

What's NEW

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Dayton Hamfest Equipment Releases

For many years now, the Dayton Hamfest is the place where radio equipment manufacturers promote their new products for the radio hobby community. At the 2008 Dayton event, there were two major radio equipment pieces promoted for the first time – the Icom IC-7200 transceiver and the Yaesu VX-8R handheld.

Icom IC-7200

The Icom IC-7200 is a robustly built amateur transceiver providing coverage of HF amateur bands plus 6 meters. Power is 100 watts. Features include DSP filtering, digital twin passband tuning, manual notch filter, keypad entry, dual VFOs, voice synthesizer, 201 memories, attenuator, RIT, scanning, 1 Hz tuning and more.



One of the most striking attributes of the IC-7200 is its construction. This is not an “ordinary” base station radio. It is an outdoor, EMCOMM-capable radio. Features such as the high-stability master oscillator, the gasketing around all the panels, and the 100 watts power output are perfect for those first responders sending E-Mail via an HF network from a USB-connected laptop.

Although the IC-7200 is not waterproof, extra design steps have been applied to the front panel buttons and knobs. This provides a measure of protection against water intrusion. There is even a USB port on the rear panel.

PUBLISHED SPECIFICATIONS (subject to change)

Frequency range :

Receive frequency coverage

0.030–60.000000 MHz

Transmit Frequency Coverage

160 meters 1.800–1.999999 MHz
80/75 meters 3.500–3.999999 MHz
60 meters 5.3305, 5.3465, 5.3665, 5.3715, 5.4035 MHz
40 meters 7.000–7.300000 MHz
30 meters 10.100–10.150000 MHz
20 meters 14.000–14.350000 MHz
17 meters 18.068–18.168000 MHz

15 meters 21.000–21.450000 MHz

12 meters 24.890–24.990000 MHz

10 meters 28.000–29.700000 MHz

6 meters 50.000–54.000000 MHz

Mode : USB, LSB, CW, RTTY (FSK), AM

Number of memory Channels :

201 Channels (199 regular, 2 scan edges)

Frequency resolution : 1 Hz

Frequency stability : Less than ± 0.5 ppm

Power supply requirement :

13.8V DC ± 15 % (negative ground)

Current drain :

Transmit Max. power 22.0A;

Receive Max. audio 2.0A;

Stand-by 1.3A

Operating temp. range:

-10°C to $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$;

$+14^{\circ}\text{F}$ to $+140^{\circ}\text{F}$

Antenna connector : SO-239 (50 Ω)

Dimensions :

241 \times 84 \times 281 mm (projections not included)

9 1/2 \times 3 5/16 \times 11 1/16 in

Weight (approx.) : 5.5 kg; 12.1 lb

You can see an Icom brochure online for this piece of equipment at www.ab4oj.com/dl/ic7200br.pdf

Yaesu VX-8R HT

The Yaesu VX-8R HT provides a full 5 watts FM on 50/144/430 MHz plus 1.5 watts on 222 MHz. It supports Blue Tooth hands-free operation with the optional BU-1 and BH-1 or BH-2 accessories. There is also an optional GPS unit and antenna with loads of features. This radio supports APRS 1200/9600 bps data communication (B band only). Like the VX7R, the VX8R is submersible and meets IPX57 specifications (3 feet for minimum of 30 minutes).

A powerful 7.4 V 1100 mAh Lithium Ion battery is included. An optional 3 x AA battery cell case will be offered soon. This HT is small: only 2.36 x 3.74 x 0.92 inches (thinner than VX-7R). It supports simultaneous independent 2-signal dual receive function with both V + V or U + U. It has weather band receive with Weather Alert. A barometric sensor is included. You can even operate Amateur radio while receiving FM broadcasts!

The receive coverage is wider than VX-7R, with an independent AM/FM broadcast receiver circuit.

The dot matrix LCD display provides Memory tag up to a maximum of 16 characters. You even get a high-resolution Spectrum Analyzer with ± 60 channels indication with wave monitoring of received/modulated signal! And DCS and CTCSS encode and decode is included.

ANNOUNCED VX-8R FEATURES:

- Optional Bluetooth
- Optional GPS
- APRS 1200/9600 bps (B band only)
- CTCSS/DCS Encode & Decode
- Weather Receiving with Weather Alert
- Wideband Receive
- Dual Receive
- Submersible IPX57
- Dot Matrix LCD
- Hi-Resolution Spectrum Analyzer

Neither of these two devices has been type accepted by the Federal Communications Commission and may not be sold or leased, or be offered for sale or lease, until approval of the FCC has been obtained. Pricing information is not available until the units have been FCC type accepted.

Domestic Broadcast Survey 10 Released

The *Danish Shortwave Listener's Club International*, an active club of worldwide radio listeners from 33 countries, has released its 10th edition of *Domestic Broadcast Survey*.

The 10th edition, edited by DSWCI Chairman, Anker Petersen, is divided into four parts. Part 1 covers all active shortwave stations broadcasting on 2300-5700 kHz. Part 2 includes Domestic stations on international shortwave bands above 5700 kHz, broadcasting to a domestic listening audience. Part 3 is all Active Clandestine shortwave stations, including schedules and identification information. Part 4 lists all the frequencies deleted between 2 and 30 MHz which have not been reported during the past five years, but which may possibly reappear.

As with past editions, the new *Survey* is based on sources that include DX bulletins, current

schedules, and actual monitoring from radio hobbyists. Listings are in an easy to follow by-frequency format, sorted by frequency, kW, country, station operating schedules, parallel frequencies, and operating program format. Active stations are noted as A (Regular), B (Irregular), C (Sporadic) or D (Likely Inactive).

The “Last Log” column is listed on the right side, and indicates the last month and year that the station was reported prior to the publication’s deadline this year.

The 35-page edition is available by email in Adobe Acrobat PDF format (about 175 kB). A limited number are available in printed format. All buyers of the DBS-10 will be given a username and password to access the monthly updates on the tropical bands published as *Tropical Bands Monitor* on the club’s website at www.dswci.org. Similar data from 2005-2007 is available to anyone at www.dswci.org/tbm.

Funds should be addressed to: Bent Nielsen-Treasurer, Egekrogen 14, DK 3500 Vaerloese, Denmark. Email edition: DKK 40.00 or USD 9.00; Euro 5.00 or GBP 4.00 or SEK 50.00 or 5 IRCs. Printed edition: DK 80.00 or USD 17.00 or EUR 11.00 or GBP 8.00 or SEK 105.00 or 9 IRCs. Additional payment information for cash notes may be obtained at www.dswci.org/

The *Domestic Broadcast Survey 10th edition* remains an excellent source for hobbyists who follow closely the changing world of shortwave radio. This fine publication has been a part of my reference library in printed and PDF format for many years and I highly recommend it to all. It is accurate, timely and valuable as a reference aid.

– Gayle Van Horn, W4GVH

Books and equipment for announcement or review should be sent to What's New, c/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