

The Technician Is In – Mobile Antenna

John Mellett AFA3HK (former AFF1M)

Joel writes: I have an Icom 706 MK2G (with a MARS mod) and an LDG AT-7000 antenna tuner in my Honda Van and have been trying to find a good antenna to use with it. I have tried different single band HF antennas but did not like having to stop the vehicle when I wanted to change frequencies nor did I have room to carry multiple antennas.

I then tried a High Sierra HS-1500 screwdriver and liked the convenience but I had some problems with it (I bought it used) and finally the motor died. I am looking for an antenna that will serve me on the Amateur bands as well as for MARS when I am on the road. Any thoughts, comments or suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

73's, Joel

I replied: Are you going to be doing both MARS and Ham?

There are several possibilities. If you are only interested in 3 bands, I would look at the Hustler Mobile Antenna. Here is a link: <http://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/hamantm/1984.html> I am not promoting this particular store, they have a good list on their web site. You would want to get the VP-1 adapter to put three resonators on the top. If you go this route, I would get the super resonators as they are broader banded.

If you want more than three bands, I think I would stick with the screw driver type antenna. Have you considered contacting the manufacturer to see about repairs? With the cost of a new screwdriver antenna being \$400.00 plus or minus, repair would be my first choice. Here is a link to them: <http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=1160>

I know a few truck drivers that use the screwdriver (Different Brands), and they are happy with what they have.

I hope this helps. If I can be of any further help, let me know.

73 John AFF1M/W8NM