

2200 / 2240 Path Align-R™

Antenna Alignment Test set

Microwave antenna alignment

Description

The Path Align-R™ (models 2200/01 & 2240/01*) test set is a high performance, affordable and complete test solution designed to quickly and accurately optimize the transmission path between two microwave antenna site - all in a matter of minutes! Because the Path Align-R™ directly drives the site's antennas, the optimization process is done without the need of the antenna site's radios, expensive and complex test equipment, ground technicians, on-site AC power, cell phones, two-way radios, etc. All that is required are the antennas themselves! This means that the crew installing the antennas can align the link as soon as the antennas are hung - even before the rest of the equipment is on site!

The Path Align-R™ comes complete with everything needed to align a microwave link and communicate between sites. All you'll need to supply is the appropriate waveguide-to-coax adapters and the antennas!

Features

- Battery-Powered Alignment Test Set of two transceivers with Instrument Back-pack (3.18 kg/unit)
- Continuous Talk & Listen over Link via included headsets (Full-Duplex Voice, FM)
- Tuneable Operating Bands of 1.8 to 19.4 Ghz (models 2200/2201) or 1.8 to 23.5 GHz (models 2240/2241)
- Available with Record-R™ Data Logging of Position, Date/Time & Data
- Tone Ranging provides variable-pitch indication of path loss
- Path Loss Displayed in dB (0.1 dB resolution)
- Display Updated every 300 ms

Feature descriptions

The Path Align-R™ set provides full-duplex FM voice communication over the link, allowing the tower technicians actually doing the alignment to talk to each other via included headsets - even before alignment begins! This feature alone can save hundreds of dollars and many man hours in dealing with the complexities and frustrations of communicating between ground personnel, tower technicians, and site to site coordination, while attempting to achieve link alignment.

Each Path Align-R™ is both a tuneable synthesized signal source and a narrow-band receiver. The transmitter's fixed output level (0 dBm) is powerful enough for long path lengths, yet low enough to virtually eliminate the possibility of interference to adjacent links. The receiver's sensitivity and narrow bandwidth allows for accurate measurement of the received signal while providing a very high rejection of adjacent signals. Front panel thumbwheel switches provide tuning within the frequency bands to a resolution of 1 MHz.



Figure 1: The Path Align-R™

An internal microcontroller controls the operation of the test set.

Both test sets transmit to, and receive from, one another continuously. This continuous communication, rapid update and fine resolution of the Path Align-R™ allows for fast and accurate adjustment of the antenna's azimuth and elevation. Alignment now takes only minutes instead of hours!

Record-R™ internal Data Logging

Models 2201 & 2241*

The results of the antenna path alignment are logged into the Record-R™ internal memory. The Record-R™ contains an embedded GPS receiver, which provides accurate date/time and position information to be added to the frequency and path loss data. This logged data is saved in non-volatile memory for later transfer (download) to a PC where the data can be viewed, saved to disk and a hard copy printed or sent as an e-mail attachment over the Internet. A single front panel pushbutton activates the logging process. Up to 250 separate data records can be saved in the field for later download. Access to stored records is provided via USB or RS-232 connectors located on the rear panel.

The Log View-R™ software utility is also provided for interface between a PC and the instrument.

Note: The Record-R™ is installed internally in the Path Align-R™ (it is not a stand-alone unit).

*Extended Range Path Align-R™: Models 2240 and 2241 provide extended range Frequency Bands (see specifications). These models are otherwise identical to models 2200 and 2201.

22(xx)A models

Path Align-R™ models ending in 'A' (e.g. 2200A, 2241A, etc.) are offered without all four bands but must be ordered with at least one or more frequency band options.

Because of its rugged design and light weight (only 3.18 kg, including the back-pack and battery), the very portable Path Align-R™ is delivered in a custom designed Weather-Resistant Instrument Back-Pack including pockets for carrying the headset, cable, waveguide-to-coax adapters, and a spare battery. The back-pack also contains a large 'D' ring

to facilitate attaching the test set to the tower using a carabiner and nylon runner, sling, or lanyard.

Aligning a microwave link with the Path Align-R™ provides accurate optimization, comparable to sophisticated test equipment, while reducing:

- the number of personnel required to two
- the cost and complexity of communication
- the need for expensive and complex test equipment
- the time required to complete the job.

Note: The Path Align-R™ is sold as a set of two units, as system operation requires the use of two units for link alignment.

Technical Specifications

Transmitter Section

Transmission:	Full-Duplex (simultaneous transmission and reception).
Transmitter Output Power:	0 dBm, nominal.
Transmitter Stability:	5.1 x 10E-9/day (aging) + 1 x 10E-6 (temperature 0°C to 50°C).
Tuneable Frequency Bands:	(model numbers ending in A must be ordered with at least one Frequency Band Option) <i>Models 2200/2200A/2201/2201A</i> (Opt. 01) Band 1: 1.8 to 2.5 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 02) Band 2: 5.8 to 6.6 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 03) Band 3: 11.0 to 12.0 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 04) Band 4: 18.1 to 19.4 GHz, resolution to 1.0 MHz. <i>Models 2240/2240A/2241/2241A</i> (Opt. 01) Band 1: 1.8 to 2.5 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 02) Band 2: 3.5 to 5.0 GHz & 5.8 to 6.6 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 03) Band 3: 7.5 to 10.0 GHz & 11.0 to 12.0 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz; (Opt. 04) Band 4: 18.1 to 19.4 GHz & 22.0 to 23.5 GHz, resolution 1.0 MHz.
Deviation:	50–100 kHz
Transmit/Receive Offset:	39 MHz (Transmit offset: Switch set to 'Master' = +20 MHz; 'Slave' = -19 MHz of Thumbwheel frequency setting)
Modulation:	FM (Voice).
Modulation Input/Output:	Headset w/10-foot coiled cord, terminated in a 3.5 mm Plug (Mic & Earpiece).

Receiver Section

Receiver Sensitivity:	100 dBm nom. (1.8–2.5 GHz); -95 dBm nom. (3.5–6.6 GHz); -90 dBm nom. (7.5–12.0 GHz); -90 dBm nom. (18.1–23.5 GHz).
Receiver Bandwidth:	100 kHz, nominal.
Receiver Overload point:	-30 dBm (damage level: +10 dBm).
Receiver Readout:	LCD direct path loss in dB (equivalent to signal input level in dBm), 0.1 dB resolution, updated every 300 ms.
External Readout:	External readout of path loss with DVM (0–2 VDC), BNC connector, rear panel.
Variable Alignment Tone:	600 Hz to 6 kHz, varies with signal strength, switch selectable.
Internal Speaker Output:	350 mW max., variable, behind front panel.
Earpiece Output:	250 mW max., variable, 3.5 mm front panel jack.
Speaker/Earpiece Control:	Variable (pot).

Record-R™ Specifications

<i>(Models 2201/2201A/2241/2241A)</i>	
Data Recorded:	Each record contains: Model No., Serial No., Date, Time (UTC), Longitude, Latitude, Frequency, & Path Loss.
Data Record Time:	20 milliseconds, nominal.
Max. No. of Records:	250 (stored in instrument's memory), Format: CSV (comma-separated variable).
Downloading Records:	Records are downloaded, thru RS-232-C or USB 'B' rear panel connectors, Rate: 9600 Baud.

Software (included): Log View-R™ Data Log Utility software for Windows 95/98 & 2000/XP operating systems. This software allows a PC to download, display, save and print data records, and clear the instrument's memory.

GPS:

Frequency:	L1 (1575.42 MHz), C/A code (SPS), 8-channel cont. tracking, 32 correlators.
Accuracy:	Position: ±2 meters CEP (50%); Timing: ±95 ns.
Position Fix Update:	1 second.
Time to Lock:	Cold Start: <130 seconds (90%); Warm Start: <45 seconds (90%); Hot Start: <20 seconds (90%).
Reacquisition Time:	<2 seconds (90%) after loss of signal.

Environmental

Designed to meet MIL-T-28800D Type III, Class 5 or 6, Style E and EN 61010-1

Operating Temperature:	-10°C to 40°C (14°F to 104°F).
Storage Temperature:	-40°C to 71°C (-40°F to 160°F).
Relative Humidity:	95% ±5% 10°C to 30°C; 75% ±5% to 40°C; 45% ±5% above 40°C.
Burn In:	Failure-free burn in of no less than 100 hours at 40°C.
Pollution Degree:	1 (no pollution) (EN 61010-1/3.7).
Transient Overvoltage:	Installation Category II (EN 61010-1/J).

Power

Power:	Self Contained 12V, 2.3 Ah, rechargeable sealed Lead-Acid Camcorder Battery, 4 to 5 hours continuous operation @ 25°C (77°F). Low Battery indicator ON when approx. 15 min. operating time remains. Charge time approx. 3-hours.
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Mechanical

Weight:	Less than 7 lbs. (including Instrument Back-Pack and Battery).
Dimensions (HxWxD):	89 mm x 213 mm x 333 mm (3.5 in. x 8.375 in. x 13.1 in.).
Connectors (RF In/Out):	Super SMA male sparkplug (front panel), field replaceable.

Supplemental Specifications

Warranty:	One Year Limited Warranty.
ISO 9000:	XL Microwave's Quality System is registered to the Quality Assurance Standards of ISO 9001.
CE (European Union):	EN 55011:1998 w/A1:1999 Group 1 Class B (emissions); EN 61326-1:1997 w/A1:1998 (immunity).

Accessories Furnished

Each Path Align-R™ instrument, of a set of two, comes with one (1) each of the following accessories:

Headset (earpiece with microphone) with 10-foot coiled cord,
Coax cable assembly (SMA male to SMA male, 3 meters),
Battery (12 VDC/2.3 Ah Rechargeable Sealed Lead/Acid),
Battery Charger (AC MAINS powered 90–264 VAC/47–63 Hz w/IEC-320 In. put connector), AC MAINS Power Cord (IEC-320 to NEMA type 5-15p plug),
Weather-Resistant, Instrument Back-Pack,
Operation Manual and Laminated User Card.

22x1 models with Record-R™ additionally include one (1) ea.:
RS-232 Cable Assembly (D-sub 9-pin male to D-sub 9-pin female, 3 m/9.84 ft)
USB Cable Assembly (USB 'A' male to USB 'B' male, 2-meters/6.56 ft.).

For further details please contact us.

Pendulum Instruments AB

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Experts in time & frequency calibration, measurement and analysis

Specifications subject to change without notice.

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