

HAMPLUS

MBD-8G

Antenna and Rotator Switch Controller

Operation Manual



V. 2.0



<http://www.hamplus.com>

MBD-8G

Automatic Antenna and Rotator Switch Controller



MBD-8G is an intelligent controller compatible with all eight-antenna switches manufactured by Hamplus. It has a band decoder to receive the information coming from the connected radio equipment. In addition to antenna switching, the **MBD-8G** also offers seven frequency-driven **GPOs** (General Purpose Output), one **Band Data BCD Output**, one output to command **Band Pass Filter**, **12 GPOs** to automate the operation with Top Beam's Waller Flag receiving antenna. The **MBD-8G** also commands the **RS-24** and **RS-44** Rotator switches. There are four ways that antennas and enabled rotators can be selected; 1) manually by the front panel of the **MBD-8G**, 2) manually by frequency or band change on the front panel of the transceiver, 3) automatically by frequency or band change by the remotely controlled transceiver, or 4) automatically by a remotely controlled personal computer via **RS-232** serial port to the **MBD-8G**.

On the front panel is a set of eight illuminated push buttons for manual selection of antennas, eight "Busy" LEDs to indicate which antennas are in use by other **MBD-8G** Controllers, four LEDs to indicate rotator selection, one LED to indicate when the radio is transmitting, one LED to indicate the controller is in "Split Antenna" mode and one LED to indicate when the **MBD-8G** is connected to +13.8 Vdc power.

Functions and operation

1- Startup (after all cable connections are made to switches, controllers and transceivers)

Powering the **MBD-8G** will energize the antenna switch relay for the previously, manually selected antenna. Or, when connected to a transceiver, the controller will check the frequency or band the transceiver has selected and will immediately trigger and light the push button switch of the last antenna selected at that frequency or on that band. If connected, the rotator switcher, or other external equipment that is programmed using the **GPO** outputs, the **MBD-8G** will select the last used devices.

2- Activation of the antennas

To choose any antenna, just press the corresponding push button. When the push button is pressed, it changes the state of the antenna switch control line that activates the corresponding antenna relay on the **AS-81**, **AS-82F**, **AS-84F** or **AS-86F** Antenna Switch. It also activates the selected rotator for that antenna through one of the Rotator Switches, model **RS-24** or **RS-28**, if used. Antenna and rotator switching are reported on the Busy Net network

so the other **MBD-8G** busy and rotator red LEDs signal, not allowing any other **MBD-8G** to switch to any antenna and rotator already in use. Any conflict is signaled on the front panel of the **MBD-8G** by blinking the push button LED for two seconds, and the rotator LED with short and continuous flashes every second. The rotator signal remains as long as there is a conflict.

3- Split Antenna Mode

This mode allows operation with two different antennas. One for transmission and one for reception.

Procedure to enter SPLIT mode:

A- First select the transmission antenna.

B- Then press and hold the PTT of the radio and press the desired antenna push button for reception for two seconds. The push button will blink to confirm that the setting has been made. Then release the push button and the PTT. From this point the Split LED on the panel will be lit indicating that it is working with two antennas.

Immediately after programming the Split mode, perform the function test by pressing and releasing the PTT of the radio and observing the push buttons of the **MBD-8G** that should alternate between the chosen antennas.

To exit Split mode simply change the radio band or press the transmit antenna push button.

4- Permanent Split Mode

Permanent Split is used with antenna(s) connected to the switch that are exclusively for reception. When we select an antenna configured for permanent Split on the keyboard of the **MBD-8G** the Split mode is automatically activated. This way we guarantee the use of the receiving antenna only in reception. This procedure must be duplicated on all controllers connected to the same antenna switch that has receive only antenna(s) connected.

Procedure to configure Permanent Split mode:

A- First choose a transmission antenna.

B- Then press and hold the PTT of the radio and press the desired antenna push button for reception for a little more than ten seconds. Notice the flashing of the push buttons that will confirm the acceptance of the programming.

To undo this setting, first make sure that the Split LED is not lit. Then, while holding down the PTT, press the desired push button for ten seconds. It is the same process used when programming was done.

5- Rotor Switch

The **MBD-8G** can also command a Hamplus model **RS-24**, or **RS-44** rotator switch. With this equipment it is possible to use one rotator controller to read and control up to 4 rotators. The **RS-24** is suitable for stations with up to two transceivers and **RS-44** for stations with up to four transceivers.

Procedure to configure the Rotator Switch

- 1- **First step-** Press the antenna button that will receive the configuration for five seconds. At this moment the buttons Ant1, Ant2, Ant3 and Ant8 start to flash.
- 2- **Second step-** Press the **Ant1 Button** to enter the **Rotor selection mode**

- 3- **Third step-** Press the **Ant1 button** to choose **Rotor 1**, **Ant2 Button** to choose **Rotor 2**, **Ant3 Button** to choose **Rotor 3** or **Ant4 Button** to choose **Rotor 4**
- 4- **Fourth step-** Press **Ant8 button** to save your choice and exit the mode configuration.

6- **CMD Out (#7) (GPO = General Purpose Output)**

These commands are available on the DB-9 **Com Out** connector at the rear of the **MBD-8G**.

a- **Commands activated by frequency**

Frequency-activated **GPOs** are typically used to trigger the tuning box for shortened antennas that use "high Q" coils. The trigger points of the **GPOs** must be chosen to obtain the best possible **SWR** curve. This procedure is only possible when the radio is connected to the **MBD-8G** in CI-V mode (Icom) or in RS-232 mode for other brands.

Procedure to configure the GPOs by frequency:

- 1- **First step-** Press the antenna button that will receive the configuration for five seconds. At this moment the buttons Ant1, Ant2, Ant3 and Ant8 start to flash.
- 2- **Second step-** Press the **Ant2 Button** to enter frequency-activated GPOs (CMD Out)
- 3- **Third step-** Start at the beginning of the band and find the best tuning point, then press the **Ant1** Button to activate **CMD1**. Raise the frequency on the radio and find the next tuning point then press the **Ant2** button to activate the **CMD2**. Repeat this procedure for the next available tuning points on your antenna. The **MBD-8G** has a maximum of seven **CMDs**.
- 4- **Fourth step-** Press **Ant8 button** to save your choice and exit the mode configuration.

b- **Commands Activated by Band**

The band activated commands (**GPOs**) were created to reduce the influence of the transmission antennas on the receiving antennas when they are very close. Its function is to disconnect the transmitting antenna during reception and connect it as soon as it receives the **Send** command.

Procedure to configure GPOs by band:

- 1- **First step-** Press the antenna button that will receive the configuration for five seconds. At this moment the buttons Ant1, Ant2, Ant3 and Ant8 start to flash.
- 2- **Second step-** Press the **Ant3 Button** to enter band-activated GPOs (CMD Out)
- 3- **Third step-** Place the radio in the desired band and choose a GPO that is not yet in use, then press the **Ant** Button to activate **CMD**. The **MBD-8G** has seven **GPOs** commands that are chosen from the buttons **Ant1** to **Ant7**. Each **Band** triggers only one **GPO**.

9- Antenna memory per band

The **MBD-8G** has a memory for each of the eight antennas so that whenever an antenna is selected this memory registers the band selected by the Radio. With each band change in the radio the **MBD-8G** will activate the last antenna that was used in that band.

Note: The setting mode is only possible when the Radio is properly connected to the **MBD-8G**.

10- Connectors description (connector # on rear panel image)

a- **Band Data Out (#3)**

The DB-9 **Band Data Out** connector on the rear of the **MBD-8G** provides a Band Data output that matches the frequency of the radio that is connected. When the **MBD-8G** receives the band information from the Band Data, this same information will be passed to the Band Data Out connector. When receiving the information through Frequency the conversion to Band Data will be done according to the table in item 8.

DB-9 Band Data Out connector

<u>Pins</u>	<u>Function</u>
1	Band Data A
2	Band Data B
3	Band Data C
4	Band Data D
5	+ 13.8 Vdc
6	nc
7	nc
8	GND
9	nc

b- **Bandpasser Out (#2)**

The DB-9 **To Bandpasser** connector on the rear of the **MBD-8G** is designed to control bandpass filters. It sends + 13.8 Vdc to the bandpass filter relays. They are commands for 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m.

DB-9 To Bandpasser connector

<u>Pins</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Function</u>
1	20 m	13.0 to 16.9 MHz	On +13.8Vdc
2	40 m	6.0 to 8.9 MHz	On +13.8Vdc
3	80 m	3.0 to 4.8 MHz	On +13.8Vdc
4	160 m	0.0 to 2.9 MHz	On +13.8Vdc
5	-----	-----	GND
6	-----	-----	
7	-----	-----	Bypass On +13.8Vdc
8	10 m	26.0 to 34.9 MHz	On +13.8Vdc
9	15 m	19.0 to 22.9 MHz	On +13.8Vdc

All control pins are Active High + 13.8 Vdc

c- TOPBEAM Waller Flag (#5)

The **HD-15** connector labeled **TB WF** on the rear of the **MBD-8G** provides power (+ 13.8 Vdc) and the controls for activating the filters of the **Waller Flag** receiving antenna control box. The commands follow the Band data table or the Radio frequency.

HD-15 TB WF connector

Pins	Band	Frequency	Data	Function
1	160 m	0.0 to 2.9 MHz	0001	On Active Low
2	80 m CW	3.4 to 3.59MHz	0010	On Active Low
3	80 m SSB	3.6 to 4.8 MHz	0010	On Active Low
4	40 m	6.0 to 8.9 MHz	0011	On Active Low
5	30 m	9.0 to 12.9MHz	0100	On Active Low
6 and 7	-----	-----	-----	+ 13.8vVdc
8	-----	-----	-----	PTT
9 and 10	-----	-----	-----	GND
11	-----	-----	-----	RTX On Active Low
12	-----	-----	-----	RX1 On Active Low
13	-----	-----	-----	RX2 On Active Low
14	-----	-----	-----	RX3 On Active Low
15	-----	-----	-----	RX4 On Active Low

d- DB-9 To Radio Connector (#8)

This connector receives power from the Radio (+ 13.8 Vdc), the transmit command (PTT) and the data for frequency reading via RS-232 and Band reading via Band Data BCD.

DB-9 To Radio Connector

Pins	Function
1	+13.8V In
2	RXD
3	TXD
4	PTT In
5	GND
6	BCD 1
7	BCD 2
8	BCD 3
9	BCD 4

e- DB-25 To Switch Connector (#1)

DB-25 connector on the rear of the **MBD-8G** provides the commands for driving eight Antennas and four Rotators

DB-25 To Switch Connector

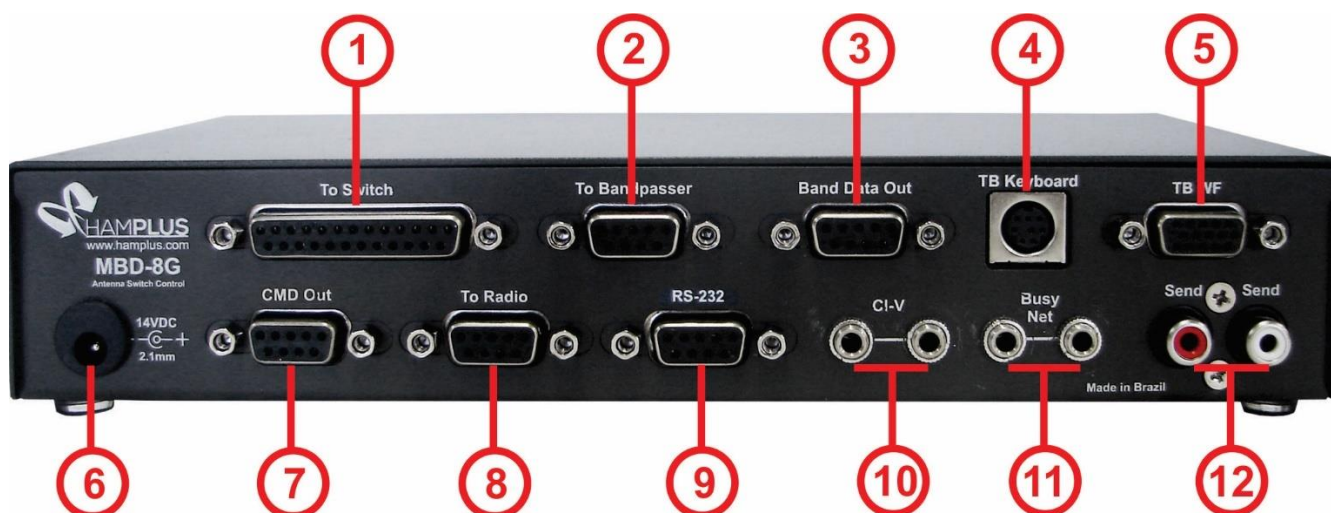
Pins	Function	Pins	Function	Pins	Function
1	Ant 1	10	GND	18	Rotator 1
2	Ant 2	11	nc	19	Rotator 2
3	Ant 3	12	nc	20	Rotator 3
4	Ant 4	13	Expansion	21	Rotator 4
5	Ant 5	14	Rotator 1	22	nc
6	Ant 6	15	Rotator 2	23	nc
7	Ant 7	16	Rotator 3	24	nc
8	Ant 8	17	Rotator 4	25	GND
9	+ 12v				

f- DB-9 RS-232 connector (#9)

The DB-9 connector identified as **RS-232** on the back of the **MBD-8G** provides connection to Computers at a speed of 19200 baud.

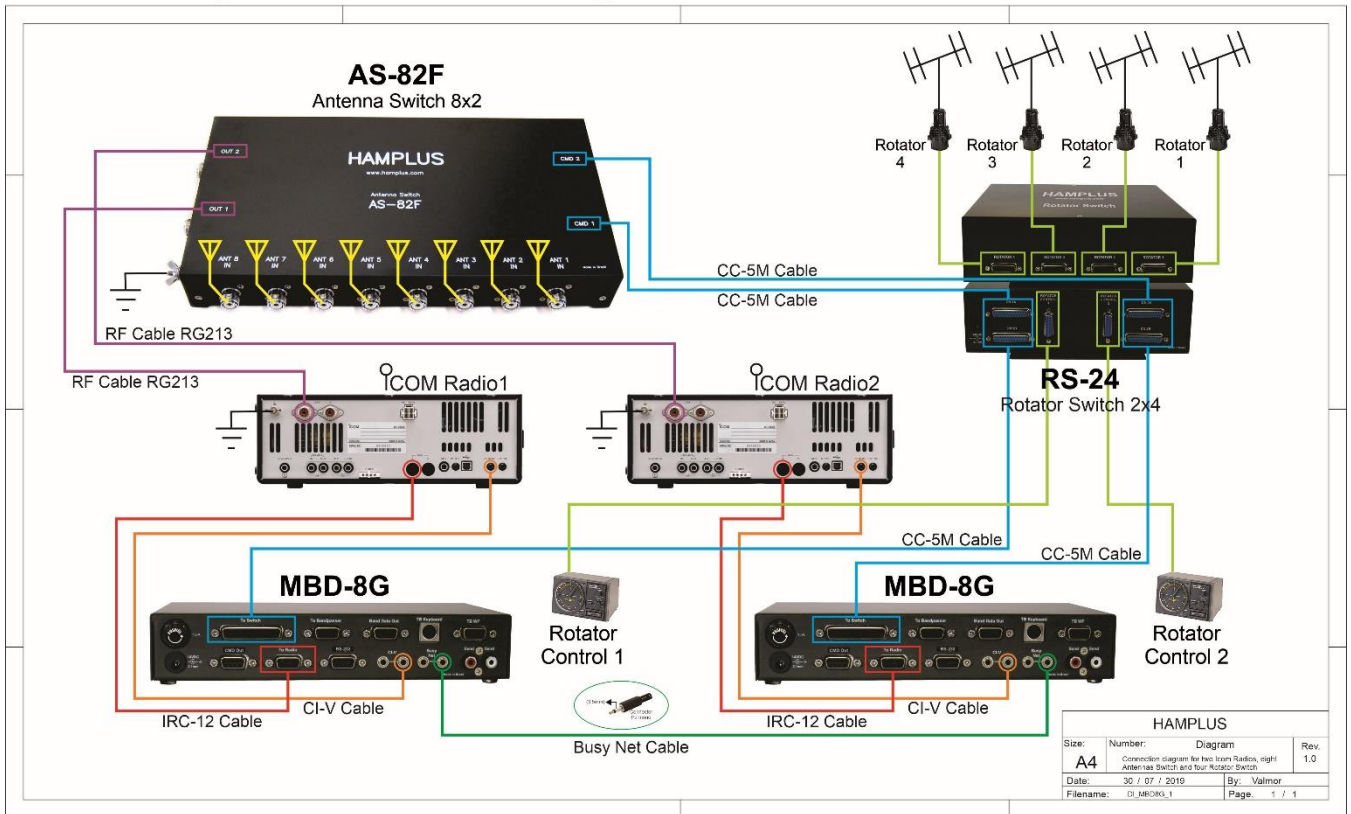
DB-9 RS-232 connector

<u>Pins</u>	<u>Function</u>
1	NC
2	RXD
3	TXD
4	NC
5	GND
6	NC
7	NC
8	NC
9	NC

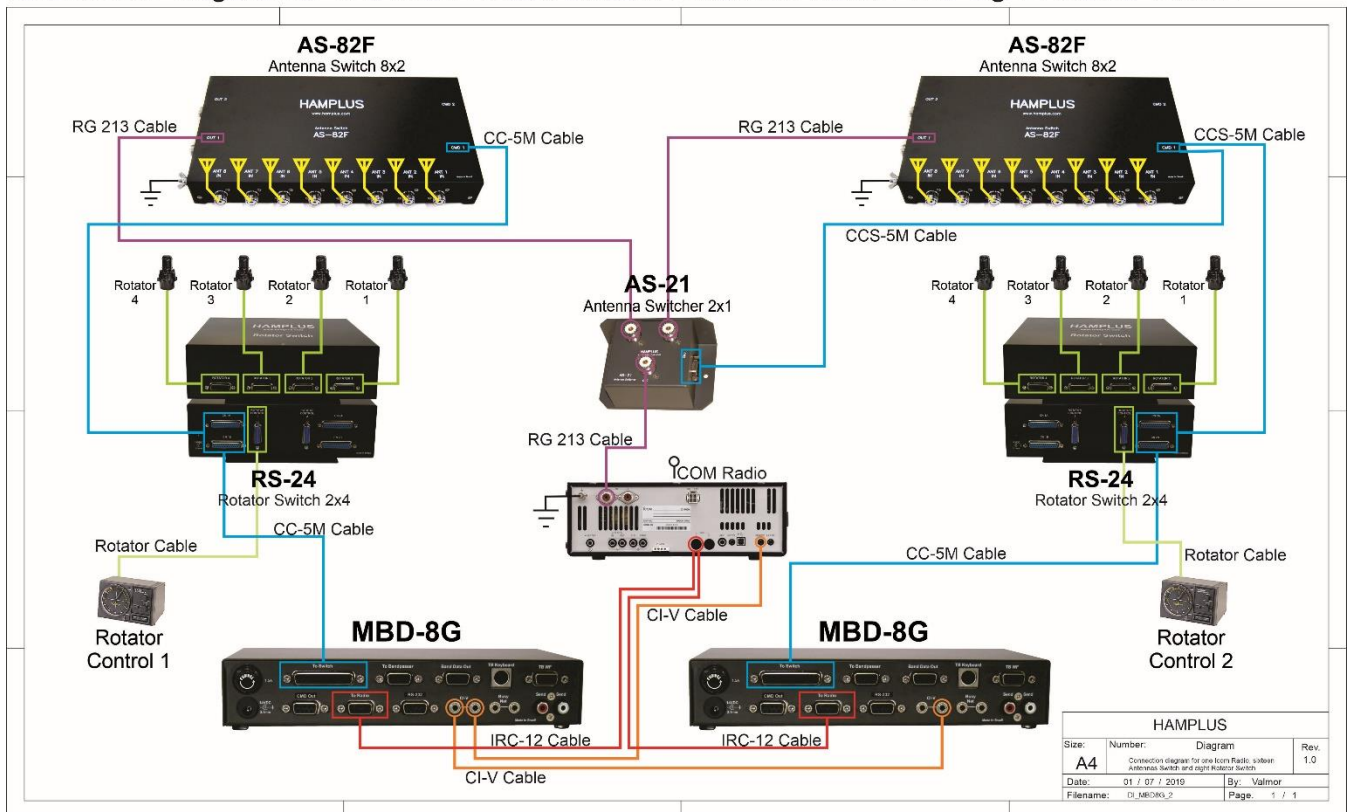


- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1- To Switch | Output Commands to Antenna Switch and Rotator Switch |
| 2- To Bandpasser | Output Commands for Bandpass Filter |
| 3- Band Data Out | Band Data Output (BCD) |
| 4- TB Key Board | Output for Key Board Antenna TopBeam Receiver Waller Flag |
| 5- TB WF | Connects to the PFIU of the receiving antenna TopBeam Waller Flag |
| 6- AUX. Power Supply | Auxiliary Power Input (13.8 Vdc) |
| 7-CMD Out | GPOs Out (special commands triggered by frequency or band) |
| 8- To Radio | Input Power, Band Data, RS-232 and PTT from Radio |
| 9- RS-232 | Communication with PC Com port |
| 10- CI-V | Communication with Icom radios via CI-V port |
| 11- Busy Net | Busy Network for indication of antennas in use |
| 12- Send | Auxiliary input and pass-through output for PTT (Send) |

Connection diagram for two Icom Radios, eight Antennas Switch and four Rotator Switch



Connection diagram for one Icom Radio, sixteen Antennas Switch and eight Rotator Switch



Connection diagram of the Hamplus MBD-8G with Bandpass Filter - Model - DXE-419.

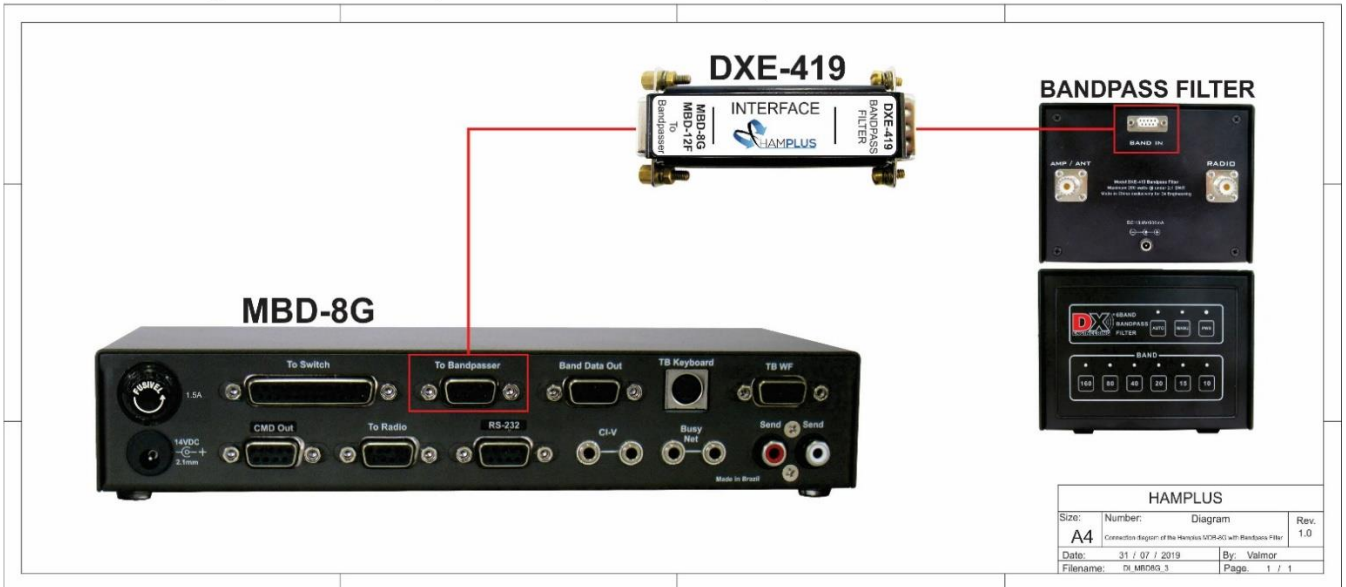
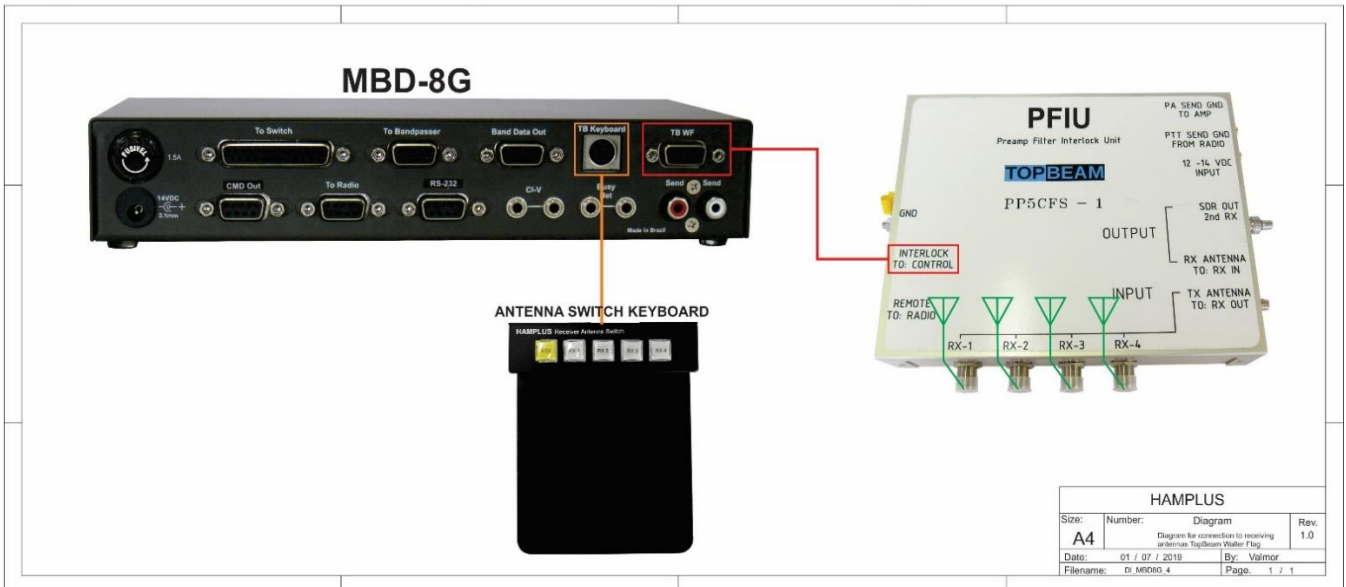


Diagram for connection to receiving antennas TopBeam Waller Flag




Labels for identifying buttons

160 m	80 m	40 m	30 m	20 m	18 m	17 m	15 m	12 m	10 m	6 m	2 m	70 cm	80 m 160 m	80 m 40 m	20 m 15 m 10 m
LOG	MULTI BANDA	MOS LEY	TA33	YAGI	WARC	FOUR SQUARE									

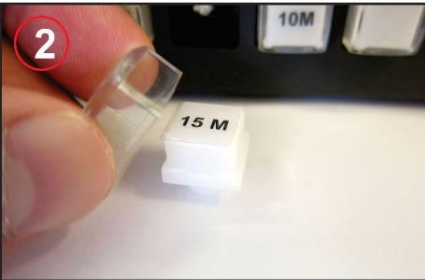
Printable file available on the website www.hamplus.com on the product page in downloads.

Procedure to place labels on the keys

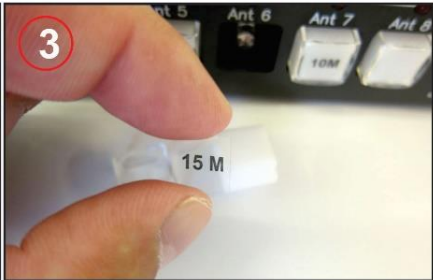
Push Button Labels



1




2



3

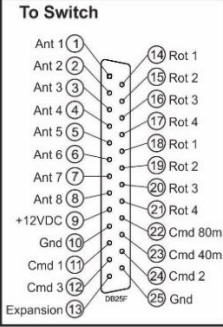
HAMPLUS		
Size:	Number:	Rev.
A4	Push Button Labels	1.0
Date:	By:	
25 / 04 / 2019	Valmor	
Filename:	Page:	
Labels	1 / 1	

MBD-8G CONNECTOR PIN IDENTIFICATION

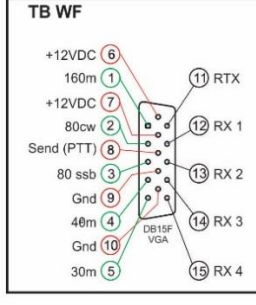


MBD-8G

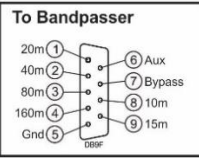
To Switch



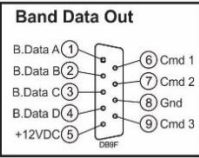
TB WF



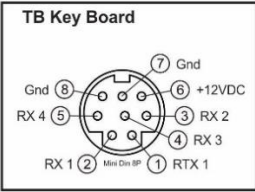
To Bandpasser



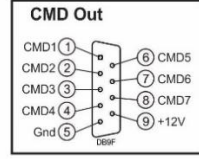
Band Data Out



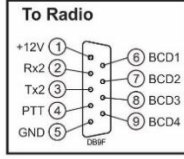
TB Key Board



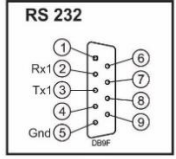
CMD Out



To Radio



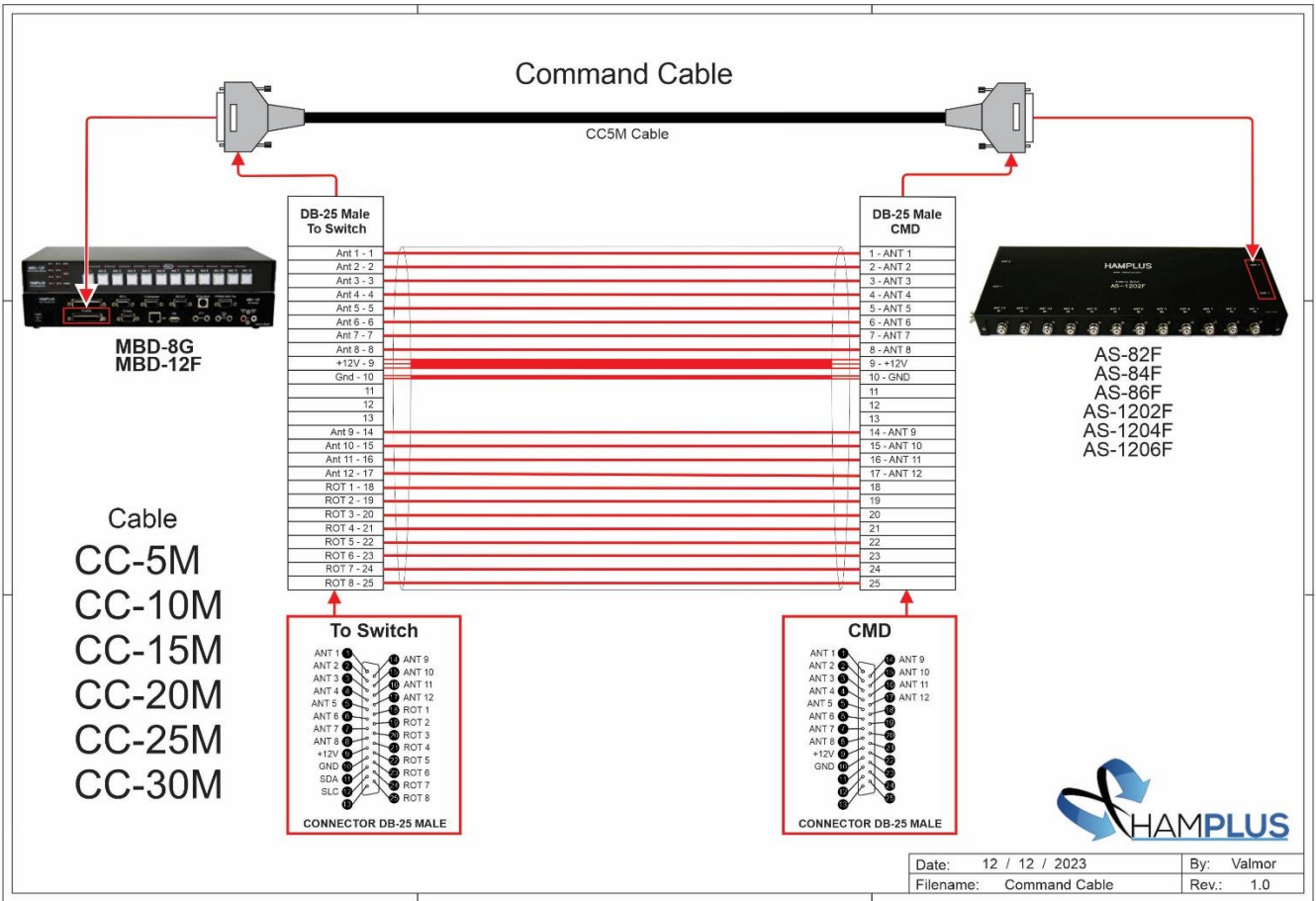
RS 232



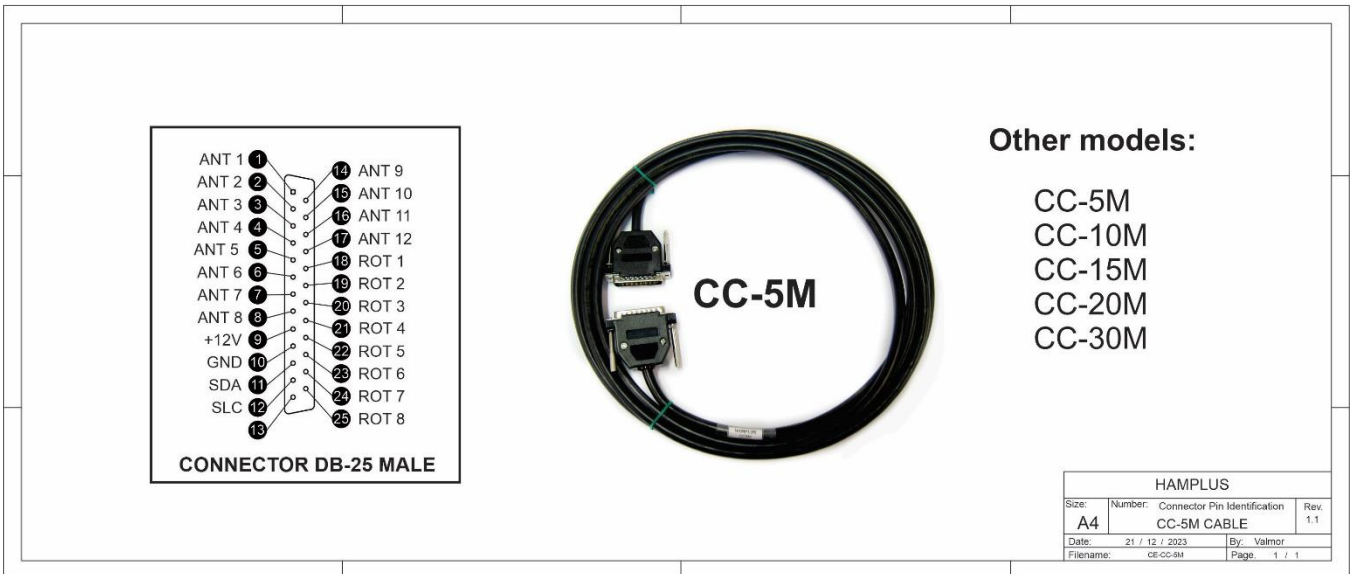
HAMPLUS			
Size:	Number:	Connector Pin Identification	Rev.
A4		MBD-8G	1.0
Date:	05 / 08 / 2019	By:	Valmor
Filename:	PI-MBD8G	Page:	1 / 1

MBD-8G – Operation Manual

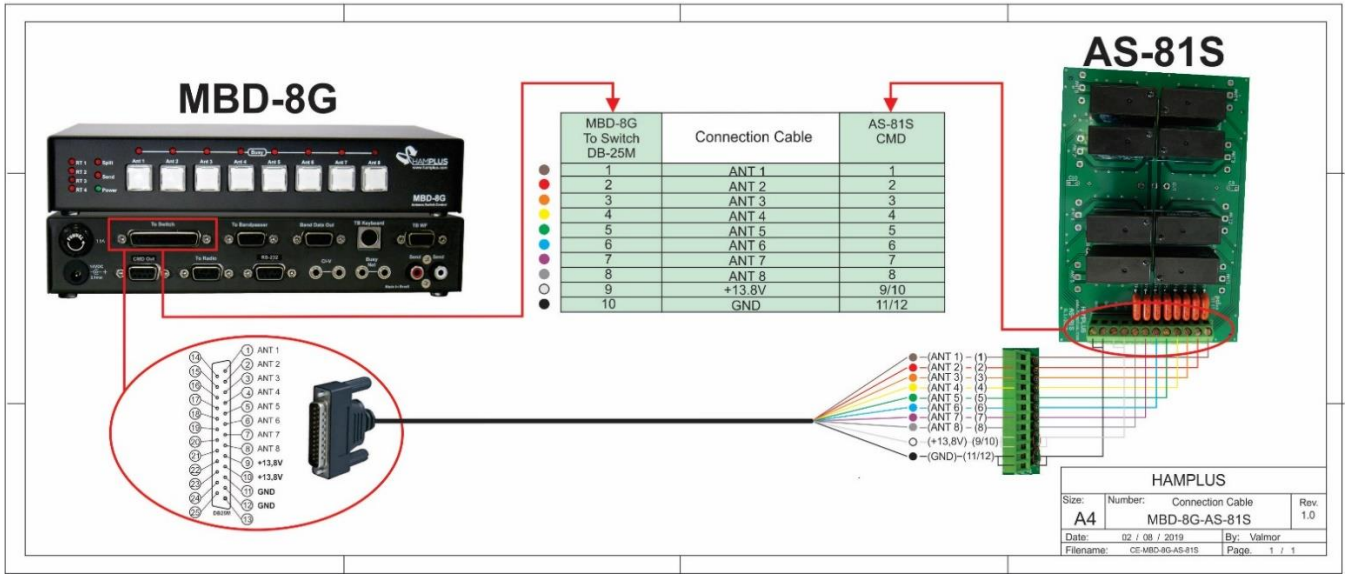
- 13 -



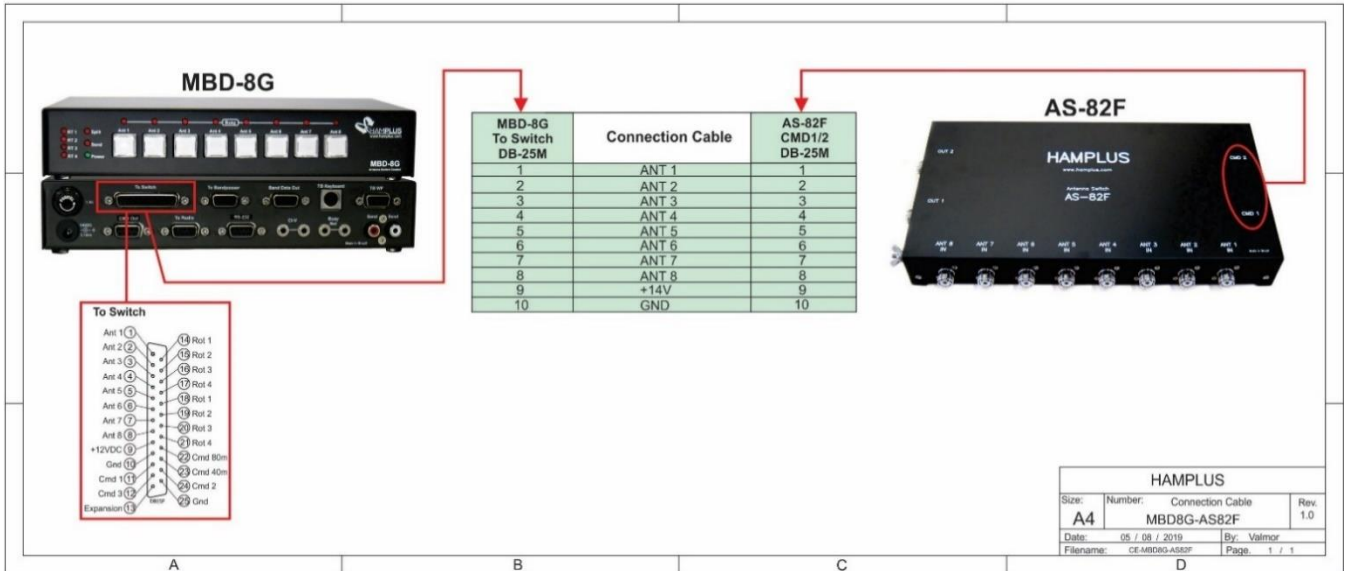
CC-5M CABLE - CONNECTOR PIN IDENTIFICATION

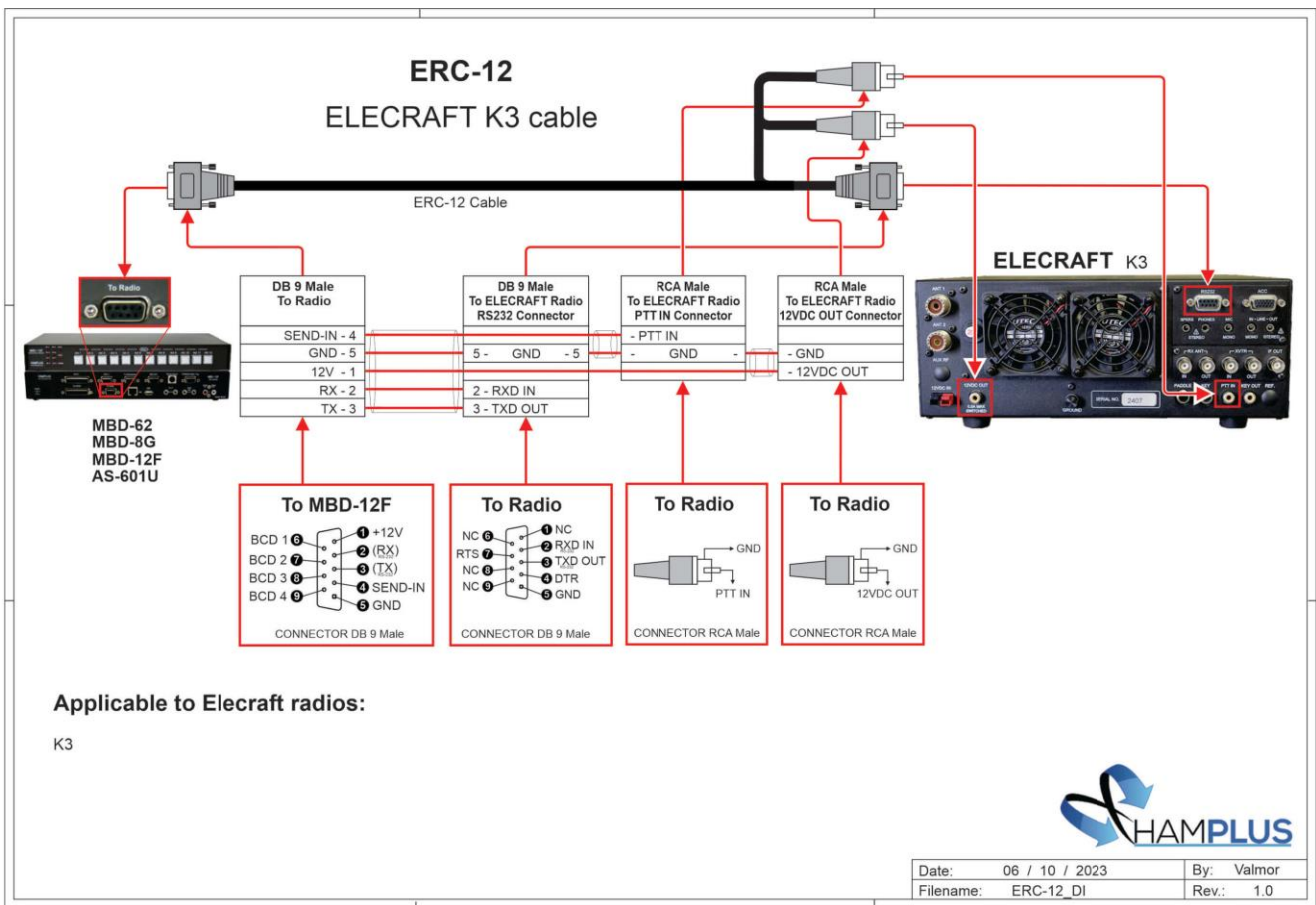


MBD-8G / AS-81S Connection Cable

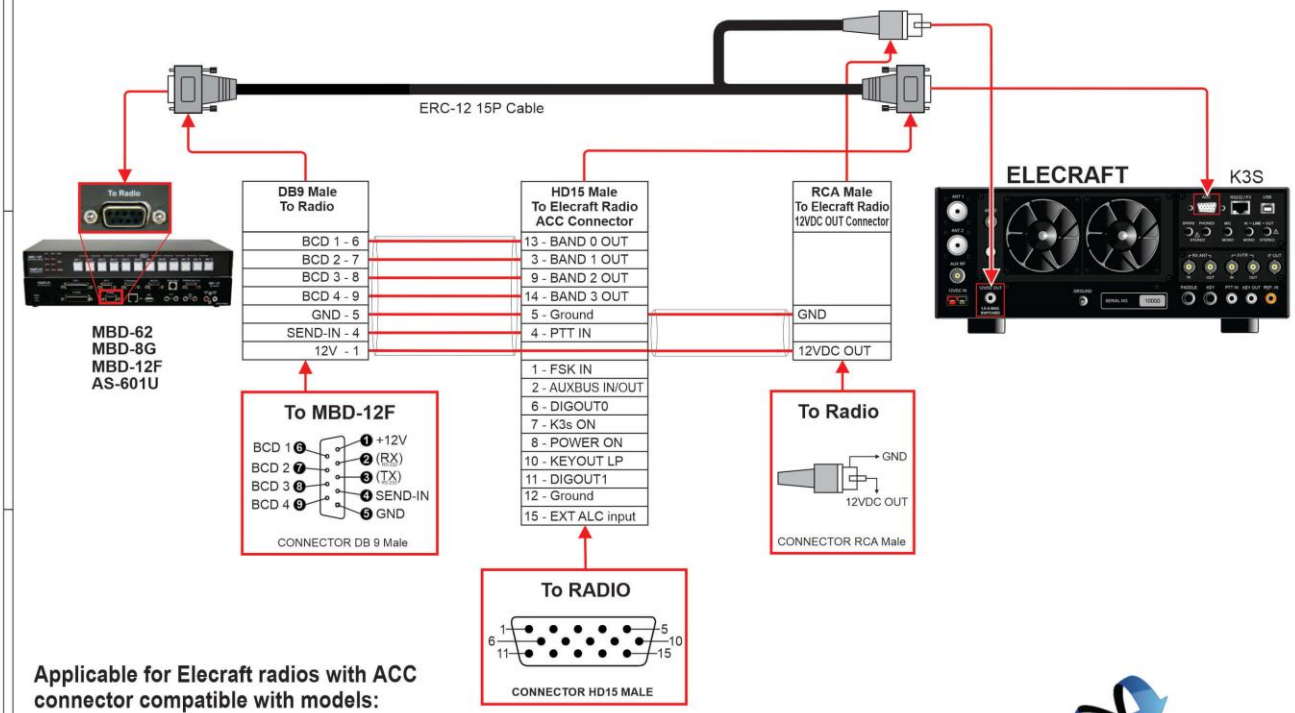


MBD-8G / AS-82F Connection Cable





ERC-12 15P Cable

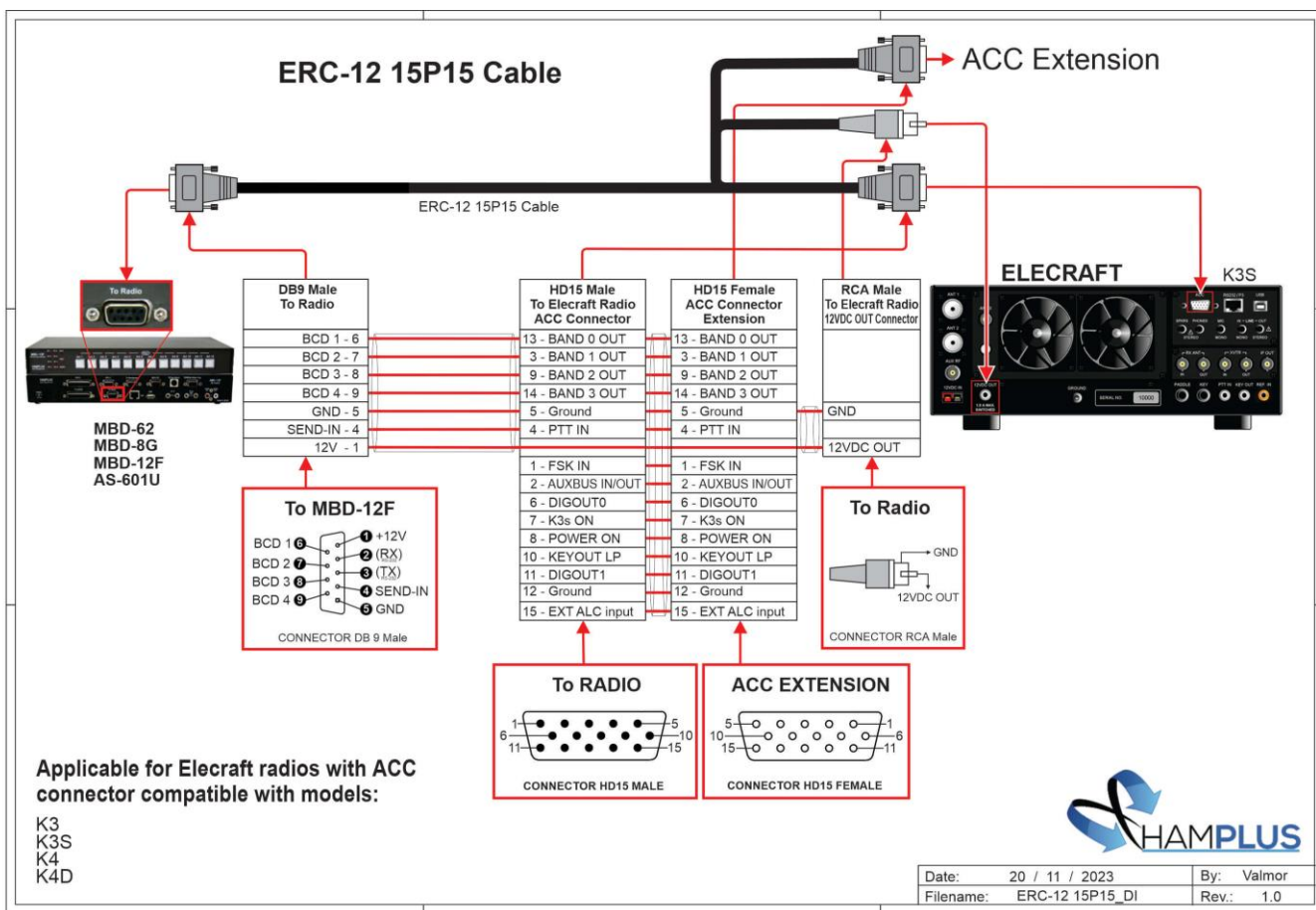


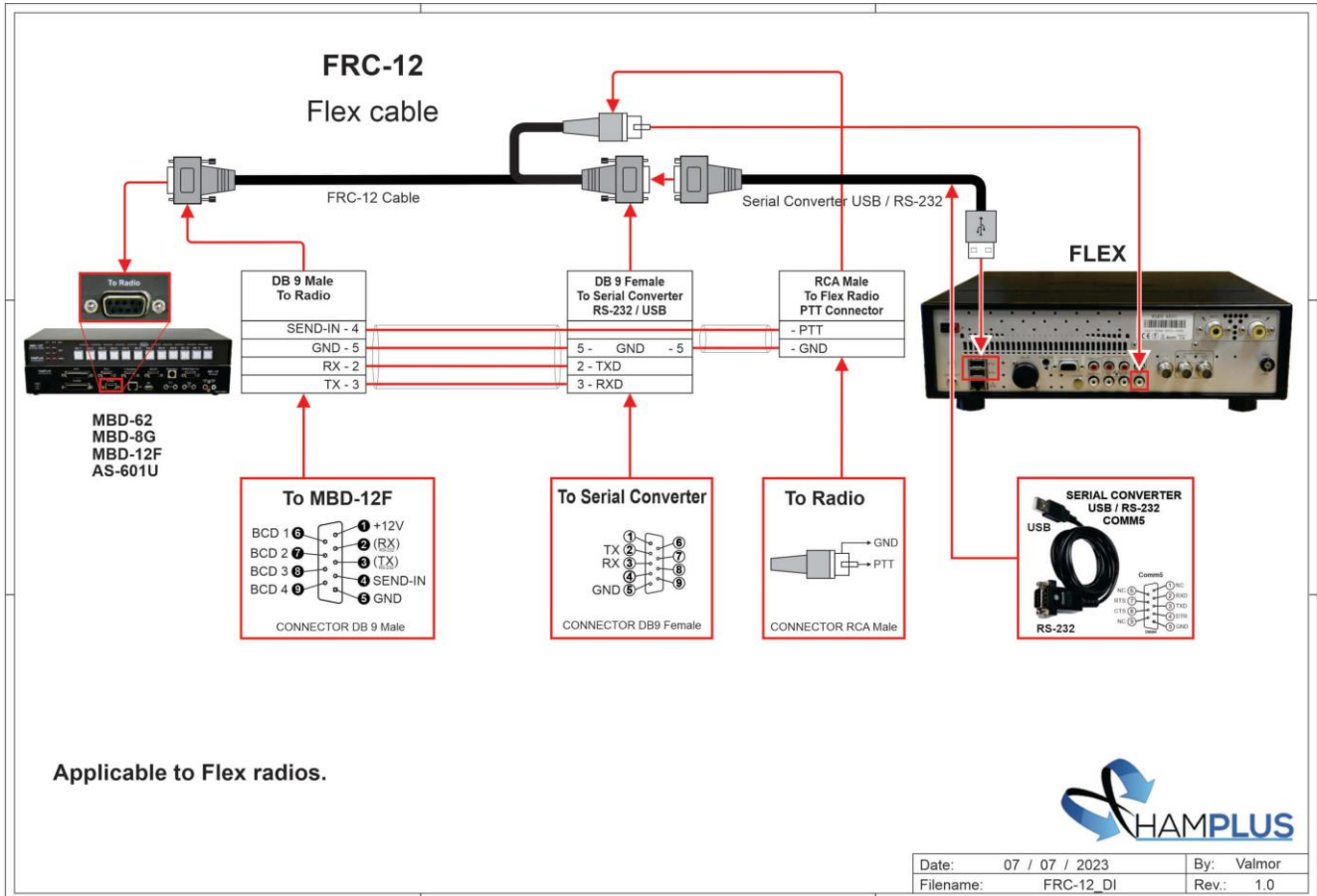
Applicable for Elecraft radios with ACC connector compatible with models:

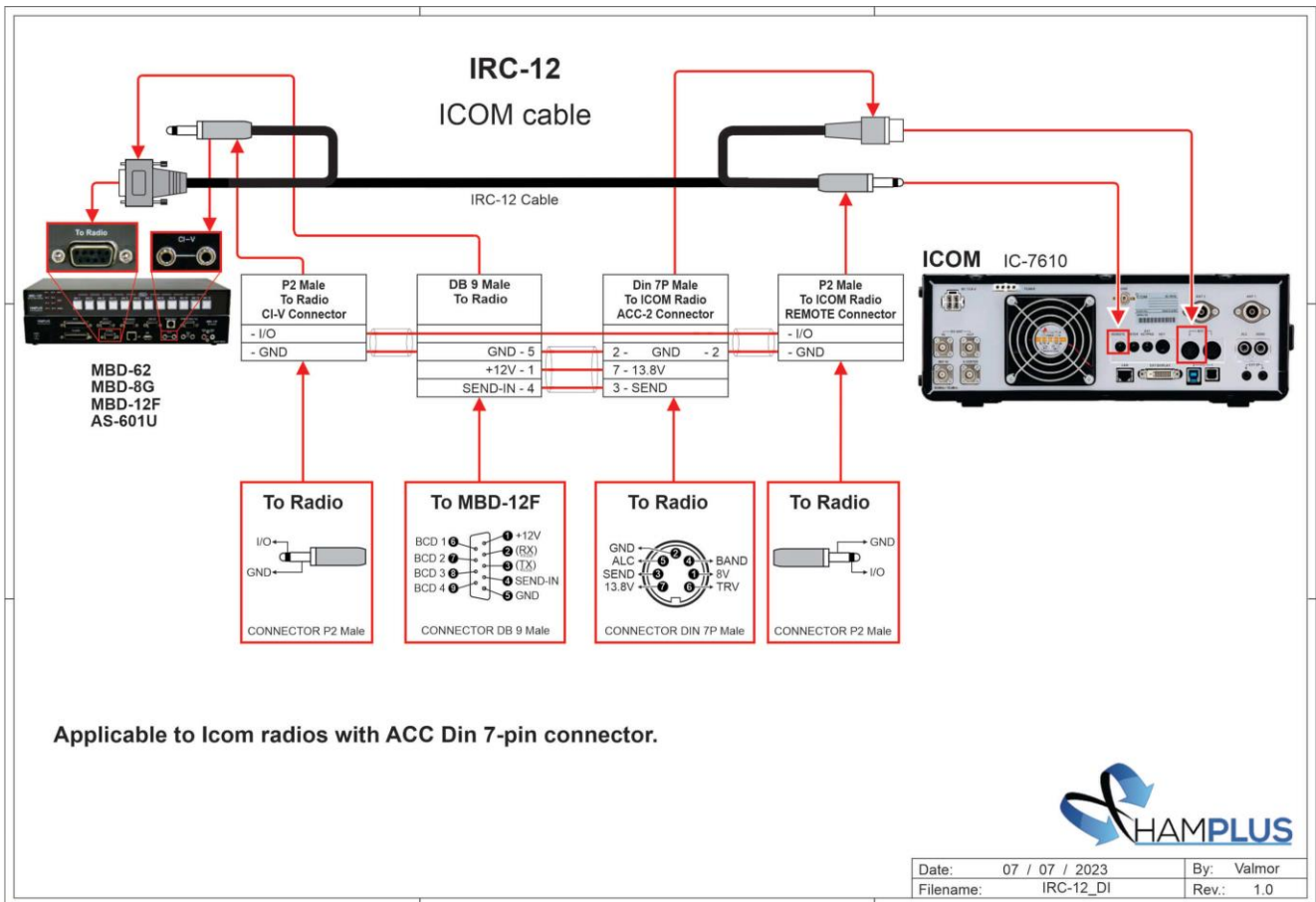
- K3
- K3S
- K4
- K4D

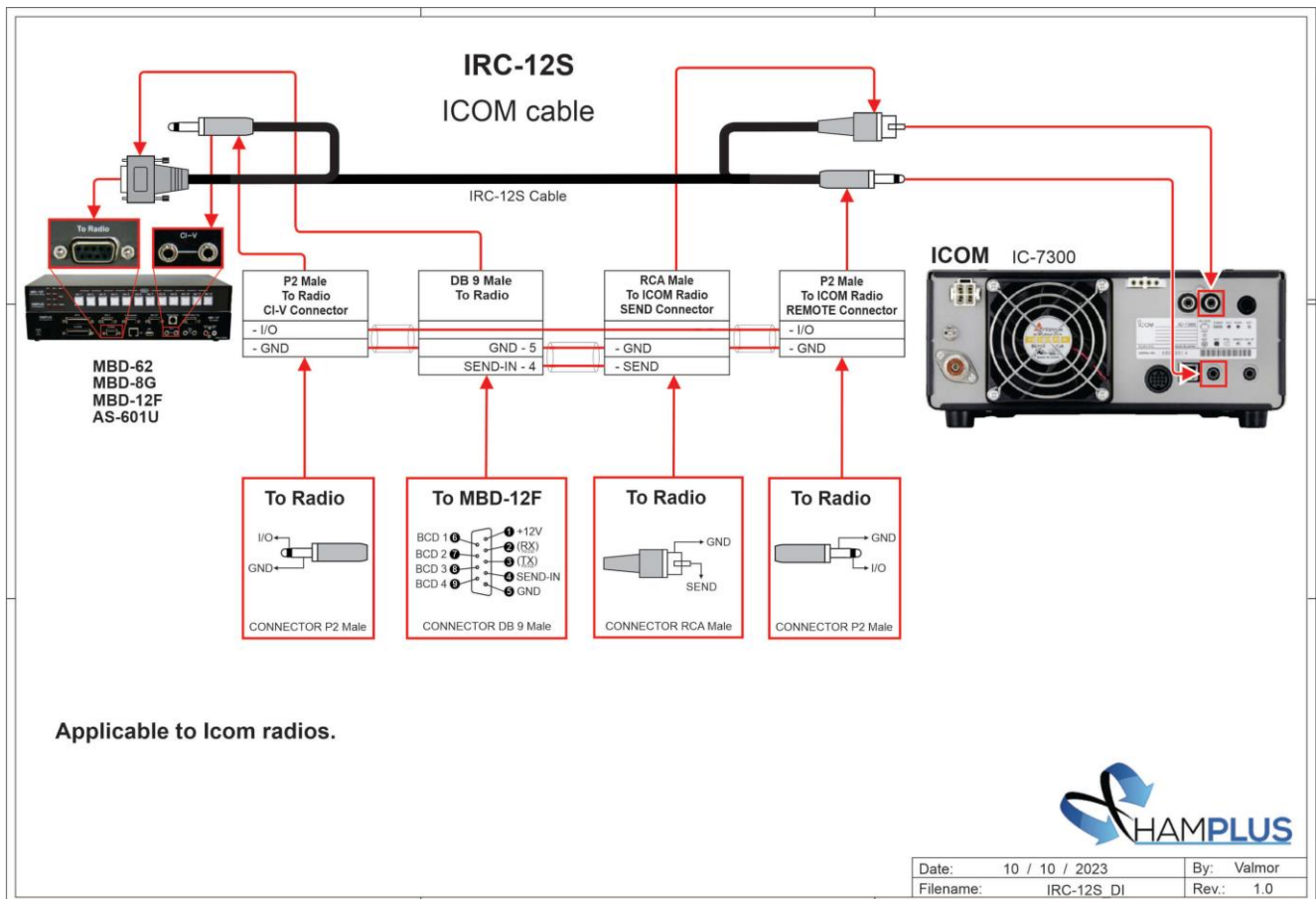


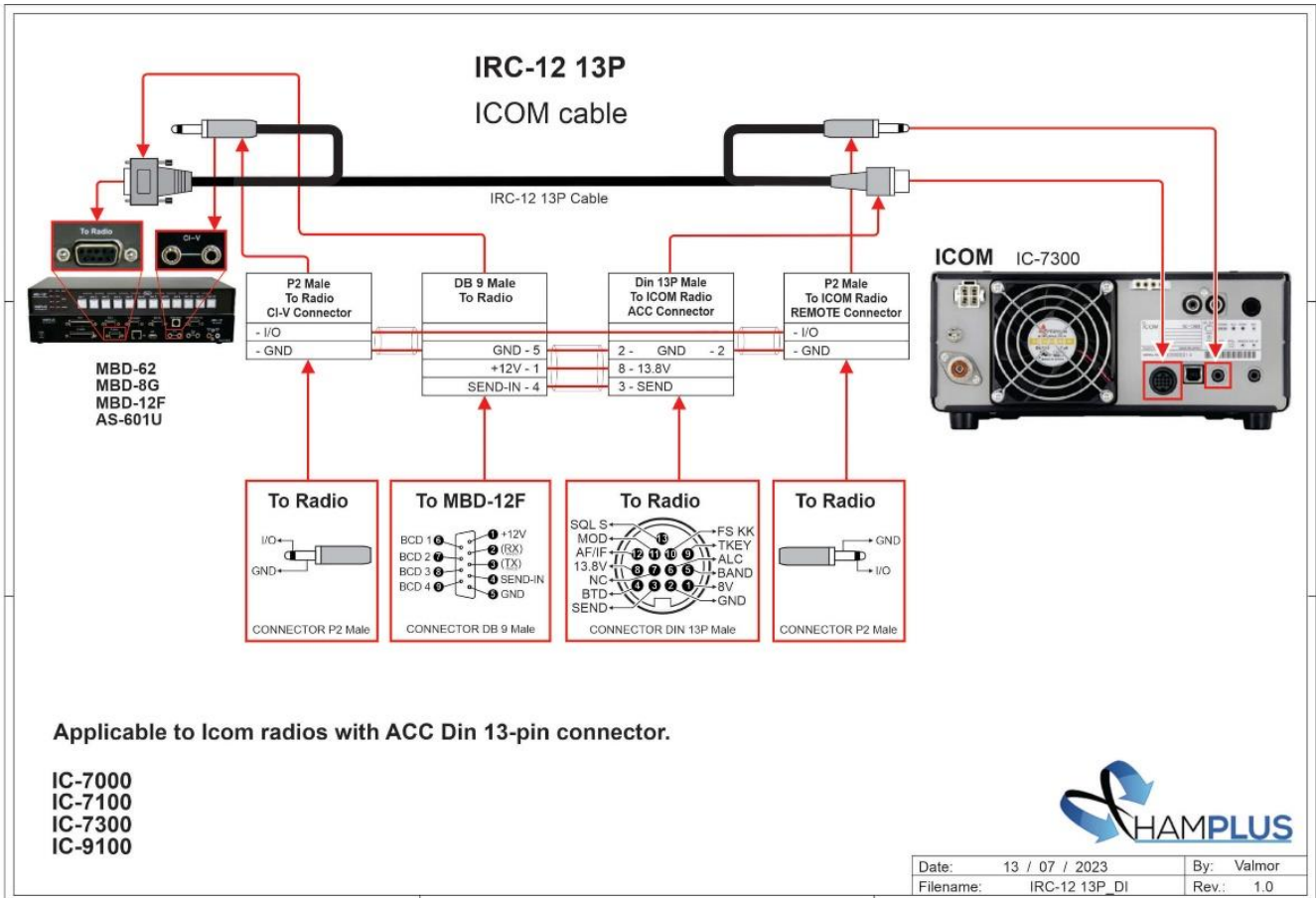
Date:	20 / 11 / 2023	By:	Valmor
Filename:	ERC-12 15P_DI	Rev.:	1.0



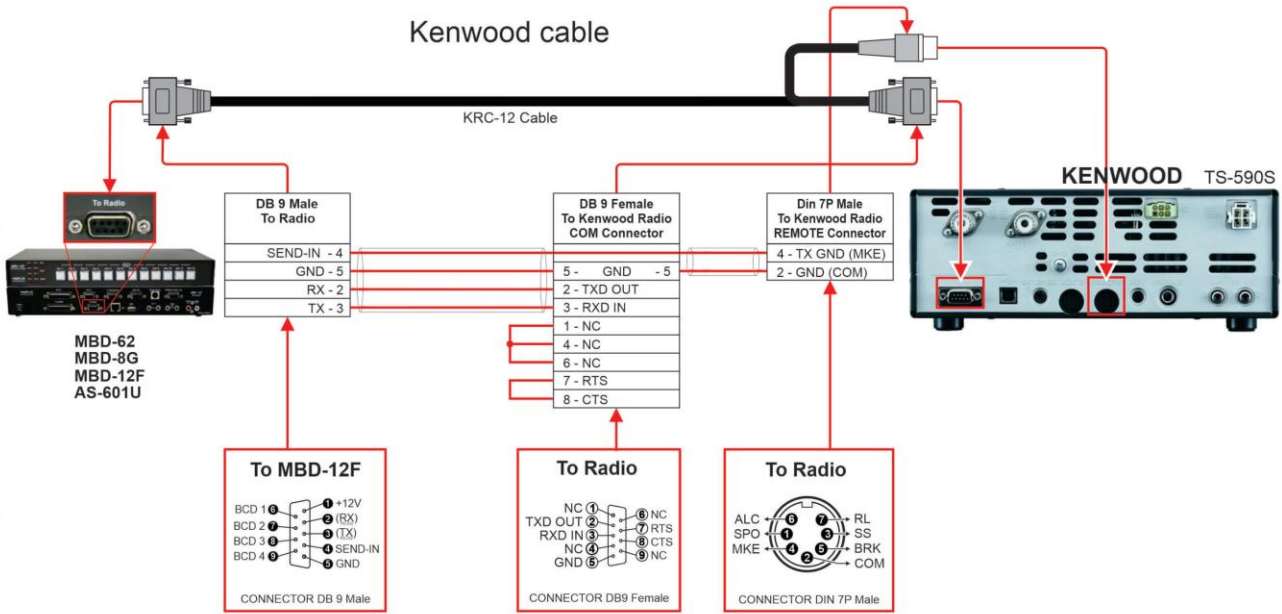








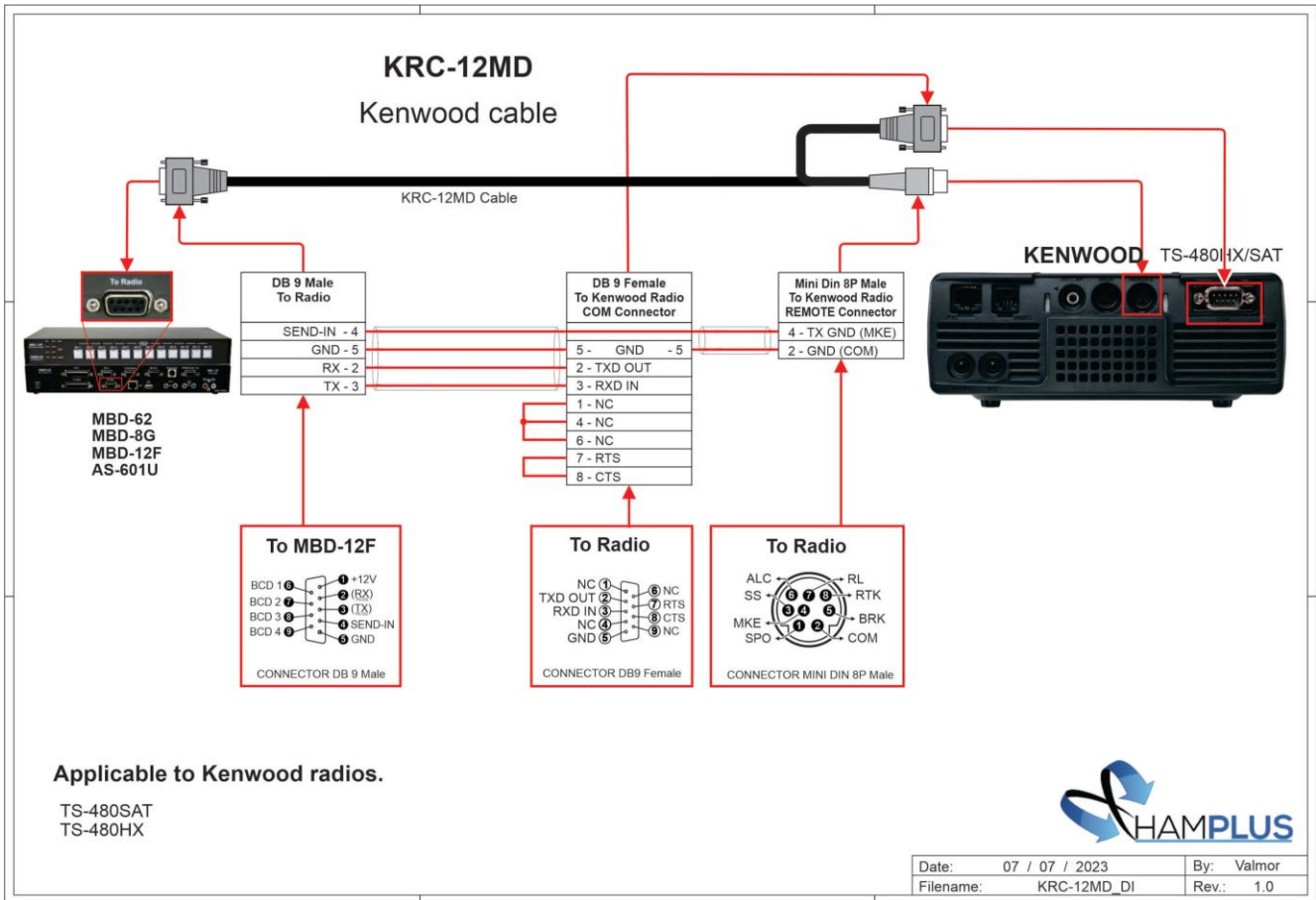
KRC-12 Kenwood cable



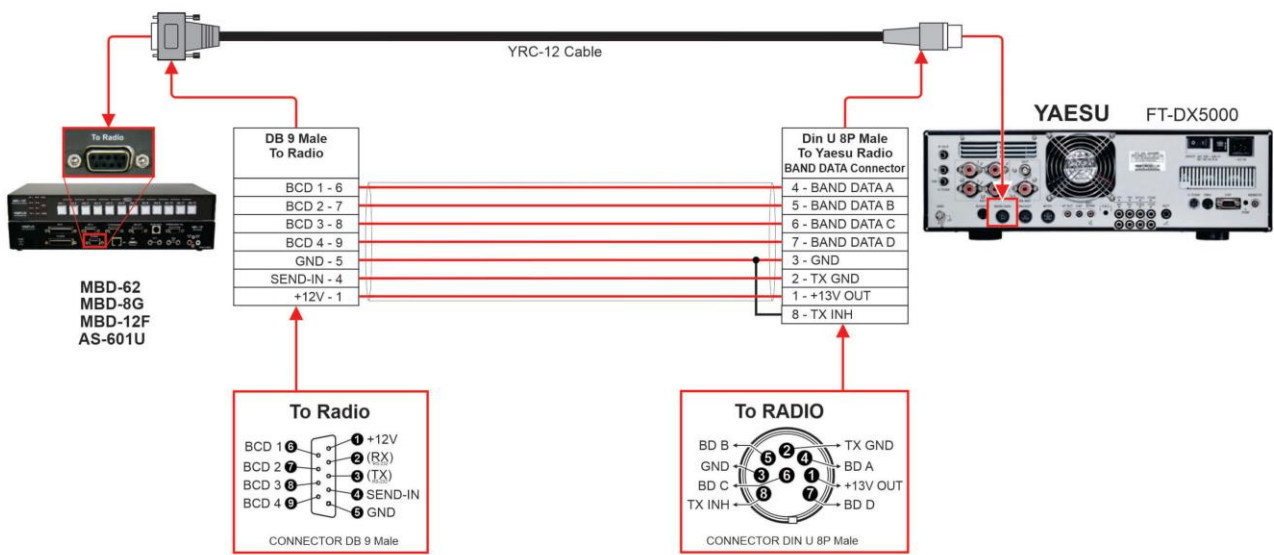
Applicable to Kenwood radios.



Date:	28 / 07 / 2023	By:	Valmor
Filename:	KRC-12_DI	Rev.:	1.0



YRC-12 Cable



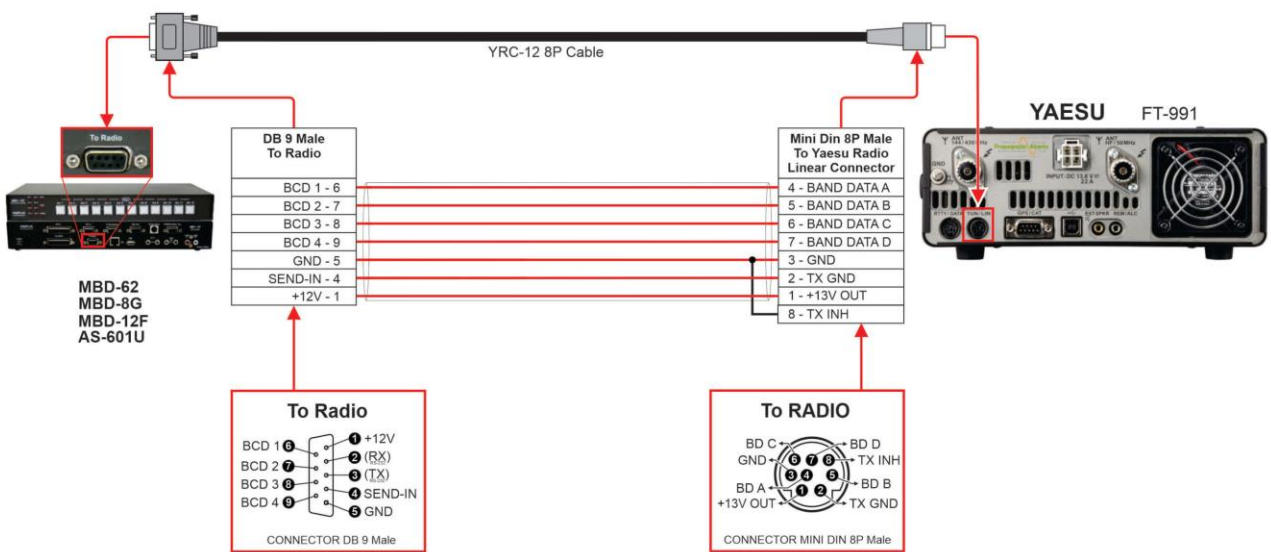
Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

**FT-DX5000
FT-2000
FT-1000MP
FT-990**



Date: 09 / 10 / 2023	By: Valmor
Filename: YRC-12_DI	Rev.: 1.0

YRC-12 8P Cable



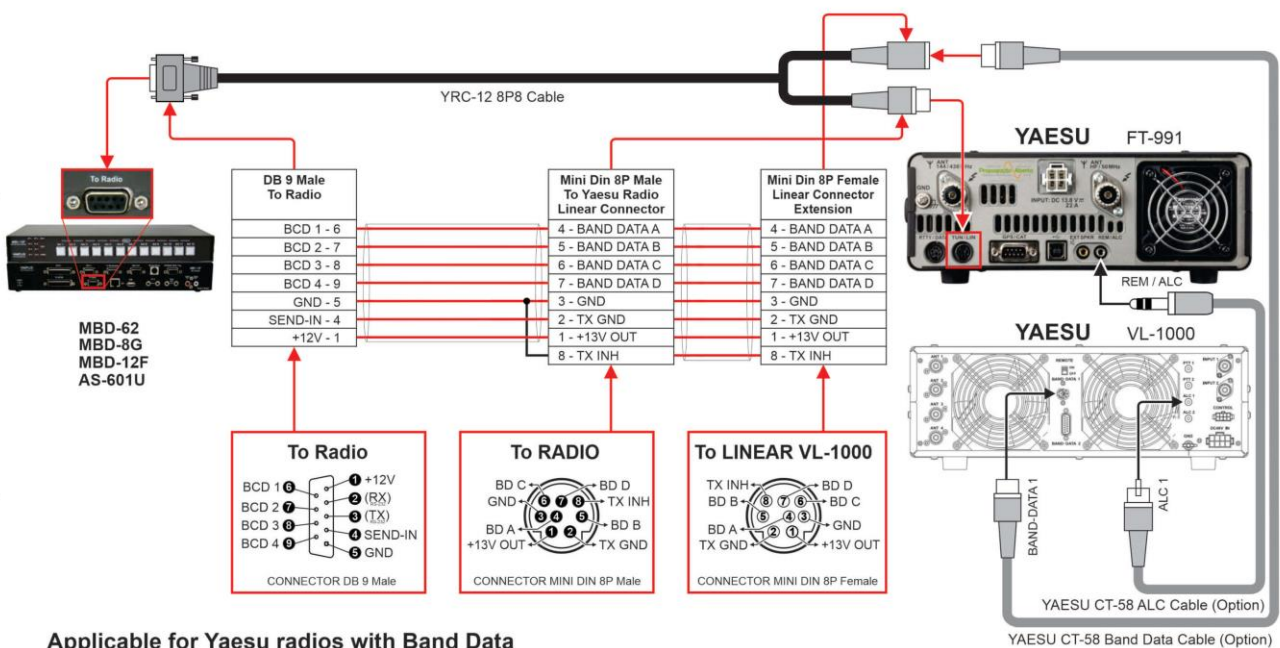
Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

FT-991
FT-991A



Date: 07 / 07 / 2023	By: Valmor
Filename: YRC-12_8P_DI	Rev.: 1.0

YRC-12 8P8 Cable



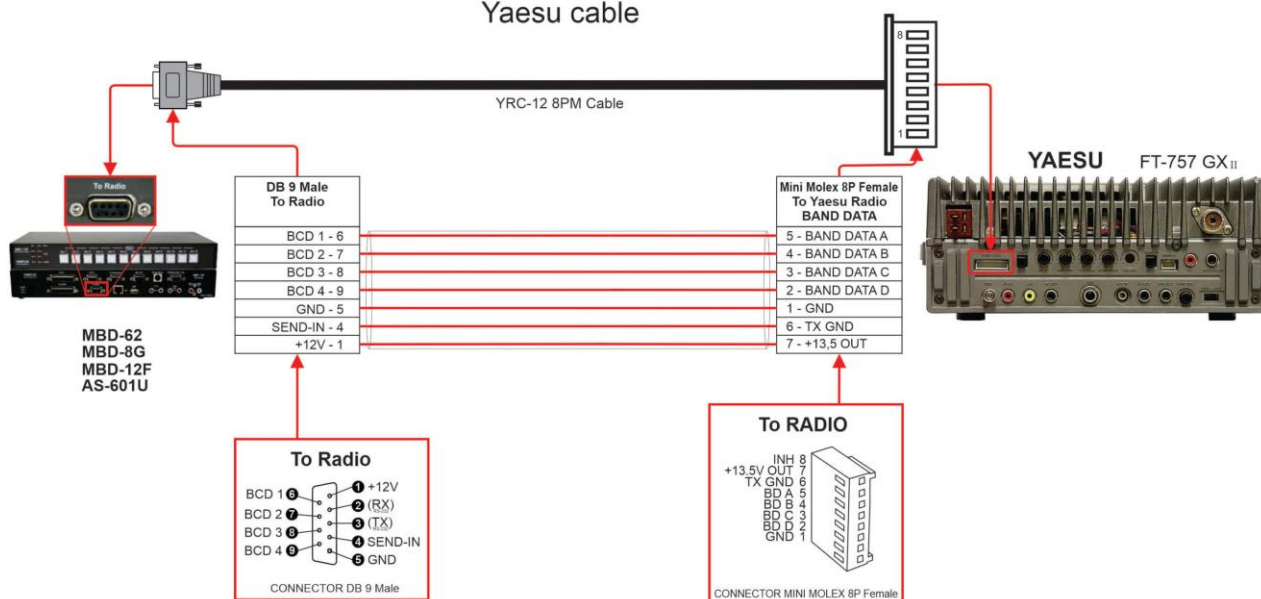
Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

FT-991
FT-991A



Date: 30 / 06 / 2023 By: Valmor
Filename: YRC-12 8P8_DI Rev.: 1.0

YRC-12 8PM Yaesu cable



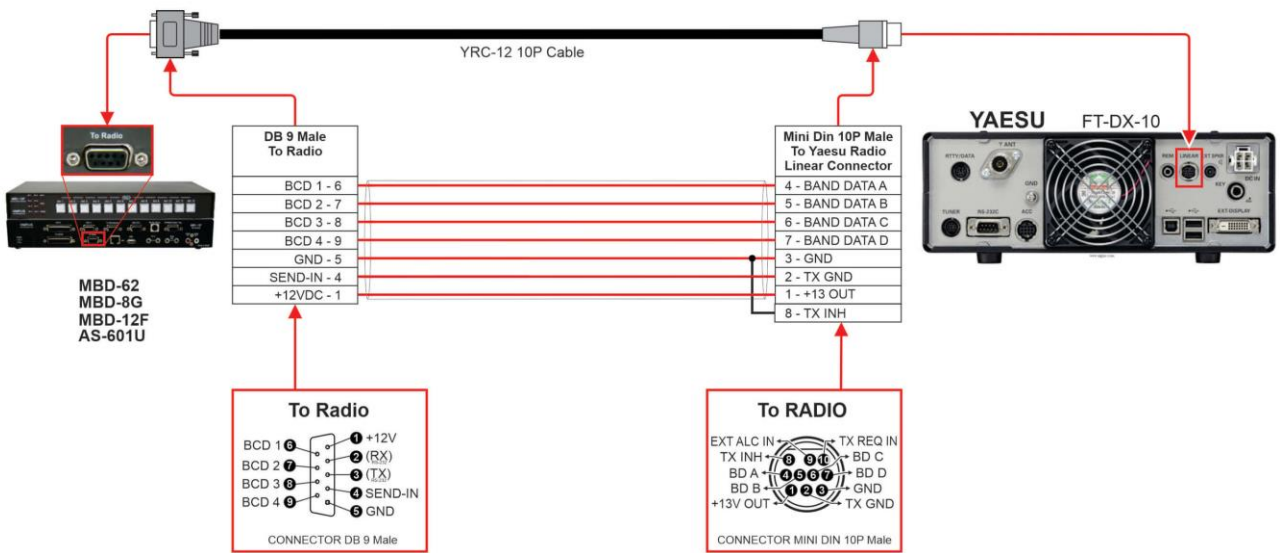
Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

FT-757GX
FT-757GX II



Date:	07 / 07 / 2023	By:	Valmor
Filename:	YRC-12 8PM_DI	Rev.:	1.0

YRC-12 10P Cable

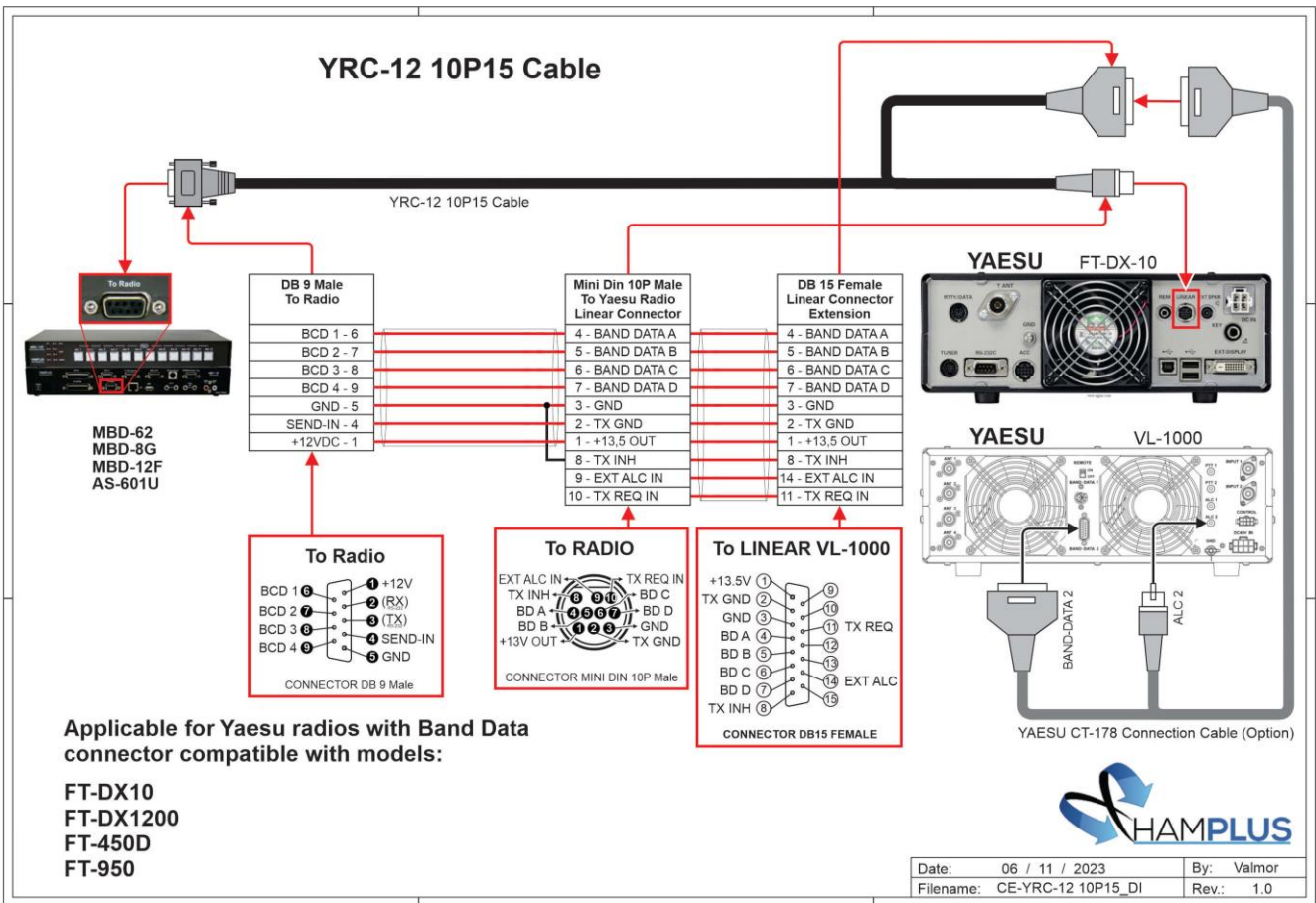


Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

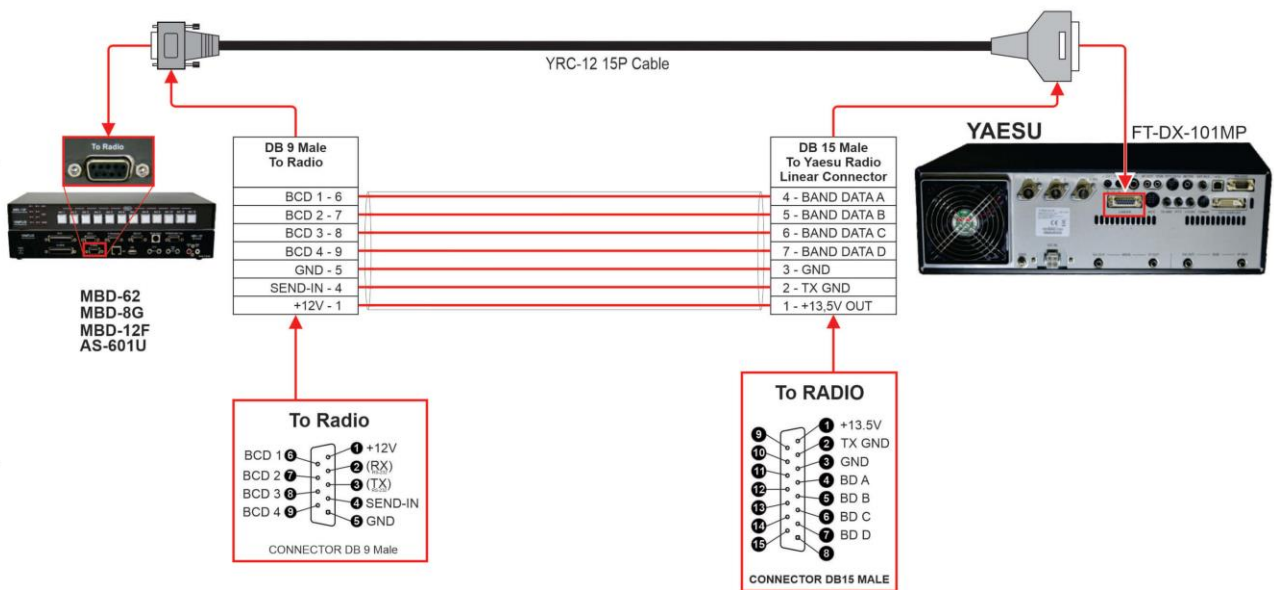
**FT-DX10
FT-DX1200
FT-450D
FT-950**



Date: 07 / 07 / 2023	By: Valmor
Filename: YRC-12 10P_DI	Rev.: 1.0



YRC-12 15P Cable

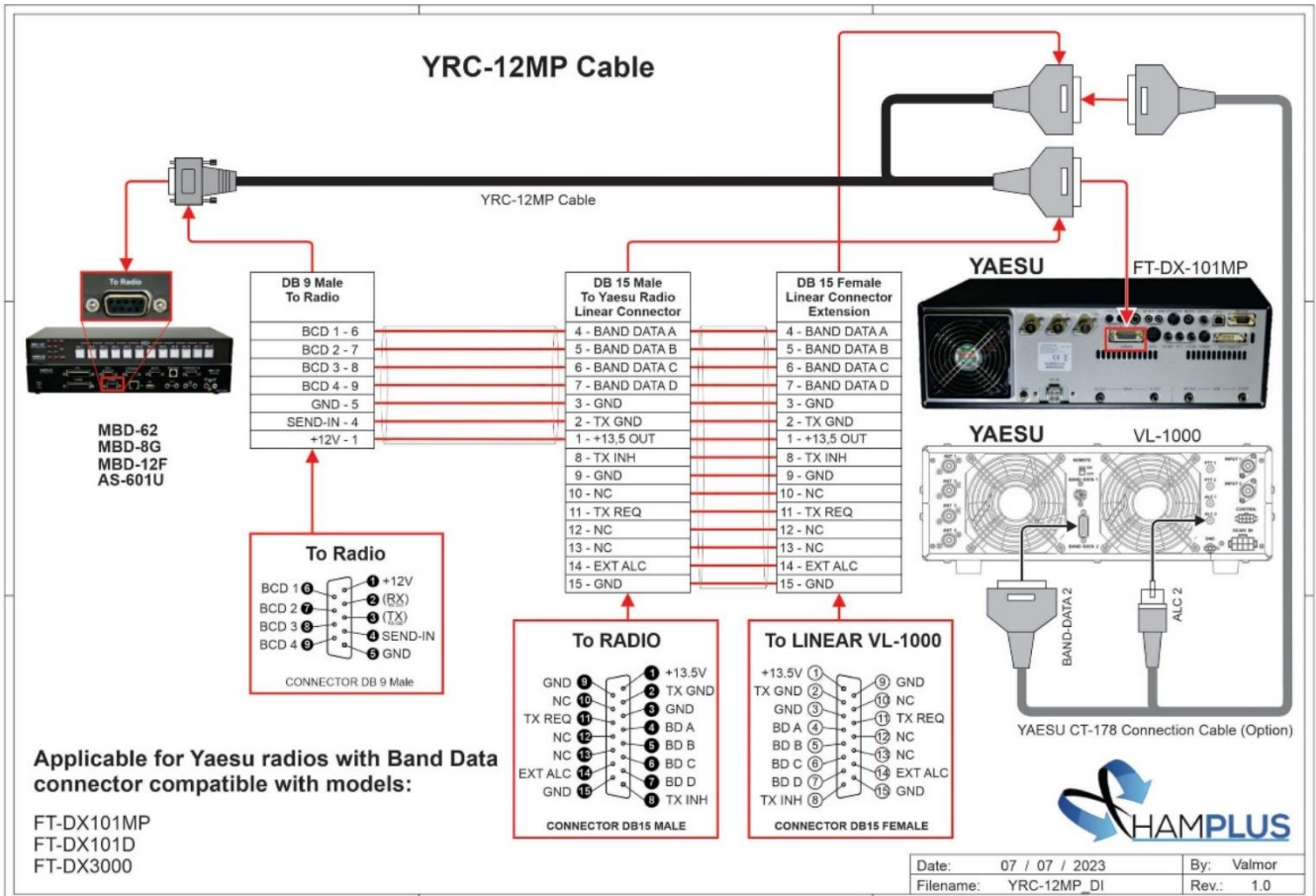


Applicable for Yaesu radios with Band Data connector compatible with models:

FT-DX101MP
 FT-DX101D
 FT-DX3000



Date: 07 / 07 / 2023	By: Valmor
Filename: YRC-12 15P_DI	Rev.: 1.0





MBD-8G

DECEMBER 18, 2023

HAMPLUS.COM

Rua Joe Collaço, 954 - Florianópolis - Brazil