



Parallel Port Acquisition Unit for Portable Worldwide Weather Fax

The PPA-500 is an external weather facsimile acquisition unit which connects to a standard parallel port in any PC. It includes a high quality synthesized receiver as well as digitizing circuitry and microprocessor to communicate with the PC.

Since the PPA-500 uses no PC expansion slots, it is perfect for use with laptops and other portable computers. 12 volt DC operation makes it ideal for mobile and marine applications. Another feature which makes it very useful for portable systems is that it can decode all analog weather facsimile formats, even HF Fax and GMS Wefax for use in Asia and the Western Pacific.

We have adapted our background ingestion software to work with the PPA-500 so the ingesting computer can be used for other things while images are being acquired automatically.

Features

- UHF input (for WEFAX downconverter) with power feed-thru to downconverter
- Selectable Wide/Narrow Band demodulation
- Decodes WEFAX from GOES, METEOSAT, GMS
- VHF input for APT (from antenna/preamp)
- Tunable Synthesized Receiver
- Audio input with AM or FM decoding for HF FAX (FM) (from HF radio receiver), or Other AM Fax (leased line or broadcast)
- Onboard speaker with volume/mute/squelch
- Onboard microprocessor + fast A/D converter
- Selectable carrier locked sampling
- 800 or 1600 pixels per scan line
- Background ingestion with PSAVE software allows multi-use of ingestion PC
- Two PPA-500 units can run simultaneously
- Bundled with MEGAVIEW 97 display software



Specifications

Size	7.5" x 9.5" x 1.5"
Weight	3 lbs
Power (wall mount supply included)	12 - 14 VDC, 1 amp
UHF, VHF inputs	female BNC, 50 ohms
VHF frequency range	136.000 - 138.000 MHz
UHF frequency range	137.450 - 141.550 MHz before downconverter 1690.950 - 1694.550 MHz
VHF Sensitivity	<0.3 uV (APT, GOES), <1.5 uV (GMS)
1st IF (Bandwidth)	10.700 MHz (280 KHz)
2nd IF (Bandwidth)	455 KHz (50 KHz)
Image rejection	>60 dB
RF gain control	10 dB
Signal level range	70 dB
Frequency step size	5 KHz (software control)
Preamp power (out VHF input)	12 VDC @ 30mA
Downconverter power (out UHF input)	500 mA max
External audio input	RCA jack via front panel cable
External audio input impedance	100 K ohms
External audio input level	0.1 V p-p to 2.5 V p-p
HF black frequency	1500 Hz
HF white frequency	2300 Hz
Signal strength out (front panel)	0 to 4 VDC
External speaker output (front panel)	8 ohms
Volume Control	100 step (software control)
Squelch	software on/off
Mute	software on/off