



## In This Newsletter

- Shelter-In-Place
- News & Updates
- K4 Updates
- Great Products from other Manufacturers
- Spring Sale

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### Shelter-In-Place Is In Place At Elecraft

Santa Cruz County, CA., announced that shelter-in-place is extended through May 3. As much as we want to get back to manufacturing equipment, maintaining the safety and health of our employees, families and our communities is so much more important.

#### What's happening at Elecraft

While our Watsonville office location is closed during the shelter-in-place, Elecraft employees are working hard from home. Our Sales and Technical Support teams are answering customer phone calls and emails, providing the same quality service that you're used to...only now we're in our comfy clothes and house slippers. Our Engineers and Technicians have brought home equipment to continue working on projects including K4 development. And our Inventory team is managing and ordering materials so manufacturing can resume the moment we're back on site.

We will continue to ship products that we have in stock. Available items will be shipped within five working days of your order being placed. Please see our [Shipping Status Page](#) for more information. Any orders that we are unable to ship until we resume manufacturing will be shipped in the order received. Your payment will not be processed until we ship

your order. Some credit card providers allow a limited time to process charges, so we may need to contact you for your credit card information when your order is ready to ship. You may also add a note to process your payment immediately in the **Add A Note to Your Order** box on the order form.

All of us at Elecraft hope you and your loved ones are doing well.

If you have any questions regarding your order or about any of our products, please call us at 831-763-4211 or email [sales@elecraft.com](mailto:sales@elecraft.com) or [support@elecraft.com](mailto:support@elecraft.com)

## News & Updates

### Elecraft Proudly Sponsored



**South Orkney 2020 VP8PJ**

Feb. 20 - Mar 5, 2020

**Congratulations to the South Orkney 2020 VP8PJ DXpedition Team!**

**VP8PJ KPA1500 Report**

**Co-Team Leader Les, W2LK and Co-Organizer & Treasurer, Gene, K5GS**





### VP8PJ South Orkney DXpedition 2020

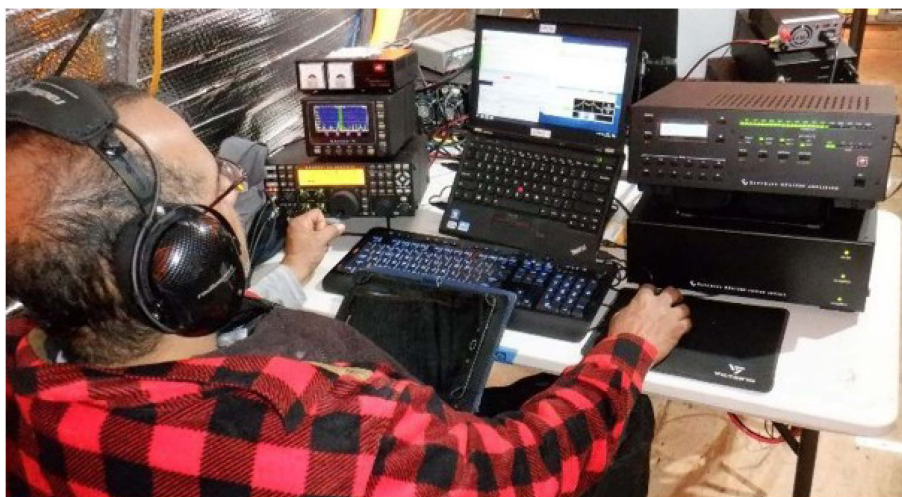
Elecraft was kind enough to loan us a KPA-1500 as well as a complement of loaded K3s transceivers, KPA-500 amps, P3 panadapters and tuners. The KPA-1500 was in use from the first day of operation until the last day and we never had a single problem with it. It was powered by a Generac 6.5kW generator that also powered a station with a KPA-500 and one with an Expert SPE 1.3K. Most times all three stations were in use at the same time. The amp was used on almost every band and modes were CW, SSB, FT-8 and RTTY. Much of the time it was run at full power but for the digital modes it was run at 800-1200W. The automatic tuner always found a match with the many different antennas we used. Countless ATNOs were given with that amplifier.

Any number of typical expedition frenzy events happened like the generator running out of gas and stopping in mid-stream, using the wrong antenna, and on and on. No amp problems at all. The 1500 chugged on, non-stop. It ran flawlessly.

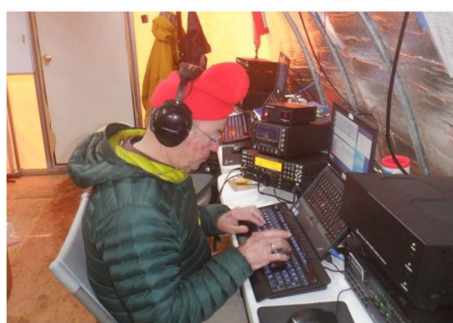
Without a doubt, the KPA-1500 was the “go to” linear amplifier during this project. The team members had nothing but praise, it was a pleasure to use.

VP8ORK, the previous S. Orkney expedition in 2011, made about 63,000 QSOs and our challenge was to exceed their contacts - we met that challenge with 83,783 contacts. We were constrained as to how far we could separate antennas but had no issues at all with spurious signals or phase noise. Much of the time we operated two or even three stations on the same band with different modes without problems. All in all, it was a very successful project thanks in large measure to Elecraft equipment.

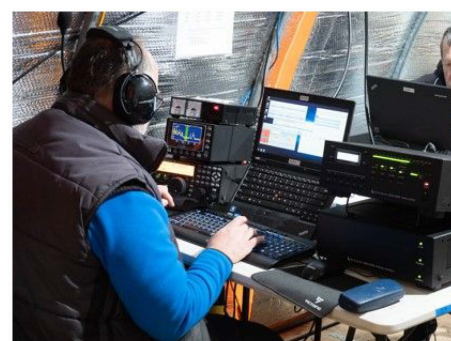




Rob, N7QT, operating a K3S, P3 and KPA1500



Ken, NG2H, operating a K3S, P3 and KPA1500



Lacy, HA0NAR, operating a K3S, P3, KPA1500



Arliss, W7XU, operating a KX3, PX3 and KPA500



Dave, K3EL and Gene, K5GS holding our Elecraft banner.



For Latest updates, visit their [Facebook page](#).

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## 2020 Trade Show Schedule

Here's a list of trade shows that we plan on attending in 2020. If you're attending any of these events, come on by and say hello!

- July 24-26 - Northeast HamXposition, Marlborough, MA
  - Aug 22-23 - Huntsville Hamfest, Huntsville, AL
  - September 11-12 - W9DXCC, St. Charles, IL
  - September 25-26 - W4DXCC, Pigeon Forge, TN
  - October 16-18 - Pacificon, San Ramon, CA
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## K4 Update

### High-Performance Direct Sampling SDR



#### K4 Update: Transmit Features -- Emphasis on SSB

As Eric alluded to, the entire Elecraft design team is safely working from home. We're busy adding new capabilities to the K4 and testing it in real-world conditions. (If it weren't for the lock-down, I and other early users would still be inviting operators over to try it. Previous demonstrations have led to amazement over the sound of the receive audio quality, among other reactions.)

With its new, faster DSP, versatile architecture, large display, and essentially unlimited code space, the K4 can offer features that go far beyond what we've been able to offer before.

Here's a sampling of what this will mean for SSB users:

##### Optimal audio

The K4's RX and TX passband in SSB modes can be configured to be flat from below 50 Hz to over 4 kHz, with none of the drawbacks of crystal filters (delay, ripple, passband edge effects). Easy to use graphic TX/RX EQ and other bandwidth controls allow the operator to tailor the response per-mode and for different microphones. The overall effect is full, rich audio in both transmit and receive -- the latter in full stereo.

Wider transmit and receive bandwidths can also be configured for digital audio modes, ESSB, and AM, at the operator's discretion.

##### Exceptional ALC performance

The K4 uses a new ALC system designed to completely eliminate power overshoot and varying loop dynamics. This makes it both easier to adjust and more compatible with external amplifiers.

##### Multi-parameter transmit metering

In voice modes, the K4 provides clear bar graph displays of all four transmit parameters simultaneously: power output, SWR, ALC, and compression (processing level). Real-time numeric readouts of power, SWR, supply voltage/current, and PA temperature are also available.

##### Foolproof split transmit indication

You'll never lose track of whether you're in SPLIT mode with the K4: all four transmit bar graphs are grouped either on the left (non-split, i.e. VFO A = TX) or right (split, VFO B = TX). TX icons are also clear and unambiguous.

The K4 also allows full cross-band/cross-mode operation in both split and non-split.

### **Versatile audio I/O**

There are mic and headphone jacks on both the front and rear panels. Some operators prefer to use the rear panel connections to avoid cluttering the operating position. Audio for both voice and data modes can be either analog (LINE in/out) or digital (via USB or Ethernet).

### **Large DVR memory**

The digital voice recorder draws on the K4's large pool of flash memory, allowing virtually unlimited expansion for both transmit and receive purposes. There are also new, easy to use playback controls.

### **Redesigned PA stages**

All transmit stages have been upgraded, with improved biasing, parametric monitoring, and T/R sequencing. Hardware is also in place to support closed-loop amplifier IMD optimization, both internally and externally.

### **Support for future operating modes**

With DSP and MCU horsepower to burn, we may be able to add new voice and data modes in the future (and even new bands). The K4 is designed from the ground up for extensibility in both hardware and software.

73,  
Wayne  
N6KR

**Listen for us on the air - We'll likely be on a K4!**

## Great Products From Other Manufacturers

### Featuring *PHOTOQSLs*

PHOTOQSLs features quality and value in fully customized, full color, photo QSLs. Order in 5 easy steps!



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