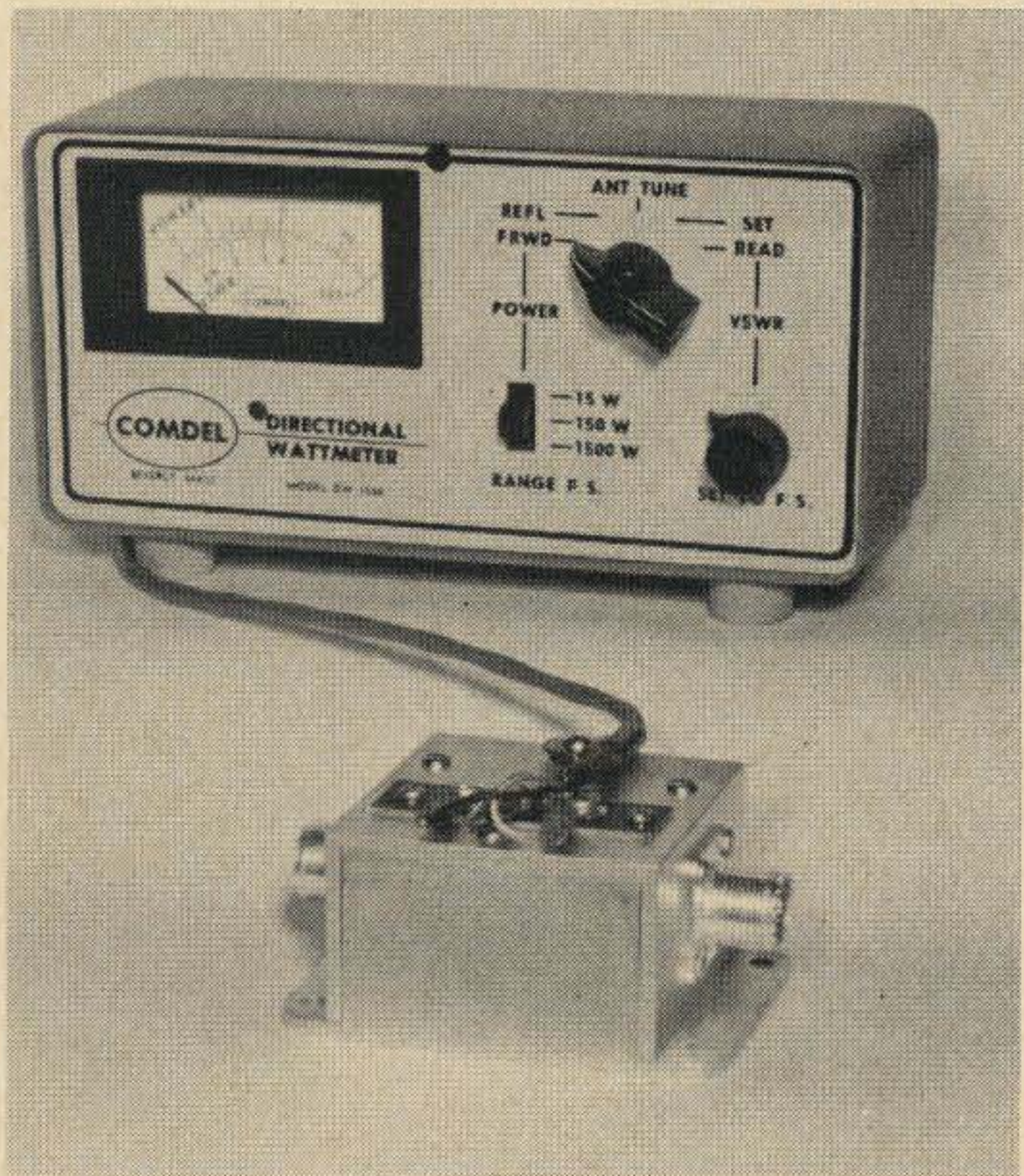


Comdel Wattmeter DW 1550



Recently, I had the opportunity to try out Comdel's new wattmeter and was impressed with its versatility and accuracy. Like other devices of the same kind, it is an "In-Line" instrument, which consists of two separate parts; an rf coupler and a meter unit. The coupler is inserted in the outgoing transmission line, while the meter unit which contains all controls, may be placed in any position suitable to the operator. A three conductor cable, furnished by the supplier, interconnects the two units. Provision is made to bolt the two units together to form a single entity, for those who find this more convenient.

In contrast to simple SWR indicators, the Comdel instrument measures true power up to 1.5 kW, over the frequency range of 1.5 to 60 MHz. A range selector permits full-scale deflections of the meter for outputs of 15, 150, and 1500 watts. Forward and reflected power are measured, as selected on the function switch, and the absolute power output is, of course, the difference between

the two. When the system SWR is less than 2:1 the reflected power can be ignored

The Comdel unit doubles as a VSWR bridge. The use of charts based on forward and reflected power is eliminated by two more positions on the function switch, SET and READ, and a separate VSWR scale on the meter. A separate control knob enables the user to set the meter to full scale in the usual manner. This control is out of circuit when power measurements are being made.

A very useful feature is provided when the function selector is placed in its center position, labelled ANT. TUNE. If you have been tuning external antenna couplers for minimum VSWR, you may on occasions have ended up, as I frequently have, with zero reflection but also with no output. This condition is not exactly good for your equipment. The danger is completely eliminated when the Comdel instrument is used in the ANT. TUNE position. The meter indicates the combination of forward and reflected powers, and the antenna tuner is simply adjusted to give maximum meter deflection.

The meter unit is attractively styled and measures 7½" long by 4" high and 3½" deep. The coupler is of rugged construction and features mounting holes for permanent attachment to bulkheads or any convenient surface. The price is \$95.00 postpaid in the U.S.A. ■

Comdel Inc., Beverly Airport, Beverly, Massachusetts 01915.

DW 1550 Specifications

Frequency range:	1.5 to 60 MHz.
Power range:	0.2 to 1500 watts.
Power accuracy:	± 1 dB.
Impedance:	51 ohms nominal.
VSWR range:	1.0 to 4.0:1.
VSWR residual error:	1.1:1 maximum from 1.5 to 60 MHz. 1.05:1 maximum from 2.5 to 30 MHz. Negligible from 3.5 to 25 MHz.
Insertion loss:	Negligible.
Size and weight:	7-9/16" x 4" x 4-1/4". 20 oz.
Price:	\$95.00.