

**UNIDEN ANNOUNCES TRUNK TRACKER 3 !**

<http://www.qsl.net/kf6kdd/news/bc780xlt.html>

The long and waited for base unit for the 245xlt is finally here. Well - sorta. Waiting for the FCC clearance officials say the scanner is due out in June or July. Retail price I believe is \$349.99!! Yikes but it looks like it was worth it. I'm sure some of the mail and internet retailers will sell it for less. The unit on display at CES was non-operable but it did have the unit case and design there (pretty much no guts). The biggest features you will find here is CTCSS, 32 character alphanumeric display, and completely backlit radio commands. All this in a sturdy metal case with the same ruggedness as the 895xlt.

The hottest feature of the radio is explained and unhidden. School started for me and was chaotic so I couldn't get the video. I tried once and the computer kept crashing (using a cheap one at that time). But very soon the 780, SC180 and SC200 as well as the Uniden booth in whole will be on quicktime video.

Elaborating on the features a little more.... Menu driven program allows easy visual programming rather than key sequence programming. This also allows the scanner to be



small enough to be mobile, only having key features on their own buttons.

**NEW INFO**

THANKS to Brett Miller for this info and filling me in. The "control channel only" feature allows you to find a control channel and search the whole trunked

system by control channel only. This way you can search the 800MHz band and find the data channels. Then enter them in and let the scanner do the rest of the work finding the rest of the trunked system freqs automatically and allowing you to listen to the whole system without having to know the complete list of frequencies of the trunked system. Definately one of the BEST features to get this radio!! Seems like there was some legal issue \*maybe\* that kept Uniden from allowing the use of this feature. I don't want to cause rumors so don't take my word for it ;) But the Data channel has always kept the hex code of all the system freqs in the data. The trunker can now retrieve that data from the datachannel and virtually enter them into your scanner to trunk. This means going to a city you've never been to and within a minute be scanning the city's trunked systems plain as day. It would still be nice though to get a talkgroup list of course ;) Definitely more as I find out more info!!

Full backlit display - no function key allows ALL of the button's features to be listed on the button so at night, you can read every button and not miss a function in the dark. No text above the buttons.

2 line alpha tags - allows 16 characters per line. The display is 5 lines.

Top line has channel number and function names

2nd line has trunking info

3rd line has frequency, mode, tone and signal strength

4th line large alpha tag

5th line smaller alpha tag

CTCSS/DCS finally!! We have tones for the scanner. No more relying on a ham radio for tones. Not only does it do the standard CTCSS tones but the newer technology called DCS which is digital and allows hundred or so additional tones to be digitally encrypted over the radio transmission. This isn't a decryption feature - just an expansion of what CTCSS already does.

Beep Alert. You can assign channels with a beep

alert so when it stops on a particular channel it will beep at you.

The reverse button allows you to move to the repeater input frequency. Now this I would like to figure out how. I know for ham's it is a definite 600cycles up or down from the output. But with public safety - their repeater inputs are not standard at all. The UHF ones are but the VHF ones are scattered every which way. They said when you hit the reverse button, it will move to the standard offset preprogrammed for that frequency range. So this will be nice for hams at least. Can't see a need for plain old scannists though.

#### **Key Features Include....**

- @500 channels
- @10 banks, 10 priority channels
- @Continuous band Coverage (25Mhz to 1.3Ghz less cell and UHF TV)
- @Trunktracker III , EDACS, Motorola, E.F. Johnson
- @Menu driven programming
- @Preprogrammed Service Searches (10)
- @Full Backlit Controls
- @Control Channel only
- @S.A.M.E Weather Alert
- @2 line alpha display
- @Smartscanner
- @Clone feature
- @Alpha tagging
- @CTCSS/DCS
- @AM/FM/WFM
- @PC Control
- @Beep Alert
- @Record
- @Reverse Button

#### **BETTER AUDIO FOR YOUR BC245**

I finally figured out a sound mod to give the 245 a crisper sound, similiar

- > to the icom r-2.
- > Remove the battery cover & battery pack. Remove the 4 screws from
- > the back cover & remove the cover. Remove the speaker connector up the left
- > side of the Rf board( white connector with black & white wires).After
- > removing
- > this, gently pry up on this board just below the 22 pin connector on lower
- > right
- > hand corner. Flip the board you just removed over on its back and find the

- > solder pads of the volume pot. Trace the outer two circuits to just below
- > the pads and you will find two surface mount components. The first a black numbered resistor, the second a brown capacitor, just below the first numbered resistor. Remove the brown capacitor and re-assemble radio. I assume no responsibility for any damages incurred while attempting this mod, however I like the sound of mine a lot better,

#### **SCANNER MASTER UPDATE**

##### **By Warren Silverman**

Yes you can mention the book, planned to be 5.5 X 8.5 like monitor America, limited to 480 pages, getting rid of the far north of new york, concentrating on public safety. Need material, especially trunked. I thought you had a BC245. I like it a lot, much better than a BC235, has some nice features. Only downside is lack of speaker volume while mobile, in my truck i use an amplified speaker, need one for the car. Also just off the top of my head Levittown NY FD 470.300R 97.4 Hz Saddle River PD is using 453.6875, it seemed like a low power repeater, Medford NY Vol Amb 453.55R D654

Also, looking for confirmation that Union City, NJ may have moved to an 800 MHz system WPIZ-559; 866.35, 867.1625, 868.1875, 868.2125, 868.4 Would appreciate any verification on this. Readers can E mail me at [scanman9@ix.netcom.com](mailto:scanman9@ix.netcom.com)

#### **MILITARY SAT MONITORING INFO**

[http://www.geocities.com/combat\\_sent\\_bill/mil-sats.html](http://www.geocities.com/combat_sent_bill/mil-sats.html)

#### **RF-BURN CHANNELS**

##### **E-4B NEACP**

##### **E-6B TACAMO**

[http://www.geocities.com/combat\\_sent\\_bill/rf\\_burn.html](http://www.geocities.com/combat_sent_bill/rf_burn.html)

The "BURN" Channels have received their name from the fact they were designed with a 1KW transmitter to allow the signal to "BURN" its way through the nuclear EMP (Electromagnetic Pulse), QRM (manmade noise) including intentional "jamming" and QRN (natural noise).

#### **WADO PAGE - By Jim Hawkins**

<http://www.exit109.com/~jimh/wado.shtml>

Recently, WADO, razed its 1934 built Blaw-Knox tower and replaced it with a new tower with 2

additional towers for a new directional power. A 5 KW Collins transmitter was removed and from what I was told by one of the crew, destroyed (I almost cried) and was replaced with a Harris DX-50 and DX-10 + Harris Phasing unit.

I wish I had known sooner about the Collins, I would have loved to lug home a few tubes and/or even the Collins label on the transmitter.

Tom Zeleski, the engineer in charge, was kind enough to permit me to wander around and take photos of the facility. As a result of that tour, I put up a webpage for WADO. I only wish I had made the effort to find some way to tour the facility before the change.

As you read the text, I have indicated that most information was concluded by myself and more information, such as power and directional schedules and tower heights, is still needed for the page. I had dropped in, unexpected and unknown at a busy time, so I did not want to interfere with the work too much with lots of questions.

Jim Hawkins - WA2WHV

### **IDENTIFYING DIGITAL MODES**

<http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Cockpit/2800/digital/index.htm>

Here a great site that has a short sound bite of dozens of digital modes. Certainly worth a visit!

### **NNJ-SCAN NEWS**

Many of our readers are subscribers of the NNJ-SCAN news list. Dave Kozinn, its moderator and founder recently earned his amateur license. Dave's call is **KC2FZT**. I'm sure Dave will be joining us each week, time permitting, on the net so please be sure to welcome him and be sure to pass along any feedback on his mail list that you may have.

### **POTPOURRI FROM W12Q**

New Satellite Excitement for the Mobile FM or APRS Traveler/user.

SUNSAT is now transmitting a pre-recorded VOICE on 145.825 during today's passes. The signal is dead full quieting on any 2m FM receiver.

UO-14 was enabled for VOICE just like AO-27 last night. So add it to your tracking list. Uplink is 145.975 and downlink is 435.070 FM! This triples

the on-orbit FM satellite voice capabilities.

Dot and Star frequencies are used by many business.

The dot frequencies are probably more commonly used than the star.

Blue Dot	154.5700
Red Dot	151.6250
Green Dot	154.6000
Purple Dot	151.9550
Brown Dot	464.5000
Yellow Dot	464.5500
White Dot	462.5750
Black Dot	462.6250
Orange Dot	462.6750
J Dot	467.7625
Dot	457.8125
Silver Star	467.8500
Red Star	467.9000
Gold Star	467.8750
Blue Star	467.9250

### **SUFFOLK COUNTY UPDATE**

The Suffolk County police department is no longer simulcasting on vhf (155mhz) for their 1st-3rd & 5th pcts. Trunk Trackert scanners are needed to monitor them on the county's 800 trunked system. the 2nd-4th-6th & command bands remain simulcast on vhf for now & that can cease at any time.  
Dan-KC2DHF

### **JERSEY CITY MEDICAL CENTER**

On a recent net someone asked what frequencies JC Medical Center might be using. This caused me to do some research tonight. The following are the frequencies for the Motorola Type II system (you need BC245XLT):

935.450  
935.4625  
935.4875  
936.1375  
936.175  
936.450  
936.4625  
936.475  
936.4875  
936.700  
937.150  
937.9125  
938.000  
938.225  
939.1875

It gets more interesting when you consider that this

system has many users. You may note that WPIX (a.k.a. Tribune NY Properties) uses this system. Readers may remember that we have reported in a previous issue that NY Marathon communications moved to 900 mhz. This appears to have answered that mystery! Users of this system (located on WTC) are:

2527 Corporation  
 Abc Limo Corp  
 Affirmative Pipe Cleaning  
 Ajomar Transportation Inc  
 Alka Fuel Oil Corp  
 Apex Trucking  
 Approved Ambulance  
 Arirang Car Service  
 Autobus Inc  
 Boston Coach  
 Crest Ambulette & Coach Service  
 D Annunzio & Sons Inc  
 Deborah Car Service  
 Dms Corp  
 Duo Colony Fuel Oil Inc  
 Dynaserv Inc  
 Eastern Waste Services Co  
 Freedom Ambulance  
 Galaxy Volmar Inc  
 Habirah Car Service  
 Hamlette Disposal Inc  
 Hamlette Disposal Inc  
 Honeymoon Tour & Limo Inc  
 Hunts Point Auto Parts  
 J & H Radio Inc  
 Jersey City Medical Center  
 Knudson Elevator  
 Kukje Limo Car Service  
 Lacey & Sons Service Inc  
 Leardon Boiler Works  
 Lotte M K Limo & Car Service  
 Maximum Electric Corp  
 Meek Sok Inc  
 Merrick Car Service Inc  
 Metropolitan Construction  
 Motorola Inc  
 New York Automotive Center  
 New York Paving Division  
 New York, City of - Other Bus Lines in Nyc  
 P J Car Service  
 P J Mechanical Corp  
 Pal Pal Corp  
 Perfection plus Ambulance  
 Q T Trans  
 R C Cradle Boiler & Repair  
 R S Knapp Co Inc

Raf Inc  
 Romantique Limousine Inc  
 Rosans Auto Parts  
 Rug Renovating Co Inc  
 Santos Brothers Construction  
 Savino Leasing Inc  
 Schoolman Transportation  
 Shoreline Oil Co  
 Success  
 T N P Trucking  
 Tkr Cable Co  
 Tribune New York Properties Wpix (Nyc Marathon 1998)  
 Unity Car Service Inc  
 Van Club International Inc  
 Wilner Livery  
 Ye Ol Volks Haus

### **RADIO BABY TAGS**

**By Bob Sanford**

I saw this picture my brother took of his son's foot while in the hospital and found it particularly interesting. As soon as the baby is born a tag is put on the mother, father and also the child. In addition to an ID tag there is another device attached to the child's foot. You can see in the picture it says FCC, it's a device whereby if someone tries to remove the baby from the hospital it will sound an alarm. Kinda cool but sad that they have to do that nowadays als o.



### **IRIDIUM USERS MAY BE CUT OFF PERMANENTLY**

By Kevin Maney, USA TODAY

Iridium customers are getting notices saying the troubled satellite phone system is close to being turned off, which would leave many of them holding useless phones that cost \$3,000.

Once off, the \$6 billion system might not be able to

be restarted. The 66 satellites could become space junk - one of the costliest corporate strikeouts.

Motorola, which built, operates and owns 18% of Iridium, is sending out the notices this week. "Unless a qualified buyer comes forward and provides additional funding by March 15," the letter says, "we do not expect Iridium service to be available after 11:59 p.m. ET on March 17."

Motorola has not been paid by Iridium for operating the system, says Motorola spokesman Scott Wyman. Motorola has no plans to continue operations after March 17. Iridium, in bankruptcy, was granted enough money to keep going through that date.

Craig McCaw considered buying a controlling stake in Iridium, but last Friday backed out, dousing what seems to be Iridium's last hope.

Iridium customers sound more dazed than angry. Eddie Lamm has a Paris-based investment company that owns three Iridium phones, including one of the early models that cost \$3,000 and two recent versions, which cost half that. He's been watching Iridium fizzle since it was launched in January 1999. "You get a bit blasé about it after a while," he says.

"It's been such a long time coming," says Patty Aston of Seven Seas Communications, an Iridium dealer. "There's almost like a numbness" among customers, she says. Not everyone will end up with an expensive paperweight. People who bought Iridium phones directly from Motorola since January can get a refund. Seven Seas will give 75% refunds to those who got the phones within the past 12 months, Aston says. Iridium has about 20,000 customers.

Iridium says it is still trying to find an investor or buyer, but analysts don't expect anyone to surface.

While the system works, Iridium has fallen behind the times. It can handle only analog voice calls and pages in a market driven by digital data. Plus, land-based cellular systems have spread across almost all of the developed world, usurping the need for Iridium.

Once service is stopped, it will take time for Iridium's satellites and worldwide ground stations to be decommissioned, experts say. No one's sure when,

but at some point during that process, it would be nearly impossible to restart Iridium. The 66 satellites would be left to float in space.

***The Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this month's issue!***

Charlie - N2NOV, "R", Justin Mattes, Jim Hawkins,  
Dave - KC2FZT, WI2Q, Warren Silverman, KC2DHF