

Report Of Intermodulation Product Findings

Washington, D.C.

**WAMU – 88.5 MHz.
WPFW – 89.3 MHz.
WETA – 90.9 MHz.
WTOP – 103.5 MHz.**

Project# 36240

February 18, 2020

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report of Findings for Intermodulation Product Measurements

Page 3-4.....	Introduction
Page 5	Carrier Reference Levels
Page 5	Table of Third order Products Expected
Page 6	Intermodulation Product Measurements for all Stations
Page 7	Conclusion
Page 8	Affidavit

Exhibits Accompanying This Report

EXHIBIT A	Antenna and Combiner Specification Sheet and Drawing
A-1.....	Drawing Depicting Antenna
A-2.....	ERI Antenna Specification Sheet
A-3.....	Drawing Depicting Combiner Module
A-4.....	ERI Combiner Specification Sheet
A-5.....	Theoretical Vertical Plane Relative Field Antenna Plots
EXHIBIT B-1	Intermodulation Product Measurement Equipment Layout
B-2.....	Broadcasting Scheme of the Multiplexed System

REPORT OF FINDINGS WASHINGTON, D.C. BROADCAST FACILITY

Introduction: This report of findings is based on data collected at the FM broadcast facility located in Washington, D.C. The report includes measurements offered as proof that the combined operations of WAMU (88.5 MHz.), WPFW (89.3 MHz.), WETA (90.9 MHz.), and WTOP (103.5 MHz.), transmitters are in compliance with the FCC Rules and Regulations as required by the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 47 section 73.317 paragraph (b) through (d). WPCG (95.5 MHz.), and WMMJ (102.3 MHz.), operate into separate antennas that are co-located on the tower. Their effects have been considered in this report as well. In brief, the collection of measurements presented in this report shows that all possible third order inter-modulation (IM) products generated by this multiplexed and single station systems are less than the maximum allowable level as required by section 73.317 (b) through (d). Jeff Taylor of Electronics Research, Inc. located in Chandler, Indiana performed the measurements summarized herein on February 18, 2020.

The following exhibits are provided:

Exhibit A:

- A-1 Drawing Depicting Cog Antenna.
- A-2 Cog 1084-9CP Antenna Specification Sheet.
- A-3 Drawing Depicting Multiplexed Scheme.
- A-4 Multiplexer Specification Sheet.
- A-5 Theoretical Vertical Plane Relative Field Antenna Plots

Exhibit B:

- B-1 Equipment Employed In Intermodulation Product Measurement.
 - B-2 Broadcasting Scheme of the Multiplexed Systems.
- Table 1. Carrier Reference Levels.
Table 2. Calculated Third Order Products.
Table 3. Intermodulation Analysis Measurements.

Exhibits Accompanying Report: Exhibit A provides comprehensive information on both antenna and filters used by these radio stations. Exhibit B illustrates the broadcasting scheme of each station, the layout of the equipment used to isolate and measure potential intermodulation products and forward carrier reference levels. Found within Table 1 are the narrow band carrier frequency measurements that provide relative output signal levels for the IM analysis. Table 2 lists the calculated third order products that can be generated from FM transmitters broadcasting from the multiplexed system. The IM Analysis Measurements, in Table 3, provides detailed information obtained from the product frequency investigation.

The Nature of Intermodulation Products (IM): Intermodulation products result from inadequate transmitter-to-transmitter isolation. Intermodulation products are commonly generated from radio stations operating into multiplexed facilities and congested antenna broadcast sites. The mechanics associated with the phenomenon have been well documented. When two or more transmitters are coupled to each other, new spectral components are produced by the mixing of the station frequencies in the active circuits of each transmitter. The common term used to describe this phenomenon is third order product denoted by the mathematical expression $[2(F_1)-(F_2)]$, where F_1 signifies the frequency of the transmitter that is generating the intermodulation product, and F_2 signifies the frequency causing the interference.

The Multiplexed System: These measurements were taken with all FM stations operating from their respective antenna systems. The WAMU, WPFW, WETA, and WTOP, multiplexed system is fundamentally comprised of antenna, feed line and multiplexer unit. The 1183-4CP-DA-SP Cog antenna, 783-8 Constant Impedance combiner units, MACXLine 650 feedline, are products of Electronics Research, Inc. Refer to Exhibit B-1, for an illustration of the Broadcasting Scheme of these stations.

To accomplish the aggregation of four transmitter signals into a common antenna feed and provide transmitter-to-transmitter isolation, a multiplexing scheme consisting of: (4) 783-8 Constant Impedance combiner modules were installed for frequencies, 88.5, 89.3, 90.9, and 103.5 MHz. Interconnecting “u-links” are required to complete the combiner which is illustrated in the attached Exhibit A-3. The multiplexer, fully assembled, exhibited transmitter port-to-port isolation in excess of -72 dB. Other performance measurements, such as match, loss, group-delay, etc, revealed that the multiplexer unit was in proper working condition. Refer to Exhibit A-4 for the Combiner Specification Sheet.

The IM Investigation: Directional Couplers were placed at key locations throughout the combiner to monitor and maintain the multiplexer’s performance. All couplers furnished with the system are factory calibrated and capable of delivering accurate and repeatable RF measurements. To facilitate the taking of the measurements, the coupler located at the antenna output of the multiplexed system was used. Care was taken in the selection of the measurement location to ensure that the measurements would be made far removed from transmitters and any filtering used to reduce broadcast emissions. The coupler selected would normally be used for antenna reflection measurements and thus would provide greater than -32 dB directivity and a forward signal sample of -47 dB.

The forward port of the coupler was used for sampling the outgoing carrier levels and IM products. The IM sampled signal was fed by shielded cable into a Band Pass Filter where all extraneous energy was steeply attenuated. Various attenuation pads were used, when needed, on the band pass filter and/or the Spectrum Analyzer to ensure an adequate signal level for measurements without overloading the measurement equipment. An IFR 2399A Spectrum Analyzer serial# 02113071 was employed to record the level of all signals investigated. A Copper Mountain S5048 Network Analyzer serial# 15077029 was used for selective tuning of the Band Pass Filter. The IFR Spectrum Analyzer was also used to measure the close in spectral attenuation of each carrier and wide band search for any anomalies that may need further investigation. See attached Exhibit B-1 for an illustration of the measurement equipment.

Prior to recording measurements, all pertinent broadcasting equipment including Transmitters, Multiplexer, Feed Line and Antenna were adjusted to optimal performance. Also, it was confirmed before taking any measurements that all transmitters were operating at full licensed power. From the equipment setup described above, the relative output signal level of each stations forward carrier was made. The resulting signal levels of these measurements are listed in Table 1, column labeled "Adjusted Level". This level will be used as the reference level for possible IM products of each carrier and was necessary to confirm that no significant levels of spurious energy, referenced to each carrier, were present from any transmitter operating from the multiplexed system.

Table 1 - Carrier Reference Levels.

Carrier Frequency (MHz)	Pad One (dB)	Full Scale Range (dB)	Scale Reading (dBm)	Carrier Level (dBm)	Notes
WAMU 88.5	10	---	17.24	27.24	
WPFW 89.3	10	---	15.25	25.25	
WETA 90.0	10	---	15.53	25.53	
WTOP 103.5	10	---	13.62	23.62	

Predictable third-order products due to system harmonics mixed with all on-site interfering frequencies that could be generated from the multiplexed system are calculated and listed in Table 2.

Table 2 - Third order Products.

Interfering Frequencies	Carrier Frequencies			
	88.5	89.3	90.9	103.5
88.5 MHz.	----	90.1	93.3	118.5
89.3 MHz.	87.7	----	92.5	117.7
90.9 MHz.	86.1	87.7	----	116.1
95.5 MHz.	81.5	83.1	86.3	111.5
102.3 MHz.	74.7	76.3	79.5	104.7
103.5 MHz.	73.5	75.1	78.3	----

Using the equipment previously described the IM product measurements were recorded and are listed in Table 3. The signal levels referenced to the carriers are calculated and listed in the column labeled "Level Referenced to Carrier". Refer to Exhibit B-2 for a layout of the measurement equipment.

Table 3 – Intermodulation Measurements

IM Measurements Taken in Washington, D.C.										
Product Frequency (MHz)	Transmitter Frequency (MHz)	Interfering Frequency (MHz)	Pad (dB)	Bandpass Filter Loss (dB)	Total Loss	Measured Level (dB)	Adjusted Level (dB)	Carrier Reference Level (dB)	Level Referenced to Carrier (dB)	Notes*
Transmitter Mixes										
	88.5	Ref.	10		10	17.24	27.24	27.24		
	89.3	Ref.	10		10	15.25	25.25	25.25		
	90.9	Ref.	10		10	15.53	25.53	25.53		
	103.5	Ref.	10		10	13.62	23.62	23.62		
73.5	88.5	103.5	10	11.73	21.73	-92.75	-71.02	27.24	-98.26	
74.7	88.5	102.3	10	11.83	21.83	-90.33	-68.5	27.24	-95.74	
75.1	89.3	103.5	10	11.61	21.61	-91.77	-70.16	25.25	-95.41	
76.3	89.3	102.3	10	11.51	21.51	-91.43	-69.92	25.25	-95.17	
78.3	90.9	103.5	10	11.73	21.73	-90.61	-68.88	25.53	-94.41	
79.5	90.9	102.3	10	11.46	21.46	-92.02	-70.56	25.53	-96.09	
81.5	88.5	95.5	10	11.35	21.35	-92.44	-71.09	27.24	-98.33	
83.1	89.3	95.5	10	11.19	21.19	-90.67	-69.48	25.25	-94.73	
86.1	88.5	90.9	10	11.28	21.28	-90.73	-69.45	27.24	-96.69	
86.3	90.9	95.5	10	11.04	21.04	-89.94	-68.9	25.53	-94.43	
87.7	89.3	90.9	10	11.21	21.21	-89.88	-68.67	25.25	-93.92	
87.7	88.5	89.3	10	11.21	21.21	-89.88	-68.67	27.24	-95.91	
90.1	89.3	88.5	10	10.98	20.98	-90.27	-69.29	25.25	-94.54	
92.5	90.9	89.3	10	11.12	21.12	-89.73	-68.61	25.53	-94.14	
93.3	90.9	88.5	10	10.97	20.97	-89.52	-68.55	25.53	-94.08	
104.7	103.5	102.3	10	10.44	20.44	-90.38	-69.94	23.62	-93.56	
111.5	103.5	95.5	10	10.53	20.53	-91.58	-71.05	23.62	-94.67	
116.1	103.5	90.9	10	10.46	20.46	-91.3	-70.84	23.62	-94.46	
117.7	103.5	89.3	10	10.37	20.37	-89.85	-69.48	23.62	-93.1	
118.5	103.5	88.5	10	10.48	20.48	-89.36	-68.88	23.62	-92.5	

The Spectrum Analyzer was used to check the close in spectral attenuation of the carrier to confirm the operation of the transmitter, is in compliance with Sections (b) and (c) of the FCC Rules and Regulations.

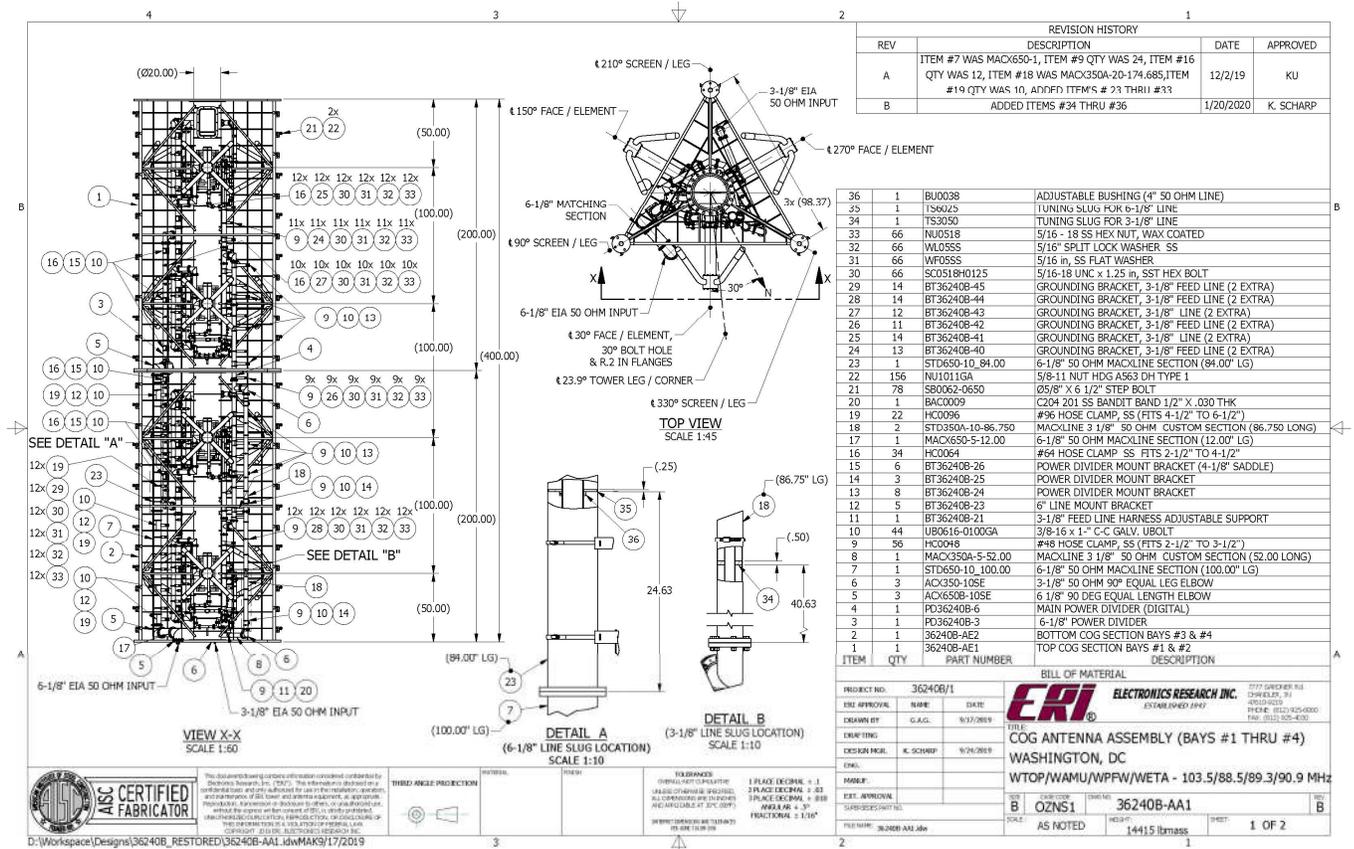
As a final proof of the systems IM Product performance, a wide band search was undertaken using the Spectrum Analyzer. The purpose for this measurement was to look for suspicious anomalies that may warrant further investigation. My search ranged the complete frequency span of the receiver and resulted in no additional investigations.

Conclusion: Based upon my observations and measurements taken on February 18, 2020 as summarized in this document, I, Jeff Taylor, find the subject system, specifically the transmitters and filter systems for the operation of WAMU, WPFW, WETA, and WTOP into their respective antennas to be in proper working order. Furthermore, based on the measured data, it is my opinion that there are no inter-modulation products in excess of 80 dB below carrier levels generated from or within the station operating on the installed system. Based on this recorded data, I conclude that WAMU, WPFW, WETA, and WTOP, are in compliance with the requirements of Section 73.317 paragraph (b) through (d) of the FCC Rules and Regulations.

Respectfully submitted,
Electronics Research, Inc.

Jeff Taylor, Field Technician

EXHIBIT, A-1



93 5 93 104 5 107 7

A-2 ERI 1183 Antenna Specification Sheet

**TRANSMISSION SITE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

General Specifications

Antenna TypeHigh Power FM-Broadcast, Suitable For Multiplexing
 Model Number 1183-4CP-DA-SP
 Number of Bay Levels Four
 Polarization..... Circular Polarized

Electrical Specifications

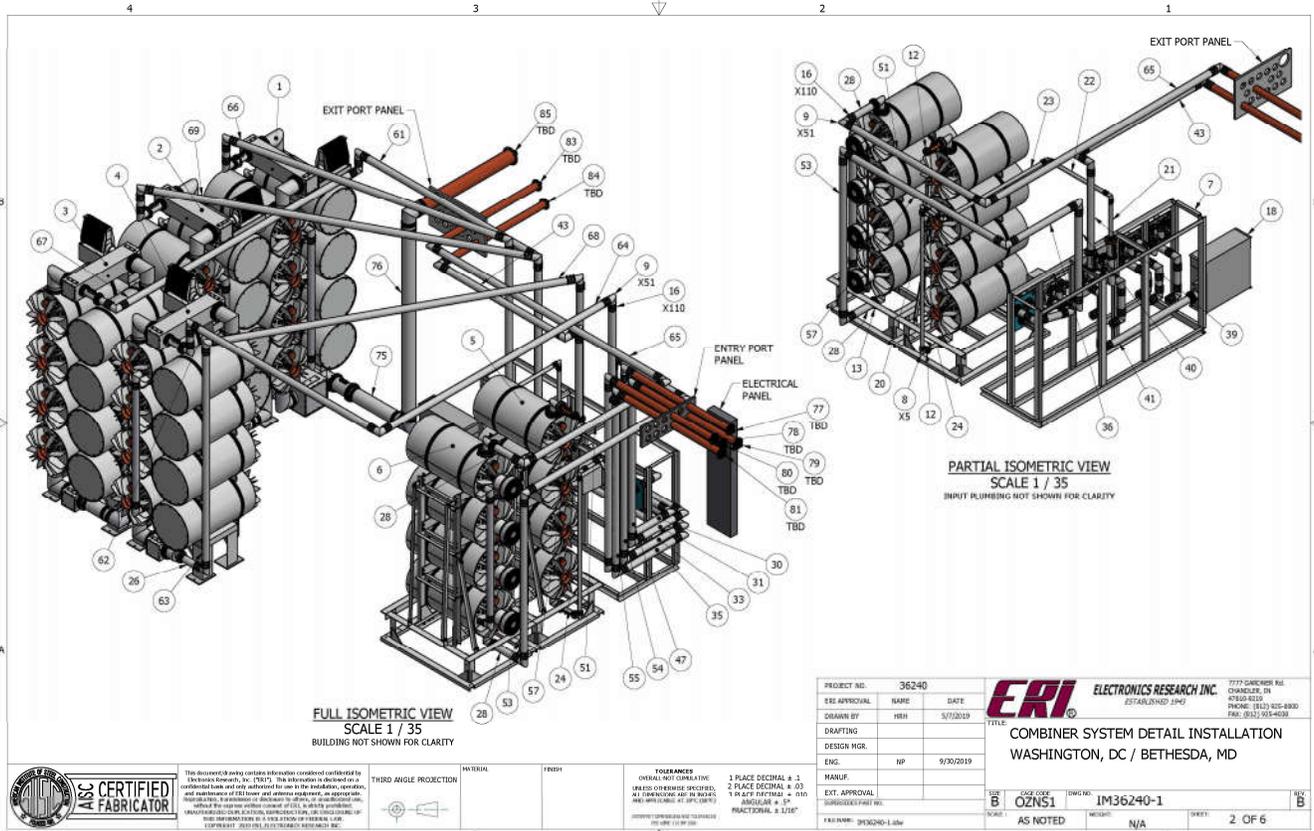
Antenna Input Power Capability 82 kW Max ⁽¹⁾
 Operating Frequency Band 88.5 ~ 103.5 Megahertz.
 VSWR <1.06:1 @ Operating Frequencies⁽²⁾
 Azimuthal Pattern Circularity Better Than +/- 2dB From RMS (Free Space)
 Power Split 50/50 (Horizontal & Vertical)
 Frequency Specific Information:

<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Station ERP</u>	<u>Beam Tilt</u>	<u>First Null Fill</u>	<u>Second Null Fill</u>	<u>Power Gain</u>	<u>Line Loss</u> ⁽³⁾	<u>Filter Loss</u> ⁽⁴⁾	<u>Computed TPO</u>
85.5	47 KW	-0.40°	6.9 %	8.2 %	1.775	-0.371 dB	-0.282 dB	30.75 kW
89.3	34 KW	-0.40°	6.9 %	8.3 %	1.786	-0.281 dB	-0.281 dB	21.68 kW
90.9	31 KW	-0.40°	6.9 %	8.4 %	1.809	-0.382 dB	-0.275 dB	20.21 kW
103.5	15 KW	-0.41°	6.9 %	9.1 %	1.980	-0.424 dB	-0.266 dB	8.877 kW

Mechanical Specifications

Antenna Feed System..... Dual Input
 Input Connector 6 1/8 & 3 1/8"50-Ohm EIA Flanged
 Element Deicing..... None
 Interbay Spacing..... 100" Center to Center
 Array Length 33.33 Feet
 Construction Material (Antenna)..... Galvanized Plated Steel and Stainless Steel

1) Power Capability Has Been Rated Assuming an Operating Transmission VSWR of 1.5:1
 2) VSWR Specification Achieved After on Site Tuning For User Specific Frequencies.
 3) Line Loss Assumes A Feed Run of 405 Feet of ERI MACXLine 6 1/8" Rigid 17.5 Foot Sticks.
 4) Losses Taken from Actual Combiner.



FULL ISOMETRIC VIEW
SCALE 1 / 35
BUILDING NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY

PARTIAL ISOMETRIC VIEW
SCALE 1 / 35
INPUT PLUMBING NOT SHOWN FOR CLARITY

PROJECT NO.	36240		ERI ELECTRONICS RESEARCH INC. ESTABLISHED 1942 7777 GARDNER BLDG. CHANDLER, IN 47528-8210 PHONE: (812) 825-8900 FAX: (812) 825-4039
ERI APPROVAL	NAME	DATE	
DRAWN BY	HEH	5/7/2019	TITLE
DESIGN MGR.			COMBINER SYSTEM DETAIL INSTALLATION
ENG.	HP	9/30/2019	WASHINGTON, DC / BETHESDA, MD
MANUF.			
EXT. APPROVAL			
DATE	CASE USE	REVISED	REV
5/7/2019	OZNS1	IM36240-1	B
SCALE	AS NOTED	REVISION	DATE
		N/A	2 OF 6



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THIRD ANGLE PROJECTION	MATERIAL	FINISH	TOLERANCES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED: ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES AND UNLESS NOTED AS SPECIFIED: DECIMAL DIMENSIONS AND TOLERANCES USE UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED
			2 PLACE DECIMAL ± .1 2 PLACE DECIMAL ± .03 1/4 ± .015 ANGULAR ± .5° PRACTICAL ± .125°

3	2	1
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A-4 ERI Combiner Specification Sheet

**TRANSMISSION SITE
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

General Specifications:

Multiplexer Type Constant Impedance
Number of Combining Units Four
Injected Port to Injected Port Isolation < - 72 dB
Output Connector 6 1/8 "50 Ohm EIA (Flanged)
Output Power (Designed) 82 kW⁽¹⁾

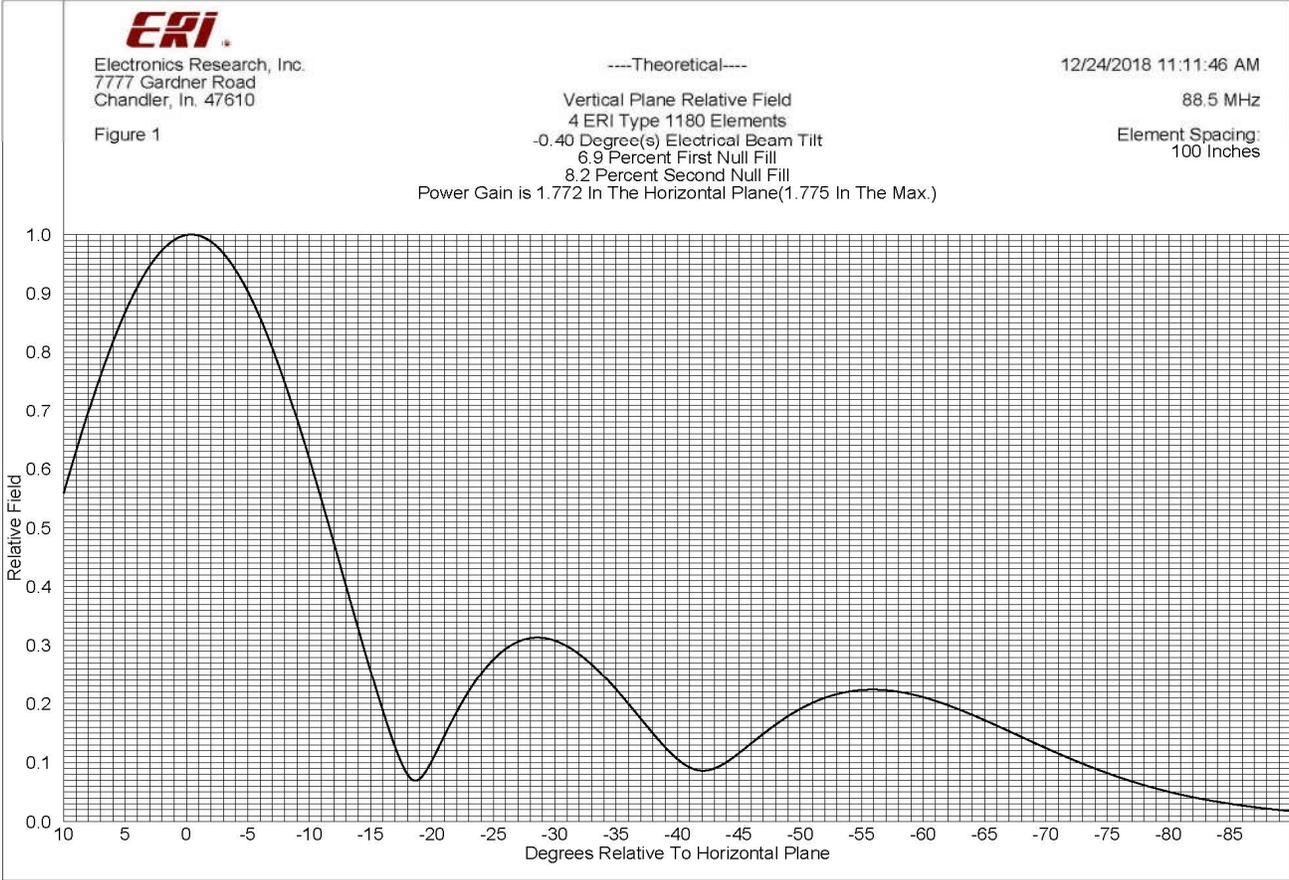
Heat Removal Natural Convection Cooling
Physical Arrangement Rack Mounted

Injected Port Specifications:

Frequency Assignment 88.5 ~ 103.5 MHz.
Power Rating, Each Injected Port (Designed)..... 30.7 kW 88.5 MHz, 21.6 kW 89.3 MHz.
Power Rating, Each Injected Port (Designed)..... 20.2 kW 90.9 MHz, 8.87 kW 103.5 MHz.
Input Connector 3-1/8" 50 Ohm EIA (Flanged).
VSWR..... < 1.09:1 @ +/-200 KHz.⁽²⁾
Group Delay Less than 280 ns Overall Variation, Carrier @ +/- 150 KHz.
Insertion Loss (Measured):

88.5 MHz. - 0.282 dB
89.3 MHz. - 0.286 dB
90.9 MHz. - 0.275 dB
103.5 MHz. - 0.266 dB

1) Power Rating Listed is as Designed Only. Actual Power Capabilities May Vary.
 2) When Terminated in 50 Ohm Resistive Load.





Electronics Research, Inc.
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Chandler, In. 47610

Figure 2

----Theoretical----

12/24/2018 11:15:26 AM

Vertical Plane Relative Field
4 ERI Type 1180 Elements
-0.40 Degree(s) Electrical Beam Tilt
6.9 Percent First Null Fill
8.3 Percent Second Null Fill

89.3 MHz
Element Spacing:
100 Inches

Power Gain is 1.784 In The Horizontal Plane(1.786 In The Max.)

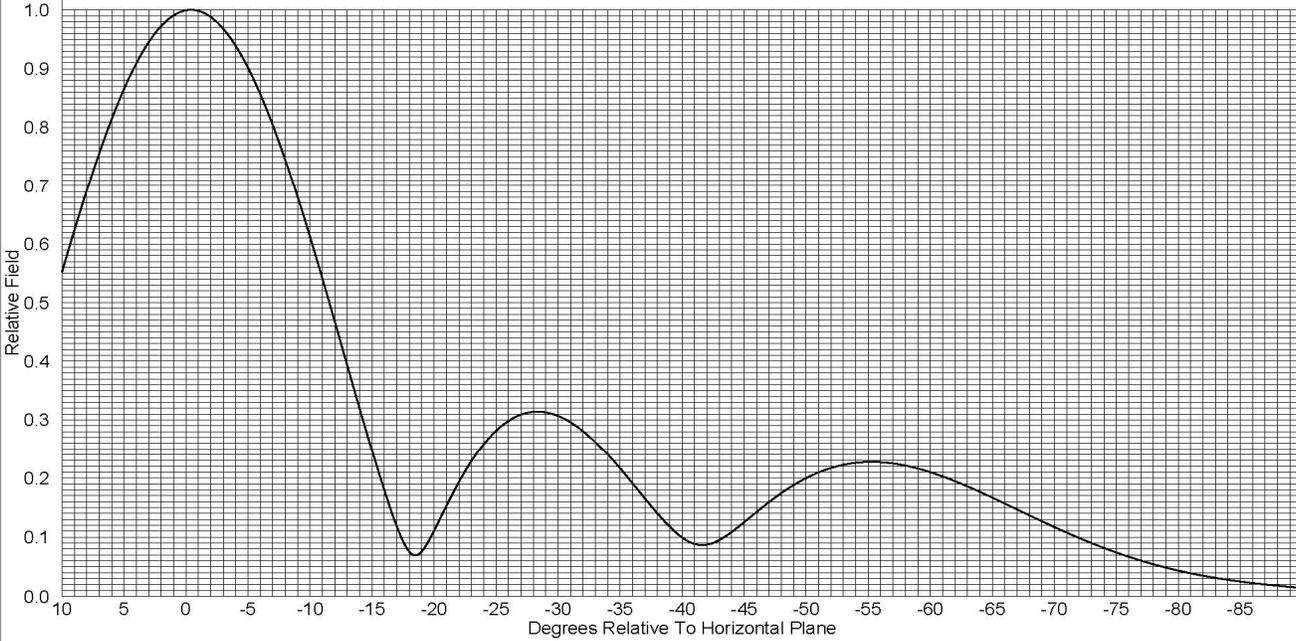
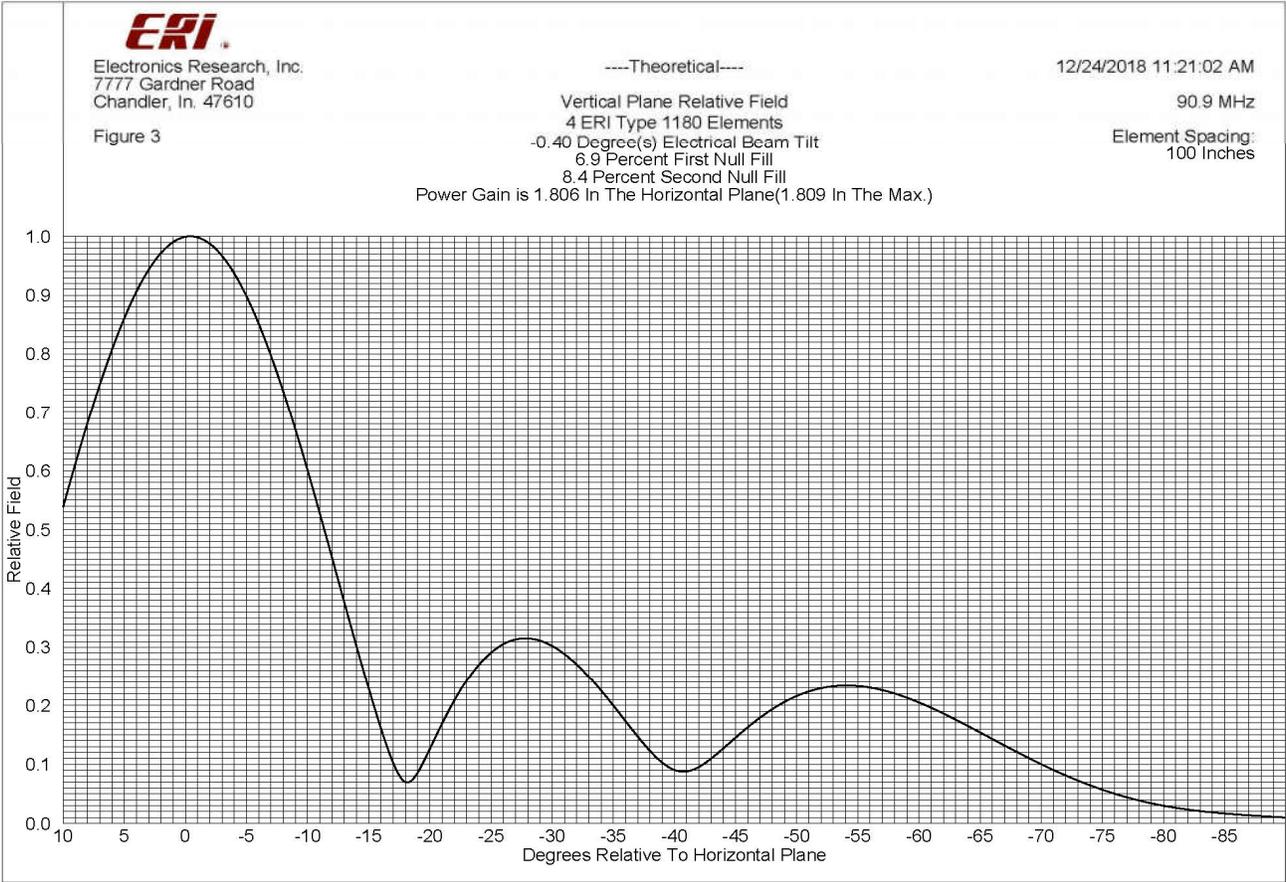
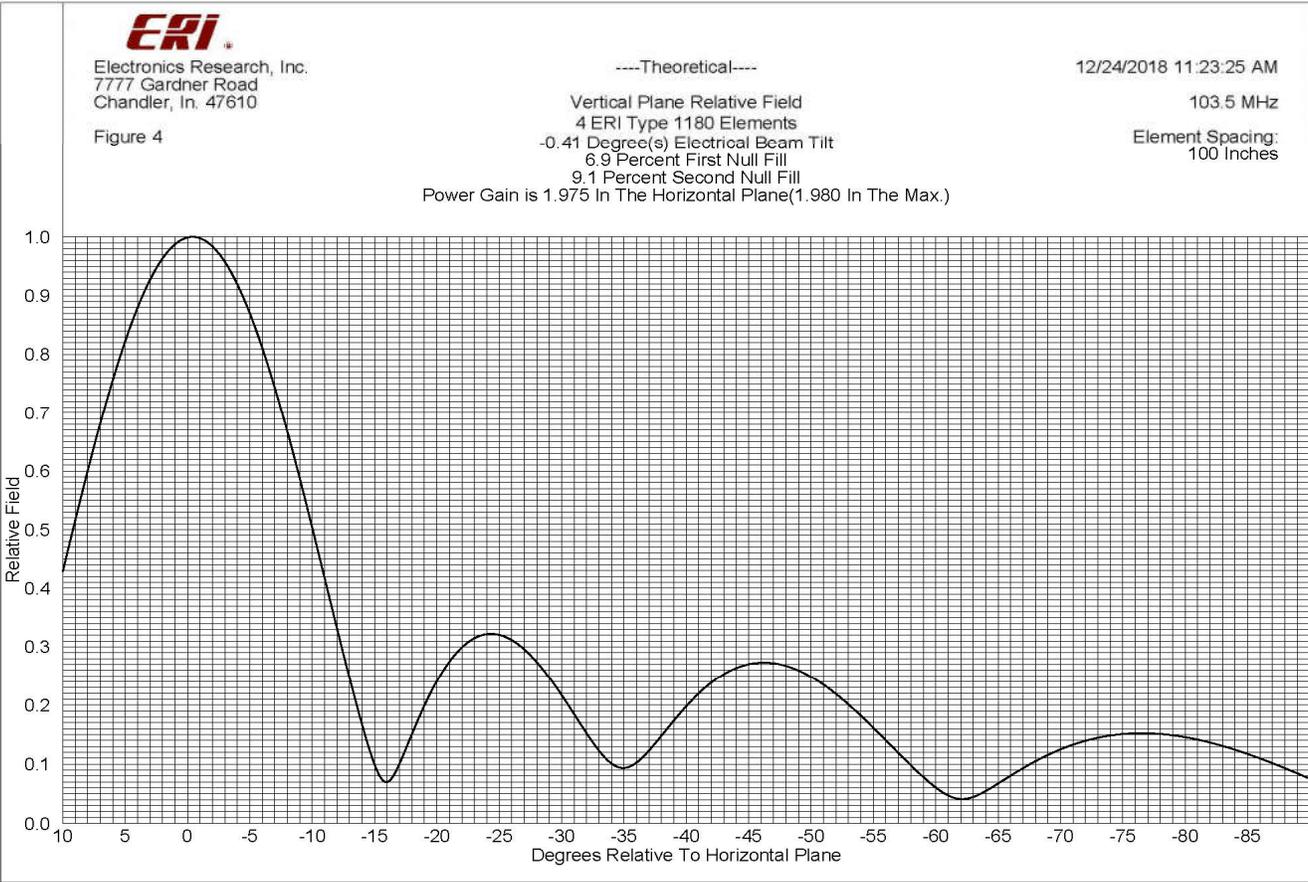


EXHIBIT A – 5





Broadcasting Scheme and Equipment Employed in Intermodulation Measurements

EXHIBIT B

