



## **BATC report to the RSGB spectrum Forum – November 2022**

Whilst day to day activity continues on 70cms and 23cms, experimentation on the low bands (50 and 71MHz) plus the microwave bands above 2.3GHz continues, especially during BATC activity weekends. It is interesting to note that Dutch ATV operators have now adopted the narrow band techniques pioneered by the UK ATV community and RB-TV QSOs between the countries have taken place on 144/6 and 437 MHz.

Narrow band DVB-S2 and DVB-T with H265 video encoding in bandwidths as low as 150kHz has enabled contacts on 51, 71 and 146 MHz to be made over paths not previously possible.

During the annual IARU region 1 ATV contest, Italian station IO9DATV in Sicily received 125kS (200kHz wide) DATV signals on 51.7MHz from Dutch amateur radio station PE1ASH over a 1760km path. Whilst this was a Sporadic E contact it is hoped that this is the first of many long distance contacts as the sun spot increases and amateurs around the world are becoming equipped with RBTv equipment.

It is planned to carry out mobile transmission tests using narrow band DVB-T where it is hoped this will prove significantly more robust than DVB-S in this challenging environment.

### **IARU region 1 ATV contest**

The Annual IARU contest is perhaps the best indicator of ATV activity and trends across the UK and Europe. In 2022 there were 99 entries from 8 countries on all bands from 432MHz to 122GHz up from 85 entries in 2021.

There were 22 entries, up from 14 in 2021, from the UK with 2 stations in the top 4, and UK stations were band winners on of all the 4 bands above 10GHz.

The contest included 51MHz for the first time which was won by PE1ASH but only received 4 entries; hopefully more stations will have built equipment for the band in time for next year's contest.

### **23cms**

BATC continues to monitor the situation in the run up to WRC 2023 - current indications are that there will be significant changes to the band and the BATC is committed to working with and supporting the RSGB and IARU spectrum team to try and minimize the impact of the changes for the ATV community.