Inovonics 702

RDS/RBDS "Mini-Encoder"

THIS SECOND-GENERATION BASIC RADIODATA ENCODER PUTS YOUR STATION'S INFO ON THE RADIO FACEPLATE

A Windows® interface and USB connectivity make this second-generation "Mini-Encoder" easy to program and quick to put on-air. In a matter of minutes your station can begin transmitting the RDS/RBDS service flags, IDs and text messages that the majority of new cars can receive and display.

This inexpensive encoder is not intended for sending song titles, weather and other dynamic messaging. But easily installed and rapidly programmed with any personal computer, the 702 remains a most economical means of implementing the basic (and most important!) RDS/RBDS functions.

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Features & Specifications

- Stand-alone encoder does not require a dedicated host computer to operate. Direct-entry Windows® programming software is supplied.

- Rapid data transfer from the computer to the encoder allows messaging to be updated in seconds.

- Data and text messages are held in non-volatile memory. If required, the encoder may be conveniently programmed, then taken to the installation site.

- The 702 locks to stereo pilot from a bridged composite/MPX sample. No special 19kHz sync port is required.

Rear view

STANDARDS SUPPORTED
European CENELEC and United States NRSC

RDS APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED

PS (Program Service Name) This is the station identification that is actually displayed on the radio faceplate. Eight characters can simply show station call letters or can display the station 'street name,' such as "LIVE 105."

PI (Program Identification) Every station is identified by a unique numerical code, essentially its digital address. United States 'K' and 'W' call signs may be entered directly, and software automatically makes the conversion to a proper hexadecimal value. In other countries the PI code is assigned by a Broadcasting Authority and is entered numerically.

PTY (Program Type) Your station's programming is keyed to a list of pre-assigned formats to create the proper PTY flag. This automates a listener's search for his favorite type of programming.

AF (Alternative Frequency List) The broadcaster may enter the frequencies of as many as 7 translators or other sources with programming identical to, and in synchronism with, the main channel. Higher-end RDS radios have two tuners that automatically seek the strongest signal source and switch-over without audible interruption.

RT (RadioText) This is a 64-character block of plain text for display on the radio front panel, usually at the listener's option. Often the listener is required to press an INFO button to display RadioText, although some car radios do not display RadioText at all. RadioText is useful for station promos, advertising, Web addresses or telephone numbers. RadioText may be updated each time the encoder is reprogrammed, which can be done in a matter of only seconds, but the Model 702 is not intended for dynamic data such as song titles or other information that must be continuously updated. Other Inovonics RDS/RBDS encoders are designed specifically for the scrolling-PS text display that appears on all RDS radio faceplates.

M/S (Music/Speech Switch) This is a service flag to identify the transmission as a mixed music program or a speech-only (news/talk) station.

DI (Decoder Identification) Part of the RDS protocol indicating whether the transmission is monaural or stereo.

MPX SAMPLE INPUT
Unbalanced BNC connector, 30k-ohm bridging; requires a composite/MPX signal from the stereo generator at a level between 0.5V p-p and 5.0V p-p.

RDS OUTPUT
Unbalanced BNC connector, 150-ohm source; the output level is adjustable between zero and 3V p-p.

PROGRAMMING PORT
Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface for direct connection with the USB port of any IBM-compatible computer; a proper interconnect cable is supplied. Windows® programming software is supplied on CD-ROM for use with Windows 95® or any higher version.

POWER REQUIREMENT
12VAC at 500mA. A plug-in or inline-transformer matching the destination AC mains voltage is supplied with the 702.

SIZE AND SHIPPING WEIGHT
2"H x 6"W x 8"D; 4 lbs.