2010 ARRL International EME Competition Results

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Earth-Moon-Earth - in the unassisted and random fashion

The 32nd annual 2010 ARRL International EME Competition once again provided vigorous activity and produced incredible scores. As technologies continue to offer new ways to aid the EME station, QSO rates are increasing. Smaller stations are scoring higher and bigger total scores have been logged by most participants. Portable operators made a larger appearance in the competition this year, too.

The event features three separate weekends of competition. For the accomplished microwave contester, the initial weekend of 4-5 September offered operation on the 2.3 GHz and up microwave bands. Competition on 50 MHz thru 1296 MHz is always held on two separate weekends. This year, the "good Moon" rose on 2-3 and 30-31 October.

The overall highest score and the first-place winner of the Multi-Operator, All Mode, All Band category went to Team K1JT with a new All-Time record of 6,643,200 points. The first-place winner of the Single Operator, All Mode, All Band category was Kozlov, UA3PTW, who also produced the second-highest overall score of 2,575,800 points. Very closely trailing Kozlov in the same category was Viljo, ES5PC, with 2,488,800 total points. Turning in a huge score in the Single Operator, CW Only, All Band category was Dimitris, SV1BTR, with 2,208,900 total points. A very close finish to Dimitris was Stig, OZ4MM, with 2,147,300 points.

Table 1 lists the top three scores for each certificate category offered in the 2010 ARRL International EME Competition: Single-Operator and Multioperator, All Mode and CW only, All Band and for each Single Band.

Statistics and Observations

- A total of 109 logs were received this year.
- There were many more participating stations than there were logs received as shown in **Table 2**. The "Stations" column shows the number of stations submitting logs with QSOs on the specified band while the remaining columns give the maximum number of QSOs reported on each band in any mode and the maximum number of reported CW QSOs (50-1296 MHz only). On 2.3 GHz and up, nearly all QSOs are on CW so no mode distinction is made.
- Portable EME operations are becoming more significant during this contest, often being from rare and even First Activations of new grids, zones and DXCC entities. I have personally seen the first three Worked All Zones (WAZ) occur on 144 MHz during my portable operations.
- Another huge turn out on 1296 MHz and 2.4 GHz: these two bands see more activity every year and the scores continue to rise.
- Team K1JT finished with another All-Time high score in the ARRL International EME
 Competition.
- There were very close races in these categories:
 - o Single-Operator, CW Only, All Band: SV1BTR and OZ4MM
 - o Single-Operator, All Mode, All Band: UA3PTW and ES5PC
 - o Single-Operator, All Mode, 144 MHz: RK3FG and IK1UWL
 - o Multioperator, All Mode, 144 MHz: RU1AA and IK3MAC
- New All-Time records:
 - o Single-Operator, CW Only, 1296 MHz: SM4IVE

o Multioperator, All Mode, All Band: K1JT

Looking at the scores, it is apparent the 2010 ARRL International EME Competition brought out the contesting mood. Large scores were once again seen through the use of increasingly user-friendly, wideband reception techniques, improvements in the digital modes and the likely contribution from the large population on Internet chat websites. It is difficult to determine the percentage of the latter however it appears to be significant.

This phenomenon is interesting, illustrating that the collective mass of the chat environment is adding more than just a few points to the contest log. Assisted EME operation remains taboo in the ARRL International EME Competition, yet at the same time one can see on the 144 MHz band that QSOs completed by far outnumbers 2 meter competitors in the 2010 event.

If there were an ability to post spots without a chat function, it would make sense to allow spotting activity as long as third parties were prevented from commenting on the QSO and the contesters were only allowed to spot their operating frequency. Again, it is apparent that non-entrants to the contest are aiding the contesters. Also brought to my attention is the fact that contesters are being spotted on the chat pages, posting their whereabouts on the dial. Many things about the "chat loggers" are enhancing competition scores, even though some of the operators in the chat rooms have little ability for random operation.

See You On the Moon

Please plan to attend the 33rd Annual ARRL International EME Competition in September and October (watch the contest website for date announcements - www.arrl.org/eme-contest) and give yourself a challenge in demanding contesting.

Table 1 – Top Three Scores in each Category

Band Abbreviations (MHz, G-GHz): A-50, B-144, D-432, E-1296, F-2.3G, G-3.4G, H-5.7G, I-10.3G

Single-Operator , All Mode, All Bands					Single-Operator , CW Only, All Bands				
Call QSOs UA3PTW 244 ES5PC 204 OK1DFC 191	<i>Mults</i> 106 122 101	Score 2,575,8008 2,488,8008 1,929,1008	BDEFGHI	Call SV1BTR OZ4MM G3LTF	QSOs 199 197 160	<i>Mult</i> s 111 109 88	Score 2,208,900 2,147,300 1,408,000	OBDEF	
Multioperator, All I		Multioperator, CW Only, All Bands							
K1JT 384 K4EME 112 LU1C 80	173 64 44	6,643,200E 716,800 E 347,600 E	BD	SP6JĹW SP7DCS	119	56 50	666,400 450,000	DE BE	
Single-Operator , All Mode, Single Band				Single-Operator , CW Only, Single Band					
3D2LR 12	9	*	A	OK1MS		23	80,500	В	
RK3FG 198	71	1,405,800		OZ1HNE		18	46,800	В	
IK1UWL 189	72	1,360,800		IK1FJI	25	17	42,500	В	
LZ1DP 139 JJ1NNJ 23	69 17	959,100 E	D B	I1NDP KL6M	43 28	24 20	103,200 56,000	D D	
OK2POL 21	16		D	SM4IVE	117	43	503,100	E	
VA3GMT 7	5		D	LZ2US	91	38	345,800	Ē	
OK2DL 98	41		E	N4PZ	86	32	275,200	E	
Y08BCF 72	98BCF 72 31 223,200 E			Multioperator, CW Only, Single Band					
UT2EG 65	31	201,500 E	E	DLØSHF		44		E	
OK1CA 43	27	,	F	N2UO	91	39	354,900	E	
F2TU 38	25		F_						
W9IIX 8	8	*	F '						
ON5TA 8 SP3DRT 4	6 4	,	 						
	SP3DRT 4 4 1,600 I Multioperator, All Mode, Single Band								
RU1AA 266	vioae, Sing 84	ne Bana 2,184,000 E	R						
IK3MAC 257	84	2,056,000							
12FAK 210	71	1,491,000							
OH2PO 56	24	134,400							
IZ1BPN 93	37		E						
DL6SH 78	36		E						
VA7MM 37	17	,	E						
SP6OPN 36	24 21	,	F F						
WD5AGO28 OK1KIR 10	8		r H						
SQ6OPG 1	1		H						

Table 2 – Activity by Band

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Band	Stations	Max QSOs		Max QSOs
		Any mode		CW only
50 MHz	1	12	0	
144 MHz	44	266	41	
432 MHz	29	56	56	
1296 MH:	Z	54	117	117
2.3 GHz	20	43		
3.4 GHz	3	7		
5.7 GHz	5	10		
10 GHz	6	8		