

RDF PRODUCTS

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Product Data Sheet; Model DFP-1000B Single-Channel Watson-Watt DF Bearing Processor/Display w/Full RS-232 Control

FEATURES

- Adds DF Capability to Most Receivers
- Real-Time Polar TFT Bearing Display
- Real-Time Remote Operation w/Software
- AM/FM/CW/SSB Demodulation
- Simultaneous DF & Listen-Through
- Ultra-Fast Pulse Response Capability
- 6/15/30/200 kHz IF Bandwidths



DESCRIPTION

The RDF Products Model DFP-1000B is a single-channel Watson-Watt DF bearing processor/display unit that, in conjunction with an appropriate RDF Products DF antenna economically adds DF capability to almost any receiver. The DFP-1000B is a professional-quality unit that is compact, rugged, and easy to operate.

DF receivers traditionally have been very expensive as a result of low-volume production. With the “add-on” DF bearing processor concept as embodied in the DFP-1000B, however, DF capability can be achieved far more economically by using either an existing receiver or one of the many highly capable wide frequency coverage low-cost consumer-market receivers.

The DFP-1000B easily interfaces to most receivers via its standard 10.7 MHz (or custom) IF interface. The unit can also interface to the host receiver via its AM audio output. As a result, the DFP-1000B can interface to most any receiver with excellent results.

Unlike most competing add-on DF bearing processors, the bearing accuracy of the DFP-1000B is nearly impervious to host receiver anomalies associated with group delay variations and AGC characteristics. As a result, there is no need to implement expensive and time-consuming modifications to the host receiver in order to make it “DF-ready”.

The DFP-1000B employs a unique 360° real-time TFT

bearing display that is unsurpassed in dynamic DF environments where either the signal source or DF station is in motion. This highly intuitive display format is essential for discriminating valid bearings from noise, reflections, and interference. A 3-½ digit numeric bearing display is also provided for fixed-site or other DF applications where higher bearing resolution is required.

Full remote capability is provided via a single RS-232 port. With the software provided, all features can be controlled and outputs displayed at the host computer. Additional serial ports are provided for connection of a host receiver, digital compass, and GPS receiver so that all of these peripheral system components can be managed at the host computer via the single RS-232 connection without the need for cumbersome external data multiplexers or hubs. The “open” RS-232 protocol is published in detail for the benefit of users who wish to write custom software.

The DFP-1000B features excellent listen-through capability. With most signal formats, undistorted audio output is obtainable simultaneously with DF operation. Demodulators are included for AM, FM, and CW/SSB with built-in speaker or headset audio output. Other features include four selectable IF bandwidths, bearing display track & hold, and eight selectable bearing integration times with pulse response down to 35 ms.

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SPECIFICATIONS (subject to change without notice)

DF Technique:	Single-channel Watson-Watt	Bearing Integration:	35/50/80/100/160/200/275/400 ms
Frequency Coverage:	Limited only by host receiver and DF antenna	Track & Hold:	3 sec nominal holding time
Bearing Displays:	Real-time 360° polar TFT and 3½-digit numeric displays	Audio Output Power:	1.5 watts into 8 ohms
Bearing Accuracy:	0.5° RMS (using 200 milli-second bearing integration)	RS-232 Interface (to host computer):	19200-N-8-1; data string includes embedded data from receiver, GPS, & compass
Bearing Resolution:	0.5°/0.1° (local/remote)	Power Requirements:	11-16 VDC @ 1.2 ampere (negative ground)
Receiver Signal Interface Format:	10.7 MHz (or custom) IF or AM audio output	Over- And Reverse-Voltage Protection:	18 volt shunt power Zener diode blows fuse
IF Signal Input Requirements:	-25 to -130 dBm into 50 ohms	Operating Temp.:	0 to +50 degrees C
AM Audio Signal Input Requirements:	10 mV-1.5V RMS with 0-600 ohm source impedance	Storage Temp.:	-40 to +70 degrees C
IF Bandwidths:	6/15/30/200 kHz	Humidity:	0-95% (no condensation)
		Dimensions:	4.5"x8.3"x10.6" (HxWxD)
		Weight:	6.3 lbs

APPLICATIONS INFORMATION

DF receiving systems traditionally consist of one or more DF antennas connected to a self-contained DF receiver. This DF receiver in turn consists of an appropriate radio receiver (specially designed and carefully aligned to minimize factors that induce bearing errors) having a built-in DF bearing processor and display. Such DF receivers are very expensive (especially those covering wide frequency ranges) due to low-volume production. Furthermore, when the user is faced with new frequency coverage requirements, it is necessary to duplicate this already heavy expenditure to accommodate the new frequency range.

The concept of a DF bearing processor that can work with an external low-cost non-DF host receiver is not new. Most attempts at implementing this concept, however, have yielded DF bearing processors with serious shortcomings. In some instances, they can work only with special receivers built by the same manufacturer. In other cases, intrusive and extensive modifications to the host receiver are required. In general, significant performance degradation must be accepted. Typical performance anomalies include bearing shifts with receiver tuning, IF bandwidth changes,

signal strength, and even as a result of volume control setting changes. In most cases, the resulting DF system is of sub-professional-quality.

The RDF Products Model DFP-1000B has been specifically designed to work in conjunction with the many low-cost wide frequency coverage receivers that have appeared on the consumer market in recent years. By virtue of careful implementation of a particularly suitable DF technique (i.e., the single-channel Adcock/Watson-Watt DF technique), the DFP-1000B easily interfaces with almost any receiver to economically provide a professional quality DF system free of the aforementioned performance anomalies. New frequency requirements can be easily and economically accommodated simply by purchasing an appropriate DF antenna.

The DFP-1000B replaces the earlier DFP-1000/DFP-1000A, employing an all-new modernized design with enhanced features, performance, and versatility unmatched by any single-channel DF processor at any price.

