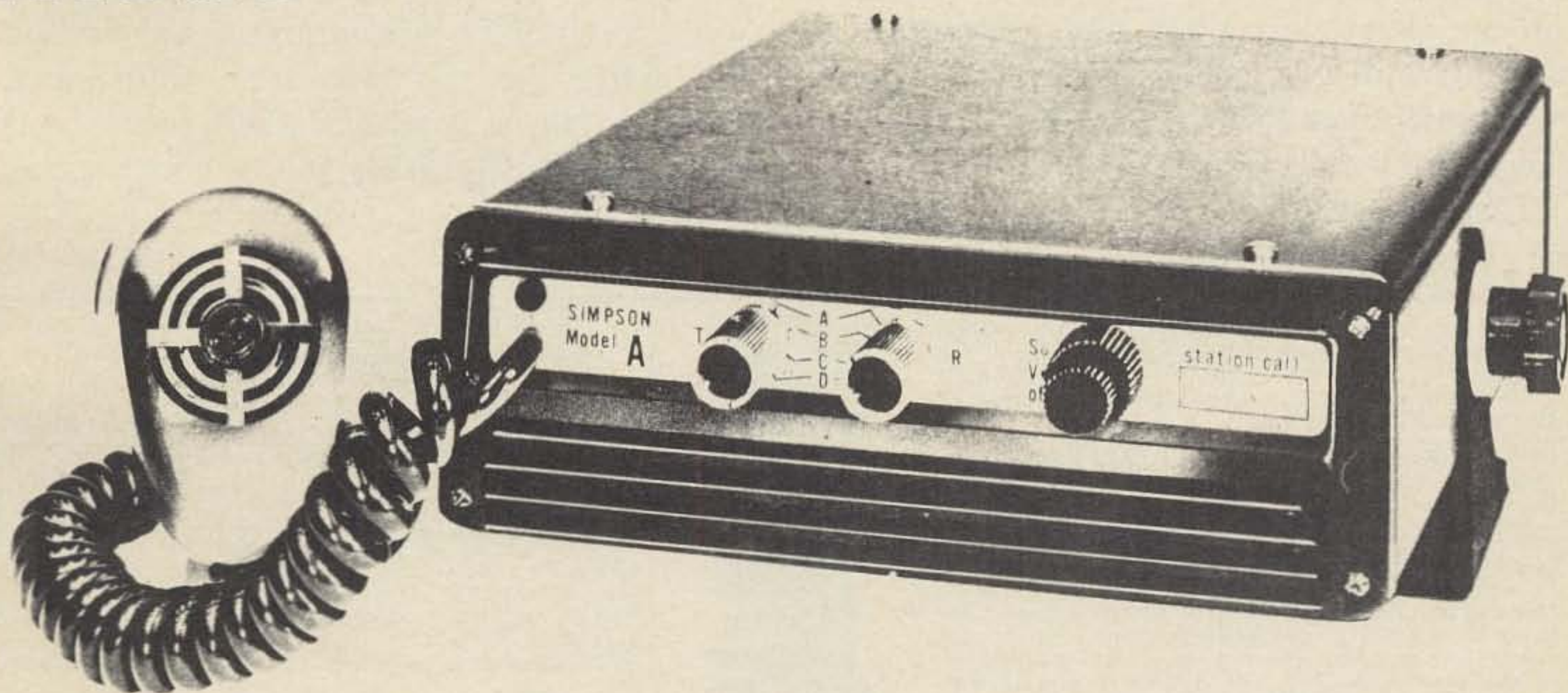


73 Uses the Simpson Model A



FM Transceiver

This is an amateur model of the very well known Simpson Model T marine transceiver, a four channel 150 MHz FM transceiver. The amateur who is looking for an American built unit of exceptional quality would do well to take a close look at the Model A.

Some of the features which make this transceiver so interesting to the FMer are its uncompromising construction, with nothing left out for economy. There are four transmit channels and four receive channels, and any may be paired with any other if you live in a mixed-up repeater area with machines on, say, 22-76, 22-82, 16-76, 25-76, 25-88, 28-88, 31-88, etc. Independent switching of the receive and transmit channels just may

be the way things are heading.

By tilting the oval loudspeaker back and building in a small air coupling section in front of the speaker, the Model A is capable of putting out a remarkably good sound. If your car has much more noise than a Rolls you may just need all the loudspeaker you can get to hear what is coming out of your receiver and you may find the usual 2 in. speaker a whisper in a windstorm when you rev up through the gears.

Separate boards are used for the receiver and transmitter functions, a fact which has alerted some of the more devious technicians in our midst to the possibilities of using the Model A for a repeater. All it takes are a few

wiring changes and a carrier operated relay to make the basic change. To my knowledge there are well over a dozen active repeaters around the country today using the Model A boards.

The transmitter puts out a minimum of 6 watts and uses the popular 6 MHz crystals (the same as the Regency transceivers). That power level is quite adequate for most repeater operation and represents a good compromise for your car battery longevity. You can always put in an external booster amplifier for boondocks work.

The receiver has a ceramic filter with 6 dB skirts at 13 kHz and 60 dB at 36 kHz, which means that a strong signal on 91 will not wipe out both 88 and 94 for you as it will in some other popular receivers. One good strong 91 machine can raise Ned for a hundred miles on three channels unless everyone has good selecting receivers. Sure, you can always buy a \$15 filter and put it in yourself, but that means drilling holes and work which could be avoided if you chose a receiver with narrower bandwidth.

The oscillators all use diodes for switching, which means that you can actually

switch channels from any distance you wish. This system is ideal for use with remote base installations where you might have the transceiver up on the top of a mountain and remotely operated by 450 MHz link or phone wires. You may not be able to live on top of a mountain or a tall building, but you might be able to stick a remote rig up there, which is the next best thing.

The oscillators are padded enough so you can buy inexpensive low tolerance crystals and zero them in. The pads are right out there where you can tune them too, rather than requiring a deformed midget with a lot of patience to get your crystals on channel.

The Model A is in a flat pack that will fit under the dash of most cars and still leave plenty of leg room. The box is made of extruded aluminum side rails with vinyl covered aluminum top and bottom covers and a front panel of injection-molded Cyclo-lac. The circuit boards are glass epoxy and the parts are machine-wave soldered to them. In all, it is an extremely professional and commercial quality job of construction.

It also works.

...W2NSD/1

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