



Introducing the A2FX

A rugged, weather-proof field transceiver for ALERT2 professionals

The A2FX, from Blue Water Design, is a stand-alone ALERT2 field transceiver build around the A2X ALERT2 Modem and a Ritron DTX-145 VHF radio – the same reliable equipment BWD recommends for repeaters and base stations. Designed for field use, the A2FX contains a 6400mAh battery, a speaker, and eight selectable radio channels.

Professional Quality

The A2FX houses all of the components inside a sturdy, weather-proof Pelican case, built for the demands of field use.

By using the same high-quality equipment used in ALERT2 base-stations and repeaters, the A2FX provides reliable diagnostics in a portable package, letting you focus on the task at hand without questioning your equipment.



Field-Friendly Features

The A2FX was designed to support field service work.

The 6400mAh battery provides sufficient power for multiple days of use between charges, and a fuel gauge lets you see how much battery capacity remains at a glance. The batteries can be charged from a vehicle on-the-go, or from an outlet at the end of the day.

Most operations can be completed without ever needing to open the case. Connect A2Control to the A2FX using Bluetooth, and you can send and receive transmissions from your laptop or Windows-compatible tablet. The GPS and radio antennae work with the lid open or closed.

The A2FX will decode ALERT2 messages regardless of modulation polarity, and supports the Configurable FEC, for faster data rates, and encryption extensions, for secure communications, to the ALERT2 protocol. A switch on the A2FX allows the selection of one of eight radio channels, which provides coverage across a wide range of frequencies.

A2Control allows you to view GPS signal strength in real-time, so you can field test your GPS antennas by connecting them to the A2FX.

Transmit and Receive

The A2FX includes an A2X, allowing you to both send and receive ALERT2 messages. The transmit capability supports a wide range of tests and diagnostics. For example, you can test a site's antenna separate from the rest of the components at the site by connecting it to the A2FX.

More and more ALERT2 systems are implementing command and control applications; a transmitter is an important tool in testing and maintaining those systems.

Transmission capability also allows for evaluating the radio-path at potential sites, or building a radio-path map, by sending transmissions from the A2FX and reviewing their receive quality at your base-station or repeater.

About ALERT2

ALERT2 is a low-bandwidth, high-reliability data protocol intended for transmission over VHF/UHF radios. It is an open standard published by the National Hydrologic Warning Council (NWHC), and uses TDMA, a time-slot scheme, to ensure device transmissions do not occur simultaneously. ALERT2 is often used for the collection of hydrological data, but is flexible enough that it may be used for many applications. If you have remote sites that need reliable communications, ALERT2 may be a good solution for you. Contact Blue Water Design for further information.

