



Archives: North American Digital Systems Directory

Archived Kit Documentation
Discontinued Kit Index
Audio
Ham Radio and More
Rain Report
Newsline 1996-2003
Organization
President's Corner
APRS QSY 1997-1999
APRS Working Group
North American Digital Systems Directory
People
Barry McLarnon, VE3JF
Bdale Garbee, KB0G
Darryl Smith, VK2TDS
Dewayne Hendicks, WA8DZP
Greg Jones, WD5IVD
Tim Shepard, KD1YK
Tom Clark, W3IWI
Projects
TAPR 900Mhz FHSS Radio
Other
Repeater Coordinators Meeting Oct 1995
Open Ham Radio Town Meeting 1998

NADSD was discontinued in 2000.

This page is maintained to provided historical information about the project.



Purpose:

The Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corp (TAPR), with the support of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), began providing in 1997 information on digital systems that until now had been printed in the annual ARRL Repeater Directory. Information on digital systems will not be published in the 1997-98 edition of the Repeater Directory, permitting the publication to better focus on its primary use as a guide to voice repeaters for traveling Amateurs.

In planning the 1997-98 edition, the ARRL concluded that the Repeater Directory was no longer the most effective medium for this information. Discussions involving various regional digital groups that provide data to the digital section of the Repeater Directory led to the conclusion that TAPR was the logical group to take on the task of a new North American Digital System Directory.

This new database system will describe systems used by amateur radio stations involved in digital communications in United States, Canada, and Mexico. The Digital System Directory will be based on information provided by regional, state, and local organizations as well as individuals in a nearly realtime format. This should allow information to be maintained and updated more frequently than in a yearly publication. TAPR will also work with participating organizations to make this information available on TAPR's yearly CD-ROM as well as some future publication for local/regional groups to distribute.

The purpose of the Digital System Directory is not to manage, coordinate, or regulate the usage of digital systems, but to provide the most up to date and accurate listing of digital systems that can be provided. Neither is it a formal organization, but a mechanism to allow regional groups to provide and share information regarding digital systems.

The Digital System Directory is intended for use by individuals to further their enjoyment of the hobby and by organizations to help plan and develop digital networks.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Why did ARRL quit publishing the packet listings in the Repeater Directory (RD)?

There were several reasons. First, the RD was originally intended by those operating mobile to find repeaters. Few folks use the RD for finding packet stations while mobile. Eliminating the digital listings reduced the costs to produce it and will make it handier for mobile repeater users. Second, the ARRL was really in the business of publishing a book and not collecting the data. Many States were not represented because no one actively solicited the data and other listings were not accurate.

- Why did TAPR start the NADSD?

TAPR saw that there was a need to be filled when the ARRL discontinued listing digital information in the Repeater Directory. TAPR sees the NADSD as an opportunity for Regional Digital Groups to work more closely together to provide a information collection and distribution system that will have more accurate information about all types of digital communications. In past years, data was gathered for the RD in December and 5-months later became available to the public. The NADSD can be updated as often as necessary so that accuracy will be high.

- Who can provide data for the NADSD?

The NADSD team encourages individuals to submit their data through regional groups when possible. Should this not be possible, individuals are welcome to register to become NADSD data providers.

- What modes of digital communications will be listed in the NADSD?

Any services using digital modes are welcome to be listed in the NADSD for USA, Canada, and Mexico. This includes HF MSO's, HF BBS', Amateur (digital) satellite gateways, Net/ROM-TheNET nodes, KANodes, FlexNet, TexNet, ROSE, TCP/IP gateways (to the Internet and multiple frequencies), BBS', PacketCluster, APRS, etc. If it is a digital service (excluding personal maildrops) it should be listed in the NADSD.

- I am trying to find someone to get an IP address to use

[Brian Kantor, WB6CYT](#) maintains the AMPR.ORG domain and a list of volunteers is kept that handle regional assignment of IP addresses. Check the AMPRNet IP address coordinators list '<ftp://ftp.ucsd.edu/hamradio/amprnets>' for the full listing of AMPR.ORG coordinators.

- Does TAPR or the NADSD team coordinate any digital service to a frequency?

Absolutely not. Just like the repeater directory did previously, the NADSD only reports the information provided - and publication does not signify endorsement by TAPR nor coordination to any frequency.

