



NEWSLETTER-AMSAT-EA

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MARCH

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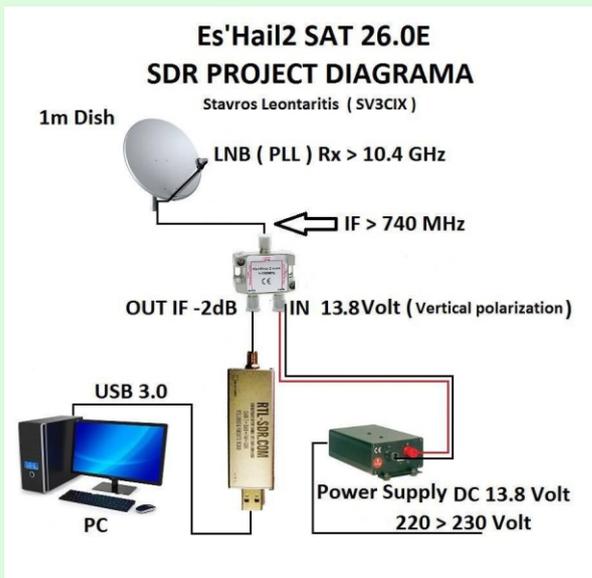
AMSAT

QO-100, ES'HAIL-2

The geostationary satellite Es'Hail was launched on November 15, 2018 from the Kennedy Space Center and it's now on a 25.9°E orbit. When the QARS, Qatar Amateur Radio Society, activated the satellite on February 12, they invited all amateur radio ops to use its narrowband transponder. On the very first day already a lot of stations started using it and now many more are homebrewing what it's needed to use it. This is a satellite that offers users the possibility to make contacts from Brazil to Thailand.



Coverage Map



Basic RX config

At first many thought it wouldn't be easy to receive this satellite but now we realize it's not a hard task. We have a lot of easy to get stuff for it, just a 60-80cm dish, LNB to PLL and a SDR receiver. To make things easier for those with problems to set up a dish there is a Web-SDR available to receive it in real time.

Remember, if you are in Spain, that to use the uplink you need a special permit by the gov... it's very easy to get it and they are sending a reply fast. You have more info about this new satellite, OSCAR 100, in the AMSAT-DL Phace 4-A website and visiting the forum

where they exchange experiences etc...

Es'hail-2 WebSDR <https://eshail.batc.org.uk/>

Forum <https://forum.amsat-dl.org/>

COMING ACTIVITIES



Pedro, EG7FIM



Portable setup of EB1AO

AL6D, Gabe was active in february from some grids in Europe. Now in march he will be active from Kaliningrad 4-7 march ,Saint Petersburg 7-11 march, Aland Islands 11-13 and Helsinki march 13-14.

VP5 / AA5UK, Adrian, will be active till march 9 from Turk and Caicos Islands . Look for him, mainly on linear sats and some FM birds.

KI7UNK, Casey and Jonathan KI5EBX were active from Nevada, february 8-11. They called CQ Sat from the corner DM15/16/25/26 and these crosslines DM16/26 DM17/18, DM27/28, DM27/37, DM36/37 .They worked only FM sats.

W5PFG, Clayton was active february 10-14 from DM80, DM71 DL79 and DI89.

3A/EA4NF, Philippe was active february 15-18 thru FM and SSB sats.

KP3RE, Culebra Island in Puerto Rico FK78 ,active february 22-24 during their IOTA expedition (NA-249).They were on these birds:AO91, AO92, SO50 and IO86.

EA7AFM, was active as EG7FIM on february 24 celebrating the anniversary of the oldest navy force, the Spanish one.

EA8DHC, on february 18 he gave a talk , which included sat demonstrations, at the Juan Ramon Jimenez School in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands

CU2ZG, Pedro was active from Finland from Jp53.

EA4RCT, Felix EA4GQS was active from the radioclub at ETSI, Madrid, the oldest school of Telecommunications Engineering in Spain.



CU2ZG, from JP53



EA8DHC, on J. Ramon Jimenez School



3A/EA4NF, Philippe from Monaco.

ACTIVATIONS NOW OVER



Gabe, as SP/AL6D



W5PFG, from EM11



Portable setup of EA3AGB

URL IN LAS PALMAS DE GC

After the presentation of EA8HZ's book back in december 2018, a first talk about ham radio satellites was held at the URL headquarters in Las Palmas in the Canary Islands. As the interest was huge they decided to celebrate another one for those not attending the first one. Some 13 people attended the meeting, 5 of which were also in the first one but sure were willing to have more. In the meeting, these were the main points treated:



- The best of working satellites!
- Explanation about what amateur radio satellites are all about
- Kind of satellites, descriptions, frequencies and modes used.
- What else can you do with AR Sats:
 - Meteo Sats
 - Telemetry
 - Digital Satellites
 - SSTV from the ISS
 - The ISS, ARISS and schools
 - Homebrew antennas and commercial ones for portable use
 - Rigs for portable ops
 - QO-100, frequencies, modes, how rx/tx problems were solved and how to listen to it using a WebSDR

And to end up, they did some workshops showing how to work a sat using a portable set up at the EA8URL parking lot.

Finally, 4:30 hours learning about ham radio satellites. Let me thank AMSAT-EA, EA8URL and the AMSAT-EA chat room for all the information and support for this activity.



EA8DHC, Jesús

EA8DHC @ COLEGIO JUAN RAMÓN JIMÉNEZ

On february 18, Jesús Alberto organized a demo-talk about satellites in the Juan Ramón Jimenez School in Las Palmas, Canary Islands. In the audience many young students and, as the main idea: explaining how amateur radio users take advantage of satellites highlighting that it's not something for a few, but for all. And that is not something you need a lot of money for. You can start with AR sats for just a few bucks.



There was also a talk about meteo sats where you don't need a ham license to receive them. And they also played audio from the QO-100 Websdr.

AMSAT-EA @ ETSIT IN THE UPM

On february 26 , as part of the activity called 'Picosats and amateur radio thru satellites' , valid for students' graduate degree . It was organized by the radioclub at the "Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros de Telecomunicación de la Universidad Politécnica de Madrid" . AMSAT-EA, in collaboration with that radioclub offered a talk about ham radio sats, it's history and how to work them. On a given moment they did a break to demonstrate how we do a satellite contact. At 1.36pm (EA Time) they pointed antennas towards AO91 RadFxSAT using the call EA4RCT.



NEW AO92 RECORD

On february 20 a new record was achieved. Scott, N1AIA and Jose EB1AO made a QSO thru AO92 with a distance of 4936 km (3,067 miles). They both had only 20 seconds of shared footprint in that orbit.



9G5AR ON FM SATS.

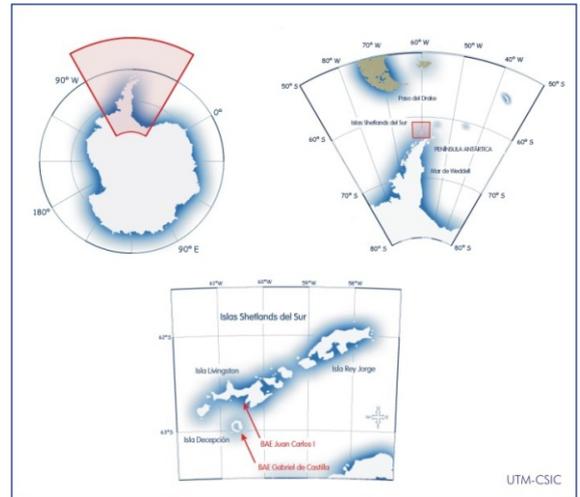
Richard, is active from Ghana in some FM sats, more often on midday passes of AO91.

SATELLITE OPERATION FROM DECEPTION ISLAND (ANTARCTICA)

Dr. Daniel Estévez EA4GPZ

From mid January to mid February I have been traveling around the Antarctic Peninsula on a scientific expedition. Between January 31 and February 7, I was stationed in the Spanish Antarctic Base Gabriel de Castilla, located in Deception Island, in the South Shetlands (IOTA reference AN-010, locator Fc97pa).

I used this opportunity to make some satellite QSOs from the base, under the callsign EA4GPZ/P. The only radio equipment I was carrying was a Yaesu FT2D FM handheld with its stock antenna. After some tests, I checked that the only satellites I could operate properly with this equipment were AO-91 and AO-92.



Map of the situation of the Spanish Antarctic bases.

When my worked allowed me, I was present in the passes of these satellites, working a total of 5 stations in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay, at distances between 3000 and 3500km.

The operation was quite challenging, since in each pass there was only a few minutes of common window between Deception Island and the densely populated areas in South America, and also due to the huge pile-up that impeded the access to the satellite. Many thanks to all the stations in South America, which showed a lot of interest in my activities.



North view from the Gabriel de Castilla base



Gabriel de Castilla base seen from the Hespérides RV