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Very good expose' on PSK31, Ernie - great job!

I would like to make mention of one aspect of interfacing a computer and the radio that seems to fall in the crack.

There are at least two full ham transceivers on the market - the Kachina and the Pegasus - that use computer control. There are at least three receivers that also use computer control that are capable of PSK31 reception.

In all these cases, the computer "ground", both chassis and signal, is firmly connected to the radio "ground" by the Chassis Ground and Signal Ground lines in the serial cable.

In such a configuration, there is little need to employ isolation transformers in the audio circuits in an effort to "decouple" or "isolate" the computer and the radio. They are bypassed by the pre-existing ground circuits described above and have no effect other than adding to the cost and introducing attenuation and phase shift, etc.

You might want to add a note about this on the page for the newcomers with these computer-controlled radios. In the case of the Pegasus, even the TenTec factory "experts" are recommending that isolation transformers be used in attempts to resolve various interfacing problems. Makes you wonder . . .

72/73, George
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Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 54th year and it just keeps getting better!
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