▶TECHUPDATES

2WCOM ADDS FEATURES TO A30 MONITORING SYSTEM

FLENSBURG, GERMANY — 2wcom says its A30 monitoring receiver provides a versatile range of options for measurement, control, alarms and demodulation.

Since launching the A30 last year, the company has added several features such as a DAB+ module and MPX measurement options. Additionally, the device can now function as a backup rebroadcast receiver and as a RDS-Data as well.

The A30 is designed to let operators configure system settings — parameters like RF level, pilot signal, MPX power and deviation, RDS synchronization, TA and PI — for each station individually. In addition, it offers various options for FM/RDS and DAB+ monitoring.

For example, the system's two integrated tuners can monitor two FM stations simultaneously day and night, but the second tuner can monitor up to 30 broadcasting stations using scan mode. Moreover, the web interface for MPX measurements allows technicians to control the MPX deviation according to the requirements of regulation authorities.

The DAB+ module allows the monitoring of parameters like RF level, FIC quality, audio level or image slideshow (SLS). If a value does not comply with the pre-settings, an alarm can be forwarded via SNMP, email or relay to a service center. Alarm activities are logged and stored with time stamp, type of alert and the equivalent frequency.

2wcom says that the A30 can serve as a backup source and the ISD (Intelligent Silence Detection), offering transmission security with its active and passive "loop-through" feature that loops through incoming external audio/MPX signals to its outputs via relays.

It is able to measure the incoming external audio/MPX source and in the case of signal degradation, switch the output source to an internal FM tuner.

For information, contact 2wcom in Germany at +49-461-662830-0 or visit www.2wcom.com.

HENRY ENGINEERING'S POWERTRACKER MONITORS TRANSMITTER SITE VOLTAGE

SEAL BEACH, CALIFORNIA — Henry Engineering notes that one of the most important conditions to monitor at a remote transmitter site is the incoming AC line voltage.
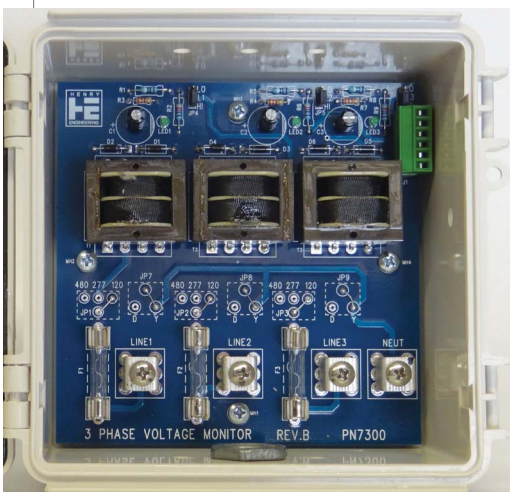
Because most sites are at the end of a long run of utility wiring, the power supplied is susceptible to voltage variations. These can be long-term voltage sags or rises, as well as short-term dips and surges caused by other users on the electrical grid.

Any variation in supply voltage will have an effect on transmitter performance and should be closely monitored so that station personnel are alerted if the AC supply voltage goes outside of normal limits, the company says.

PowerTracker, a new product from Henry Engineering and Sine Control Technology Inc., allows transmitter site AC voltage to be monitored remotely using virtually any transmitter remote control/telemetry system.

PowerTracker is connected to the AC mains as close to the utility entry point as practical. PowerTracker generates a low-voltage DC output that is proportional to the AC input voltage. This DC sample is fed to a telemetry input channel on the transmitter site's remote control system. Once the system is calibrated, the DC sample can be monitored remotely to indicate the site's AC supply voltage. The remote control system's Hi and Lo limits can be set to trigger an alarm if the DC sample goes out of tolerance.

PowerTracker can monitor single-phase as well as three-phase Wye and three-phase Delta service. Any line voltage can be monitored: 120, 208, 240, 277 or 480 volts. Only one PowerTracker unit is needed to monitor all three phases. Once installed, PowerTracker needs no adjustment or maintenance.

PowerTracker is now in stock at all Henry Engineering dealers. The list price is $395.

For information, contact Henry Engineering in the United States at +1-562-493-3589 or visit www.henryeng.com.

DAVICOM IS COMPATIBLE WITH SNMP V3

QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC —Davicom's SNMP-capable products, the DV-Mini and DV-208/216, have SNMP V3-compatible agents onboard to allow secure, encrypted and authenticated remote site management via an SNMP manager program. In addition, these products have a built-in SNMP V3 manager in firmware to allow secure, encrypted command, control and monitoring of critical site infrastructure.

Davicom said its SNMP agent can be used to connect legacy, non-SNMP devices and make them compatible with an SNMP network. The Davicom SNMP Manger can act like an information concentrator, summarizing readings and alarms from numerous on-site SNMP devices and returning these data to a central site. The SNMP manager readings can also feed directly into Davicom's decision-making structure for onsite intelligence.

Both Davicom's agent and manager offer MD5 and SHA authentication as well as DES and AES encryption for privacy.

For information, contact Davicom in Canada at +1-418-682-3380 or visit www.davicom.com.
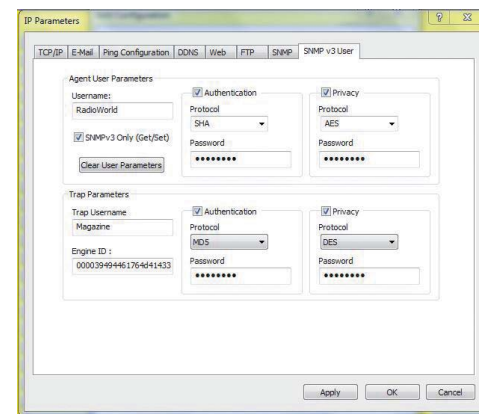
BELAR AMMA-2 AM MOD MONITOR WATCHES THE PEAKS

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA — The Belar AMMA-2 is a DSP-based, microprocessor-controlled, digital AM modulation monitor/analyzer that measures positive and negative peak modulation, peaks per minute, average peak modulation, modulation density and other parameters.

In addition to monitoring standard AM modulation, the AMMA-2 monitors modulation-dependent carrier level (MDCL) AM transmissions.

During MDCL broadcasts, Belar notes, the RF carrier level becomes a dynamic component of the AM signal. The AMMA-2 tracks the carrier, capturing the highest and lowest values of the carrier level, as well as the decibel ratio of the carrier high/low. Modulation readings are referenced to the carrier level appropriate for the MDCL system in use. The optional remote meter panel displays positive modulation, negative modulation and carrier level simultaneously on three large analog meters.

The AMMA-2 features user-defined parameters and settings for maximum flexibility. Two large up/down Menu keys are used to cycle the 16-character alphanumeric display to the desired menu; the up/down Parameter keys are then used to select the desired setting. The unit configuration may be saved to the on-board non-volatile memory. Belar WizWin software can also be used for unit control and graphic/logging capability of all measurements.

For information, contact Belar in the United States at +1-610-687-5550 or visit www.belar.com.