

November 21, 2015

Diana Feinberg, Al6DF Staff 60



- 1. Why so few choices in equipment until lately
- 2. History of the 222-225 MHz band...and a new threat
- 3. Recent developments in 222-225 MHz mobile radios
- 4. Recent developments in 222-225 MHz handheld radios



1. Why so few choices in equipment until lately

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222-225 MHz amateur band historically under-utilized in the U.S. due to lack of equipment choices



U.S. 222-225 MHz amateur band until recently had few radio choices because no world-wide market

- 222-225 MHz amateur band only in Western Hemisphere
- Used for television broadcasting elsewhere
 - Ireland, Channel J
 - Video: 223.25 MHz
 - Western Europe; most of Africa and Asia; Australia, New Zealand:
 - Channel 11 audio: 222.75 MHz
 - Channel 12 video: 224.25 MHz
 - Eastern Europe:
 - Channel 12 video: 223.75 MHz

222-225 MHz amateur band under-utilized in the U.S. due to lack of equipment choices...but that is changing



Many new 222-225 MHz radios recently... more expected

- Most new radios coming from China; several from U.S. maker
- Prices very reasonable...but quality varies
- Plenty of reasons to get on the 222-225 MHz band

LACDCS has 224.300 MHz repeater on Mt. Disappointment let's use it



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Ham radio lost its 220-222 MHz segment in 1988 due to illfated United Parcel Service radio system



Some history about the 222-225 MHz ham band

- 1938: Ham radio given 220-225 MHz
- 1970's: Little commercial equipment to modify for use in 220-225 MHz; band largely quiet
- 1973-1977: FCC considered and rejected 224 MHz for another "Citizens Band"
- 1988: United Parcel Service lobbied & got 220-222 MHz for proposed fleet and package tracking system
 - Narrow-banded SSB voice and data network envisioned
 - But UPS turned to cellular providers for wireless tracking
 - UPS abandoned 220-222 MHz, FCC auctioned it to others

Amateurs need to use our 222-225 MHz band more, can't let spectrum sit idle



Some more history about the 222-225 MHz ham band

- 1990: Amateur radio decided to prevent another spectrum giveback; major makers started selling 1.25-meter radios
- Early 2000's: Major brands (ex-Alinco) stopped selling 222-225 MHz radios
- 2012-2015: Lesser makers launched low-cost 222-225 MHz radios, often using non-traditional retail distribution
- 2014-2015: A new threat emerging from below in 220-222 MHz

A railroad signaling technology called "Positive Train Control" now the biggest threat to 222-225 Mhz ham band



After some fatal train accidents, 10 frequencies across 220-222 MHz assigned for Positive Train Control

- 2008: Chatsworth MetroLink crash with freight train started PTC
- PTC systems use three components with 220 MHz radios
 - Locomotive speed control and display
 - Bi-directional transmission of track, train speed conditions
 - On-board navigation system with database of track speed limits, other considerations for braking
 - Goals: immediately warn train engineer, automatically activate brakes in 15 seconds
- Ten existing frequencies not enough in major urban areas

A railroad signaling technology called "Positive Train Control" now the biggest threat to 222-225 Mhz ham band



Currently you will find Positive Train Control here:

Frequency	Туре	Tone	Alpha Tag	Description	Mode	Tag
220.12750	BM		PTC-1	Positive Train Control 1	FMN	Data
220.13250	BM		PTC-2	Positive Train Control 2	FMN	Data
220.13750	BM		PTC-3	Positive Train Control 3	FMN	Data
220.14250	BM		PTC-4	Positive Train Control 4	FMN	Data
220.14750	BM		PTC-5	Positive Train Control 5	FMN	Data
220.75250	BM		PTC-6	Positive Train Control 6	FMN	Data
220.76750	BM		PTC-7	Positive Train Control 7	FMN	Data
220.77250	BM		PTC-8	Positive Train Control 8	FMN	Data
221.75750	Μ		PTC-9	Positive Train Control 9	FM	Data
221.76750	Μ		PTC-10	Positive Train Control 10	FM	Data



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During 2001-2010 Alinco DR-235T was about the only 220 mobile transceiver sold; DCS has these in most stations





- Familiar radio in most LACDCS rooms
- Ventura Co. disaster groups heavily use this radio
- Easy to manually program
- Head not detachable
- 25 watts, 100 channels
- But...issues with IF filter failure, final PA easy to blow out

Constal	
Genaral	
Frequency range	TX: 222.000 - 224.995 MHz
	RX: 216.000 - 279.995MHz
Operating mode	16K0F3E (FM)/8K50F3E (Narrow-FM)
Frequency resolution	5, 8.33, 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 25, 30, 50 KHz
Memory channel	100 channels + 1 call channel
Ant. impedance	50 ohm unbalanced
Frequency stability	+/- 2.5 ppm
Microphone impedance	2K ohm
Rated voltage	13.8 VDC +/- 15% (11.7-15.8V)
Current	Transmit: approx. 8.0A
	(Squelched)
Operating temperature	-10Dig.C to +60Dig.C (+14Dig.F to +140Dig.F)
Ground	Negative ground
Dimensions	142(W) x 40(H) x 174(D) mm
	5.58"(W) x 1.57"(H) x 6.83"(D)
Weight	Approx. 1.0Kg (35.3oz)
Transmitter	
Power output	25W (HI)
	10W (MID)
	Approx. 5W (LOW)
Modulation	variable reactance
Spurious emission	-60 dB or less
Maximum frequency deviation	+/- 5 KHz / +/- 2.5 KHz (Narrow mode)
Receiver	
Circuitry	Double-conversion superheterodyne
Sensitivity	-12.0 dBu (0.25uV) or less (12dB SINAD)
Intermediate frequency	1st IF 30.85MHz, 2nd IF 455 KHz
Squelch sensitivity	-16.0 dBu (0.1 uV)
Selectivity (-6 dB)	12 KHz or more
	6 KHz or more (Narrow mode)
Selectivity (-60 dB)	28 KHz or less
	14 KHz or less (Narrow mode)
Audio output	2.0 W (8 ohm, 10% distortion)





59 eham.net reviews = 4.7 rating

The Jetstream JT-222M appeared to offer an alternative, but problems reported



Jetstream JT-222M



Price: \$199.95

Product ID : JETJT222M Manufacturer: Jetstream

Milwaukee: In stock Orlando: In stock Cleveland: In stock Las Vegas: Out of Stock

Item Description

220MHz FM Mobile

Detailed Description

220MHZ FM Mobile

50 Watts of output power 200 Memory channels Large LCD Display CTCSS/DCS 222-224.995 Mhz frequency range Backlit DTMF Microphone Memory Scan and Band Scan Time Out Timer Auto Power Off Alphanumeric Display Tone Burst Computer Programmable

28 eham.net reviews = 3.6 rating

50 watts, 200 memories, but... Complaints about units dying early; poorly-written manual; poor software

TYT (Hytera) then decided to enter the 220- MHz sector through Amazon.com...and transmit up to 260 MHz



_y rtment	-	Your Ama	zon.com	Today's Deals	Gift Cards	Sell	Help	i)			
ronics	Deals	Best Sellers	TV & Video	Audio & Hon	ne Theater	Compu	ters	Camera & Photo	Wearable Technology	Car Electronics & GPS	Portable

ics > Portable Audio & Video > CB & Two-Way Radios > CB Radios & Scanners



TYT TH-9000D 55 Watt 222Mhz Transceiver Amateur 200ch 220 Mhz

by TYT 全全全全全 · 79 customer reviews | 23 answered questions

List Price: \$249.99 Price: \$148.27 & FREE Shipping. Details You Save: \$101.72 (41%)

Only 2 left in stock. Sold by TNP Direct and Fulfilled by Amazon. Gift-wrap available.

Want it Monday, Oct. 19? Order within 13 hrs 38 mins and choose One-Day Shippir Details

- Frequency Range: VHF:136-174MHz
- Output Power: VHF: 10W/25W/60W
- CTCSS/DCS setting & scanning, Frequency/Channel scanning
- 8 group's of scrambler, 200 Channel Capacity
- High/Mid/Low power selectable

Frequency Range: VHF:136-174MHz 245-245	UHF: 400-480MHz		
Output Power: VHF: 10W/25W/60W	UHF: 45W/25W/10W		
8 group's of scrambler			
1750Hz Tone	CTCSS/DCS setting & scan	ning	
0-9 SQL grade setting	Frequency/Channel scanning	ng	
 High/Mid/Low power selectable 	 Voice compander 		
 Repeater offset shift 	Keypad lock function		
Contact book	 Battery voltage display 		
DTMF/2 tone/5 tone	ANI ID		
 Remote kill/ stun/ activate/ revive 	Emergenvy alarm		
 Wide/Narrow band setting 	 TX inhibit 		
 Busy Channel Lock-Out 	Channel name editing		
Reverse frequency	Talk around		
 Scrambler(Optional) 	 Voice prompt 		
Time-out Timer	Auto Power off		
VFO step setting:5/6.25/10/12.5/20/25/50kHz			



1.200 memory channels

2.FM radio

3.CTCSS/DCS

4.DTMF/2 Tone coder

27 eham.net reviews = 4.2 rating

55 watts, 200 channels



Recently some dual-band mobile radios with 222-225 MHz (and more) started appearing with detachable heads



http://www.buytwowayradios.com/pr oducts/wouxun/kg-uv920p-a.aspx

15 eham.net reviews = 3.2 rating

Can do 2m/220 cross-band;

or connect two units to create a 220 repeater;

Includes 88-108 FM broadcast band



New tri-band dual-receive radio with 220 capability ...about to appear in U.S. with 758 memory channels





AnyTone AT-5888UV III

(with removable face)

http://www.wouxun.us/item.php?item_id=343

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TX ranges go well outside ham bands—be careful

Frequency Range:

Left Side RX/TX	136-174 MHz, 200-260 MHz, 400-490 MHz
Left Side RX Only	AM: 108-134 MHz (Airband)
Right Side RX/TX	136-174 MHz, 400-490 MHz
Right Side RX Only	AM: 108-134 MHz (Airband)

Functions:

Working Mode	Full Duplex - UU, UV, VV Repeater Mode* - UV, VU
Dual Receive	Side A & Side B
Output Power	50 Watts VHF, 40 Watts UHF 25 Watts 220 Low Power Steps, 5/10/20w (5/10/15w on 220MHz)
Other Functions	Memory Groups 758 Memory Channels CTCSS / DCS / DTMF 2-Tone / 5-Tone encode and decode Bandwidth: Narrow & Wide Scrambler Compander Channel Steps: 2.5/5/6.25/10/12.5/15/20/25/50 ANI Function: DTMF/ANI, 5-Tone/ANI DTMF Microphone *Cross-band Repeat Mode: 144 <> 220 No 220 <> 440 Yes 144 <> 440 Yes



ANGELES

Soz

CO,

OMMUNICAT

AnyTone AT-5888UV III (with removable face)

Certification for this radio will not be Part 90

This radio cross-bands from 220 to 440

Frequency Range:

Left Side RX/TX	136-174 MHz, 200-260 MHz, 400-490 MHz
Left Side RX Only	AM: 108-134 MHz (Airband)
Right Side RX/TX	136-174 MHz, 400-490 MHz
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	220 <> 440 Yes



AnyTone AT-5888UV III (with removable face)

ALL EC

Certification for this radio will not be Part 90

A very promising "almost commercial-build" 220 radio soon to appear





BCM-220 MHz 1.25m Mob

\$ 240.00 \$ 290.00

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Add to cart	2		

Pre-Order Now!

Introducing the BCM-220 Mobile Radio by BridgeCom Systems, Inc. The BC range of the RF Spectrum. The BCM-220 is packed with features including Alpha-Numeric Display, Front Panel Speaker and 250 memory channels. T capability of adding a Bluetooth mobile dongle kit for extended out-of-vehicl Radio, DTMF microphone, mounting hardware, 12V power cord, and progra 1.25m band today with a BCM-220.

- e 222.0-224.995 MHz Rx and Tx, 219-220.0 MHz Data
- · Selectable 0-25 watts nominal, 30 watts max high quality Mitsubishi RF
- · 250 Channel Capability
- High Quality ± 1.5 ppm Frequency Stability TCXO
- Alpha-Numeric Dot Matrix Display
- CTSS/DCSS Enc/Dec
- DTMF Enc/Dec, ANI
- UHE Female Antenna Connector

http://www.bridgecomsystems.com/products/bcm-220-mhz-mobile-radio

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Pre-Order Now!

Introducing the BCM-220 Mobile Radio by BridgeCom Systems, Inc. The BCM-220 operates in 220 MHz (1.25m) range of the RF Spectrum. The BCM-220 is packed with features including 30 watt Mitsubishi power amplifier, Alpha-Numeric Display, Front Panel Speaker and 250 memory channels. The BCM-220 mobile radios have the capability of adding a Bluetooth mobile dongle kit for extended out-of-vehicle range. Included in the package is the Radio, DTMF microphone, mounting hardware, 12V power cord, and programming software and cable. Get on the 1.25m band today with a BCM-220.

- 222.0-224.995 MHz Rx and Tx, 219-220.0 MHz Data
- · Selectable 0-25 watts nominal, 30 watts max high quality Mitsubishi RF Power Amplifier
- · 250 Channel Capability
- High Quality ± 1.5 ppm Frequency Stability TCXO
 - Alpha-Numeric Dot Matrix Display
 - CTSS/DCSS Enc/Dec
 - DTMF Enc/Dec, ANI
 - UHF Female Antenna Connector
 - Wide and Narrow FM Modes
 - User Selectable Squelch Level
 - Programmable home Channel Function
 - Emergency Call Mode/Open Mic Operation
 - Rear Panel RS232 Data Port (DE-15)
 - Rear External Speaker Output
 - Busy Channel Lockout
 - High Quality Front Panel Speaker
 - Internal Connecter for Optional Data Board
 - Remote Head mounting (you will need to source a longer cable)

Package includes: Radio, DTMF microphone, mounting hardware, 12V power cord, Free Programming Software and Cable. Additional accessories sold separately.



Some commercial models are used as taxi radios in Asia





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Mods to commercial radios don't always work; what happened to our first MHz with this 217-222 radio?



Search...

ck to search results | Listed in category: Consumer Electronics > Radio Communication > Ham, Amateur Radio > Ham Radio Transceivers Business & Industrial > MRO & Industrial Supply > Commercial Radios > Two-Way Radios



ANGELES

So

BridgeCom recently introduced a promising U.S.-made 220 MHz amateur repeater





Litt Brack i





BridgeCom Systems BCR-220 Repeater

\$ 995.00 \$ 1,700.00

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er Only	nly

The BridgeCom Systems BCR-220 FM Repeater is built for amateur radio. It operates in 222-225 MHz range of the RF spectrum. The BCR Repeater is a feature rich repeater/base station packed with loads of RF power and dual fans to run cool in the harshest environments. It is an excellent choice if you're considering a 220 repeater for your club or personal use. It is also an excellent choice for A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S. operation, and emergency management. Get on the 1.25m band today with a built in the USA BCR-220 repeater.





Features

BridgeCom Systems BCR-220 Repeate

\$ 995.00 \$ 1,700.00

1 🔿

Repeater Only	-
---------------	---

• 1.25m (222-225 MHz) - 30 Watts Continuous Duty

- Designed and built in the USA
- · 2 year warranty
- Windows® Based Programmer (Sold Seperately)
- Built-In 11.2A Power Supply
- · Battery Backup with Built-in Charging Circuit
- Dual Cooling Fans
- Front Panel Speaker
- 25-pin Accessory Connector
- · Adjustable Squelch
- 12.5 kHz/25 kHz Channel Spacing
- · Over-the-Air Programming and Maintenance via DTMF Tone Sequences
- · Built-in station CWID Morse rate programmable 10-25 wpm
- FREE Initial Programming

When you place your order please include Tx/Rx Frequency, PL Tone In/Out, Station ID, Desired Transmit Output Power within the Special Instructions during checkout.

Read the BCR-220 review on eham.net

5 eham.net reviews = 5.0 rating

30 watts, currently only turnkey 220 repeater;

Made in U.S.A.

Developments in HT radios for 222-225 MHz: ...Wouxun dual-band UV3-D used by many





- Covers 2-meters and 220
- Dual receivers
- Only transmits in ham bands
- Has built in LED flashlight
- Voice prompts (if desired)
- \$99; available at ham stores
- Make sure you get UV3D with 220;
- Same model # also in 2-meter/440

• eham.net: 70 ratings = 4.2

128 channels + broadcast FM 88-108 MHz, no out of band TX

Another Wouxun HT radio for 222-225 MHz: Unusual band combinations in this unit but only 3 watts on 220





Click to open expanded view

Wouxun Kg-uv899 Two Way Radio Transceiver Dual Band (220-260/400-520 Mhz)

by Wouxun ★★★★★ ▼ 1 customer review

Price: \$85.96 & FREE Shipping

Only 9 left in stock. Ships from and sold by lightinthepackage.

- Operate on 5 watts UHF and 3 watts VHF with high or low selectable power options.
- 199 programmable memory channels with DTMF encode/decode, 50 CTCSS/105 DCS Groups and ANI (Caller ID).
- A 1570Hz Burst Tone, voice guide, call ring, reverse frequency function, channel name edit and display, inspection, monitor, stun, kill and emergency alarm.
- A 76-108Mhz digital FM radio is also built right in.
- 199 Memory Channels Dual Band 220-260MHz VHF Frequencies (3 Watts) 400-520MHz UHF Frequencies (5 Watts)

3 new from \$85.96

199 channels + broadcast FM 88-108 MHz + out of band

Even lower-cost HT radios for 222-225 MHz: Many that go out of band being sold through non-ham retail channels



idio & Video > CB & Two-Way Radios > Two-Way Radios



Click to open expanded view

BaoFeng UV-82X (USA Warranty) Dual-Band 136-174/220-260 MHz FM 2 Meter / 1.25 Meter Ham Two-way Radio, Transceiver, HT - With Battery, Earpiece, Antenna, Charger, and More

List Price: \$79.99

Price: \$49.99 & FREE Shipping. Details

You Save: \$30.00 (38%)

In Stock.

Sold by BaoFeng Tech, AnyTone Tech and Fulfilled by Amazon.

Want it tomorrow, Oct. 17? Order within 11 hrs 13 mins and choose Same-Day Delivery at checkout. Details

- Baofeng Tech is the only authorized USA Baofeng Distributor to honor the Manufacturer Warranty. Only
 Baofeng Tech offers warranty claims without shipping anything to China. You must insure that Baofeng
 Tech is your selected buying option when buying to be able to have the full USA warranty.
- Frequency Range: 65-108 MHz(Only commercial FM radio reception) VHF: 136-174 MHz(Rx/Tx). UHF: 220-260 MHz(Rx/Tx), Broad (Wide) / Narrowband (Narrow), High power / Iow (5W/1W), selectable.
- Selectable Frequency Step/2.5/5/6.25/10/12.5/25 kHz, Function "VOX" (Voice Operated Transmission), "OFFSET" (frequency offset for repeater access).
- Dual-band handheld transceiver with display function menu on the display "LCD". Function Busy Channel Lock "BCLO".
- Helpful BaoFeng Guides and Programming Tips at Miklor.com
- > See more product details

128 channels + broadcast FM 88-108 MHz + out of band

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This low-power TYT does 2m/220 in a small package



VIGED > CD & TWO-WAY RADIUS > TWO-WAY RADIUS



TYT TH-UV3R Dual Band Micro Amateur HT Radio 2m/220 mhz

Price: \$53.98 & FREE Shipping

Only 15 left in stock.

Ships from and sold by lightinthepackage.

- Dual Band 136-174 & 220-260 MHz, FM Broadcast Receive, Wide Band / Narrow Band
- 128 Channels, 2.5 Watts High Power -- 0.8 Watts Low Power
- Full Keypad, CTCSS -- DCS, USB Chargable Li-ion Battery
- 1750 Tone , Computer Programmable , Alpha Name Tags
- Voice/Beep/OFF
- See more product details

3 new from \$48.98

Eham.net rating: 12 reviews = 4.3 Only 2.5 watts max.,128 channels + broadcast FM 88-108 MHz + out of band

© 2015 Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service

Developments in HT radios for 222-225 MHz: A low-cost alternative to the Kenwood TH-F6A...for only \$66





TYT TH-UVF8D 70-108MHz(FM Receive only) , 136-174MHz/220-260MHz , 400-520MHz/400-520MHz Walkie Talkie Repeater Amateur transceiver 128 Groups Channels Storage Two Way Radio Black 5W

by TYT Be the first to review this item

Price: \$119.99 Sale: \$66.39 + \$6.15 shipping You Save: \$53.60 (45%)

In stock.

Usually ships within 4 to 5 days. Ships from and sold by Lamon LUI.

- Frequency: 70-108MHz(FM Receive only), 136-174MHz/220-260MHz, 400-520MHz/400-520MHz
- · Voice companding , PC programmable ,
- Output power:UHF:5W/1W VHF:4W/0.5W
- A/B band independent operation .
- Remote skill/stun/activate(optional)
- See more product details

128 channels + broadcast FM 88-108 MHz + out of band

Very recent HT for 222-225 MHz: BridgeCom BCH-220 BCH-220 Handheld Radio



Alternative to other low-cost 220 MHz HTs; 199 channels; no out of band TX

\$ 85.00

Options		
BCH-220 Radio	•	
Quantity		
Add to cart		

BCH-220 Intro Video

Available Now!

Introducing the new BCH-220 Handheld Radio for 1.25m 220 MHz. It's just what you need in a 220 MHz portable. The BCH-220 is small, durable, light weight and has excellent battery life. You can easily adjust the power from 5 watts down to 2 watts. It has 199 programmable channels to store all your favorites and it sounds great too. The BCH-220 fits nicely in the palm of your hand and has a bright easy to read LCD display. Make your next handheld radio a BCH-220! The BCH-220 includes a Battery, Antenna, Belt Clip, Charger Base and Wall Plug. Download programming software for Free. Programming cable sold separate. Other accessories available.

ANGELES

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- 219-260 MHz Rx and 222.0-224.995 MHz Tx
- · 5 Watts or 2 Watts
- 199 Channels
- LCD Display
- DTMF Keypad
- FREE Programming Software: Download from Support
- 1 Year Warranty

© 2015 Los Angeles County Disaster Comme Included with the BCH-220: Desktop Charger and Wall Plug, Belt Clip, Wrist Strap



- Credit goes to China radio makers, selling for other uses too
- Product quality of some units not very good
- Manuals for some not well-written, programming by hand difficult
- Be careful where you transmit (some go out of ham bands)
- Bottom line: Wider selection and low prices will lead to more 220 MHz amateur operators, including in DCS
- We have LACDCS 224.300 MHz repeater for DCS—let's use it
- For more info on 222-225 MHz in Southern California and list of coordinated repeaters, visit www.220sma.org

Thanks for watching.