfer 4,500 Marines from Iraq to Afghanistan as early as at the beginning of 2009. TS2 specializes in providing global satellite communication services in areas with poor telecommunications infrastructure. TS2 communication among the bases is possible thanks to the simultaneous lease of bands on the Intelsat 10-02, Intelsat 901 and ArabSat Badr-4 satellites and it additionally equips its customers with Thuraya and Iridium satellite telephones, which are often the only means of communication in remote locations.

INDIA

VTU INSTALLS VSAT EQUIPMENT

The Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), which is the first in the country to adopt EDUSAT facility of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for 50 of its affiliated institutions, in October signed a second MoU with ISRO to bring 100 more colleges under the programme. Under the EDUSAT project, the VTU has set up studio to transmit expert lectures for all affiliated colleges through DTH reception system. In the first phase, 50 institutions have received the VSAT equipment from the ISRO in two batches.

TATANET TO OFFER VSAT EQUIPMENT ON LEASE

Tatanet India has decided to offer its VSAT solution for SME customers in smaller towns and remote areas, especially those that are surrounded by mountains or are on higher ground, where connectivity is still not as easily available, specifically for last mile connections. In such a scenario, VSAT can ensure ready broadband access on a continuous basis and Tatanet officials claim that their product offers an uptime of 99.97 per cent. Tatanet is now offering its product on lease to customers. The deployment charges for the rented equipment are Rs 30,000 and there is a monthly rent of Rs 2000.

C&W SIGNS MOU WITH BSNL FOR VSAT DEPLOYMENT

Cable&Wireless India and Bharat Sanchar Nigam (BSNL) have signed a MoU to leverage each other's strengths by sharing their networks and other telecom infrastructure. While Cable&Wireless India will help BSNL expand its footprint globally and provide more competitive services to its customers, in return BSNL will support Cable&Wireless India spread its tentacles across the country. Additionally, the two parties will share with each other their portfolio of telecom services including basic, leased line and local lead services, Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS), Virtual Private Networks (VPN) services, Internet, Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT), mobile and broadband services on a preferred client basis, said the companies.

MIDDLE EAST

CETEL TAKES CAPACITY ON NSS-12 SATELLITE

SES New Skies has signed a new capacity deal with CETel on the upcoming NSS-12 satellite to serve what CETel perceives as growing demand in the

Middle East and Africa for VSAT services and corporate networks. SES New Skies' NSS-12 satellite is scheduled for operational service in the second half of 2009 and will replace the existing NSS-703 satellite at the orbital location of 57 degrees East. CETel, a teleport and satellite service provider in the Middle East, Africa and Europe, already operates teleport services on the NSS-703 satellite via a 7.6m antenna. From their teleport facilities, CETel is offering dedicated VSAT services for corporate and governmental networks, GSM backhaul services as well as hosting and managed solutions.

PAKISTAN

SUPERNET SIGNS ONLINE DEAL WITH MCB AND MNET

Supernet, MCB and MNET have signed the first ever tripartite agreement to provide online purchase of internet hours via MCB Virtual Banking facility. The product packages that Supernet offers to MCB are exclusively for the MCB Virtual Banking customers. Supernet, Pakistan's leading Data Network Operator and Internet Service Provider (ISP), offers a wide range of networking solutions to its customers which include Transit Internet; GSM Backhaul via satellite; Broadband VSAT; WiMax wireless access for Metropolitan Area Networks; inter city data connectivity on Fiber Optic as well as digital microwave radio networks to establish enterprise networks.

AFRICA

AIMS TEAMS UP WITH TCIL FOR E-NETWORK PROJECT

An MoU has been signed between the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and Telecommunication Consultant of India Limited (TCIL) for the latter's Pan-African e-Network project. The Pan-

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Mit dem UFS 902 präsentiert Kathrein einen Receiver, der HDTV zum erschwinglichen Preis in alle Wohnzimmer bringt. Der UFS 902 ist ein gut ausgestatteter HD-Receiver mit 12-stelligem Display und Common Interface zur Dekodierung verschlüsselter Programme.

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KATHREIN
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African e-Network Project, estimated at INR 5429 million, envisages setting up an e-network connecting Indian institutions with 53 countries of the Africa, through Satellite and Fiber optic links, and providing Tele-education and Tele-medicine services. The network is designed to have 169 VSAT terminals, with 3 VSAT terminals in each country to provide Tele-education, Tele-medicine and Heads of State (VVIP) connectivity with a Satellite Hub Earth station in Senegal. Expansion of the network to the other locations by adding more VSAT terminals as well as broadband, wireless connectivity will be possible by adding additional hardware/ elements and bandwidth.

THALES TO SUPPLY SATELLITE FOR RASCOMSTAR

Thales Alenia Space has signed a contract with RASCOMSTAR-QAF for the construction of the RASCOM-QAF1R telecommunication satellite. This new satellite will ensure adequate continuity of service capacity to RASCOMSTAR-QAF and its Customers. It will provide the African continent access to telecommunication and new information and communication technologies. The RASCOM-QAF system provides communications services to telecom operators, as well as Internet Service Providers (ISP) and licensed VSAT operators. The satellite will be fitted with twelve Ku-band and eight C-band transponders and will be located at 2.85 degrees East longitude.

NAMIBIA

MWEB INSTALLS VSAT EARTH STATION

Local ISP MWEB Africa has installed VSAT that will provide Internet services in both rural and urban areas in order to increase connectivity across the country. The VSAT earth station in Windhoek will provide a cost-effective Internet connection to any location in Namibia in order to cope with the country's increasing demand for Internet access. Currently, there is an insufficient number of fixed-line public phones and limited, unreliable mobile coverage in many parts of Namibia.

NIGERIA

GALAXY TO SET UP BROADBAND NETWORK FOR POST OFFICES

Galaxy Backbone, a public enterprise of the Nigerian federal government charged with establishing a single nationwide infrastructure platform, has signed a MoU with the Nigerian Postal Service (NIPOST) to connect 1,500 post offices across the country by December 2009. The MoU will affect 12 million Nigerians in rural and under-served communities, which will gain digital access through a broadband network that Galaxy will establish. Galaxy will implement the project by providing the necessary VSAT-based connectivity to all of NIPOST's 1,500 post offices, he added.

LAGOS STATE TO LAUNCH ICT NETWORK

Tele Education, Tele Medicine, Videoconferencing, Surveillance Cameras and electronic payment system (E-Pay) are the latest Information Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructural backbone facilities investment made by the Lagos State Government. Private ICT firm ICSL was commissioned to set up the infrastructure, made up of a broadband network infrastructure and connectivity solutions using stable and highly available Wide Area Network (WAN), VSAT, microwave and fibre optics.

TUNISIA

420 VSAT CUSTOMERS IN TUNISIA

Figures recently released by the Ministry of Communication Technologies reveal that the number

of companies benefiting from WiMAX connections reached 700 at the end of June 2008, and the number of subscribers to data sending through VSAT had also increased to reach 420, notably among enterprises producing software and computer systems and call centres.

WORLD

KVH ENHANCES VSAT BROADBAND SERVICE

KVH has rolled out a new enhancement to the mini-VSAT Broadband service's performance – the latest edition of its Velocity Acceleration software, offering a significant boost to mini-VSAT Broadband's already fast data rates. This software package, free to all TracPhone V7 users, incorporates on-the-fly content compression software that increases the speed and efficiency of e-mail, data transmissions, FTP (File Transfer Protocol), and web browsing, especially on the ship-to-shore uplink. The compact 24-inch (60 cm) KVH TracPhone V7 antenna and the mini-VSAT Broadband service currently offer regional VoIP and Internet access as fast as 512 Kbps (upload) and 2 Mbps (download) at fixed monthly rates to mariners throughout North America, the Caribbean, the North Atlantic, and Europe.

ASC RECEIVES APPROVAL FOR KU-BAND ANTENNA

ASC Signal has received a GVF-Intelsat Type Approval for an antenna/transceiver combination, which comprises a complete outdoor unit (ODU). The approval covers ASC Signal's 1.8m Class III antenna in combination with all ASC Signal XR1000 series transceivers. The system is compliant to IESS 208 for Standard K-2, and IESS-601 for standard G earth stations. The ODU Certificate number (GVF/IA 202CA0) is for the 1.8-Meter Class III Ku band.

STRATOS INTRODUCES NEXT GENERATION AMOSCONNECT

Mobile and fixed-site remote communications solutions provider Stratos Global Corporation has introduced AmosConnect 8.0, the next generation of its popular AmosConnect service. It integrates vessel and shore-based office applications. It is an easy-to-use, yet highly sophisticated service that seamlessly integrates email, fax, telex, GSM text, interoffice communication, and access for mobile personnel into a single messaging system. AmosConnect 8.0 enhances new broadband IP-based maritime satellite services which include FleetBroadband, the VSAT solutions OceanVSAT and Stratos!Tek and the soon-to-be-available Iridium OpenPort. AmosConnect 8.0 also supports all narrowband satellite connections.

GILAT AND O3B TO LAUNCH NEW SATELLITE TERMINALS

Gilat Satellite Networks and O3b Networks have announced plans for a new line of satellite terminals designed. O3b Networks, funded by Google, Liberty Global, and HSBC Principal Investments, recently announced the Company will deploy the world's first ultra-low-latency, Medium Earth Orbit (MEO), Ka-band, fiber-speed satellite network. This network is designed to improve Internet access for millions of consumers and businesses in emerging markets. Service activation and ground equipment is scheduled for late 2010. Gilat's planned new line of MEO VSAT terminals and gateway components will be developed based on their SkyEdge platform.

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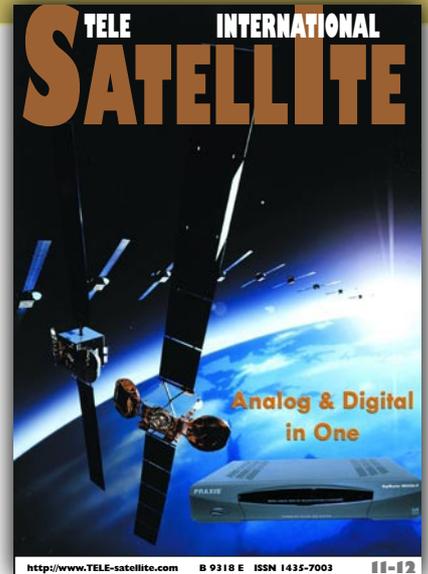
Edited by
Alexander Wiese

Vortec VS-9700

Combining digital and analogue technology into one box still seems to be very difficult for most manufacturers. That is why we still haven't seen many of these receivers around. And from the ones available, the analogue part mostly seems to be a part that the manufacturer thought of at the very last moment. Most of the time, the analogue specifications we would like to see are not there. Now, a Samsung company called Vortec has developed the VS-9700 with two things in mind: analogue and digital. The complete concept of the receiver is based on that. Other requirements Vortec defined were universal appliance and high

10 Years Ago

Travel into the Past
TELE-satellite Magazine
Issue 12/1998



specifications. And so it has. The VS-9700 can be plugged into the wall socket almost anywhere in the world. And besides that, it has absolutely no problem with SCPC or any MCPC bouquet.

X-SAT CDTV 350

It was in the late summer of 1996, when we tested the XCOM 200 digital receiver, made in France. It was the first digital receiver capable of processing SCPC signals—with a little trick that is, but still. A lot of things have happened in



the meantime and a lot of other manufacturers have come with SCPC capable digital set-top boxes, operating at faster processing speeds. But as always, the one who brings new technologies and new features first doesn't fall asleep. And while other brands were focusing on SCPC and other goodies, XSAT was developing its combined analogue/digital receiver, which was introduced in March 1998. This XSAT CDTV350 was not right away tested by TSI, since we just wanted to wait for the first problems to be resolved.

SRDA 5101

After having introduced several analogue boxes in the last few months, it was now time for Amstrad to jump on the digital bandwagon—after thoroughly having examined what is going on in the market and making sure to come up with a competitive product. So, this autumn will see the birth of the latest Amstrad digital box: the SRDA 5101, a combined receiver for both analogue and digital reception according to the DVB standard.



AUSL 40 & AUSS 40

In most cases, the universal LNB you've bought will fit onto the arm of your dish without any problem. But in some cases the L-shape won't fit because of the fact that the arm is shaped somewhat differently and you simply cannot mount it. Other smaller dishes also require smaller LNBs. Multi-feed installations do not leave much space for large LNBs. New are a smaller LNB and a straight LNB instead of the L-shape. First, there's the AUSL40, a normal 65mm wide LNB. But there's also the AUSS40 which is smaller (50mm) and shaped straight. On the inside however, both LNBs are



exactly the same. The diameter of the feedhorn is 40mm which shows in the part number AUSL40. Both are wideband LNBs, covering the complete frequency range from 10.700 to 12.750. The switching point between low and high is 11.700. LOFs are the usual 9.75/10.6 making them both very universal. For switching between low and high band, a 22kHz signal is needed. Most of today's satellite receivers supply this signal. The necessary power for changing the polarisation may be a little more inaccurate on receivers. Some offer 12.7V where others put 13.8V on the wire. Fortunately, these LNBs can handle this all. They will do their job on vertical polarisation with anything between 12 and 14 Volts. Horizontally, this should be somewhere between 15 and 20 Volts. In fact, this should work with almost any satellite receiver available. Most analogue receivers do not expect very stable signals from your LNB. They offer a very good Automatic Frequency Control (AFC) which keeps track of the signal even when it is going up and down like the Dow Jones. For digital reception however, the situation is a little different. Digital set-top boxes expect a much more stable signal. Since digital signals are much more vulnerable to instabilities than analogue signals, a receiver cannot cope with, say, a 5MHz shift in frequency. Where an analogue box would keep track of the signal perfectly, your digital receiver would lose the signal completely. Cubist art accompanied by annoying noises in the sound appear on your screen whenever the frequency shift exceeds the AFC range.



KWS AMA 210S

In the old days, a service technician would climb on your roof together with his signal strength-measuring device and yell down that the signal was perfectly fine. Although even for the analogue technology this was in fact not really sufficient, in most cases it was sufficient back then. However, in distribution networks and those situations where integration of terrestrial signals was involved, it was not professional to do so. Nowadays, requirements for a measuring device are much higher and more sophisticated, not in the least because of the digital radio and television signals we are facing now. Still, these devices require a huge investment in money. From KWS now comes a new analyser, labelled the AMA210S. It is perfect in more than one way. It is portable, lightweight and different modules can be added later, if needed. For example, if you require QAM- or QPSK measuring, just install the add-on module. Even for ADR reception, there is a special module to perform highly accurate test and measuring. Although we have tested the predecessor of this AMA210S in TSI before, there are a lot of changes to be seen with this new portable lab, as we like to call it. One of the most important improvements is the much higher power and performance of the processor. This is very much evident in the time it needs for calculations. Especially the spectrum analysis is done much faster than before. Without any optional module, the AMA210S is already a very high-performing device accomplishing the most complex analyses and measurement, complying with the highest standards. A printer is built-in for easy hardcopy of any test result (measuring results as well as the spectrum analysis). But you will also find a teletext decoder, RS232 serial PC connection for which the software is already available, 200 channel memory, DiSEqC 1.0, a huge memory capacity to store over 20.000 measuring results and of course the 64-QAM and QPSK signals analysis.

An umbrella for LNBs

Para Protection from Norway is introducing Para Protection System, which serves as a kind of bad weather protection for converters. The unit is made of transparent plastic and looks like an umbrella. Fixed onto the LNB tray with two screws it protects the converter from heavy rain and snow.



“All of a sudden their receiver tuned into a station from Earth... and they forgot their oxygen would run out in 1 hour...”

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Cable, Satellite, Broadcasting, Television
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www.cstb.ru



- **3 - 5 March 2009: CABSAT 2009**

Middle East's Electronic Media & Satellite Communications
Dubai World Trade Center, UAE
www.cabsat.com



- **18 - 20 March 2009: Convergence India 2009**

17th International Exhibition & Conference
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India
www.convergenceindia.org



- **19 - 21 March 2009: SatExpo 2009**

Space and Advanced Telecommunications
New Rome Fair, Rome, Italy
www.satexpo.it

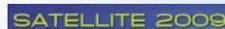
- **21 - 23 March: CCBN 2009**

The 17th China Content Broadcasting Network Exhibition
China International Exhibition Center, Beijing, China
www.ccbn.tv



- **25 - 27 March 2009: Satellite 2009**

Exhibition for Satellite Enabled Communication
Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, USA
www.satellite2009.com



- **25 - 27 May 2009: MECOM 2009**

Middle East Communications Exhibition, Forum, TV
Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, Abu Dhabi, UAE
www.mecomexpo.com



- **26 - 28 May 2009: ANGACABLE 2009**

Tradefair for Cable, Broadband and Satellite
Koelnmesse, Cologne, Germany
www.angacable.com



- **16 - 19 June 2009: CommunicAsia 2009**

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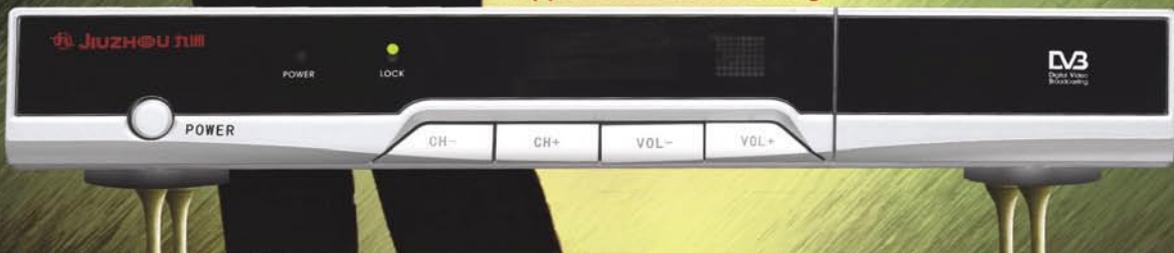
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