

YEAR 2

NUMBER 1



# Mediterraneo dx Club MAGAZINE

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## 600 !!!!

Hi members, we are happy to announce the 600 number assigned ..

MDXC H.Q.

On this number we signal a interesting article by IK2QEI on page

About the world of the contest...

Thanks to Stefano for cooperation

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*Remember to renew  
your iscrission.*

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# HAMFEST Pompei

*HAM FEST Pompei: the MDXC is present with stand*

radioamatore  
elettronica  
informatica  
editoria specializzata  
telecomunicazioni  
radio d'epoca  
surplus

Pompei  
19/20 febbraio 2011

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del  
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MDXC is Present



## Contest university 2011



Contest are the competitive aspect of Amateur Radio activity and offer endless fun for operators around the world. But how to start? ... What does it mean contesting? ... How could I participate?

What should I do to prepare for a contest? ... How can I improve my way of working during the Contest?

The Contest University was created to answer all these questions! ... And more!

It was founded by Tim Duffy K3LR owner of a prestigious and successful contest station in Pennsylvania (USA). Tim has realized the need to provide a source of education for all radio amateurs who wish to discover the world of Contest (also known as Radio-Sport). Contest University started in Dayton, during Hamvention 2007, and was a great success, with 120 students attending courses and reports with great satisfaction. During the 2008 edition there was a significant increase in attendance reaching about 200 students!

Contest University has landed in Europe in October 2008, thanks to Mark M0DXR who, assisted by Tim K3LR, launched Contest University in the UK during the RSGB Convention.

In March 2009 Contest University arrived in Italy; the first edition ended with about 170 participants, 8 reports and the presence of speakers at the Top of International Contesting.

The 2010 edition, with over 200 participants, has been a great success: participants were not only new faces, there were also well know and expert contesters, careful in cheating some secret trick to improve their performances.

Contest University consists of a large set of presentations and reports prepared in a logical order that, in a very short time, allows to enrich with many useful and accurate information even those who approach the complex world of contesting for the first time.

The third edition of Contest University Italy will be held during the next Montichiari Fair (March 12, 2011), thanks to generosity of the Garda Exhibition Centre and the work of Romeo IK2EAD, Guido IK2BCP and Stefano IK2QEI.

Excellent team work with great results, both from Italy and from abroad, and Contest University's idea is to create a united and collaborative contest community made by expert figures, as our speakers, and also by "new" operators (those that Americans call "Rookies") who, with their enthusiasm, could bring even more energy and "will to do it".

OFFICIAL SITE.: <http://contestuniversityitaly.wordpress.com/>

## Magazine in France language also

Special thanks to F6AML, we have now the magazine also in France language

### TJ9PF Cameroun 2010 - <http://www.tj3c.fr/> -

*Hi friends Hi all the World DX'ers*

*A crew composed of members of the Provins ARC, F6KOP is heading to Cameroon TJ, in next February 2011, 10 to 20.*

*All the steps are made with the local Administration and We have applied for the TJ9PF callsign.*

*The main QTH will be in KRIBI, 2 hours by road, far from DOUALA.*

*This international team, whose members know themselves very well for being members of several F6KOP*

*DX peditions together in the past will consist of :*

*F4AJQ, Frank, Team Leader*

*F5UFX Seb, Assistant Team leader*

*FM5CD, Michel*

*N6OX, Bob*

*N2WB, « Wild Bill »*

*K4SV, Dave*

*ON7RN, Eric*

*I2V6W, Gabriele*

*F8BJI, Jean Paul,*

*F6ENO, Alain*

*F6BIV, Jean-Luc*

*F5EOT, Michel*

*F5VHQ, John*

*F2JD, Gerard,*

*F1NGP, Yan,*

*F5PED, Mathieu*

*F1HRE, Henri*

*You'll be able to contact them on all bands from 160 to 10, in all modes, CW, SSB, RTTY & PSK*

*Six stations ( ( 5x ft450 sat and 1xk3) , 6 PA (Acom 1010) and 6 laptops, using Wintest software, will*

*be on the air, 24 h a day during 9 days .*

*The antenna farm will consist of Spiderbeams ( 3 x five banders, 1 x tribander , and 1 x Warc bands),*

*Vertical for 20, 30, 40, 80, and 160m.*

*For the lower bands according to the place usable, 1 or 2 beverage and a K9Y A system will be settled.*

*A website is under construction ; the address will be published asap.*

*Back Office :*

- *QSL manager : F5OGL, Didier*
- *Pilot Station : F6AML, Serge*
- *Webmaster : F4TTR, Thierry.*

*Info by Internet Mailing list : F5NQL, Maurice (subscribe by F5NQL@aol.com )*

*The main target is established at 80 000 QSO's, for these nine days, with emphasis on lower bands, 160 to 30m and digimodes.*

*WE ALREADY THANK A LOT THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE HELPED US OR WILL DO BY ANYWAY, TO MAKE THIS EXPEDITION TO CAMEROON A SUCCESS.*

73

*Frank F4AJQ mdxc #537*

## Zanzibar 5H1Z by F6AML

I will operate from ZANZIBAR Island from January 12 to January 24, 2011 to 24 .

I will be QRV 80 to 10 meters on CW and SSB.

My equipment is Yaesu FT857D 100w, ANT: Buternut vertical HF9V + dipoles

I will situate on the East cost of Zanzibar at JAMBIANI on the beach.

Operation:

Focus on 80 – 40 - 30 -12m

I will please, when I will QSO members of MDXC that these members give me with the report, their number of MDXC. (Like this all hams who send me their # will receive automatically QSL via bureau for each QSO) also is possible to asking direct qsl via [MDXC QSL Service](#).



## New Members

602 Sandro consoli IK2TTJ  
 603 Arno IZ4SJI  
 604 Paolo IK3QAR

## Change number

I8YGZ Pino	mdxc #153
IZ5RYG Max	mdxc #100
IZ5PVR Roberto	mdxc #092
IZ2KXC Fabrizio	mdxc #093



For its first year DX COFFEE, organizing a full week-and of radio and friendship in San MARINO Republic. You can visit an amazing Country. meet other Hams from worldwide, operate the special call T70DXC.

more info on official site <http://www.dxcoffee.com/happybirthday/>

## The World of CONTEST by IK2QEI



Let's go back to talk about ... Contest! Writing about Contests in front of a completely white page is often not easy: it is perhaps the reason why it fascinates me since I was 16 y.o. (now I'm 37).... Contests are a small part of the many tasks that an amateur radio operator may choose to play within our hobby. As a matter of fact, in the world of contesting you can find an endless array of different sectors and interests. I want to make a reflection based on a question that sometimes crosses my mind: is it technology that goes into contest or are the contests that are so voracious about technology? The answer is surely not easy. In recent years we have witnessed the birth and consolidation of a strong automation and a strong convergence in our shack. Until few years ago the computer was a simple tool that had replaced the old paper log; later on, with the evolution of PC technology, the contest logging programs have expanded greatly. Nowadays, some programs are able to fully manage the contest in a personalized manner according to the rules of the race, we can often exploit the great potential that modern radios have to offer, we can control the rotation of the antenna, its direction and running of the stack; we can also check the amplifier and the audio of our headsets by using the great boxes SO2R which help us not to limit our PC's performances used to edit the log (and therefore the result of our contest). It is also possible to keep under examination both propagation and our score by comparing it with the aim we set before the race. And don't forget integration with apparatus like SDR and Skimmer where interaction between software and hardware is constantly evolving. At this point the idea of using such infinite potential within contest means that software's choice is crucial in order to have better results or at least to be more effective and focused in participating to the race. While the automation, the technology for controlling and a better management of our devices are growing quickly, also the technology linked to everything that's out of our radio room is changing remarkably, often forcing the radio amateur operator to decide which would be the best options for his location. Let's start with analyzing the wide range of coaxial cables present on the market: with the expansion of wireless broadband market, manufacturers have invented cables with size, weight and, last but not least, losses much lower than a decade ago, so cables more practical to

handle and easier to install. Even the antenna systems are continually evolving. Once, for those who wanted participate competitively to contest, the decision fell on a park of antennas consisting of a stack of mono band yagi or big loaded tri band; the most successful and ambitious pushed on the cubical antennas. Now we have dynamic yagi antennas, able to adapt themselves perfectly and in a very short time to the right transmission frequency, and acting as real monoband yagi even on 40m band without particular mechanical lacks.

Alternatively there are tri band with interlaced elements which can cover from 10m to 40m with good gains and bandwidths, however they're arrangements. And what about low bands? Here too, technology has helped us a lot; there are telescopic poles, made of last generation's material, able to easily reach up to 26m so we can have good performances on low bands too. Also receiving systems evolved a lot, from the simple beverage to K9AY, ewe and DHDL. For those who want to contest in categories needing multiple rtx at the same time, we are plenty of choice for a variety of devices, so-called filters, that allow us to eliminate interferences between various rtx (or at least to control them) if antenna systems are near; in fact even those who unfortunately cannot install on multiple pylons (for space reasons), still can participate in multi rtx categories with lots of fun and good results thanks to the use use of multiple devices simultaneously (for instance low power bandpass filter between rx and amplifier, high power bandpass filter at amplifier's output and stub notch filter). Given this, I would say that it's difficult to answer the question: for sure, technology and contest are closely related...

Those who choose to evolve properly (from a technological point of view), and perhaps even anticipate others by just a few months, often really enjoy these benefits.

Often in contesting radio amateur give great importance to hardware forgetting that operator actually can make the difference: there are teams, well-established and well together, always at the top of final standings since years; then certainly we should have both, technology and a good "user", someone who is able to exploit this technology in its favor. Finally, I've seen or read about setups technologically very complicated and I always ask myself: how much they will prove to be really practical for a use of long periods of time as the forty-eight hours of a contest? I think the key to manage the introduction of new technologies in the world of contest is a balance between a technologically advanced setup and the difficulty of use.

Now and then I leave the decision up to you: whether, in the next contest, having a more or less technological station will lead you to have more fun and maybe even get a better result!

73, Stefano IK2QEI

**IK2QEI** – *Stefano member & founder of CN3A, numerous placings in the several CQWW in CW, SSB and RTTY, or from Italy that give Africa like CT9L, CN3A, IG9A, IG9/IK2QEI, IR4T. Member of the CQWW Contest Committee. Competitor WRTC in 2000, 2002, 2006, 2010 obtaining the better one turned out in the WRTC for Italy (5^ World-wide to WRTC 2006 Brasi them). Organizer with Romeo IK2EAD and I guide IK2BCP of the Contest University in Italy.*



MDXC Magazine

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**Si ricorda a tutti i soci che la partecipazione al magazine e' aperta a tutti, si invitano i soci a far pervenire articoli sulle loro attività e a collaborare con la redazione.**