New Internet Radio from Sangean

Sangean has just introduced its second entry into the Internet WiFi radio market – the WFR-1. Released on the heels of their first entry into this marketplace (WFR-20), the WFR-1 looks like it will compete favorably with other Internet radios in its price category.

In addition to its Internet Radio capability, you can tune into any of your local standard FM broadcasts using the built in FM tuner with RDS (Radio Data Service). You can also upload your favorite or any internet station to your Sangean WFR-1’s “My Station,” allowing quick and easy future access. You no longer need to be glued to your computer to access your favorite Internet station, nor do you even have to have your computer on. All you need is a broadband internet connection and a wired or wireless router. You can add to your listening pleasure by creating your own Digital Music Library with the WFR-1.

Load your favorite stations into memory; play your MP3 music files through its high-quality stereo system; listen to virtually every music mode from around the globe; monitor police communications, fire emergencies, even aircraft communications as more and more become available – all in clear, static-free sound!

Some of the basic specifications (subject to change without notice):

• Wired or wireless connection
• Large easy to read four line display
• 20 Internet radio station presets
• Search by country, genre and my favorite radio folder (via the Reciva Internet portal)
• Fully upgradable software through USB port
• Plug and play
• 12 or 24 hour clock format
• Two alarm timers (radio or buzzer)
• Play your music collection from your computer via your wireless connection and the WFR-1 sound system.
• High quality full range 3-inch stereo speakers in acoustically designed wooden cabinet
• Large clock display
• FM tuner with RDS display
• Stereo headphone jack
• Aux in/Line out jacks
• Remote control
• Sleep timer
• 12.7-inches wide x 4.2-inches high x 8.2-inches deep and weights 6.4 lbs.

Grove Enterprises is selling the Sangean WFR-1 (RCV40) for $349.94 plus shipping, and this new Internet radio should be available for purchase at pre-time. We hope to have a full review in MT shortly. Grove also carries the Sangean WFR-20 (see the review of this unit in the July 2008 issue of MT) for $299.95 plus shipping. With Christmas around the corner, either of these two radios would be a nice present and addition in the shack for the radio hobbyist on your shopping list.

NRC AM Radio Log 2008-2009

We are a little over a month away from the start of autumn and you now know that means: the start of a new medium wave band DX season. It also means that one of my favorite radio publications is again available for purchase – The NRC AM Radio Log.

Formerly known as the National Radio Club Domestic Log, the first edition of this annual favorite was published by mimeograph and the stencils were hand-typed in Boston by the legendary AM radio hobbyist John Callarman. Since that first edition (which I still have, by the way), the Log has moved to a sleek professional publication produced by Wayne and Joan Heineman. This 2008-2009 29th edition of the National Radio Club’s AM Radio Log contains approximately 290 pages in 8-1/2-inch by 11-inch size, 3-hole punched, loose leaf format, so you can put it neatly into a 1-inch three ring notebook

AM band radio station by-frequency listings from the United States and Canada include the expanded (X-band) stations from 1610-1700 kHz. Each station listing consists of its operating frequency, callsign, location (city and state of license), time zone, antenna and transmission power, mailing address and daytime telephone number, hours of operation, broadcast format/networks, and much more.

There are also cross reference listings by city and callsign, as well as a list of stations conducting AM stereo operations.

Recent additions to the log lists call letters of FM simulcasts, listings of regional groups of stations in the groups section (separate section of the log book) and a cross reference of those stations that are licensed to use IBOC (In Band On Channel) digital audio. There are nearly 8,000 updates that are new to this edition since the 28th edition was released in the fall of 2008.

The NRC AM Radio Log is available from several radio dealers and directly from the club website at www.nrcdmas.org/. This publication lists for $25.95 (non-NRC members) and $19.95 (for members). New York residents will have to add sales tax. Orders are shipped postpaid Media Rate. USA and Canada add $3.00 for Priority Shipping. Canadian and overseas rates are as follows:

Canada: Member $24.00
Canada Non-Member $28.95
Outside US/Canada Overseas [Member or Non Member] $32.00

You can also get additional information or send orders via mail to: National Radio Club Publications, P.O. Box 473251, Aurora, CO 80047-3251.

The AM Radio Log is the most accurate source on AM radio stations in the United States and Canada. If you tune the AM broadcast band, you need the AM Radio Log. Quite frankly, no self respecting AM DXer or listener should be without this superb publication on their radio room bookshelf.

HAMCALC

HAMCALC “Painless Math for Radio Amateurs” Version 101 was released 15 JUL 2008, containing over 350 programs – a far cry from version 1, released in 1993, which contained 12 programs!

HAMCALC is free R.F. engineering software by George Murphy, VE3ERP, used worldwide as a design, reference and teaching tool by radio amateurs, professionals and educators since its introduction in 1993.

For a FREE download of Version 101 (1.5 Mb), go to <www.cq-amateur-radio.com>, scroll down to the bottom of the home page, and click on HAMCALC.

Next Month...

Word on the street as this column goes to press is that there is a new shareware amateur radio software product that has the Morse code (CW) contest community abuzz. Evidently it is one of the most sophisticated sound card CW decoding packages available anywhere. I hope to have more information on this software package called the CW Skimmer in next month’s What News column.

Books and equipment for announcement or review should be sent to What’s New, e/o Monitoring Times, 7540 Highway 64 West, Brasstown, NC 28902. Press releases may be faxed to 828-837-2216 or emailed to Larry Van Horn, larryvanhorn@monitoringtimes.com.