

How do I?

An occasional series

This week: A few of my favorite things: Handi-Talkie Style!

Ham radio is fun! Some things make it more fun!

I have acquired an assortment of handheld VHF or VHF/UHF dual band hand held radios. To be honest, I don't use them a lot, mostly at public service events like the Fantastic Parade in Dillsburg, PA, but when 'ya need one....

All of my HTs basically have the same frequency package installed. Keeping the configurations the same across a variety of equipment can be challenging. To simplify this chore I use the excellent software from RT Systems.



This RT Systems software is easy to learn and works well. There is other software out there, CHIRP is one, but you still need the cable. Simply put, RT Systems works for me!

I also replace the stock factory duck antenna with a Diamond. There are others: Comet and Smiley make some good ones; but again, Diamond does the job at the right price. I use the Diamond SRH77CA with the SMA connector but if I need another connector, I use another variant of the SRH77 series.

Speaker Mic....For public service events, I prefer a speaker microphone over the built-in microphone that came with the radio. I use Yaesu mics with my Yaesu radios, but I would also look at Pryme, especially if I could not locate the Yaesu mic for an older radio.

Another useful accessory is a protective carrying case. Mighty Pouch makes a variety of very well made and long durable belt cases for hand helds.



They have a series of them designed to fit various radios. I was surprised as when I bought mine they seemed to be 'one size fits all'.

Catch 'ya on the air!

Links:

RT Systems <https://www.rtsystemsinc.com>
Sales 800-921-4834
Or, see their website for a listing of DEALERS

Mighty Pouch <https://www.mightypouch.com>
Call (855) GO-POUCH M-F 7:30 am to 4:00 pm Arizona Time

Diamond Antennas <https://www.diamondantenna.net>

Comet Antennas <https://www.cometantenna.com>

Smiley Antennas <https://www.smileyantenna.com>

Antennas are sold by a variety of Amateur Radio Equipment Dealers including:

DX Engineering	https://dxengineering.com
Main Trading Company	https://www.mtcradio.com
Ham Radio Outlet	https://www.hamradio.com
Giga Parts	https://gigaparts.com
Quick Silver Radio	https://qsradio.com
K1CRA Radio Store	http://k1cra.com

Speaker Mics:

Microphones are sold by a variety of Amateur Radio Equipment Dealers including:

DX Engineering	https://dxengineering.com
Main Trading Company	https://www.mtcradio.com
Ham Radio Outlet	https://www.hamradio.com
Giga Parts	https://gigaparts.com