

The solar power I have so far is as follows:

There are three solar panels with an output of 45 watts at 12VDC, a 30 amp charge controller and a total of 90 amp hours of batteries. The batteries are AGM type, safe for inside use. This should provide a discharge rate of 5 amp at 12VDC per hr for 20 hours. It is connected to a West Mountain Radio "PWRgate" unit in which the battery is connected along with the 12 volt power supply then to a West Mountain Radio "Rigrunner" power strip.

All of the 12 volt units are connected to the power strip using the "power pole" connectors. Normal operation now is the run it with the power supply turned off. I have a little trouble when running full power with the Yaesu FT-897D 100 watts; just need a larger battery to supply the current draw.

I plan to add more solar panels and a bigger battery it in the future to increase the power output. I am going to add two 2.2 farad capacitors to help handle the peak current draw when running SSB. This is what the people with hi power stereo's in their vehicles use to handle the peak current draw for the bass notes in the music.

If I drop the power to 50 Watts everything is just fine.

All of the VHF/UHF radios and other 12 volt equipment plus two 12 volt lights, one normal and one 12VDC fluorescent, ran for almost 17 hours one day. It was about 50% sunny and there was little overall power loss from the batteries.

Total cost so far is about \$400.00 but I had the "Rigrunner" power stuff to start with. The panels and controller cost \$250.00

Sorry no good pictures as there is really not much to show. As most of the equipment is located inside of a cabinet or under the operating desk.

Steve AFA1HB