

NARDA BROADBAND FIELD METER

NBM-550

Measuring electric and magnetic fields

ranging from high frequency to microwaves

- ▲ **Non-directional measurement using isotropic probes for applications in the frequency range 100 kHz to 60 GHz**
- ▲ **Large, graphic display for easy-to-read results**
- ▲ **Intelligent probe interface with automatic detection of probe parameters for simple operation**
- ▲ **Memory for up to 5000 measurement results**

OPTIONAL

- ▲ **Automatic storage of position data with GPS interface and plug-in GPS receiver**
- ▲ **Voice recording for comments**



Narda Broadband Field Meter NBM-550

DESCRIPTION

The Narda Broadband Field Meter NBM-550 is part of the NBM-500 device family. It makes extremely accurate measurements of non-ionizing radiation. Equipped with probes for measuring electric and magnetic field strengths, it covers all frequencies from long wave up to microwave radiation. Flat frequency response probes (“flat probes”) as well as so-called shaped probes that evaluate the field strength on the basis of a human safety standard are available. These probes are calibrated separately from the field meter, and include a non-volatile memory that contains the probe parameters and calibration data. They can therefore be used with any device in the NBM-500 family without losing any of the calibration accuracy.

APPLICATIONS

The NBM-550 is used to make precision measurements to establish human safety, particularly in workplace environments where high electric or magnetic field strengths are likely to occur. Some examples are:

- **Measuring field strengths to comply with general safety regulations**
- **Establishing safe zones**
- **Measuring and monitoring field strengths around broadcasting and radar equipment**
- **Measuring field strengths of cell phone transmitters and satellite communications systems to demonstrate compliance with human safety standard limit values**
- **Measuring field strengths in the industrial environment, such as plastics welding equipment, RF heating, tempering, and drying equipment**
- **Measurements for protecting users of diathermy equipment and other medical devices that generate high-frequency radiation**
- **Measuring field strength in TEM cells and absorber chambers to demonstrate electromagnetic compatibility (EMC)**



Robust yet light and easy to carry, designed for simple, one-hand operation



Changing the probe is quick and easy, with no need to reconfigure the device

FEATURES

The Narda Broadband Meter NBM-500 is designed for on-site use. The combined features listed below ensure that it delivers precise results quickly and simply, even under difficult operating conditions.

Display and operation

- Graphical user interface with selectable language.
- Backlit monochrome LCD with selectable illumination time; easy to read, even in bright daylight.

Result display and evaluation

- 5 types of result can be displayed in easy-to-read form: Momentary value (Actual), minimum value (Min), maximum value (Max Hold), average value (Average), maximum average value (Max Avg).
- History Mode memory operates continuously in the background. This allows you to graphically evaluate and save the results for the previous 8 hours of operation (see upper picture opposite).
- Selectable units: V/m, A/m, mW/cm², W/m² when using non-weighted (flat) probes, % of limit value when using weighted (shaped) probes.
- Stored limit values for common human safety standards allow direct display of results for flat probes in % of limit value at a known frequency of the field under test (see lower picture opposite).

Automatic adjustment, application of calibration data

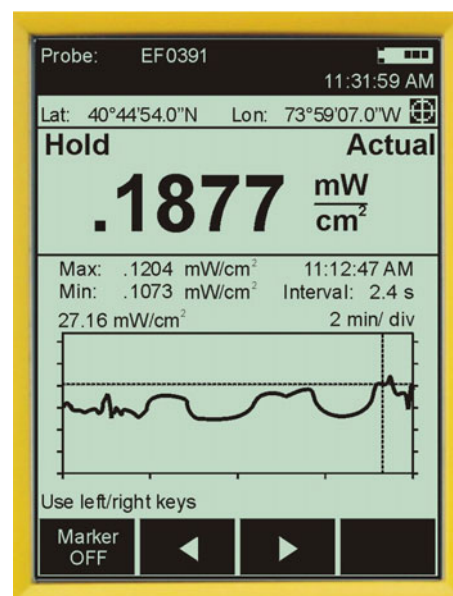
- Intelligent probe interface detects the NBM probe type and automatically recalls and applies the correction values that were recorded during calibration.
- Fully automatic zero point adjustment at programmable time intervals.
- Reminder function lets you know when calibration is due.

Special evaluations

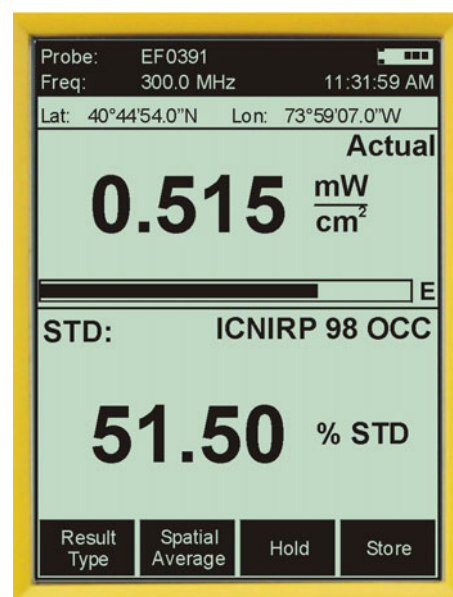
- Time averaging, period settings of up to 30 minutes.
- Spatial averaging, discrete or continuous.
- Multi-position spatial averaging for up to 24 locations.

Warning functions

- Audible warning with programmable alarm threshold.
- Hot spot search function with audible warning.



History Mode shows the variation of field strength versus time as a graph. Numerical values can be read out using the marker.



Apply Standard: You can also display the field strength as a percentage of the limit value of a standard even when using flat probes. Simply select the standard on the NBM-550 (ICNIRP in the example shown) and set the frequency. The evaluation is useful if the main component of the field strength is due to a single source of known frequency.

Operation

- User-defined setups make it easy to recall device settings
- Battery saving user-selectable timed auto-off function
- Hold button “freezes” measurement result for easy readout
- Keypad lock prevents inadvertent operation of control keys

Remote control

- NBM-TS PC software enables remote controlled measurements
- PC connection via USB or optical interface
- Additional freedom of movement for probes provided by using an extension and optical cable. The NBM-550 controller function enables data communication with the smaller NBM-520 for use as a “probe extension handle”. This makes it possible to locate the probe remotely from the NBM-550 control unit without the adverse effects on the measurement that would be caused by metallic connecting cables.



Left: Probe extension using an optical cable. The NBM-550 acts as controller and displays the results. The smaller NBM-520 acts as the optical probe interface. Both devices can also be used separately as measuring devices when fitted with probes.

Result storage and evaluation

- Data memory for up to 5000 results
- External trigger input for data storage (e.g. for connecting to an odometer)
- Timer Logging for timer controlled data storage (e.g. for long-term monitoring)
- Screenshot download as bitmap for simple documentation
- “NBM-TS” PC software for convenient data management, documentation and subsequent evaluations

OPTIONS

- GPS interface and plug-in GPS receiver for automatic storage of position data
- Conditional Logging: Stores measurement data when a threshold value is exceeded
- Audio recorder for voice comments, with built in microphone, and earphone output; transfer to PC



Above: The battery compartment is opened easily using a coin. Four replaceable NiMH rechargeable batteries (AA size) are used to power the device.

Below:

Open the protective rubber cover to access the connectors: Charger socket, optical interface, headphone connector and the multi purpose GPS / USB/ external trigger connector.

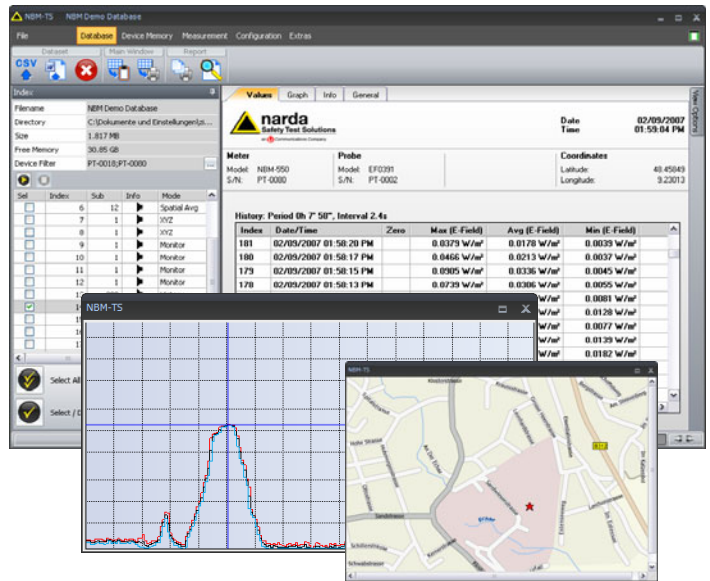


GPS receiver connected to the NBM-550

PC SOFTWARE

The comprehensive, easy to use “NBM-TS” PC software (included) provides the following functions:

- Result transfer to a PC
- Result database management
- Result evaluations
- Device configuration management
- Firmware update control
- Remote controlled measurements



PROBES

Frequency range	100 kHz – 3 GHz	3 MHz -18 GHz	300 MHz – 50 GHz	100 MHz – 60 GHz	300 kHz – 30 MHz	27 MHz – 1 GHz	300 kHz – 50 GHz EB5091; 3 MHz – 50 GHz
Field type	E	E	E	E	H	H	E Shaped
Probe designation	EF0391	EF1891	EF5091 EF5092	EF6091	HF3061	HF0191	EA ... ED5091
Mobile radio / telecommunications	●	●			●	●	●
Radio / TV broadcasting	●	●			●	●	●
Satellite communications		●	●	●			○
Radar		○	●	○			○
Industry: Heating and tempering	●				●		
Industry: Plastics welding	●				●		
Industry: Semiconductor production	●				○		
Medicine: Diathermy, hyperthermy	●						○
Leak detection		●	●	●			○
Human safety (general public safety)	●	●	○	●	●	○	○
Health and safety at work (occupational safety)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

● more important ○ variable importance

SPECIFICATIONS ^a

NBM-550													
DISPLAY													
Display type	Transflective LCD, monochrome												
Display size	10 cm (4"), 240 x 320 dots												
Backlight	White LEDs, selectable illumination time (OFF, 5s, 10s, 30s, 60s, PERMANENT)												
Refresh rate	200 ms for bar graph and graphics, 400 ms for numerical results												
Operating language	Selectable: English, German, Italian, Spanish, Simp. Chinese												
MEASUREMENT FUNCTIONS													
Result units	mW/cm ² , W/m ² , V/m, A/m, % (of standard)												
Display range	.0001 to 9999, 4 digits, variable or fixed triads can be selected <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>Variable triads</u></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><u>Fixed triads</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.01 V/m to 100.0 kV/m</td> <td>0.01 to 9999 V/m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.01 mA/m to 265.3 A/m</td> <td>0.0001 to 265.3 A/m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.001 mW/m² to 26.53 MW/m²</td> <td>0.0001 to 9999 W/m²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.1 nW/cm² to 2.653 kW/cm²</td> <td>0.0001 to 9999 mW/cm²</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0.0001 % to 9999 %</td> <td>0.0001 to 9999 %</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Variable triads</u>	<u>Fixed triads</u>	0.01 V/m to 100.0 kV/m	0.01 to 9999 V/m	0.01 mA/m to 265.3 A/m	0.0001 to 265.3 A/m	0.001 mW/m ² to 26.53 MW/m ²	0.0001 to 9999 W/m ²	0.1 nW/cm ² to 2.653 kW/cm ²	0.0001 to 9999 mW/cm ²	0.0001 % to 9999 %	0.0001 to 9999 %
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0.0001 % to 9999 %	0.0001 to 9999 %												
Result types (isotropic, RSS)	Actual, Maximum, Minimum, Average, Average Maximum												
Result types (X-Y-Z mode)	Actual X, Actual Y, Actual Z (requires a probe with separate axes)												
Time averaging	Selectable averaging time, 4 s to 30 min (2 s steps)												
Spatial averaging	Discrete or continuously												
Multi-position spatial averaging	Averages up to 24 spatially averaged results, each position and total is stored												
History Mode	Graphical display of Actual results versus time (span of 2 minutes to 8 hours)												
Correction frequency	1 kHz to 100 GHz or OFF (direct frequency entry, interpolation between calibration points)												
Hot Spot Search	Audible indication of increasing and decreasing field strength (result type Act or Max)												
Alarm function	2 kHz audible signal (4 Hz repetition), adjustable threshold												
Timer Logging	Start time pre-selection: up to 24 h or immediate start Logging duration: up to 100 h Logging interval: 1s to 6 min (in 11 steps)												
RESULT MEMORY													
Physical memory	12 MB non-volatile flash memory for measurement results and voice comments												
Storage capacity	Up to 5000 results (including instrument settings, time stamp and GPS data when available)												
INTERFACES													
Remote control	Via USB or optical RS-232 interface (selectable)												
- USB	Serial, full duplex, 460800 baud (virtual COM port), multi-pin connector												
- Optical interface	Serial, full duplex, 115200 baud, no parity, 1 start and 1 stop bit												
Earphone	3.5 mm TRS, ≥ 16 ohms (mono), for voice recorder option only												
External trigger (for result storage)	Uses the multi-pin connector. Interface cable with BNC connector available as accessory Triggers when contacts short-circuited												
External GPS receiver	Uses the multi-pin connector; GPS receiver with interface cable available as an option												
Probe interface	Plug-and-play auto detection, compatible with all NBM series probes												

OPTIONS	
Conditional Logging	
Logging conditions	Selectable: - On upper threshold: Results stored when measurements exceed the adjustable threshold - Out of gap: Results stored when measurements are above the upper threshold or below the lower threshold
Logging range	Selectable: - Store all (as long as the condition is true), sampling rate 5 Hz - Store first and last event (when the condition was true)
Voice Recorder	
Microphone	Built in microphone located at the top of the instrument near the Narda logo
Recording level	Fixed level, VU meter for level monitoring displayed when recording
Recording length	30 s max. length per voice comment, 1 voice comment stored with relevant result
Recording format	8-bit PCM mono, stored as WAV file (approx. 240 kbyte per 30 s)
Output	External earphone (adjustable output level) or via NBM-TS PC software
GPS Position Logging	
Receiver type	12-channel satellite tracking, DGPS capability, WAAS/ EGNOS compatible
Displayed position data	Latitude (Lat) and longitude (Long), selectable units: DMS (degrees, minutes, seconds)/ MinDec (decimal minutes)/ DegDec (decimal degrees)
Geodetic system	WGS84/ NAD83
Position accuracy	< 3 m (DGPS, WAAS), <15 m (SPS), high precision mode indicated on the NBM-550 Accuracy specified for 95 % probability
Update rate	1 s
Receiver size/ weight	61 mm diameter x 19.5 mm high / 62 g (approx. 100 g with mounting plate)
Receiver mounting	Uses the tripod thread on underside of device, mounting plate included
GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS	
Recommended calibration interval	24 months (basic unit only, probes are specified separately)
Battery	NiMH rechargeable batteries, 4 x AA size (Mignon), 2500 mAh, included
Operation time	20 hours (backlight off, no GPS) 12 hours (permanent backlight, no GPS) 10 hours (GPS receiver connected, no backlight)
Charging time	2 hours
Battery level display	100%, 80%, 60%, 40%, 20%, 10%, low level (< 5%)
Temperature range	
Operating	-10 °C to +50 °C
Non-operating (transport)	-30 °C to +70 °C
Humidity	5 to 95%, non condensing ≤29 g/m ³ absolute humidity (IEC 60721-3-2 class 7K2)
Size (h x w x d)	45 x 98 x 280 mm (without probe and GPS receiver)
Weight	550 g (without probe and GPS receiver).
Accessories (included)	Hard case, power supply, rechargeable batteries, shoulder strap, tripod (bench top), NBM-TS software, operating manual, certificate of calibration, USB cable interface

ORDERING INFORMATION

NBM-550	Part Number (P/N)
NBM-550 Set 1, Narda Broadband Field Meter Includes: - NBM-550 Basic Unit (2401/01) - Hard case, holds field meter and up to 4 probes (2400/90.06) - Power supply, 9VDC, 100V-240VAC (2259/92.06) - Shoulder strap, 1 m (2244/90.49) - Tripod, bench top, 0.16m, non-conductive (2244/90.32) - Cable, USB interface for NBM-550, 2 m (2400/90.05) - Software, NBM-TS, PC transfer (2400/93.01) - Operating manual - Certificate of calibration <i>Probes are not included</i>	2400/101
Option set for NBM-550: GPS, Voice Recorder, Conditional Logging Includes: GPS receiver, GPS mounting set, earphone, option key	2401/40
PROBES	
Probe EF0391, E-field for NBM, 100 kHz - 3 GHz, isotropic	2402/01
Probe EF1891, E-field for NBM, 3 MHz - 18 GHz, isotropic	2402/02
Probe EF5091, E-field for NBM, thermocouple, 300 MHz - 50 GHz, isotropic	2402/03
Probe EF6091, E-field for NBM, 100 MHz - 60 GHz, isotropic	2402/04
Probe HF3061, H-field for NBM, 300 kHz - 30 MHz, isotropic	2402/05
Probe HF0191, H-field for NBM, 27 MHz - 1 GHz, isotropic	2402/06
Probe EA5091, Shaped E-field, FCC for NBM, 300 kHz - 50 GHz, isotropic	2402/07
Probe EB5091, Shaped E-field, IEEE for NBM, 3 MHz - 50 GHz, isotropic	2402/08
Probe EC5091, Shaped E-field, SC6 Canada for NBM, 300 kHz - 50 GHz, isotropic	2402/09
Probe ED5091, Shaped E-field, ICNIRP for NBM, 300 kHz - 50 GHz, isotropic	2402/10
Probe EF5092, E-field for NBM, thermocouple, 300 MHz - 50 GHz, high power, isotropic	2402/11
ACCESSORIES	
Test generator, 27 MHz, hand-held	2244/90.38
Tripod, non-conductive, 1.65 m with carrying bag	2244/90.31
Tripod extension, 0.50 m, non-conductive (for 2244/90.31)	2244/90.45
Handle, non-conductive extension, 0.42 m	2250/92.02
Cable, coaxial, multi-pin / BNC for NBM-550, external trigger, 2 m	2400/90.04
Cable, fiber optic, duplex (1000 μ m), RP-02, 2 m	2260/91.02
Cable, fiber optic, duplex (1000 μ m), RP-02, 20 m	2260/91.03
Cable, fiber optic, duplex, F-SMA to RP-02, 0.3 m	2260/91.01
O/E converter, RS232, RP-02 / DB9	2260/90.06
O/E converter USB, RP-02 / USB	2260/90.07
Cable, adapter, USB 2.0 - RS232, 0.8 m	2260/90.53

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