



Selling radio gear is a thirsty business



Chris Moulding and XYL pictured with a mock-up of the CM1000 HF transceiver which should be available towards the end of December. The British manufactured and designed set, which operates on all bands from 160 through to 20 metres, will cost about £500 complete with power supply.

NEWSFLASH

Catronics Ltd of Wallington, Surrey has gone into voluntary liquidation. Customers should contact the company at its present address for full details. VHF Communication distribution is now being handled by G3XPB, QTHR.

British HF transceiver

Chris Moulding Radio Services, the Bolton based amateur equipment maker tells us that the first of his new transceivers should be ready towards the end of December.

Covering the HF bands from 160 to 20 (including the new 30m allocation) the set provides SSB, AM and CW

operation at the 100W PEP output level from a pair of 6146 output valves.

The rest of the set is solid-state with frequency display by LCD readout. The receiver circuit is based around the Plessey high performance SL6440C mixer circuit. It also claims a "novel dual rate agc

system to minimise static crashes".

Although there are valves in the output Chris Moulding has managed to do away with the classic anode tune and loading controls by the use of prealigned circuits. The TX also incorporates ALC and a speech compressor on microphone audio.

The arrangement of the set is reminiscent of the KW2000E in that it has a separate power supply contained within a box of similar proportions to the transceiver unit itself.

Chris Moulding says that the price for the new set will be £399 for the CM1000 plus £95 for the matching power supply/speaker. Ham Radio Today has been promised the first review model and we will bring you a precise evaluation just as soon as we have it.

70 cms never in danger

Officials at both the Home Office and Ministry of Defence have confirmed that there is no intention to exclude radio amateurs from the 70cms band.

A spokesman for the Home Office told *Ham Radio Today* that it had received no notification from the MoD to revise the status of the band and it was therefore available to the amateur service.

A spokesman for the MoD told this magazine that the Ministry had no plans to increase its usage of frequencies within the range 430 to 440MHz and that, even now, its only occupation was six 25kHz channels interleaved with the amateur UHF repeater network. Since the

amateur and military services are offset by 25kHz "both primary and secondary users could operate together without mutual interference" he said.

The story arose because of a problem with one of the North London/Herts repeaters. According to the Home Office some interference was caused to MoD installations but the problem has subsequently been rectified to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Six metres

For those who don't already know the Merriman report on the review of the spectrum from 30 to 960MHz recommends to the Home Office that amateurs should be given an allocation in the band from 50 to 54MHz. It is likely therefore that we will get one.

In recommending an

amateur allocation the report says: "We believe that radio amateurs play a part in increasing the understanding of radio and are worthy of encouragement. We therefore recommend that, if the detailed planning of Band one can be so arranged, radio amateurs be given an appropriate allocation in the 50 to 54MHz band.

In the meantime class A

licence holders wishing to experiment with six metres can apply to the Radio Regulatory Department, Waterloo Bridge House for experimental permits useable after broadcasting hours.

● We understand that US amateurs have now been given access to the 30 metre (10MHz) band. Look out for those W, N and K callsigns.