

AWR

Current



OUR BROADCAST TOOLS

An interview with AWR-Forli engineer, Pino Cirillo

by Andy Demsky

Pino, his face wrapped in a new beard, sits at a desk lost under many sliding strata of technical manuals, brochures, and industrial magazines. I approach with caution.

Cirillo: *What do you want?*

Demsky: I just need some information on the equipment.

Cirillo: *(Shoves a beaten up three-ring binder across his desk.) Read this.*

Demsky: No, I want an interview.

Cirillo: *Oh no.*

Demsky: So, what's the deal with the transmitter?

Cirillo: *What?*

Continued on page 10.

Demsky: What kind of transmitter do we have?

Cirillo: *Collins. 10 kw, Pep.*

Demsky: What's Pep.

Cirillo: *(He pulls out another weathered three-ring binder and silently opens to the proper page.) Amidst a mish-mash of technical shorthand I see the abbreviation Pep.*

Demsky: Forget it. What kind of antenna do we have?

Cirillo: *(Pulls out a brochure.)*

Demsky: Can you tell me?

Cirillo: *Oh sure, I only do this so you can get the spelling right. See here? (points) Hy-Gain Log Periodic-1002 Antenna with rotor system.*

Demsky: It's a directional antenna?

Cirillo: *Yes.*

Demsky: What's the difference between a directional and an omni-directional antenna?

Cirillo: *We have a higher gain, but only in one direction. For the most part. An omni-directional sends it's signal out in all directions, but it's weaker. It's signal is weaker.*

Demsky: Okay, so what do we do for propagation?

Cirillo: *We have a 10 kw transmitter but the carrier is adjusted to 3 kw with 80 percent modulation. This gives us a 10 kw signal. This is best for our transmitter.*

Demsky: Our carrier is adjusted to 3

kw, yet we have a 10 kw output?

Cirillo: *That's right.*

Demsky: 3 plus 80 equals 10?

Cirillo: *(A look of tortured patience crosses his face. He reaches under one of the sliding strata and lays a chart before me. More technical hieroglyphics.)*

Demsky: Forget it.

Cirillo: *(Takes up the chart with obvious relief.) What else would you like to know?*

Demsky: When we transmit we don't operate on local power, we get our power from a generator. What kind is it?

Cirillo: *Loud and stinky. It spits oil.*

Demsky: What's the power output?

Cirillo: *50 KVA but for the transmitter we need only 33 KVA.*

Demsky: Why don't we use local power?

Cirillo: *We're out in the country. Out here they only have 1.5 kw, and even that fluxuates. It's bad. The power company will someday string up new lines for us but nobody's holding their breath.*

Demsky: What about our other equipment? What have we got?

Cirillo: *Our exciter. That's important. It's a Yaesu FT75GX.*

Demsky: What does that do?

Cirillo: *It excites the transmitter. It determines the frequency that we broadcast on and the modulation and the carrier. The transmitter only amplifies the signal. The exciter does all that other stuff. It's very important.*

Demsky: What else? The compressor?

Cirillo: *Oh yes. We have a... (pulls out a brochure)... CLA-40A, Compressor/Limiter. What that does is controls the signal. When it gets too low it boosts it, or if on a song, for example, the peak is too high, it limits it. This way we have no distortion and no tones that are too soft to hear.*

Demsky: And the mixer?

Cirillo: *A Tapco 78-12. That means it's the 78 series, and has 12 channels.*

Demsky: And the reel to reels and all the rest?

Cirillo: *Yes, two PR 99 Revox reel to reels, two RS - B100 Technics cassette machines... uh, and a cart machine. I forget the brand. (Start rumaging through the strata of papers) but I should have a brochure here somewhere...*

Demsky: No, no that's fine. I think I've got enough here.

Cirillo: *We're finished?*

Demsky: Yeah.

Cirillo: *Good. (He smiles under his thick beard and carries on with whatever it is that engineers do all day.)*

AWR - Forlì Equipment

Transmitter:

Collins 208U-10, 10 kw.

Exciter (transceiver):

Yaesu FT75GX

Compressor/Limiter:

Marti CLA-40A

Mixer:

Tapco 78-12

Antenna:

Hy-gain Log Periodic-1002

Reel to Reels:

2 Revox PR 99

Cassette Machines:

2 RS-B100 Technics

Cart Machine:

Fitch T-101

Generator:

Loud and Stinky

February
March

schedule

UTC	Language	Frequency	Meter	IP*	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
04,00 - 04,30	Russian	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						X
04,30 - 05,00	Hungarian	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						X
05,00 - 05,30	Rumanian	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						X
05,00 - 05,30	Russian	9670	31	P	X						
05,30 - 05,45	French	7295/6215	41-49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
05,30 - 06,00	Ukrainian	9670	31	P	X						
05,45 - 06,00	Arabic	7295/6215	41-49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
06,00 - 07,00	German	7295/6215	41-49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
06,00 - 07,00	English	9670	31	P	X						
07,00 - 07,30	English	7295/6215	41-49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
07,00 - 07,30	Polish	9670	31	P	X						
07,00 - 07,30	Slovenian	9605	31	P	X						
07,30 - 07,45	Albanian	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						
07,30 - 08,00	Albanian	7295/6215	41-49	I		X					
07,30 - 08,00	Macedonian	7295/6215	41-49	I			X				
07,30 - 08,00	Rumanian	7295/6215	41-49	I				X			
07,30 - 08,00	Hungarian	7295/6215	41-49	I					X		
07,30 - 08,00	Russian	7295/6215	41-49	I						X	
07,30 - 08,00	Serbian	7295/6215	41-49	I							X
07,30 - 08,00	Rumanian	9670	31	P	X						
07,30 - 08,00	Serbian	9605	31	P	X						
07,45 - 08,00	Macedonian	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						
08,00 - 08,30	Polish	7295/6215	41-49	I	X						X
08,00 - 08,30	Hungarian	9670	31	P	X						
08,00 - 08,30	Croatian	9605	31	P	X						
08,30 - 09,00	German	9670	31	P	X						
08,30 - 09,00	Arabic	9605	31	P	X						
09,00 - 09,30	English	9670	31	P	X						
09,00 - 09,15	Albanian	9605	31	P	X						
09,15 - 09,30	Macedonian	9605	31	P	X						
09,30 - 10,00	Arabic	9670	31	P	X						
10,00 - 10,30	Polish	9805	31	I	X						X
16,00 - 16,30	Russian	6205/6215	49	I	X						
16,15 - 16,45	Ukrainian	9670	31	P		X					
16,15 - 16,45	Russian	9670	31	P			X				
16,15 - 16,45	Polish	9670	31	P						X	
16,30 - 17,00	Hungarian	6205/6215	49	I	X						
17,00 - 17,30	Rumanian	6205/6215	49	I	X						
17,30 - 17,45	French	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
17,45 - 18,00	Arabic	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
18,00 - 19,00	German	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
19,00 - 19,30	English	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
19,30 - 20,00	Hungarian	6205/6215	49	I	X				X		
19,30 - 20,00	Albanian	6205/6215	49	I		X					
19,30 - 20,00	Macedonian	6205/6215	49	I			X				
19,30 - 20,00	Rumanian	6205/6215	49	I				X			X
19,30 - 20,00	Russian	6205/6215	49	I						X	
20,00 - 23,00	Italian	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
20,30 - 20,45	Portuguese	6205/6215	49	I	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

* Broadcast from Italy or Portugal