



The Latest From Elecraft High Performance HF for DXing, Contesting and Even Mountain Topping!

David Shoaf, KG6IRW





Your Presenter

- David Shoaf/KG6IRW
- Elecraft Worldwide Distribution Tech Support

David's Background

- 30+ yrs. w/Hewlett-Packard, Texas Instruments
- Product Sales, Support & WW Distribution







Today's Agenda



Introducing the KPA1500



Elecraft and DXpeditions



K-Line Evolution



KX-Line Evolution

KPA1500



KPA1500 Features

- 1500W (2 ea. Rugged 1400 W LDMOS Transistors)
- Very compact design
 4.5h x 13.5w x 11.5d in., 11.5 x 34 x 29 cm
- Matching lightweight switching power supply (same size)
- Fast, silent PIN diode T/R switching
- Built-in Antenna Tuner with dual antenna jacks
- Compatible with nearly any transceiver
- Instantaneous auto-band switching (RF Freq sense or band data)
- 160-6 meters
- Introductory price: \$5,995 (KPA1500 w/ATU and PS)

KPA1500 Rear View



KPA1500 Power Supply





Today's Agenda



Introducing the KPA1500



Elecraft and Dxpeditions

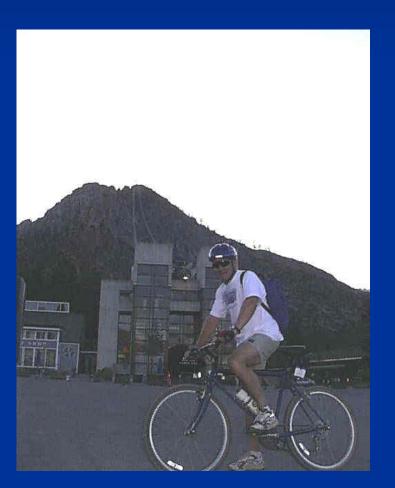


Early Elecraft DXpedition...





Early SOTA - K2 Style - Sept. 1999 Emigrant Peak, Squaw Valley, CA USA



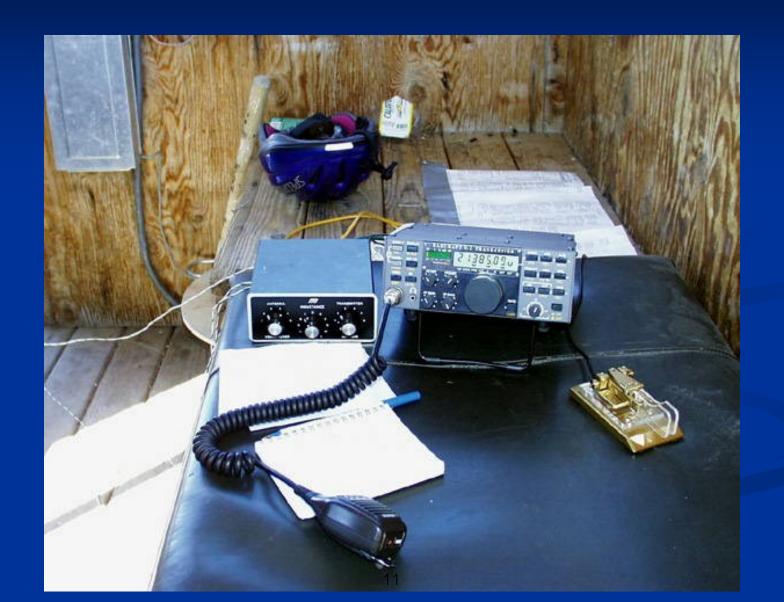


The Summit: 8700 ft; 2,652 m

Eric at 6200 ft; 1,890 m



"Light Weight" K2 SOTA Station







K3, P3 and KPA500: The DXpedition Standard







What happens when you ship radios and amps to remote places?







...and in all kinds of environments?





Can you say, Pile-up?

Panadapters!

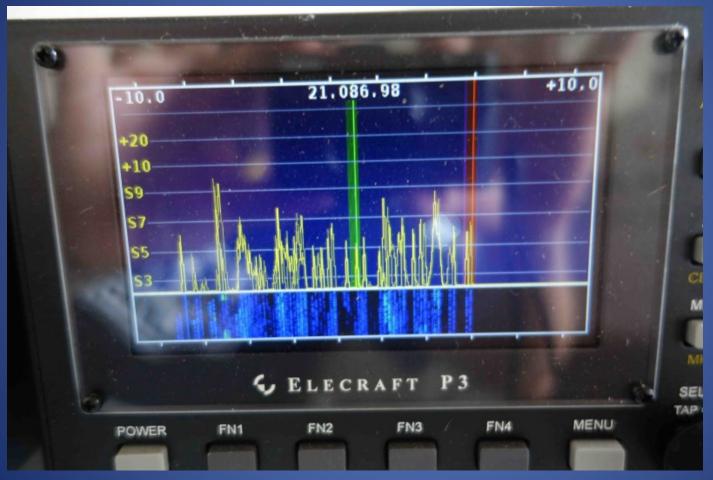


Now they can see what's happening



Can you say, Pile-up?





This is what the 15M RTTY pile up looked like on Navassa

The Radio At Both Ends Of The QSO







The Elecraft K3s is the DXer's choice — at home, or at the ends of the Earth.

What do DX pedition leaders look for in a transceiver? Top performance in pileups, for starters, including a bulletproof, software-defined superhet receiver that can turn raw QRM into solid QSOs. But team leaders are also pragmatic; they need radios that won't break their backs or their budgets. That's why the K3s and other Elecraft K-Line gear has been selected for so many high-profile DXpeditions*. The K3s offers proven field reliability, light weight, excellent power efficiency and ease of use, all at a fraction of the price of other elite-class transceivers. It also has the ultra-low-phase-noise, click-free transmit signal that multi-transmitter stations need.

What do you look for in a transceiver? Probably all of the above. Sure, you may decide not to circumnavigate the world. But with the right rig, you can still conquer it.

Elecraft's K-Line – a winning combination for contesters and DXers alike.



In addition to the K3s, Elecraft's K-Line includes the P3 panadapter, KPA500 500W + amplifier, and KAT500 500 W+ automatic antenna tuner. All three can be used with the K3s or with other transceivers. The P3 panadapter adds a visual dimension

to signal hunting, with fast, real-time spectrum and waterfall displays of band activity. Its superior sensitivity reveals signals down to the K3s noise floor. The KPA500 amp features instant RF-based band switching, plus remote band selection that tracks the K3s. It has a bright alphanumeric status display, LED bar graphs, and a rugged, internal linear supply. The compact KAT500 ATU uses the same fast, high-accuracy tuning algorithm as the K3s 100W ATU. Its LC network automatically tracks the K3s VFO, instantly recalling settings as you tune.

*The Elecraft K3S and K3 were the radios of choice for these and other top DX peditions:

VP8SSI/VP8SGI - South Sandwich Island, South Georgia Island

2016 DXpedition of the Year

VKOEK - Heard Island, 2016

K5P - Palmyra Atoll, 2016 FT4JA - Juan de Nova Island, 2016

K1N - Navassa Island

2015 DXpedition of the Year

TX3X - Chesterfield Island, 2015

E30FB - Eretria, 2015

FT5ZM - Amsterdam Island 2014 DXpedition of the Year

TX5K - Clipperton Island, 2013

HKØNA - Malpelo Island

2012 DXpedition of the Year

706T - Yemen, 2012

VP80RK - Orkney Island

2011 DXpedition of the Year

STØR - South Sudan, 2011



ELECRAFT°

For complete features and specifications, go to elecraft.com • 831-763-4211

What happens when using High Performance radios?

HKONA - Malpelo Island

VP80RK - Orkney Island

STØR - South Sudan, 2011

706T - Yemen, 2012

2012 DXpedition of the Year

2011 DXpedition of the Year



Dxpedition

S. Sandwich/S. Georgia Is

VKOEK Heard Is

FT4JA Juan de Nova

K5P Palmyra Atoll

K1N Navassa

TX3X Chesterfield

E30FB Eritrea

FT5ZM Amsterdam Is

TX5K Clipperton Is

HKONA Malpelo Is

706T Yemen

STORY S. Sudan

VP8ORK Orkney Is.

€ ELECRAFT°

KPA500 500 W+ amplifier, and KAT500 500 W+ automatic antenna tun-

er. All three can be used with the K3s or with other transceivers. The P3

LC network automatically tracks the K3s VFO, instantly recalling settings as you tune.

panadapter adds a visual dimension to signal hunting, with fast, real-time spectrum and waterfall displays of band activity

plus remote band selection that tracks the K3s. It has a bright alphanumeric status display, LED bar graphs, and a rugged,

Its superior sensitivity reveals signals down to the K3s noise floor. The KPA500 amp features instant RF-based band switching

internal linear supply. The compact KAT500 ATU uses the same fast, high-accuracy tuning algorithm as the K3s 100-W ATU. Its

For complete features and specifications, go to elecraft.com • 831-763-4211



What happens when using High Performance radios?

Year	Dxpedition	
2016	S. Sandwich/S. Georgia Is	
	VK0EK Heard Is	
	FT4JA Juan de Nova	
	K5P Palmyra Atoll	
2016	K1N Navassa	
	TX3X Chesterfield	
	E30FB Eritrea	
2014	FT5ZM Amsterdam Is	
2013	TX5K Clipperton Is	
2012	HKONA Malpelo Is	
	706T Yemen	
2011	STORY S. Sudan	
	VP8ORK Orkney Is.	



Can you say, run rates?

Year	Dxpedition	Q-Counts Reported
2016	S. Sandwich/S. Georgia Is	136000+
	VK0EK Heard Is	75000+
	FT4JA Juan de Nova	140000+
	K5P Palmyra Atoll	75000+
2016	K1N Navassa	140000+
	TX3X Chesterfield	50000+
	E30FB Eritrea	4200+
2014	FT5ZM Amsterdam Is	170000+
2013	TX5K Clipperton Is	113000+
2012	HKONA Malpelo Is	190000+
	706T Yemen	162000+
2011	STORY S. Sudan	48000+
	VP8ORK Orkney Is.	63000+





What have we learned?



- •Build features for efficient DX/Contesting
- •Instrument the high power stuff
- •Use the instrumentation to protect the gear
- •Tell the operator when they hit the limits
- •Enable remote diagnostics/recovery



Today's Agenda



Introducing the KPA1500



Elecraft and DXpeditions



K-Line Evolution



K-Line Evolution



The **K3** and the **K-Line**..

- K3 160-6m High Performance Transceiver
- P3 Direct Sampling DSP Panadapter
- KPA 500 Solid State Amplifier
- KAT500 Fully Automatic Antenna Tuner



2015: The K3S - Even More Performance



- Low-noise synthesizer for exceptional RX & TX performance
- 4-Layer main RF PCB for even lower receive noise floor
- USB integrated control and audio
- Second preamp for 12-6 m weak signals (on the new KXV3B)
- Redesigned AF speaker output circuitry for outstanding audio



Lower Phase Noise – Why do I care?

- Faster CW Tx/Rx recovery
- Faster Split Operation at 30+ WPM CW
- Diversity Reception phase locks dual receivers
- Expanded LF to 630M





QST Review - K3S KSYN3a

Reciprocal Mixing Dynamic Range

Before After 20/5/2 kHz offset 20/5/2 kHz offset 115/103/93 dB 119/118/115 dB

Dramatic Improvements

Improved Receiver Dynamic Range

Reduced Transmit spurious output

Bottom Line

The Elecraft KSYN3A synthesizer upgrade for the K3 makes a dramatic improvement in local oscillator phase noise, resulting in improved receiver dynamic range and reduced transmit spurious output near the operating frequency.

Nov. 2016 QST K3S Review



Reviewed by Rick Lindquist,
WW1ME
ARRL News Editor/
NCJ Managing
Editor

Let's get it out of the way right off the bat: The K3S is the best-performing transceiver I've ever used



Bottom Line

The Elecraft K3S is a performer par excellence in a compact, convenient form factor.



Today's Agenda



Introducing the KPA1500



Elecraft and DXpeditions



K-Line Evolution



KX-Line Evolution



KX-Line Evolution





- 2011: **KX3** All-Mode HF Transceiver Introduced
- Next Generation KX-Line Evolution from the KX1 TFR
- 160-6 m (+2 m) All Mode, Up to 15 W, 1.5 lbs, all SMD, up to 8 layer PCBs
- Large, Easy to Read Display Same as the K3's
- Enhanced with the PX3 Panadapter and KXPA100 Amp
- Became the Ultimate Home-Travel-DXpedition and SOTA Station



KX-Line Evolution





• The KX3 is about twice the size of the KX1 by weight and volume, but with all-band/all-mode coverage.

While the KX3 *can* be used hand-held, at about 2 pounds with internal AA batteries, it's a bit heavy for this. Also, many KX3 owners asked us for a smaller, lighter, and lower-cost version. **So....**





Performance That Fits in your Pocket



KX3 – KX2 Size Comparison





KX3 – KX2 Size Comparison





KX1 – KX2 Size Comparison

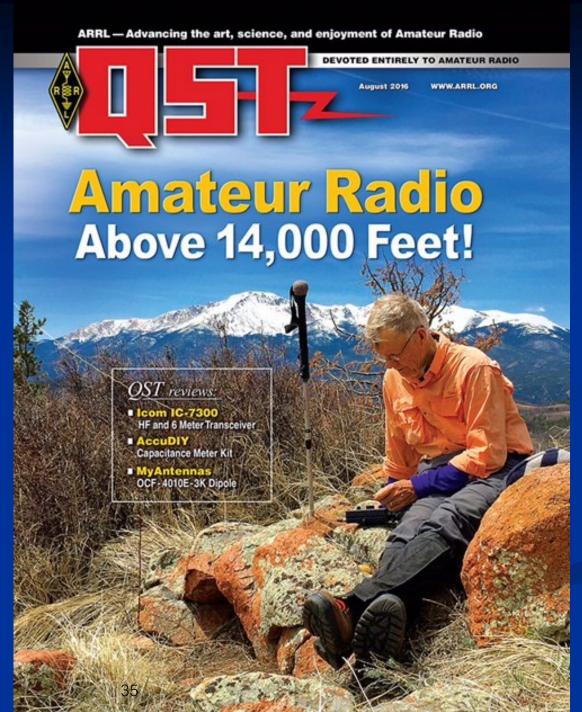


Almost the same size as the KX1



SOTA and KX2 on the cover of QST

Aug. 2016



Steve - WG0AT

EXTREME SOTA!Emil Kostadinov - DL8JJ



DL/WS-003 Mt Schneefernerkopf 362875m (9,432 ft.)

Emil Kostadinov - DL8JJ







KX2 – Key Features

- 1/2 The volume of the KX3 cabinet
- Similar User Interface as K3S and KX3
- Ideal for Rapid deployment, SOTA Ops and Mobile Operation
- 10 W typical on SSB, CW, Data Modes
- Same size display as the KX3 and K3S
- Pure SDR RX/TX Architecture for flexibility and upgradability
- Dual watch RX for split operation

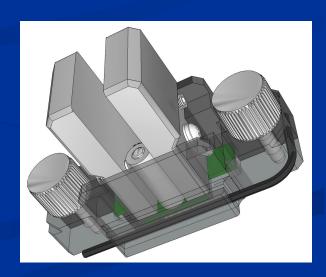


KX2 Options



- KXAT2 Wide Range Internal ATU
- KXBT2 Li-Ion Internal Battery (11 V, 2.6 Ah) and ext charger
- KXPD2 Precision compact attached CW Paddle

- KXIO2 Real Time Clock and General I/O
- MH3 Hand Mic.
- KXPA100 100 W External Amplifier
- CS40 and CS60 Compact Padded Carrying Cases

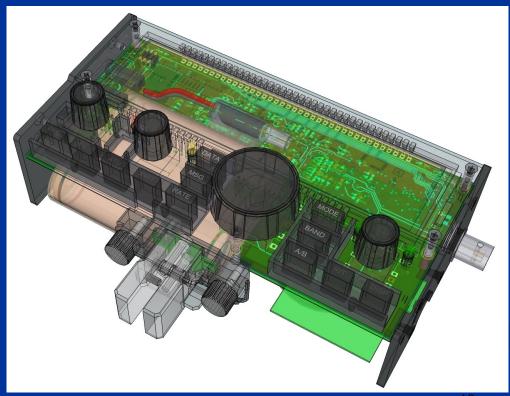


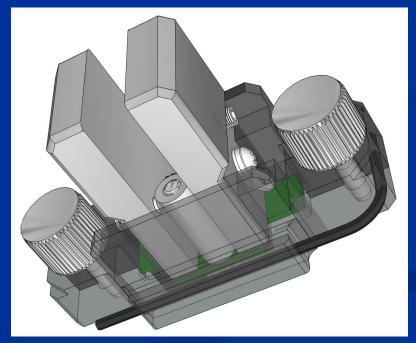






- Use Extensive 3-D Modeling (Sketchup, Solidworks CAD)
- · Model internal layout and all mechanical design. Try 'what if's'







Wrap Up



Introducing the KPA1500



Elecraft and DXpeditions



K-Line Evolution



KX-Line Evolution

Questions?









