

# **OM3VZS SLOVAK AMATEUR RADIO STATION**

## **REPORT FROM THE GLOBALSET MAY 2010 EMERGENCY TEST**

My activities in an East Slovakian ARES group of SARA (Slovak Amateur Radio Association) starts on the beginning of the 2008 year, so my first „big” international emergency communication test was GLOBALSET MAY 2008 test and present GLOBALSET MAY 2010 test was therefore for me the fifth test of this kind.

In IARU emergency tests we use mainly the QTH and the call of OM3VSZ - our successful Kosice Amateur Radio club. This club uses also the contest call OM0M - dozen dashes contest club (see the page <http://www.om0m.sk> and also <http://www.om3wz.estranky.sk/>).

Previous GLOBALSET NOVEMBER 2009 test was not successful for our ARES group. Due to various reasons (time collisions) was this test organized from the portable QTH - from the administrative building in the northern part of the city Kosice where I am working. Idea behind this decision was to test possible QTH inside the town - an administrative building where coordinating centre for the civil defense and emergency government could be located. Second idea was to exercise the building of the temporary antenna in such circumstances. Antenna building was OK. The main problem and reason of our failure was extremely high level of the QRM due to computing centre in this building with hundreds of working processors in very vicinity of our TRX and antenna.

Due to this experiences present MAY 2010 test was organized again from the OM3VSZ club QTH situated near the village CANA about 12 kilometers on the south of Košice.

The term of this test was very advantageous for us – in the time slot of the test none local or international contests were organized, so we could expect only small disturbances from the stations not working in this emergency test.

Our ARES team is new and relatively small – only about ten members. Four of them took active part in the present test. Vlado OM3TWM as the head of the OM3VSZ club station has prepared technical conditions – antennas for the test. Rado OM3WYE and Martin OM8ARK have worked as the operators for 80 and 40m bands, Braňo OM8ATT as the novice of the team has watched all our activity in the test to get the experiences. My task in the team was to organize and coordinate all of our activities in the test. Also I have worked on the 20m band in the test band but only for a part time.

Comparing to the previous tests we have now no problems with the equipment for the ARES emergency communication and tests. All members of the team own some portable 100W transceiver – mostly YAESU FT 897, but also ICOM IC 7200. So having available perfect OM3VSZ club antenna systems for all HF bands and having these TRX we could work in the test simultaneously on three bands 80, 40 and 20 m.

For the 80m band there was used complete club antenna and TRX system using ELECRAFT K3/100W transceiver with four switched slopper antenna system for transmitting and four square antenna system for receiving. This system was operated by Martin OM8ARK

For the 40m band we have used YAESU FT 897/100W transceiver and 3 element Yagi antenna system with rotator. System was operated by Rado OM3WYE – owner of the TRX.

Third station for the 20m band was equipped with my ICOM IC 7200/100W TRX and again 3 element Yagi antenna system with rotator.

So we can say that for this test we have prepared optimal technical conditions – in particular perfect antenna systems at QTH in rural region well far from the noisy town region and standard transceivers. In such circumstances our result in the test depends only on the present HF propagation conditions, level of QRM from various sources and on the skills and language knowledge of our operators.

For transmitting we have used max 100 W power as recommended in the test rules. Concerning the emergency power, at present has our group neither emergency power generators (Honda generator or similar systems) nor big accumulator batteries suitable for 13,8/30 A supply of typical 100W transceiver.

### **Results in the test.**

It is very difficult to describe all of situations during the test at transmitting and receiving the test messages. But all of us have had the perfect chance to try and test this activity in the real situation on the band. LOGBOOK from the test shows in some way our success or failure in this test on all of the used bands bands.

Rado OM3WYE working on the 40m band was very successful in the present test. He has transmitted two primary (OM3VSZ) messages and received four (secondary) messages from other stations working in the test. All of the received (secondary) messages were then relayed to the next station. One of them to another national station and three directly to the HQ station PI9D as recommended in the GLOBALSET test rules. Congratulations.

### **Short comment to the situation on the 20 m band.**

During the first hour of the test I heard no stations on 14300 kHz +/- 30 kHz frequencies. There was no response on my CQ GLOBALSET calls. Only at 4:45 the US station N0UN (not working in the test) replied on my CQ call. So I have made short standard QSO with the received report 54 and sent report 59.

In the second hour of the test stations working in the test started to occur. In this time I received two messages from other stations. For short time I have heard also YB0Z Indonesian station - the HQ station for IARU Region 3, but my trials to make QSO with this station were unsuccessful.

For the last two hours of the test two important guests visited our QTH to see and follow some part of the emergency test traffic directly on our QTH. First of them was the head of the Department of civil defense and emergency management of the KSK – Kosice District Office and the second was a worker from the Integrated Rescue Team of Kosice region. After the end of the test they have reviewed all the equipment of the OM3VSZ club station, specially the antenna farm of the club. They have become familiar with the planed equipment for filtering and switching of all antennas between five or six separate and complete workplaces in the club station for transmitting on any band. The main goal of this visit was to present our manpower and technical potential for emergency radio communication that can be used also by the local civil defense and emergency management authorities in the case of severe disasters in the town Kosice or the Košice (or East Slovakia) District. This goal was fulfilled. My feeling is that our test activity and presented club equipment has made a big impression to our guests promising at the end of the visit continuation in our future contacts and collaboration.

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