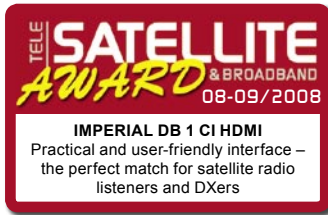


Imperial DB 1 CI HDMI

Efficiency meets convenience



Satellite receivers are not too different from each other when it comes to reception technology. Almost any receiver will provide you with reasonable video and audio quality. What sets set-top boxes apart from each other is the way they interact with their users. Who hasn't lost his temper when trying to set up new equipment for the first time? Who hasn't spent ages looking for the right item in the menu, and who hasn't despaired bringing some order into a channel list comprising hundreds of digital channels? If all that sounds familiar to you you'll be

some icing on the cake as it features a HDMI interface for connecting a flat screen TV set. Its integrated upscaler can be set to output up to 1080 lines which means that large flat screen TVs will be able to show smoother and clearer standard-definition video.

The channel memory has capacity for 5000 stored stations, which is about average these days. Given the fact that all FTA satellite channels in Europe would only fill half the memory this is more than sufficient, however.

Stored channels are listed in an overall list and up to 32 favourite lists, which are all divided between TV and radio. All of these lists can of course be edited to suit your personal needs, which means that each entry can be blocked, deleted, renamed or moved. And if the need arises to add a new transponder or even a complete



satellite you'll be happy to find that this will easily be possible thanks to the convenient user interface.

It is evident right from the start that this receiver is the



Radio information bar!

happy to read that we discovered a box with easy installation, fast signal scan and comfortable channel zapping. And as an added bonus it only consumes 6 Watts in standby and 12 Watts when turned on, so it doesn't only look after its users but also after the environment. Even when a motorised dish is operated by this receiver, its energy consumption increases by a mere 2 Watts.

The box measures 260 x 145 x 45 mm which means it looks so small you would never suspect it is packed to the brim

with useful features. However, that impression changes as soon as you turn it on for the first time and realise its front display is alphanumeric, for example. This makes sure you can listen to and zap between radio stations without ever having to turn on your TV.

The receiver features both an optical (S/PDIF) and electrical (RCA) output for digital audio so that you can listen to your favourite stations with the best available audio quality.

But of course it doesn't stop with radio reception and even the TV part of the package has



TV information bar!



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Available online starting from 25 July 2008

result of a brand new concept and design that is based on ease of use. If you call up the channel list (ten items are shown at a time) by pressing the OK button on the remote you're able to scroll down without actually changing the channel right away. Only when you have found the station you'd like to watch you press

and stays on screen permanently in radio mode, providing information such as:

- number and name of channel
- name of satellite
- title of current even
- title of next event
- date and time
- encryption (if applicable)

will scan and store all pages, which means that each selected page appears on screen right away. Using the cursor buttons it is possible

up to 31 cascaded antennas, while H-H rotary antennas can be controlled using either DiSEqC 1.2 for manually aligning the dish for each satellite,



Program Listing |

to jump up and down in steps of one page or 100 pages at a time.

Coloured bars indicating signal strength and signal quality do not appear on screen when watching channels, which might take some time to get used to at first. They are available for menu items if the relevant information is required, however, such as for adjusting the antenna or for transponder scans. All DiSEqC protocols are supported, which DiSEqC 1.0 controlling up to four antennas and DiSEqC 1.1

or using USALS for automatic setup. Whenever you decide to perform a signal search there are several options available. First, individual transponders can be selected for a scan, which takes approximately one second per transponder. A full satellite can of course also be searched according to the pre-stored transponder list, which in our test took some five minutes.

This box does a particularly good job with organising channels of several satellites. Each satellite can be individually



Timetable |

OK once again to switch to that channel.

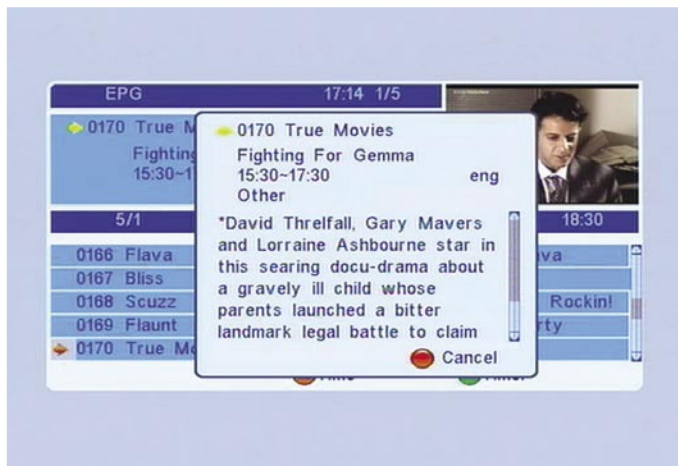
While scrolling up or down, however, all relevant transponder data (frequency, polarisation, symbol rate) pop up for the highlighted channel. If you prefer an overview of several channels you can call up thumbnails of nine channels, which gives an almost Internet-like experience.

An info bar on the bottom of the screen provides channel data every time you change channels or press the INFO button. This bar disappears after a few seconds in TV mode

- availability of subtitles, teletext and EPG

Pressing the INFO button twice or the EPG button calls up a description of the current event. The EPG also shows a grid of five additional channels complete with a preview for one week. For each channel in the preview a detailed description can be inserted, if provided by the channel. The EPG comes complete with a timer for up to eight entries.

The list of smart features continues with teletext. Press the TXT button and the box



Extended EPG |



selected from a dedicated list and has its own channel list starting with position 1. The favourites lists are organised the same way and can be used to create customised lists with TV and radio stations according to several criteria.

Thanks to the fact that satellite and transponder lists remain intact even if all channels lists are deleted it is possible to conveniently re-organise lists by fully deleting them and then performing a new search.

TECHNIC DATA	
Distributor	DVBShop, Brehnaer Straße 18 D-04509 Neukyhna OT Pohritzsch, Germany
Tel	+49-34954-31960
Fax	+49-34954-49233
E-Mail	webmaster@dvbshop.net
Website	www.dvbshop.net
Model	IMPERIAL DB 1 CI HDMI
DiSEqC	1.0, 1.1, 1.2, USALS
Satellites	17 preset plus additional positions
Channel Listings	All, Satellites (each for TV and Radio)
Favorites	32 (each for TV and Radio)
Teletext	Full Page Memory
EPG	Extended 5 Channel Display, Program Details for 7 Days
Timer	8 for all EPG Programs
CI-Slot	1
HDMI Output	ja
Scart Connectors	2
Audio/Video Outputs	3 x RCA
Digital Audio Output	ja
Power Supply	175 ... 250 VAC
Power Usage	6/12 Watt (Stand-By/Reception)

Expert Opinion

+

Modern receiver featuring all currently useful interfaces which is easy and comfortable to operate.

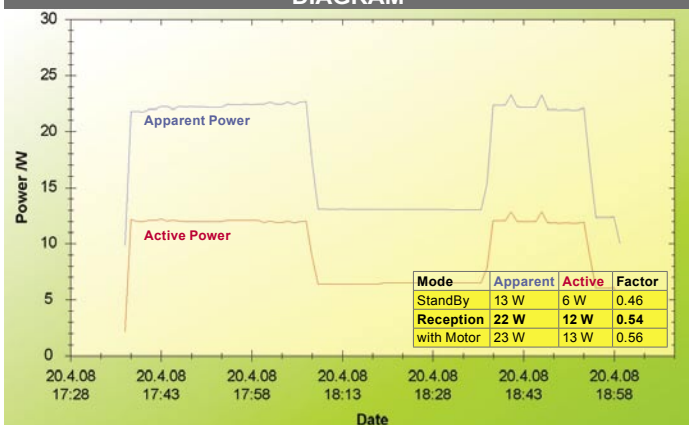
Alphanumeric display
Energy saving
Fully DiSEqC and USALS compatible



-

Does not support MPEG-4.

ENERGY DIAGRAM



Starting with some peaks when switching channels, followed by standby mode and then some more peaks when starting up the motor of a rotary antenna.