

# Technisat Digit 4S

## Small Jack-of-all-trades

**It was always** the main target of the German company Technisat, to provide their costumers with easy to use, but powerful receivers. A few days ago, parcel service delivered the new Digit 4S to our testcenter, and so we tried to verify, if this claim is really true.



At the first look you notice immediately the receiver's small size, it's just 205x130x35mm, which let it appear quite dainty, and so it will certainly find its place in every living room shelf.

Objectively the new Technisat receiver does not offer as much connectors as some rival products might do, but considering the small size, the manufacturer did his very best to offer as much connectors as possible and all important ones are available. Because the Digit 4S is a FTA receiver, there are no CI slots or card readers. The attached remote control is very handy, it's labelling is very clear and the buttons offer a comfortable pressure point. In general, workmanship of this receiver leaves a very good impression. The attached user manual is available in many different languages, always fitting for the country of delivery.

### Everyday use

What is more annoying than a new device whose handling is so very complicated that you despair, and what's less funny than installing a new satellite receiver and having to read a huge manual? For years, Technisat is successfully trying to prevent their costumers from

these experiences, and the new Digit 4S is no exception.

After turning on the receiver for first time, a nicely designed installation wizard appears and helps the user with small and easy to understand steps through the entire setup procedure. First of all, it shows all available OSD languages, which are English, Italian, Spanish, Greek, German, French, Turkish, Swedish, Portuguese, Persian, Polish, Czech, Hungarian and Dutch, so every user should find a suitable one.

The antenna configuration offers by default the in Europe very common ASTRA and HOTBIRD reception. If you want to receive additional satellites, or if you use special DiSEqC parameters, you can also set them up directly during installation. Finally, the receiver checks if there's a software update available via satellite, and he asks the user to perform a channel search, either for all available programs or just the free to air ones.

If you prefer, you can also use the ISIPRO system, which offers a predefined channel list with over 370 entries from ASTRA 19.2° east and HOTBIRD 13° east. The clue is that this chan-

nel list can be updated directly via satellite and you'll never again have to worry about not-active channels in your list any more.

Basically, the receiver is now ready for use, special options like the video output signal or special DiSEqC parameters can be setup via the main menu, which is splitted in 6 big categories. The Digit 4S supports CVBS, RBB and S-Video output and it handles PAL and NTSC signals.

The pre-programmed satellite list is not very up to date

east, HOTBIRD 13° east and ASTRA2 28.2° east at the same time, as well as the DisiCon LNB series (unicable solution). Furthermore, the corresponding LOF values for C-band and for circular polarized LNBs are pre-programmed and if you want to connect your S-band antenna, you can enter the correct LOF values manually.

Technisat equipped this receiver with channel memory, capable of handling 5000 entries, which should suffice for an FTA receiver, even if it's connected to a motorized antenna.

When we started the auto-



and contains just 20 European satellites, but the user can add 13 manual entries. The Digit 4S supports DiSEqC 1.0, 1.2 and 1.3 (USALS). Pleasantly, it also supports the Technisat Multytenne, which we already introduced in an earlier issue of TELE-satellite magazine, and which enables you to receive ASTRA1 19.2° east, ASTRA3A 23.5°

east, HOTBIRD 13° east and ASTRA2 28.2° east at the same time, as well as the DisiCon LNB series (unicable solution). Furthermore, the corresponding LOF values for C-band and for circular polarized LNBs are pre-programmed and if you want to connect your S-band antenna, you can enter the correct LOF values manually. Technisat equipped this receiver with channel memory, capable of handling 5000 entries, which should suffice for an FTA receiver, even if it's connected to a motorized antenna. When we started the automatic channels scan, we felt a little bit disappointed, because it's working very accurately but also very slow, and it took the Digit 4S nearly 7 minutes to scan the ASTRA1 satellites and a channel scan on a 80 transponder satellite took nearly 8.5 minutes, which is certainly no new speed record. Anyway, the channel scan feature is not so



very important, considering the fact that the ISIPRO system can be used, which offers an up to date channel list without having to scan for the programs first. For the advanced users, the receiver offers the possibility to enter the correct PID values manually.

Another highlight of the DIGIT 4S is the automatic EPG scan. It allows the receiver to load all available EPG data from selectable programs and store them locally, so if you zap to a channel and press the EPG button, the EPG data are available in the blink of an eye.

Also in every day use, the receiver leaves a very good impression. Pressing the OK button opens the channel list, which is very nicely designed and shows the current EPG data (if they are transmitted by content provider) for every channel and a small preview window. Of course, you can reduce the channel list to your favourite channels or you can sort it by content providers.

A highlight of this receiver is

also the channel change speed between two programs on different transponders, which is far below one second! After every channel change, the receiver shows an info bar, which is a little bit oversized, but it contains besides the EPG data a lot of important information on current channel (Teletext, AC3 sound, subtitles etc.).

In comparison to other receivers, the TechniSat Digit 4S is one of the few FTA receivers, whose EPG functions are really working perfectly, while a lot of other receivers sometimes disappointed us with this feature.

The tuner used by the Digit 4S is very sensitive, and can handle signals with a C/N between 4 and 5 dB without any problems. Furthermore, SCPC signals with very low symbol rates are no problem at all, our test transponder on the PAS12 45° east with a symbol rate of 1320 Ks/s was handled successfully.

30 different timer entries and a built in Teletext decoder round up the perfect picture of this new receiver.

## Expert conclusion

The TechniSat Digit 4S is a very easy to use but powerful receiver and even for absolute beginners it's no big deal to use it. Because of his solid function and thoughtful features it's the ideal receiver for every day use in your living room. Considering its small size, the Digit 4S can also be used for camping trips or for your weekend house.



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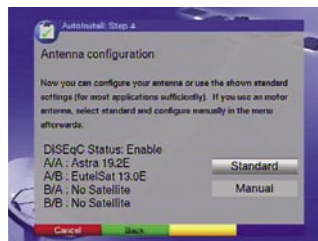
## TECHNIC DATA



<b>Manufacturer</b>	TechniSat Digital GmbH Julius-Saxler-Straße 3 TechniPark D-54550 Daun / Germany
<b>Homepage</b>	www.technisat.com
<b>Fax</b>	+352-710-707959
<b>Contact</b>	international@technisat.com
<b>Model</b>	Digit 4S
<b>Function</b>	Digital FTA satellite receiver
<b>Channel memory</b>	5000
<b>Satellites</b>	33
<b>Symbol rates</b>	1-45 Ms/sec.
<b>SCPC compatible</b>	yes (tested with 1,327 Ms/s)
<b>USALS</b>	yes
<b>DiSEqC</b>	1.0 / 1.2 / 1.3
<b>Scart connectors</b>	2
<b>Audio connectors</b>	2 x RCA
<b>UHF Modulator</b>	no
<b>0/12 Volt output</b>	no
<b>Digital audio output</b>	yes (optical and coaxial)
<b>EPG</b>	yes
<b>C/Ku-Band compatible</b>	yes
<b>Power supply</b>	180-250 VAC, 50 Hz



Installation wizard |



Antenna setup |



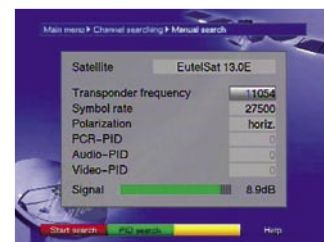
EPG |



Info bar |



Main menu |



Channel search |