R&S® DDF550
Wideband Direction Finder
Fast and precise direction finding
The fast R&S®DDF550 wideband direction finder offers outstanding realtime bandwidth and DF scan speed as well as high DF accuracy, sensitivity and immunity to reflections. The unit has compact dimensions and is optionally available as a DC-powered model, which makes it ideal for mobile applications.

The R&S®DDF550 can be operated with virtually all R&S®ADDx multichannel DF antennas. From the wide range of R&S®ADDx DF antennas, the right antenna(s) can be chosen for every application. The R&S®ADDx DF antennas have a large number of antenna elements and therefore offer a very wide aperture and exceptionally high performance. All antennas come with integrated lightning protection that does not impair DF accuracy.

For fast, automatic location of frequency agile signals, multiple R&S®DDF550 direction finders can be combined and operated in synchronized DF scan mode in conjunction with an optional, automatic preclassifier. ITU-compliant measurement methods can optionally be added to the R&S®DDF550.
Key facts
- High DF accuracy, sensitivity and immunity to reflections
- High DF scan speed due to outstanding 80 MHz realtime bandwidth (VHF/UHF/SHF)
- Easy integration into mobile platforms due to compact size and optional DC power supply
- DF antennas with integrated, extendible lightning protection causing no impairment of DF accuracy
- Direction finding of signals in the frequency range up to 6 GHz

Benefits

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Reliable DF results even in challenging environments
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Direction finding of short-duration signals with high probability of intercept

Reliable DF results even in challenging environments

The R&S®DDF550 is designed for high-speed monitoring of wide frequency ranges. Bearings of short-duration signals and fast, frequency agile transmitters operating at unknown frequencies are taken with high probability of intercept. This is mainly due to the large 80 MHz realtime bandwidth in the VHF/UHF range. In many applications, this bandwidth makes it possible – without activating the DF scan mode – to take bearings of all signals in the 80 MHz range in parallel and with maximum probability of intercept. Frequency ranges exceeding 80 MHz are traversed in DF scan mode at very high speed, which is enabled by the fast synthesizer. Additionally, with the R&S®DDF550-EMS\(^1\) enhanced measurement speed and R&S®DDF550-ID EMS identification options, the minimum signal duration can be further decreased, so that even short-duration signals can be detected and located. The R&S®DDF550 also delivers accurate bearings of state-of-the-art, fast frequency hopping signals.

\(^1\) The R&S®DDF550-EMS option is export restricted.

Multi-element DF antennas

Due to multipath propagation (especially in urban areas), not only the direct wave but also reflections arrive at the DF antenna. The R&S®ADDx multichannel DF antennas offer higher immunity to such reflections than most commercially available antennas, since they feature an exceptionally large number of antenna elements. Virtually all Rohde & Schwarz DF antennas use nine antenna elements in the VHF/UHF range, or eight in the UHF/SHF range, while commercially available DF antennas typically have only five. The R&S®ADDx antennas were designed to provide stable bearings even with a 50% share of reflections. If only five antenna elements are used, substantial DF errors can be expected in certain frequency ranges.\(^2\)

\(^2\) For details, see “R&S®ADDx Multichannel DF Antennas” Product Brochure (PD 0758:1106:12).
Innovative DF antennas

Active/passive switchover with just a mouse click
Up until now, users have had to decide what is more important to them: the higher sensitivity offered by active DF antennas or the higher immunity to strong signals provided by passive DF antennas.

The R&S®ADD011SR, R&S®ADD011P, R&S®ADD050SR, R&S®ADD153SR, R&S®ADD157 and R&S®ADD253 DF antennas for the first time make it possible to bypass the active circuitry of the antenna elements. The user can switch the active elements to passive mode by a simple mouse click. These DF antennas thus offer the advantages of both the active and the passive mode. 2)

Exceptionally high DF sensitivity
The antenna elements of the R&S®ADD153SR, R&S®ADD157 and R&S®ADD253 DF antennas are equipped with PIN diodes, allowing the electrically active structure to change very quickly in the VHF/UHF range. As a result, these elements are always optimally adapted to the receive frequency and offer exceptionally high sensitivity. 2)

Integrated, extendible lightning protection
All installed Rohde & Schwarz DF antennas that are at risk of being struck by lightning have built-in, effective, extendible lightning protection. The lightning protection concept was taken into account in development right from the start and does not impair DF accuracy. 2)

Easy replacement of DF antennas
Unlike commercially available antennas, DF antennas from Rohde & Schwarz do not need to be individually calibrated. The precisely manufactured R&S®ADDx DF antennas behave exactly as predicted in theory. A DF antenna from Rohde & Schwarz can be replaced with the same model without having to manage new calibration data and store it in the direction finder. 2)
Precise direction finding of weak signals

High DF sensitivity due to large number of antenna elements

Featuring an exceptionally large number of antenna elements, the R&S®ADDx multichannel DF antennas offer higher sensitivity for use with the R&S®DDF550 than DF antennas with identical diameter but fewer elements. A higher number of antenna elements means a higher number of spatial sampling points, resulting in higher system gain. 3)

Adjustable coherent signal integration in wideband DF and DF scan mode for enhanced DF sensitivity

The R&S®DDF550 performs parallel averaging of the voltages measured on the individual elements of a DF antenna relative to a reference element. This is done on a large number of frequency channels simultaneously, both in wideband DF and DF scan mode, the process being referred to as coherent signal integration. In a first step, all antenna voltages for all frequency channels measured are stored and, after the selected averaging time, the averaged voltage value is output for each channel. Next, bearings are calculated from the averaged antenna voltages. As the averaging time increases, the impact of noise decreases significantly, resulting in a corresponding increase in DF sensitivity. Coherent signal integration will improve DF sensitivity by 29 dB for an emission of 1 s duration and by 24 dB for a 300 ms burst signal. As a prerequisite for this method, the channels to be covered must fall within the R&S®DDF550 realtime bandwidth (25 kHz channel resolution).

For details, see “R&S®ADDx Multichannel DF Antennas” Product Brochure (PD 0758.1106.12).
Accurate and reliable location of short-duration signals

GPS based synchronization of multiple R&S®DDF550 (time-synchronized DF scan mode)
To locate short-duration signals, all direction finders in a radiolocation network should be synchronized so that they take bearings on the same frequency at the same time. This is the only way to ensure that bearings will be delivered by all direction finders – even for very short emissions – allowing the precise location of a signal source to be calculated.

Using the R&S®DDF550-TS time-synchronous scanning option and suitable GPS receivers, multiple R&S®DDF550 direction finders can be synchronized by means of the R&S®DDF550-IGT internal GPS time synchronization option or any other GPS 1 pps signal. This is an essential prerequisite for using the R&S®DDF550 in radiolocation systems for the automatic location of frequency agile transmitters.

Optional preclassifier detects LPI signals and summarizes individual results into a condensed result
Only a specific portion of the signals received by the DF antenna is of interest in practical applications. The R&S®DDF550-CL preclassifier option automatically separates specific LPI\(^4\) signals, such as frequency hopping, chirp and burst signals, from conventional signals. The individual DF results of an emission are automatically averaged and summarized to give a condensed result. This procedure enhances radiolocation accuracy and minimizes the amount of data to be transferred between the DF stations in a radiolocation network.

\(^4\) Low probability of intercept.
The number of radio services and transmitters is continuously growing, which results in an increasing cumulative load on the antenna input and the receiver input. Digital broadcasting services in particular, such as DVB-T and DAB with their high bandwidths, are changing antenna and receiver linearity requirements. The problem is intensified if the DF antenna is in the vicinity of strong transmitters – which can hardly be avoided in metropolitan areas.

If the number of strong signals becomes too high, intermodulation products may become visible in the spectrum. In the worst case, they would mask signals of interest and make direction finding impossible.

In many applications, it is good practice to reduce the realtime bandwidth in order to increase sensitivity, linearity and immunity to strong signals.

Special and exceptionally powerful receive path
When the user sets a realtime bandwidth of 20 MHz (or less), both receive channels of the R&S®DDF550 in the VHF/UHF/SHF range automatically switch over to an exceptionally powerful receive path. This second path has been optimized for precise signal measurement.

Improved analog architecture of the receive path
To minimize the detrimental influence of strong signals outside the receive bandwidth, these signals must be filtered out as far as possible already in the analog part of the RF frontend. This works best with narrow receive bandwidths. Filters can be used that take effect in the spectrum considerably earlier and thus filter more strongly. The R&S®DDF550 includes various filters that are selected depending on the set realtime bandwidth:
- Special filters in preselection optimized for the narrower realtime bandwidth
- Special IF filter with 20 MHz bandwidth

Especially powerful analog/digital converters
The performance of commercially available analog/digital converters is influenced by the receive bandwidth: the narrower the receive bandwidth, the better the performance. This is why the R&S®DDF550 features two different analog/digital converters that can be selected depending on the set realtime bandwidth. When a realtime bandwidth of 20 MHz (or less) has been set, a particularly high-resolution converter is used.

Considerable advantages in the case of weak signals and dense signal scenarios
The receive path with 20 MHz realtime bandwidth, which was specially developed for precise signal measurement, offers a number of advantages in both DF and receive mode:
- Significant reduction of the noise floor due to narrower bandwidth
- Less limitation (due to strong signals outside the receive bandwidth) of the dynamic range in the analog/digital converter thanks to narrower analog filters
- Significant improvement (18 dB (typ.)) of the intermodulation-free dynamic range through the use of a special analog/digital converter

These measures lead to a much improved signal-to-noise ratio, especially with strong signals in the vicinity of the receive bandwidth. The second receive path is therefore particularly suitable for measuring weak signals and/or dense signal scenarios where many strong signals are present (typically in large cities).
Powerful hardware developed by Rohde & Schwarz

In-house development and manufacture of all DF system components, including the DF antenna

All components of the DF system that is based on the R&S®DDF550 are developed and manufactured by Rohde & Schwarz, ensuring above-average performance and quick implementation of technical innovations. Particularly for DF antennas, recent years have seen major improvements, such as active/passive switchover developed and introduced by Rohde & Schwarz.

Rohde & Schwarz benefits from its many years of experience in the development and production of antennas, receivers and digital signal processing equipment.

Signal processing at maximum speed based on powerful FPGAs

The large number of powerful field programmable gate arrays (FPGA) implemented in the R&S®DDF550 delivers above-average signal processing speed. FPGAs are much more powerful than the digital signal processors (DSP) and PC processors that many competitor products use for signal processing.

Use of powerful Rohde & Schwarz ASICs

At specific points in the signal processing chain, all data must be processed simultaneously. The processing speed of the entire chain therefore essentially depends on the performance at these points. This is why Rohde & Schwarz uses its own application-specific integrated circuits (ASIC).

High immunity to strong signals thanks to sophisticated preselection

Apart from wanted signals, a spectrum usually also contains strong signals, such as those from TV and radio broadcast transmitters. In order not to impair DF results, these out-of-band signals must be sufficiently suppressed by preselection. The R&S®DDF550 is equipped with sophisticated preselectors developed by Rohde & Schwarz based on decades of experience. In contrast to most competitor products, the R&S®DDF550 has tracking and bandpass filters that can be selected depending on the set real-time bandwidth. This preselection capability goes far beyond ITU recommendations and leads to above-average immunity to strong signals.

Module with powerful FPGA for high-speed signal processing.

VHF/UHF/SHF preselection of the R&S®DDF550 with bandpass and tracking filters.
Effective measurements in line with ITU recommendations

The R&S®DDF550 fulfills all ITU recommendations for direction finders and receivers.

**Option for comprehensive, ITU-compliant measurement methods**

As an option, the R&S®DDF550 can be furnished with comprehensive, ITU-compliant measurement methods. These include:
- Frequency and frequency offset in line with ITU-R SM.377
- Field strength in line with ITU-R SM.378
- Modulation in line with ITU-R SM.328
- Spectrum occupancy in line with ITU-R SM.1880 (with remote control PC and R&S®ARGUS software packages)
- Bandwidth in line with ITU-R SM.443
- Detection of mono and stereo transmissions from FM broadcast transmitters

(5) Depending on the application, an external reference frequency with higher accuracy may be required, e.g. a GPS reference frequency.

Direction finding up to 6 GHz

**Fast, effective radiolocation of interferers**

Together with the R&S®ADD078SR DF antenna, the R&S®DDF550 delivers precise DF results up to 6 GHz. Until now, this has only been possible up to 3 GHz. DF bearings can now be taken on transmitters up to 6 GHz, for example in the frequency bands of the following services:
- WLAN
- WiMAX™
- Microwave systems

The R&S®DDF550 effectively detects and locates interference in the corresponding frequency bands.

Locating target transmitters previously required the use of rotatable directional antennas, which have disadvantages regarding manageability and measurement speed. The R&S®DDF550 immediately displays the bearing, significantly simplifying direction finding during test drives.

High DF accuracy and immunity to reflections in the VHF/UHF range are also achieved in the SHF range.

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Hardware-accelerated multichannel signal processing

The R&S®DDF550 digital direction finder optionally provides hardware-accelerated signal processing for the R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system (see also product brochure, PD 3606.9327.12 or data sheet, PD 3606.9327.22). For this purpose, the R&S®DDF550 needs to be equipped with the R&S®DDF550-SP signal processing board. The board supports up to three different high-performance signal processing functions implemented in field programmable gate array (FPGA) technology.

Multichannel signal detection and analysis in a networked system

Equipped with the R&S®DDF550-SP hardware-accelerated signal processing option, the R&S®DDF550 supports parallel multichannel signal detection and analysis. The following high-performance signal processing functions are implemented in field programmable gate array (FPGA) technology:

- Multichannel signal extraction: R&S®DDF550DDCE
- Calculation of high-resolution spectra: R&S®DDF550-HRP
- Detection of frequency agile signals: R&S®DDF550-ST

The R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system ideally complements the R&S®DDF550 when equipped with the following options:

- Multichannel signal processing: R&S®CA120MCP, R&S®CA120FFP
- Detection of fixed frequency and burst signals: R&S®CA120DSC
- Detection of frequency hopping signals: R&S®CA120ST

Thanks to the detailed interface description, system integrators can directly access the receiver data streams for processing in their own external systems.

Parallel multichannel output of more than 100 channels

Within the direction finder’s realtime bandwidth, more than 100 channels (manually set by the user) with a maximum bandwidth of 30 kHz each or 32 channels with a maximum bandwidth of 300 kHz each can be simultaneously output over the 1 Gbit Ethernet interface. As a result, a large number of signals are available as an I/Q baseband data stream that can be processed in external systems (R&S®DDF550DDCE option).

Equipped with the R&S®CA120MCP and R&S®CA120FFP options, the R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system processes the extracted signals online and supports multichannel content recovery in a signal scenario with many signals through audio demodulation, classification, demodulation/decoding and recording.
Multichannel digital downconversion (DDC) signal extraction from the R&S®DDF550 realtime bandwidth with R&S®DDF550DDCE and R&S®CA120FFP

If multiple signals in the R&S®DDF550 realtime bandwidth are active at the same time, users can extract these signals by means of digital downconverters. The maximum number of DDCs computed in parallel depends on the set DDC bandwidth (for details, see the R&S®CA120 data sheet, PD 3606.9327.22). In a typical HF application with an R&S®DDF550 realtime bandwidth of up to 20 MHz and a DDC bandwidth of up to 30 kHz, well over 100 signals can be extracted and output simultaneously. The downconverted signals are available as digital I/Q streams on one of the R&S®DDF550 LAN interfaces.

The R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system further processes the extracted signals online (audio demodulation, classification, demodulation/decoding and recording) to provide optimum support for multichannel content recovery from a signal scenario.

Automatic detection of fixed frequency and burst signals with R&S®DDF550-HRP and R&S®CA120DSC

The signal detector provides a detection result for each detected signal matching user-defined selection criteria in the realtime bandwidth of the R&S®DDF550. The automatically computed detection threshold adapts independently to the noise floor characteristic that varies within a frequency range. In scenarios where certain signals or frequency ranges are of no interest, the detector algorithm can be parameterized with a list of frequency ranges that may be ignored. The detector will generate no messages for signals in these ranges.

The R&S®CA120 taps the detection spectra at the LAN interface of the R&S®DDF550 and processes them. The R&S®CA120 assigns the results to signals, manages lists of active and inactive signals and uses digital downconverters (R&S®DDF550DDCE) to automatically process detected signals, thereby providing optimum support for signal search and signal monitoring.

R&S®DDF550 with R&S®DDF550-SP: support for hardware-accelerated signal processing with R&S®CA120

The R&S®DDF550-SP signal processing board with options. The results are processed in the R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system.
Automatic detection of frequency agile short-time signals with R&S®DDF550-ST

When used with R&S®CA120, the R&S®DDF550-ST option delivers a result for each short-time signal that is detected within the realtime bandwidth of the R&S®DDF550 and matches user-defined selection criteria. The results are output on the 1 Gbit Ethernet interface for further processing.

By measuring, classifying and sorting the results, the R&S®CA120 multichannel signal analysis system with the R&S®CA120ST and R&S®CA120PS options optimally supports the detection and monitoring of frequency agile short-time signals.

With its automatic profile separation and online recombination capabilities, R&S®CA120 provides the enhanced online dehopping solution.

With its automatic detection and classification capability, R&S®CA120 can monitor complete signal scenarios and informs the user about any signals or events of interest.
System components

DF antennas for the R&S®DDF550
The R&S®DDF550 can be operated with virtually all R&S®ADDx multichannel DF antennas (see table).

R&S®ADD-LP extended lightning protection
All installed Rohde & Schwarz DF antennas that are at risk of being struck by lightning include a lightning rod as standard. This rod safely diverts lightning strikes and in most cases prevents damage to the DF antenna.

The higher a DF antenna is located, the higher the likelihood that lightning will not strike the rod but instead will laterally impact the DF antenna and cause significant damage. The R&S®ADD-LP extended lightning protection is recommended for installation heights of more than 20 m above ground (e.g. masts > 20 m, tall buildings, mountain-tops). The R&S®ADD-LP consists of two crossed lightning rods that in most cases prevent lateral impacts since the rods protrude beyond the DF antenna.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF antenna</th>
<th>Frequency range</th>
<th>Application</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD011SR</td>
<td>300 kHz to 30 MHz</td>
<td>stationary and transportable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD011P</td>
<td>300 kHz to 30 MHz</td>
<td>portable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD119</td>
<td>300 kHz to 30 MHz</td>
<td>mobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD015</td>
<td>1 MHz to 30 MHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD216</td>
<td>300 kHz to 3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD050SR</td>
<td>20 MHz to 450 MHz</td>
<td>stationary and transportable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD153SR</td>
<td>20 MHz to 1.3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD157</td>
<td>20 MHz to 1.3 GHz (vertical polarization), 40 MHz to 1.3 GHz (horizontal polarization)</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD070</td>
<td>1.3 GHz to 3 GHz</td>
<td>stationary and transportable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD253</td>
<td>20 MHz to 3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD078SR</td>
<td>1.3 GHz to 6 GHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discontinued antennas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DF antenna</th>
<th>Frequency range</th>
<th>Application</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD050</td>
<td>20 MHz to 200 MHz</td>
<td>stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD150(^1)</td>
<td>20 MHz to 1.3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD153</td>
<td>20 MHz to 1.3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile and stationary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD170</td>
<td>800 MHz to 2 GHz</td>
<td>mobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD070M</td>
<td>1.3 GHz to 3 GHz</td>
<td>mobile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Depending on the hardware version, modifications may be required.
**R&S®DDF1XZ, R&S®DDF5XZ, R&S®DDF7XZ, R&S®DDF3C-7 DF antenna cable sets**

To connect the DF antenna(s) to the R&S®DDF550 direction finder, different cable sets are available for different frequency ranges. The R&S®DDF1XZ is available for the HF range. The R&S®DDF5XZ (0.3 MHz to 1.3 GHz) and R&S®DDF7XZ (0.3 MHz to 3 GHz) are used in the VHF/UHF range. The R&S®DDF3C-7 (0.3 MHz to 6 GHz) is used in the VHF/UHF/SHF range. Each of these cable sets consists of four coaxial RF cables and one control cable. Special lengths are available on request.

**R&S®DDF550-IGT internal GPS time synchronization**

By means of the R&S®DDF550-IGT internal GPS time synchronization, the R&S®DDF550 can be synchronized in time to ensure that all R&S®DDF550 within a radiolocation network measure on the same frequency at the same time.

In addition, R&S®DDF550-IGT serves as an internal GPS, e.g. to show the position of the R&S®DDF550 on a map.
**R&S®RAMON and R&S®ARGUS software**

The R&S®DDF550 can be operated from a standard PC using the R&S®DDF550-Control remote control software supplied with the R&S®DDF550. R&S®DDF550-Control is part of the R&S®RAMON software family and can be used together with other, optional R&S®RAMON software modules to integrate the wideband direction finder into complex radiomonitoring systems.

R&S®DDF550-Control supports the fixed frequency mode (FFM), the wideband fixed frequency mode (WFFM) up to 80 MHz, and the scanning of frequency ranges wider than 80 MHz. Results can be displayed in various formats:

- Polar display with DF quality and level bargraph indication for a specific frequency
- Histogram for a specific frequency
- IF spectrum plus selectable DF result window (DF values versus frequency) and waterfall
- RF spectrum with DF result window and waterfall, plus selectable polar display and histogram

The R&S®DDF550 can be extended with R&S®RAMON options to add versatile functionality:

- Automatic signal detection and preclassification
- Remote control of one or multiple R&S®DDF550 over WAN networks with intelligent data reduction
- Configuration of radiolocation systems, with result display for single frequencies or frequency ranges on digital maps
- Configuration of DF and radiolocation servers for multi-user systems
- Extended storage capabilities and offline analysis of DF and radiolocation results

The R&S®DDF550 can also be used with R&S®ARGUS monitoring software packages for ITU-compliant measurements and evaluation. Combined with the R&S®DDF550-IM option and suitable R&S®ARGUS options, it is able to make complex radiomonitoring tasks easier – even for inexperienced users.

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**R&S®DDF550-Control (R&S®RAMON):** Graphical display of results obtained in wideband fixed frequency mode (WFFM), including RF spectrum, DF values versus frequency and waterfall, plus polar display for a selected channel.

**R&S®DDF550-ARGUS Control:** Graphical display of results obtained in DF scan mode, including RF spectrum, DF values versus frequency and waterfall.
Application example

Powerful mobile DF system

The R&S®DDF550 wideband direction finder’s compact design and optional DC power supply make it ideal for integration into mobile platforms. The compact R&S®ADD253 wideband DF antenna, which covers the entire VHF/UHF range, ideally complements the direction finder. The result is a DF system with impressive performance:

- Fast direction finder offering up to 40 GHz/s DF scan speed in a compact 4 HU unit
- Seamless coverage of 20 MHz to 3 GHz frequency range with a single R&S®ADD253 VHF/UHF wideband DF antenna mounted on a vehicle roof or a mast
- R&S®ADD253 multi-element DF antenna in compact form with nine elements for the VHF/UHF range and eight elements for the UHF range
- Preclassification and automatic filtering of short-duration and frequency agile signals with the optional R&S®DDF550-CL preclassifier
- Synchronization and map display of multiple R&S®DDF550 direction finders via GPS using the R&S®DDF550-TS and R&S®DDF550-IGT options

The R&S®ADD253 VHF/UHF wideband DF antenna can be mounted on a vehicle roof using the R&S®AP502Z1 vehicle adapter. If the lower VHF range is of particular interest, it is recommended that the mobile DF system be calibrated on a turntable. This requires the R&S®DDF550-COR option.
### Specifications in brief

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<th>Specifications</th>
<th>base unit</th>
<th>20 MHz to 6 GHz</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Frequency range</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>with R&amp;S®DDF550-HF, receive option</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 kHz to 6 GHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>with R&amp;S®DDF550-HF2, DF option</td>
<td></td>
<td>300 kHz to 6 GHz</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DF mode</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DF method</strong></td>
<td>VHF/UHF/SHF</td>
<td>correlative interferometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Watson-Watt</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Realtime bandwidth</strong></td>
<td>VHF/UHF/SHF</td>
<td>80 MHz</td>
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<tr>
<td>HF</td>
<td></td>
<td>20 MHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instrument DF accuracy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>≤ 0.2° RMS (typ.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>System DF accuracy</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>depends on DF antenna (i.e. R&amp;S®ADD011SR (.1x), R&amp;S®ADD050SR, R&amp;S®ADD153SR and R&amp;S®ADD078SR), in reflection-free environment, with lightning protection, in line with report ITU-R SM 2125</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>300 kHz to 1300 MHz</td>
<td>0.5° RMS (typ.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.3 GHz to 6 GHz</td>
<td>1° RMS (typ.)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DF sensitivity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>depends on DF antenna, for 2° RMS DF fluctuation, 2 s integration time and 250 Hz (HF)/600 Hz (VHF/UHF/SHF) DF bandwidth (i.e. R&amp;S®ADD011SR (.1x), R&amp;S®ADD050SR, R&amp;S®ADD153SR and R&amp;S®ADD078SR), in line with report ITU-R SM 2125</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>300 kHz to 30 MHz</td>
<td>0.7 µV/m (typ.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 MHz to 6 GHz</td>
<td>3 µV/m to 20 µV/m (typ.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum signal duration</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 ms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with R&amp;S®DDF550-EMS option</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 µs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum burst duration</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>20 µs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DF scan speed</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF (1.25 kHz channel resolution, 100%, channel occupancy Watson-Watt method, wideband fixed frequency mode, selectivity normal)</td>
<td>base unit</td>
<td>&gt; 5 GHz/s, in line with report ITU-R SM.2125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VHF/UHF (25 kHz channel resolution, 100%, channel occupancy correlative interferometer method, wideband fixed frequency mode)</td>
<td>base unit</td>
<td>&gt; 40 GHz/s, in line with report ITU-R SM.2125</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1) Measurement in reflection-free environment. The RMS error is calculated from the bearings of evenly distributed samples versus azimuth and frequency.

2) The R&S®DDF550-EMS option is export restricted.
## Ordering Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Order No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wideband direction finder, with AC power supply</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550</td>
<td>4074.2002.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wideband direction finder, with DC power supply</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550</td>
<td>4074.2002.18</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Options</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Documentation of calibration values</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-DCV</td>
<td>4074.1170.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HF frequency range extension (receive option)</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-HF</td>
<td>4074.1006.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>HF frequency range extension (DF option)</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-HF2</td>
<td>4074.1429.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service kit</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF50-SK</td>
<td>4060.0454.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preclassifier</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF50-CL</td>
<td>3025.2829.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time-synchronous scanning</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF50-TS</td>
<td>4074.0900.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>ITU measurement software</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-IM</td>
<td>4074.0800.02</td>
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<td>DF error correction</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-COR</td>
<td>4074.0951.02</td>
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<td>Enhanced measurement speed, requires R&amp;S®DDF550-ID 1)</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-EMS</td>
<td>4501.0504.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhanced measurement speed, requires R&amp;S®DDF550-ID 1)</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-EMS</td>
<td>4074.1570.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS identification, required for R&amp;S®DDF550-EMS</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-ID</td>
<td>4074.1206.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Internal GPS time synchronous</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550GT2</td>
<td>4079.8209.05</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Options for hardware-accelerated signal processing (in combination with R&amp;S®CA120)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Signal processing board</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF50-SP</td>
<td>4074.1106.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>DDC signal extraction</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF50-DDCE</td>
<td>4074.0700.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>High-resolution panorama spectrum</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-HRP</td>
<td>4074.0745.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detection of short-time signals</td>
<td>R&amp;S®DDF550-ST</td>
<td>4074.0722.02</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DF System Accessories</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Super-resolution HF DF antenna, diameter: 100 m</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD0011SR</td>
<td>4078.0004.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>HF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD0011P</td>
<td>4099.2006.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compact LF UHF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD0216</td>
<td>4068.3000.02</td>
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<td>HF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD0119</td>
<td>4053.6509.02</td>
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<td>Super-resolution VHF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD0050SR</td>
<td>4071.7003.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Super-resolution VHFUHF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD153SR</td>
<td>4071.6007.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual polarized VHFUHF DF antenna</td>
<td>R&amp;S®ADD157</td>
<td>4069.4800.22</td>
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</table>
| UHF DF antenna                                                            | R&S®ADD0070            | 4043.4003.02/12  
| VHFUHF wideband DF antenna                                               | R&S®ADD253             | 4071.4004.12|
| Centric mast HF DF antenna                                                | R&S®ADD0015            | 4200.7002.04/54/84  
| Super-resolution UHF/SHF DF antenna                                       | R&S®ADD078SR           | 4098.4005.02|
| Extended lightning protection, for R&S®ADD15x and R&S®ADD253              | R&S®ADD-LP             | 4069.6010.02|
| Extended lightning protection, for R&S®ADD050SR                           | R&S®ADD-LP             | 4069.6010.03|
| HF DF antenna cable set                                                   | R&S®DDF1XZ             | 4064.6286 xx  
| VHF/UFH antenna cable set                                                | R&S®DDF5XZ             | 4064.6728 xx  
| UHF DF antenna cable set                                                 | R&S®DDF7XZ             | 4064.8043 xx  
| DF antenna cable set, for R&S®ADD078SR                                    | R&S®DDF3C-7            | 4098.4757 xx  
| Antenna interconnection cable set, for interconnecting R&S®ADD078SR with R&S®ADD15x | R&S®DDF3CX         | 4098.4763.10|
| Electronic compass                                                        | R&S®GH150              | 4041.8501.02|
| GPS navigator/GPS receiver                                                | R&S®GINA               | 4056.6906.04|
| Vehicle adapter                                                           | R&S®AP00221            | 0515.1419.02|
| Mast adapter                                                              | R&S®ADD150A            | 4041.2655.02|
| Tripod with adapter                                                       | R&S®ADD1XT             | 4063.4409.02|
| Intermediate mast                                                         | R&S®KM051              | 4041.9008.02|
| Antenna adapter, with cable outlet                                        | R&S®ADD071Z            | 4043.7002.02|
| Antenna adapter, without cable inlet/flare                                 | R&S®ADD071Z            | 4043.7002.03|
| 19” rack adapter                                                         | R&S®ZZA-411            | 1096.3283.00|

1) R&S®DDF550-EMS option is export restricted.
2) R&S®DDF50-SP is required.
3) R&S®DDF50/DDCE is required.
4) Model .02 for DF antenna system with R&S®ADD15x and R&S®ADD050SR.
5) Last two digits of the order number designate the cable length: 8 m (EF400)/5 m (RG214)/8 m (RG214).
6) The DF antenna cable sets are available in various lengths, designated by the last two digits of the order number.

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Rohde & Schwarz R&S®DDF550 Wideband Direction Finder
Rohde & Schwarz
The Rohde & Schwarz electronics group offers innovative solutions in the following business fields: test and measurement, broadcast and media, secure communications, cybersecurity, monitoring and network testing. Founded more than 80 years ago, the independent company which is headquartered in Munich, Germany, has an extensive sales and service network with locations in more than 70 countries.

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