

2015 ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest Results

Most microwavers operate while exposed to the elements.

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On August 15 – 16 and September 19 – 20, multiple microwavers took to the “ultra highs” for the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest. Most operators head to the mountains, shorelines, and plains to find broad horizons that allow their microwave signals to traverse a good distance. While trying to make the best of the weather, rain can be good or bad, depending on where it is!

Not Just Line of Sight

If you think microwave means only nearby contacts, think again! Both East and West Coast operators made multiple 600+ km contacts. Barry, VE4MA, worked 1861 km on 10 GHz via moonbounce EME. Gary, AD6FP, had the longest terrestrial 10 GHz QSO this year at 669 km. On 24 GHz, Gary, AD6FP; Lars, AA6IW, and Steven, W6QIW, all worked 345 km. On 47 GHz, AA6IW and W6QIW also connected at 345 km. VE3OIL and VE3SMA made contacts at “light” frequencies above 300 GHz — increasing their range to 4 km.

| Top 10 Scores | | | |
|---------------|--------|--------------|--------|
| 10 GHz Only | Score | 10GHz and Up | Score |
| WB0LJC | 66,093 | AA6IW | 54,402 |
| KD6W | 64,864 | K6GZA | 50,779 |
| K0CQ | 60,140 | N9JIM | 50,511 |
| N0KP | 59,650 | K9PW | 47,207 |
| N6RMJ | 59,288 | W6QIW | 43,331 |
| KC0P | 55,472 | W6BY | 36,602 |
| N0AKC | 51,193 | AF1T | 29,608 |
| K0KFC | 44,559 | W1MKY | 28,401 |
| WA2VOI | 40,800 | N1JEZ | 27,867 |
| N4BF | 40,792 | AD6FP | 24,981 |

| Top 10 QSOs Completed | | | |
|-----------------------|------|---------------|------|
| 10 GHz Only | QSOs | 10 GHz and Up | QSOs |
| N6RMJ | 281 | K9PW | 243 |
| WB0LJC | 268 | AA6IW | 218 |
| KD6W | 254 | N9JIM | 199 |
| K0CQ | 248 | K6GZA | 188 |
| N0KP | 242 | W6QIW | 175 |
| KC0P | 232 | AF1T | 150 |
| N0AKC | 206 | W6BY | 149 |
| KE6HPZ | 198 | W1MKY | 148 |
| N4BF | 191 | W1JHR | 138 |
| WA2VOI | 172 | WA2BTR | 124 |

Looking Ahead

If you’ve never transmitted on the microwaves and find this intriguing, reach out! There are groups of activity around the coun-

try. Many have loaner rigs to use. Consider subscribing to the “microwave reflector” at lists.electechs.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/microwave for e-mail chatter. Start making plans today to be on the air August 20 – 21 and September 17 – 19, 2016.

| Best DX by Band | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Band | Call | Best DX (km) |
| 10 GHz | VE4MA | 1861 |
| 10 GHz | AD6FP | 669 |
| 10 GHz | K6GZA | 659 |
| 24 GHz | AA6IW | 345 |
| 24 GHz | W6QIW | 345 |
| 24 GHz | AD6FP | 345 |
| 47 GHz | W6QIW | 345 |
| 47 GHz | AD6FP | 345 |
| 47 GHz | W1EX | 118 |

Bigger Opening Online

Be sure to see all the results and more pictures of microwave stations in the full web-only report at www.arrl.org/contests — look for the 2015 10 GHz and Up listing.



Figure 1 — Kevin, AD7OI, operated from Haydon Peak, Arizona, making contacts up to 400 km away. Thunderstorms cut his first day short on the August weekend. [Tammy Jacobson, photo]

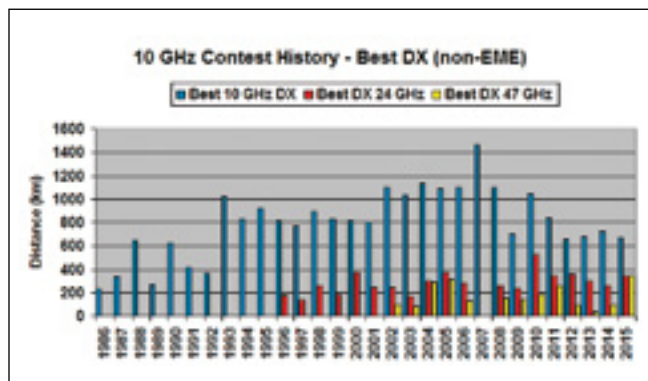


Figure 2 — This chart highlights the effect of unusual propagation and of activity levels on the bands at 24 GHz and higher. This year, distances spanned on 24 GHz and 47 GHz are much longer than in previous years. Station capability is improving. Obviously, the more activity, the more we can explore the limits of what is possible!