Using 2 HF PAs

By G8MNY (New Aug 13)

At a Ham Summer Camp I needed to use 1 of 2 HF PAs for /P. One was a 500W Transistor PA floated on a large battery that allowed just a small petrol generator to keep the battery topped up, & the other was a Valve Amp used when it was colder at night & that needed much bigger generators (2.2-7kW).

I looked at the 2 possible connection systems...

- **FULLY SWITCHED**
- **SERIES RF & TEED CONTROL LINES**

The switched system is complex unless relays are used.

The series & teed system assumes PA2 can handle PA1 Tx power in through mode! Steering diodes may be needed to isolate the powered off PA from affecting PTT & ALC lines...

- Test PTT interaction by keying up Tx + PA & seeing if connecting the unused PA has any affect on Tx/Tx. Add diodes if there is any affect.
- Test ALC interaction by setting Tx + PA to 100W & adding the turned off PA. I found no power change so steering diodes were not needed.

Of course NEVER enable both PAs together!

See my Tech bul "T500 M 12V 500W HF Linear", "PTT line for Drake L-4B PA", & "ALC line for Drake L-4B PA".

Why Don't U send an interesting bul?

73 De John, G8MNY @ GB7CIP