



**Radiometer Physics**  
A Rohde & Schwarz Company

**RPG-FMCW-35 Cloud Radar**  
**(Installation Manual)**

# **RPG-FMCW-35-SP/DP**

## **35 GHz Ka-band Cloud Doppler Radar**

### **Instrument Installation Guide**



**Radiometer Physics**  
A Rohde & Schwarz Company

Code:	RPG-FMCW-35-IM	<b>RPG-FMCW-35 Cloud Radar (Installation Manual)</b>	 <b>Radiometer Physics</b> A Rohde & Schwarz Company
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## Document Change Log

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18.06.2020	01/01	Release
26.01.2024	01/02	Remove chapter "Calibration", replaced pic of handles
06.03.2024	01/03	Add chapter "Maintenance", standardization of terminology
24.05.2024	01/04	Preliminary note, calibration, remove specifications

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## Preliminary note

The concept and the descriptions of this manual apply to both 94 GHz and 35 GHz cloud radar models with numbers shown only for the model of 94 GHz Cloud Radar.

# 1 Safety Instructions

## *Instrument Use*

The RPG-FMCW-35 radar is a microwave instrument for the detection of cloud particles. It emits continuous microwave power at 35 GHz and detects the reflected power from cloud droplets, rain droplets, ice and snow particles. The evaluation of the Doppler frequency shift from falling particles enables the radar to determine a velocity spectrum. Most observations are performed at zenith angle but the radar is also capable of scanning at other angles in order to determine wind speeds, rain rates and particle properties like drops size distribution and particle shape (ice crystals and aggregates). The instrument should not be used for other detection purposes than described above.

## *Before Starting Operation*

Read these instructions carefully. They contain important notes for the use, safety and maintenance of the instrument. Make sure that all persons involved in the installation and maintenance of this hardware have registered the content of this document and have access to it any time.

Only use the instrument for the purpose mentioned in these instructions.

Before powering up any part of the hardware, it is important to consider guidelines for safe operation (meaning the instrument as well as the operators). In addition to the guidelines given here, the user should use **common sense** precautions to prevent damages to personnel and equipment.

The described hardware is intended for **outdoor use** only and should **never** be operated inside buildings unattended.



The instrument emits 15 Watts (over up to 100 MHz bandwidth) of microwave power during measurement operation that may interfere with other high frequency equipment close to the instrument. When operated outside of buildings, this possible interference is considered to be negligible, except for other microwave instruments (e.g. cloud radars and radiometers) running in the same frequency band.

**The outdoor operation of the instrument requires a permission of the national bureau responsible for the regulation of electromagnetic emission in the country where the instrument is deployed. The end user of the instrument is responsible for the acquisition of all required permissions related to electromagnetic emission at the place of deployment. The instrument must not be operated before all these permissions are in place.**



The instrument may be operated with a powerful position scanner. **Before turning the instrument on, it is required to install a protection fence around it (radius 1.5 m)** to prevent possible injuries caused by rotation of the instrument.

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**When using position scanners:** For safety reasons, install a fence around the radar for warning people to enter the danger zone (a circle of 1.5 m radius around the centre of the radar).



This instrument is not intended to be used or installed by children or persons with physical or mental disabilities or who lack experience or have not been supervised by personal responsible for their safety.



Before powering the instrument, make sure that all power cables and inter-connecting cables to accessory hardware (for instance weather station, GPS clock, position scanner, and blower control) are **completely and properly** installed, according to the instructions described in the following paragraphs.

### ***Installation Related Technical Data***

The instrument should be handled with the same care as other electronic equipment. The radar should be protected from fire, over voltages (caused by lightning or malfunctions in electric power networks), falling/flying objects (debris during hurricanes, typhoons, and tornados), physical forces, shock and vibration at levels, which would be harmful to computer hardware or other sensitive electronic equipment.

The instrument is classified to **protection class IP44**.

The safe environmental parameters for **transport and storage** are:

Parameter	Range
Temperature	-40 °C to +50 °C
Humidity	1% to 100% relative humidity
Pressure	300 hPa to 1300 hPa (mbar)
Vibration	< 10 g acceleration
Shock	< 20 g acceleration

The safe environmental parameters for **operation** are:

Parameter	Range
Temperature	-30 °C to +40 °C
Humidity	1% to 100% relative humidity
Pressure	300 hPa to 1300 hPa (mbar)
Vibration	< 1 g acceleration
Shock	< 10 g acceleration

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**Power line requirements:**

Parameter	Range
Voltage	230 V AC, 50 to 60 Hz
Power consumption Instrument and blower are one phase 1 Position Scanner is on phase 3	Instrument: average 800 W, peak 1100 W Blower: 850 W maximum Position Scanner: 800 W max.



- Before turning on the main power switch, the radar **MUST** be separately connected to ground by a short PE cable (earth anchor)!
- Connect the power cables only to a shock- and water-proof socket that has been installed according to regulations. The power plugs must be kept dry under all conditions.
- The radar and its optional scanner are powered by two independent phases, which must be connected to separately fused power lines (16 Amp each).
- For lightning protection, the use of **surge breakers** is strongly recommended. **Any damage to the instrument or its accessory hardware caused by lightning is not covered by RPG warranty!**
- Do not pull the power cables over sharp edges. Cables must be protected from heat and oil.
- Do not pull the power plugs by the cable or touch them with wet hands.
- Unplug the equipment immediately from power supply if the instrument or power cable / plugs appear to be damaged.
- Turn off the instrument (ON/OFF switch) when GPS-clock, weather station, blower or scanner need to be disconnected from or connected to the instrument.

When installing the radar, **make sure the power connectors are plugged into power sockets with proper grounding pins (PE = protection earth)**. Otherwise, the radar parts are electrically floating and the instrument may get more easily hit by lightning strokes.



**If the PE pins of the power sockets are not properly connected to protection earth, the user may be exposed to electrical shock when touching the instrument.**

The radar is equipped with a strong blower unit. **The air inlets and outlets of the blower unit must never be blocked by obstacles or tape.**

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Any malfunctions and failures arising from operating the radar and its accessories (including cables and controlling host PC) outside of the specified environmental conditions, are not covered by the instrument warranty. Damages (and consequential damages) from either violating the instruments physical and electrical integrity, or arising from third parties (including animals, e.g. bird attack to the microwave window) are not covered by the instrument's warranty.

### Instrument weight and dimensions:

Parameter	Range
Weight	Radar: approx. 160 kg Blower: approx. 109 kg
Dimensions	Radar + Blower: 160x115x105cm <sup>3</sup>



For transportation and installation purposes, the radar can be unmounted from the blower and scanner units.

Because of the instrument weight of approx. 160 kg, it must be lifted by at least **four** people (adult persons with no physical or mental disabilities) when unpacking or lifting it on the blower / scanner unit. The instrument is delivered with four removable handles and each handle should be used by one person.

### Safety Instructions for Handling Liquid Nitrogen

For performing absolute instrument calibrations, it is required to handle liquid nitrogen (LN2). The boiling temperature of this liquid is about -196°C at 1000 mbar barometric pressure. Therefore, in order to prevent serious injuries when touching LN2 with naked skin the following precautions must be followed:



All persons handling LN2

- shall be trained in the handling of LN2
- shall wear suitable protective gloves
- shall wear protective glasses / goggles
- shall wear a protective apron
- shall follow the general safety guidelines for handling cryogenic liquids

Failures to comply with these safety measures may result in freezing injuries from the cold LN2 temperature.

The following list of safety instructions must be followed when using the radar calibration target delivered with the instrument:

- The target maximum upper LN2 filling is 6 cm below the container's maximum level (only fill the container to a level that the inner absorber sheet is just covered with LN2). If the target is filled to its maximum level, there is a significant risk of LN2 spill out of the target during target transportation.

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- After target filling, mount the top target lid and fasten it with the four rubber locks. Without the target lid, there is a risk of LN2 spill out of the target during transportation.
- The maximum target filling count is limited to 30 fillings total. Replace the target if this number is exceeded. Otherwise, there is a risk of LN2 leakage.
- Store the target in a dry and dark place (no UV or direct sun light!). Otherwise, the target foam material can develop cracks which may cause an LN2 leakage even before the maximum number of fillings (30) is reached.

### **Precautions during Scanner Operation**

In addition to the normal common-sense precautions when handling electric equipment and heavy equipment, the user needs to avoid injuries from moving parts.



If the instrument is equipped with the optional position scanner (azimuth range = 0° to 360°, elevation range 0 -180°) all persons should stay away from the radar by at least one meter. This safety distance should be ensured by the installation of a warning fence as described above.



When servicing the instrument (for instance during maintenance activities), electric power should be turned off or attention must be paid for staying outside of the movement range of the scanner. Otherwise, injuries may occur from clamping or squeezing. The scanner's mechanical power is high enough for breaking bones (torque of 350 Nm on each axis).

### **Microwave Emission Safety Instructions**



During measurements the radar continuously emits about  $P = 15$  Watts of microwave power at 35 GHz. The measured antenna gain  $G$  is 48 dB with sidelobes lower than -20 dB at 1° off-axis.

Most countries have determined a human exposure safety electrical field strength limit  $E_{lim}$ . For instance, the CE level for  $E_{lim}$  is 61 V/m, but in other countries outside of the European Union different safety limits may be in place. For the following computation of safety distances  $d_s$  the user should apply the  $E_{lim}$  value valid in the country where the instrument is deployed. The on-axis safety distance is given by:

$$d_s = \frac{\sqrt{GPZ_0/(4\pi)}}{E_{lim}}$$

where  $Z_0 = 377 \Omega$  is the vacuum space impedance. **With the numbers given above, the on axis safety distance is about 90 meters.** In off-axis direction of  $\pm 1^\circ$  the safety distance drops down to 9 m (side lobe).

When observing in zenith direction only, a safety fence as described above is sufficient to protect personal from electric field exposures exceeding  $E_{lim}$ .

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**When the radar is used in scanning mode, the user must ensure that the antenna beam does not hit persons within a range of 90 m! This requirement can be easily fulfilled by a deployment on high buildings or platforms.**

## ***Spare Parts***



If any hardware of the instrument or its accessories, as well as inter-connecting cables or power cables need to be replaced due to damage or general maintenance intervals, **only original spare parts provided by RPG must be used**. No reliability is taken for any direct damages to the instrument and its accessories or indirect damages to the instrument's environment caused by using hardware not fabricated or delivered originally by RPG.

## ***Further Information***

If further technical support is required, please contact:

**Radiometer Physics GmbH  
Werner-von-Siemens-Str.4  
53340 Meckenheim**

**Tel: 0049-2225-99981-0**

**e-mail: [remotesensing-service@radiometer-physics.de](mailto:remotesensing-service@radiometer-physics.de)**



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## 2 Instrument Installation

The RPG-FMCW-35 radars are delivered with a complete set of accessories to operate the radar in an outdoor environment and to perform regular instrument calibrations. This includes (in addition to the radar itself) a radar stand with rain mitigation system, a set of power and data cables, a signal converter, an external calibration target and target frame, a weather station plus GPS receiver, a complete software package for the radar PC (R-PC), optional external host PC (H-PC) and several tools to assemble the system.

As optional hardware, an elevation / azimuth scanner can be added that replaces the radar stand (which is only configured for zenith observations).

### 2.1 Setup of Zenith Observation System

The installation starts with the setup of the radar's stand. Unload the stand from the flight case.



***Zenith observation radar table.***

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The next step is unloading the radar from the flight case. Prepare a couple of wooden or metal bars (100mm x 100mm x 500 mm, not included in the shipment) to put the radar body on. This is required not to damage the cooling system of the radar PC.



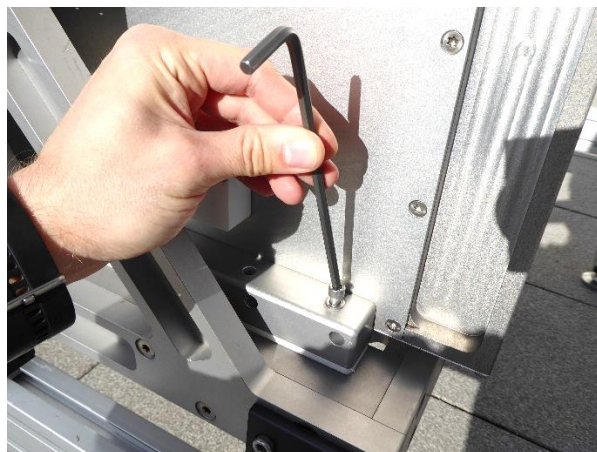
**Do not put the radar vertically directly on a surface without the bars. Otherwise, the metal housing of the fans at the bottom of the radar body may block the fan blades. This, in turn, may lead to the overheating of the radar PC during the operation.**

Make sure that no cables are connected to the radar body.  
Unscrew 32 M6 holding the air guides and remove the guides.



***Unmounting the air guides. Only use the T20x100 screwdriver (left) with the green handle and an Allen key (right)!***

Remove 8 M6 x 45 screws holding the radar body on the blower.



***Use Allen key to release the radar body.***

Mount four handles (placed in the accessories flight case) to the four M10 threads on the radar body. Put the radar on the prepared wooden/metal bars. The bars may be put on the ground/floor or on a table as shown in the figure below. The radar body's weight is about 160 kg so four people are required for carrying.

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***Handles. The radar body settled on two metal bars.***

Unmount the four handles from the radar body and mount them to the blower.



***Threads for the handle mounting.***

At least two people should carry the blower to the stand. Another person should fix the blower to the blower on the stand using 8 M6 screws (4 on each side). Please position the mounting angles and the blower as shown on the figure below.

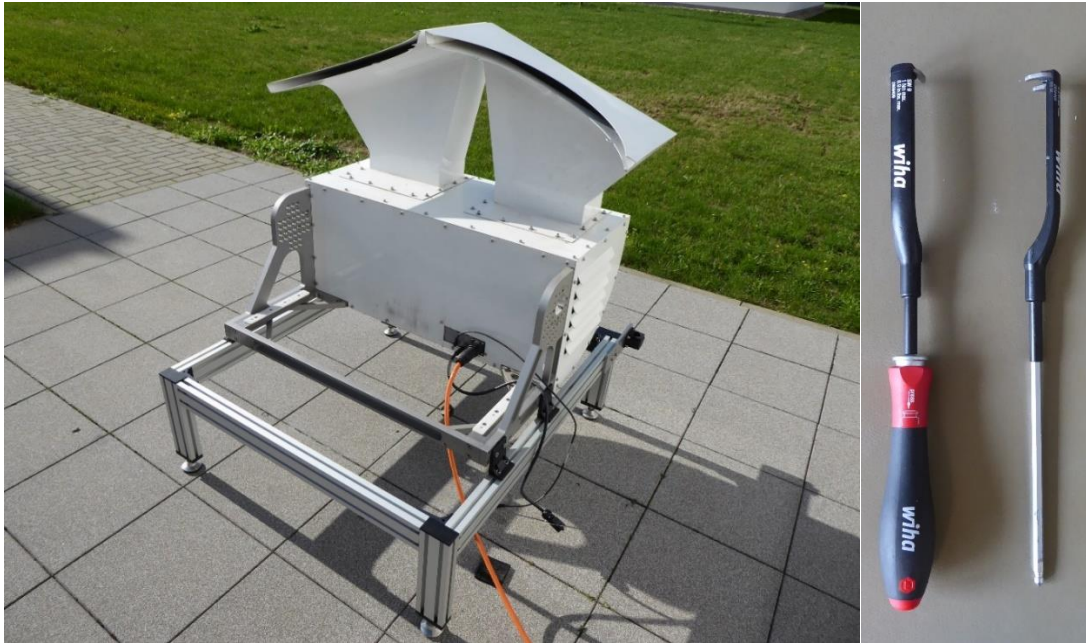


***Mounting of the blower to the stand.***

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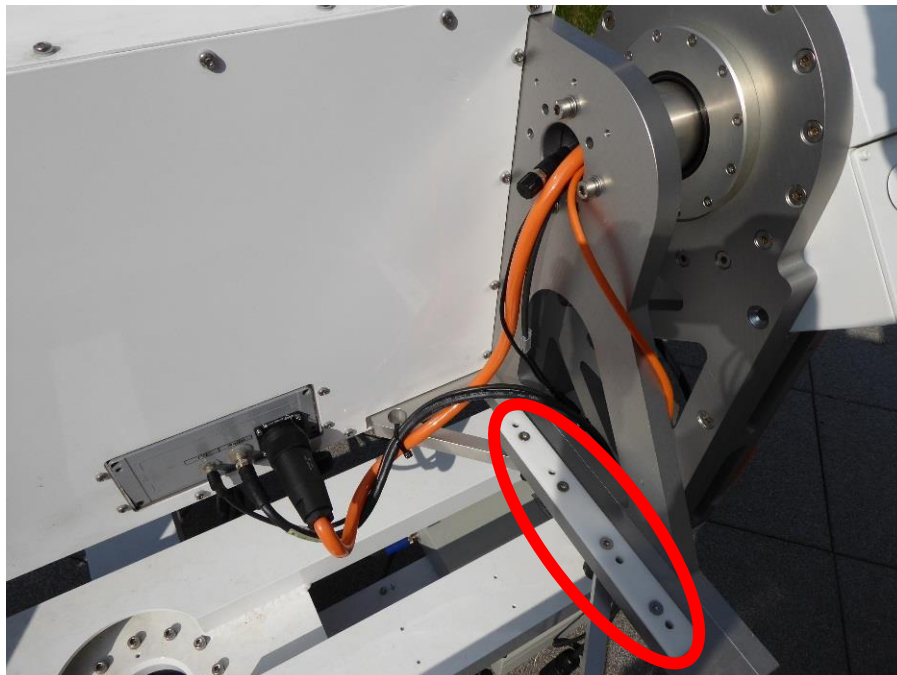
Mount the air guides to the blower. Position them on the blower and fix them with the 32 M6 screws. **Please do not pull the screws tight at this step.**

Connect 3 cables to the blower: "Mains" (main power cable), "TTL" (blower control), and "Radar" (radar power). Please, use the special tool from the toolbox to properly tighten the "TTL" and "Radar" connectors.



**Left: The blower with air guides and connected cables. Right: Tool to tighten the connectors.**

Make sure that no cables are lying on the radar mounting surfaces.



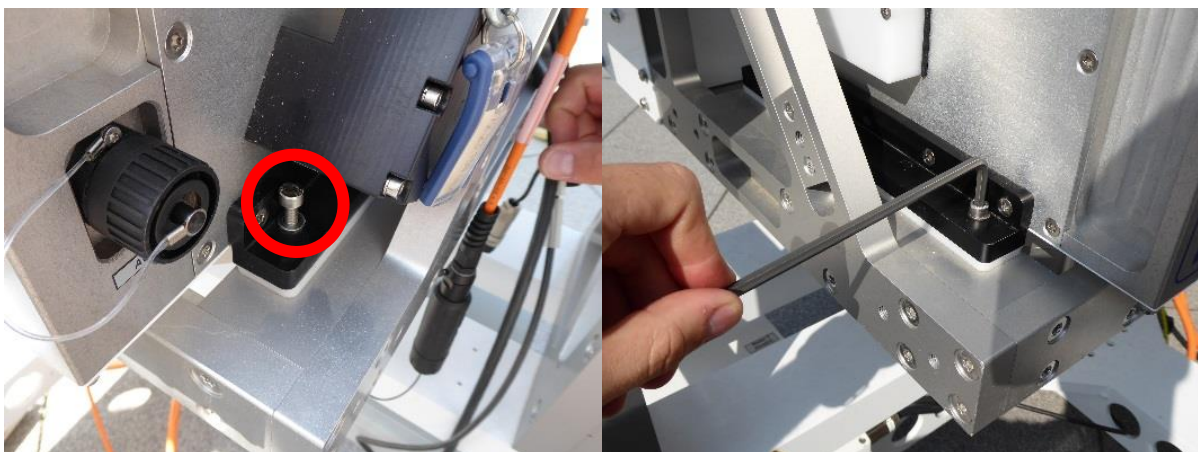
**No cables must be on the radar mounting surfaces.**

Mount the four handles to the radar body. Install the radar on the stand. Please note that the radar body weight is about 160 kg. Four people are required for carrying.



*The radar body installed on the stand.*

Once the radar body is put on the stand, make sure that all cables can reach their corresponding plugs on the radar body. **Please do not connect cables at this step.** Fasten the radar body to the scanner with 8 M6x45 screws (four on each side).



*Use Allen key to fasten the screws.*

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Then fasten the air guides to the blower (16 M6x12 screws for each guide).



**Use Allen key to fasten the air guides.**

Mount the pole and the GPS clock to the stand.



**Mounting the GPS clock and the pole to the stand.**

Connect the cable to the the Vaisala meteorological weather station (MWS) and mount the station on the pole. Before clamping the station on the pole orient the ‚North‘ mark towards the North direction.

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### Mounting the Vaisala meteorological weather station.

Connect the fibre data cable to the radar body.



### Connecting the fiber optics data cable.

**Make sure that the plug slides smoothly into the socket and finally turn the outer cylinder of the plug clockwise (by applying some force!) to seal the connector from water. Without sealing the connector, the connection will not be water-proof!**

Connect the "TTL", "GPS", and "MWS" cables. Use the special tool (shown in figure below) from the toolbox to tighten the "TTL" and "MWS" connectors.

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***Please do not apply strong force and do not use pliers. This may lead to damages of the connector pins.***

The stand has four adjustable feet for horizontal alignment. A metric 24 mm wrench is needed to turn the adjustable feet and pipe wrench pliers to finally lock the nuts.



***Use a small spirit level for the horizontal alignment in both directions. Place a spirit level on the reference plane between the antennas.***

Connect the power cable coming from the blower to the radar body. Please do not forget to connect the caps with each other so precipitating water cannot get into them.



***Connection of the power cable to the radar body.***

Remove all handles from the radar body. Protect the handle threads by special plastic screws.



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***Plastic screw for protection of handle threads in the radar body.***

Turn the key on the radar body clockwise to the “on” position in order to switch on the radar.



***Switching on the radar.***

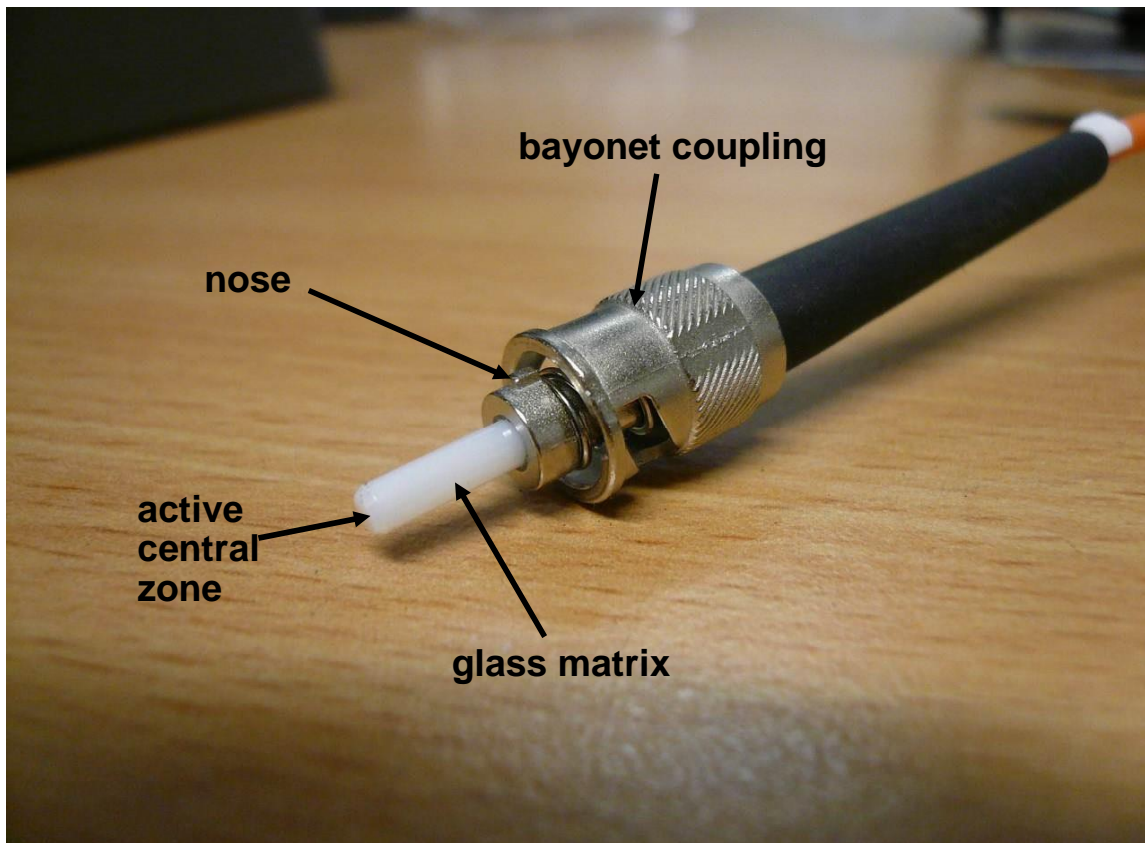
Once the radar is on. The blower shall work on full until the radar PC boots up. Depending on the setting in the software, the blower can continue to work on switch off. Both situations are normal.

Connect the other end of the fiber cable to a MOXA Fiber-to-LAN-TCP/IP converter as indicated below. Each of the two line-ends has a nose, which fits into the fiber socket. After the connector is sliding into the socket (nose guided by the slit), the bayonet coupling has to be pushed against a spring inside the coupling and then turned clockwise.

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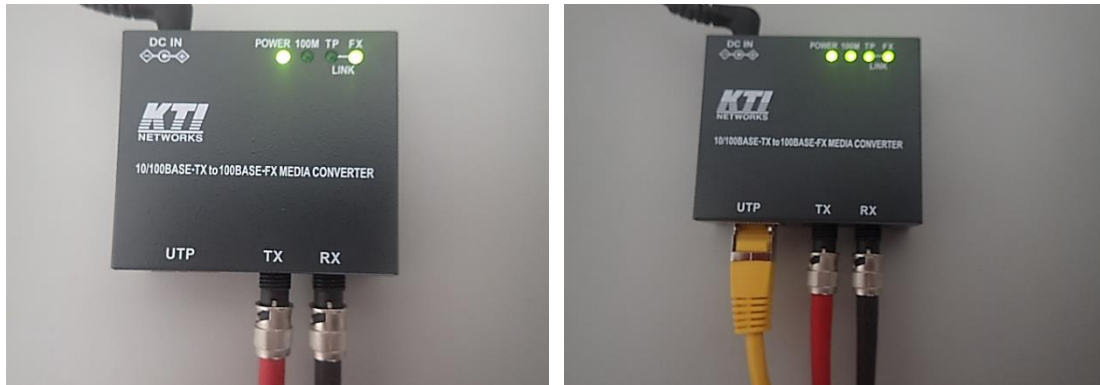
***MOXA Fiber-to-LAN-TCP/IP converter.***



***Details of the glass fiber connector.***

The converter has an external power cable. When the power cable and the two fiber lines are connected, the power LED and FX LED are turned on. Make sure that the TX fiber line (orange) gets connected to the TX converter output and the RX fiber line (blue) to the RX converter input. Via LAN-TCP/IP connection the converter can be connected either directly to the Host PC or to a network. If the LAN cable is connected, the power and FX LEDs are on and the 100M and TP LEDs are flashing. Connect the Ethernet cable of the converter to a host PC (with pre-installed radar software) and follow the procedure in chapter 3 in order to establish a data connection to the radar.

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***2-line fiber optics to LAN-TCP/IP converter.***

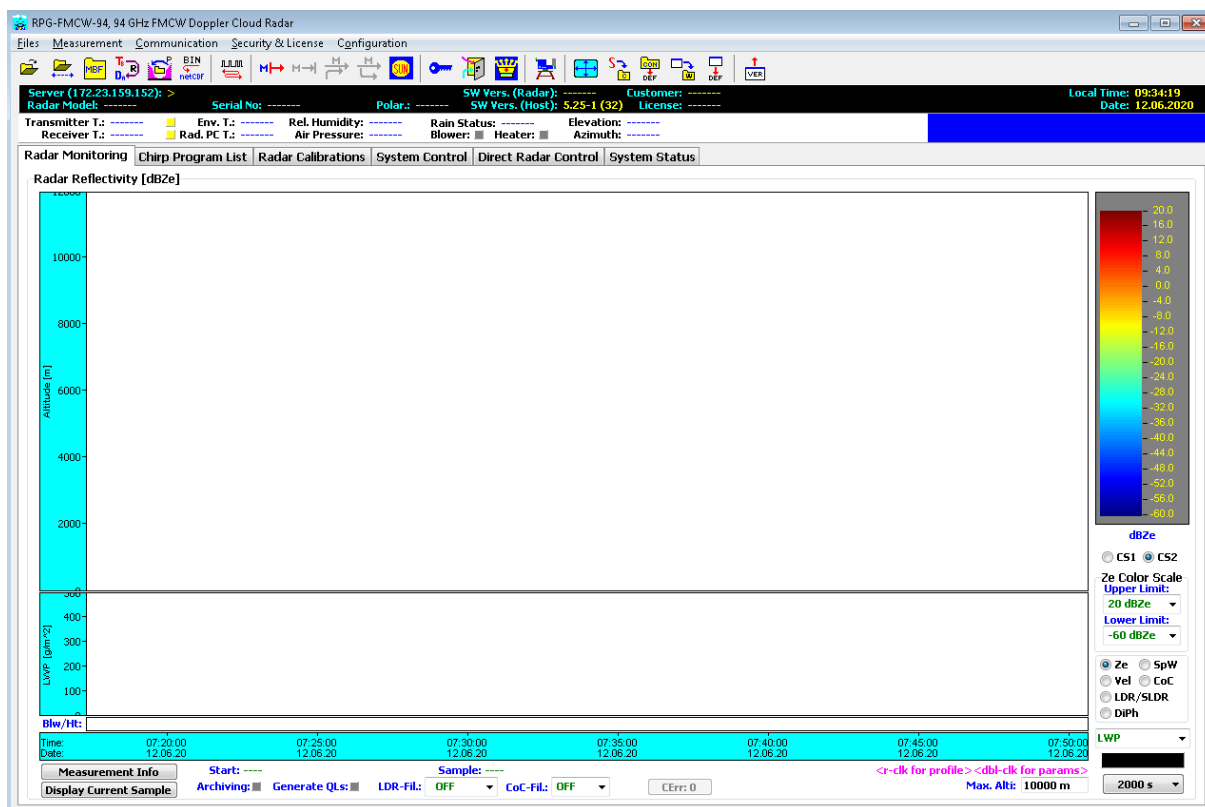
This finishes the hardware installation procedure.

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### 3 Running Measurements: Quickstart

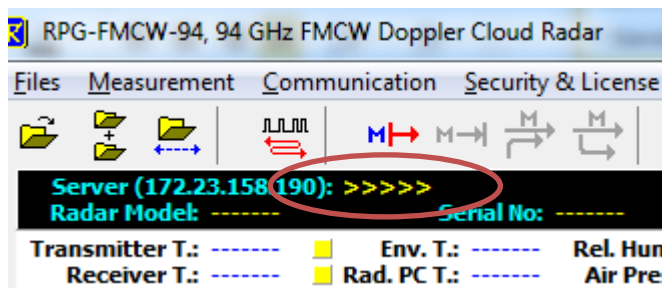


Start the host PC application with  from the desktop.



The screen is showing the **Radar Monitoring** tab. On top of the tab, environmental parameters (surface sensor data), position and blower status are displayed. The black panel summarizes the radar ID information, as model number, polarisation, customer code, software version and license status.

As soon as the H-PC application starts, it is looking for an Ethernet connection to a radar, assuming the H-PC is connected to a network, router or switch. When a connection cannot be established, the TCP-IP command entry in the black top panel is filled with search indicators:



The Host assumes a radar (Server) with a certain IP connected to the network or directly connected (peer-to-peer connection). This IP is defined on the **System Control** tab in the **TCP / IP** box:

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**TCP/IP Settings**

**Client (This PC (Host))**

Host IP: 172.23.159.175 (stat.)

**Server (Radar PC)**

Server IP:     :

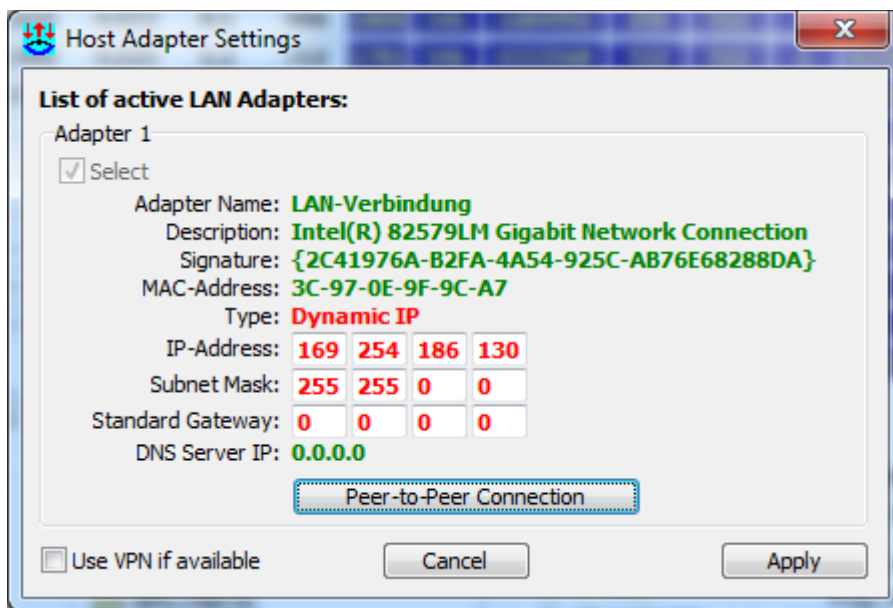
DNS Name:

DNS Status: [ ]

Use DNS

When a new radar is shipped, its IP setting is 192.168.0.1:7777 (default), subnet mask 255.255.255.0. This IP must be entered to the fields right of the label **Server IP:**. Because the radar's subnet mask is 255.255.255.0, the host IP should be in the same subnet, e.g. 192.168.0.x (x can be any number except for 0 and 1).

The H-PC IP settings may be changed from within the radar application when clicking **Change Host PC Settings** (you must run the host software with Administrator rights for this command):



If the IP address you enter here is available within the network the host is connected to, the **Apply** command will automatically change the host IP accordingly. An alternative, of course, is the standard procedure using the Windows IP setting menu.

Once connected to the radar, its IP setting can be modified remotely with **Change radar settings**.

### 3.1 Data Storage

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**Data Storage**

**Host PC Data Directory**

- C:\
- RPG-Software
- RPG - FMCW
- DATA
- DELFT1
- Y2020

c: []

**File Archiving**

Enable

**Archiving Delay**

no delay     midnight  
 2 days

**Lowest Directory Level**

Day     Month

**Start Archiving Now**

**Quicklooks**


During measurements the recorded radar data is automatically stored in binary format to the directory selected in the **Host PC Data Directory** box.

If other formats are required, they may be selected in **Additional File Formats**. These other formats are stored to the same data directory as the binary files.

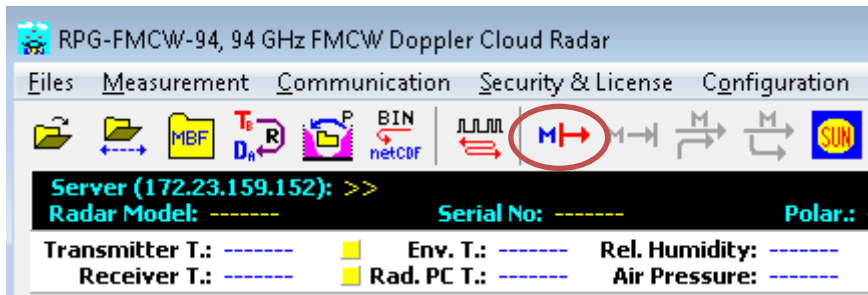
Data archiving is a useful feature to prevent the data directory from being filled with ten thousands of files, which may overload the operating system. MS operating systems cannot handle many (in the order of ten thousands) files in a single directory. If **Enable** is checked, the program automatically creates sub-directories in the data directory and stores the data files according to the year, month and day they are created. For example, a file **200302\_000001\_P07\_ZEN.LV0** would be stored in a directory **... \Y2020M03\D02\** if **Lowest Directory Level Day** is checked or in **... \Y2020M03\** if **Month** is checked. Archiving, if enabled, is performed for data files immediately (**no delay** option), after midnight (**midnight** option) or after 2 days (**2 days** option), depending on the radio button selection in the **Archive Delay** section. If the user wants to immediately archive data files, the **Start Archiving Now** button should be clicked.

### 3.2 Starting Measurements

Before a measurement can be started on the radar PC, a measurement definition file (MDF) needs to be created first, containing all details of the measurement setup. This file is then sent to the radar for execution. Refer to the Operation and Software Manual for detailed information of how to create MDFs.

When a host successfully connects to the radar and the radar is in STANDBY mode, the radar is ready to start a measurement. This status is indicated by the enabled  button in the application's shortcut panel:

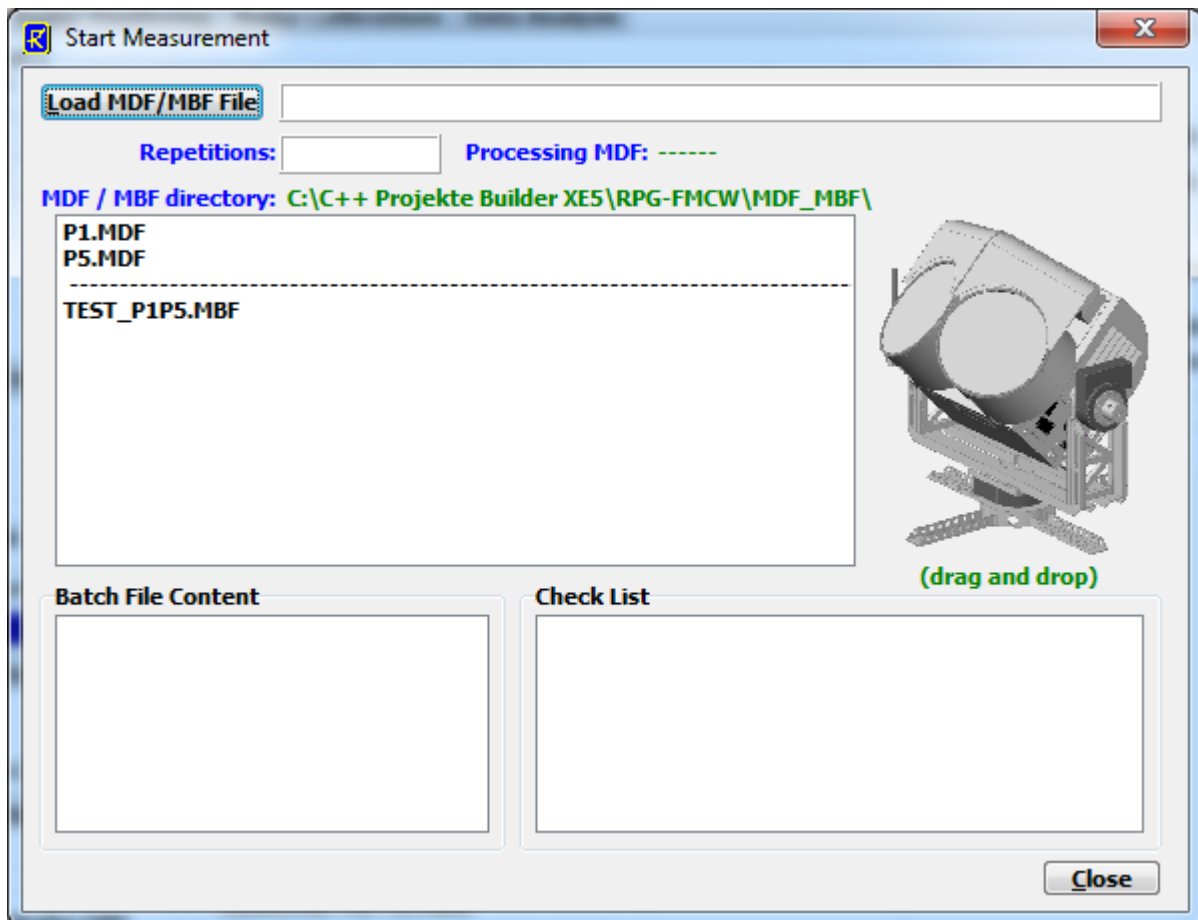
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When an MDF or MBF is loaded (**Load MDF/MBF File**), its contents and repetition factor are displayed. In addition some pre-checks are performed, e.g. radar configuration, MDF version number, availability of chirp program number, etc. A variety of other checks ensure that no erroneous command data is sent.

When the consistency check of a MDF is finished, the test result is displayed in the **Check List**. The batch can only be sent to the radiometer if all consistency checks have finished with the status OK. Then the MBF is transmitted automatically.

The H-PC 'remembers' the directory where MDFs and MBFs are stored from a previous **Load MDF/MBF File** command. This directory is listed in green. In the MDF / MBF list, MDFs are separated from MBFs by a dashed line. Dragging a file from the list and dropping it on the radar image on the right (or simply double clicking the file) is starting the measurement, if the consistency checks have been passed successfully. In this case the measurement launcher is closed automatically.








**Measurement Launcher.**

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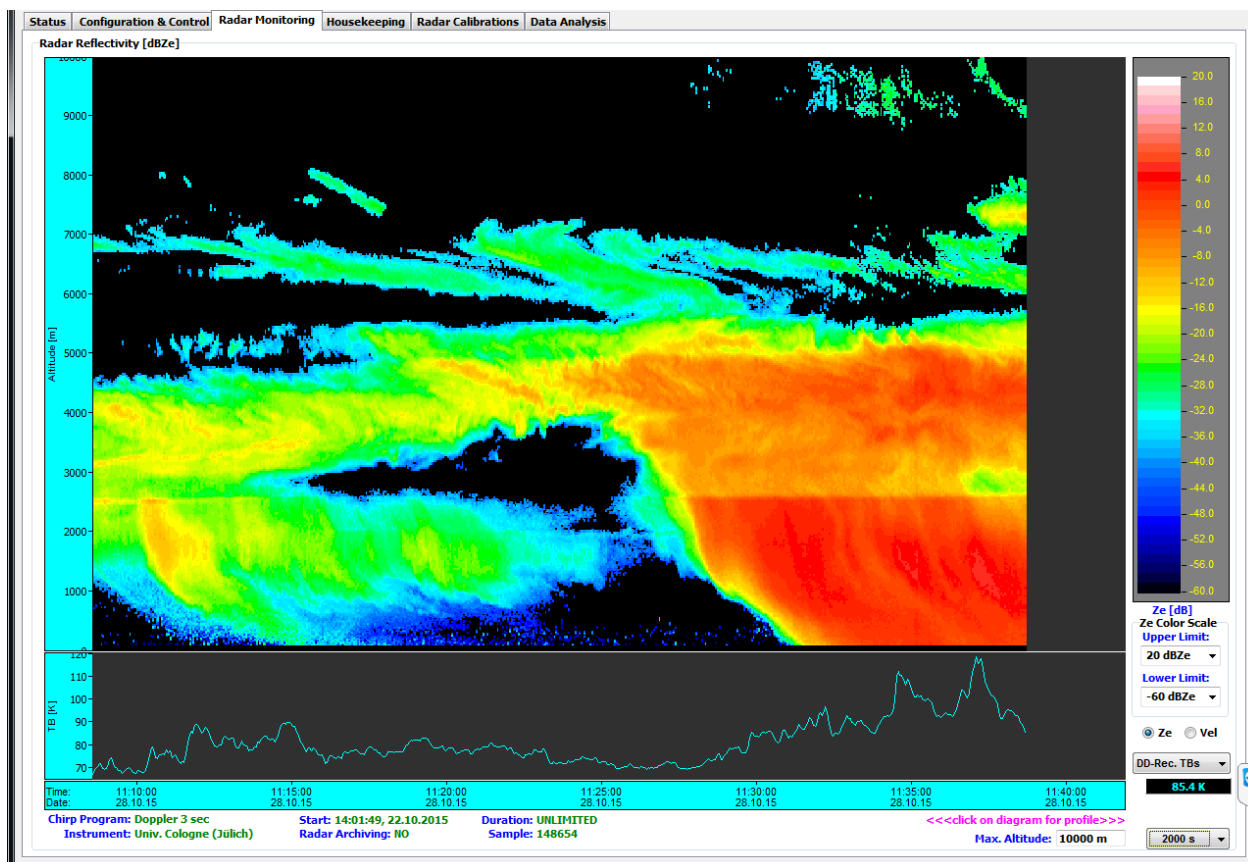
Once a measurement has been launched, the control buttons in the shortcut panel change in the following way:



The  button is used to terminate the running measurement on both, the radar and the host, while the  button enables the host to drop off the measurement and leave the radar alone to continue. In both cases, all monitored data samples are stored and the associated files are closed.

If the radar is running a measurement and the host connects to it, the H-PC realizes the active status and enables the  button for the host to jump on the measurement and start monitoring it. The  and  buttons do not affect the radar activities during a measurement, but act as host monitoring toggle switches.

The radar profiles are displayed in the register page **Radar Monitoring** which acts as a real time display. In the main graphics area a color coded time series of reflectivity, mean velocity, spectral width, and polarimetric variables are shown. Radio buttons **Ze**, **Vel**, **SpW**, **CoC**, **LDR/SLDR**, **DiPh** switch between the alternatives. The color coding limits are user adjustable.



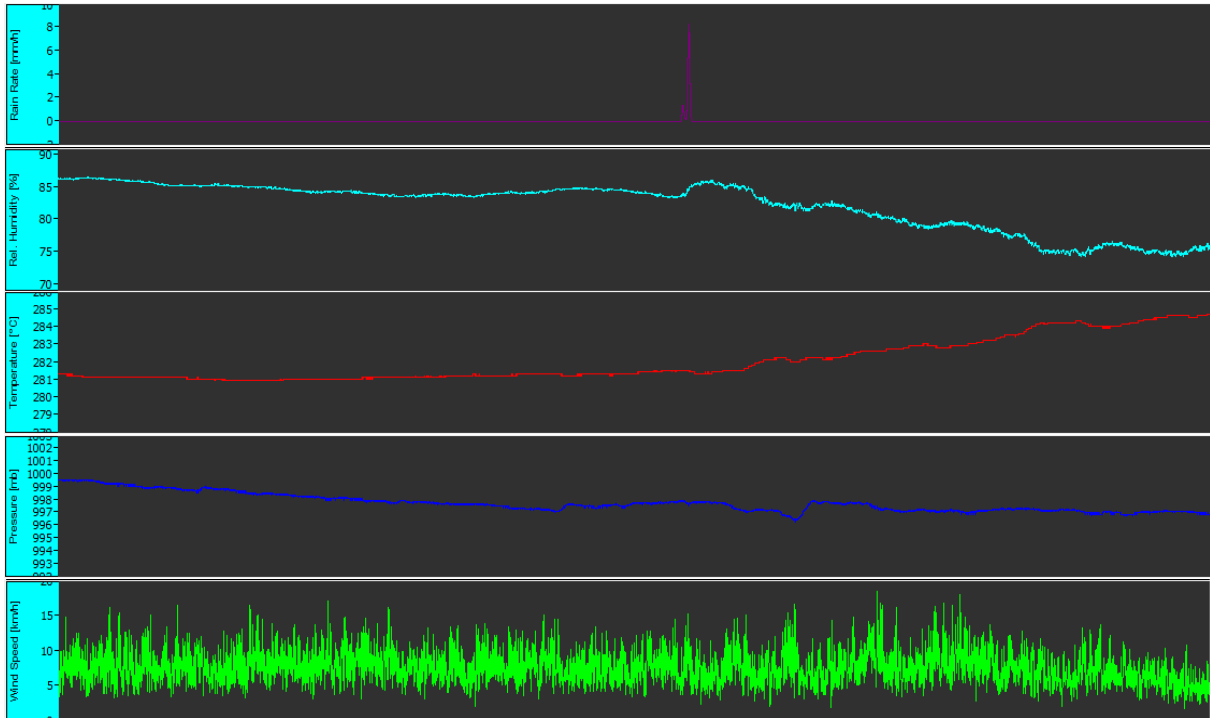
**Radar Monitoring register page.**

Underneath the main display area a switchable time series of different useful parameters is plotted. The parameter is selected from a combo box on the right side of the time series.

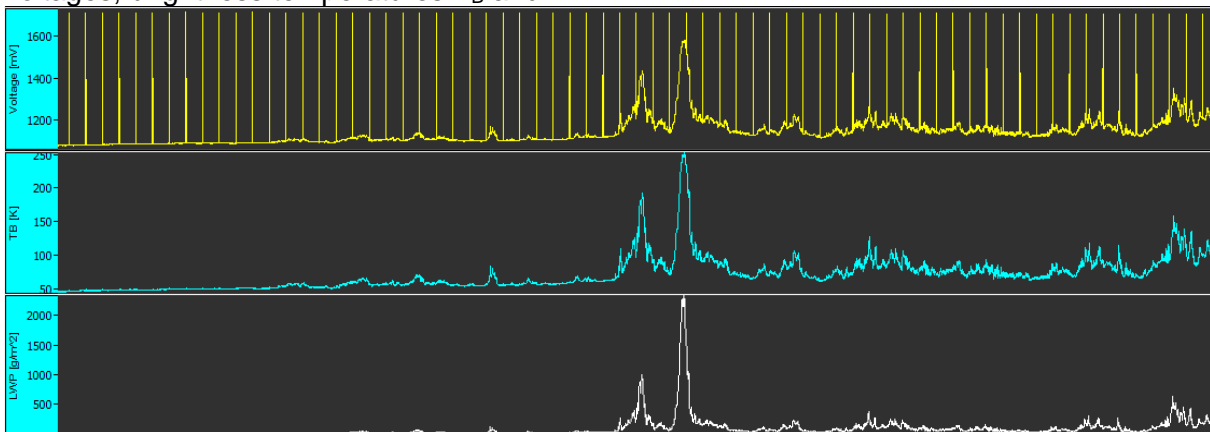


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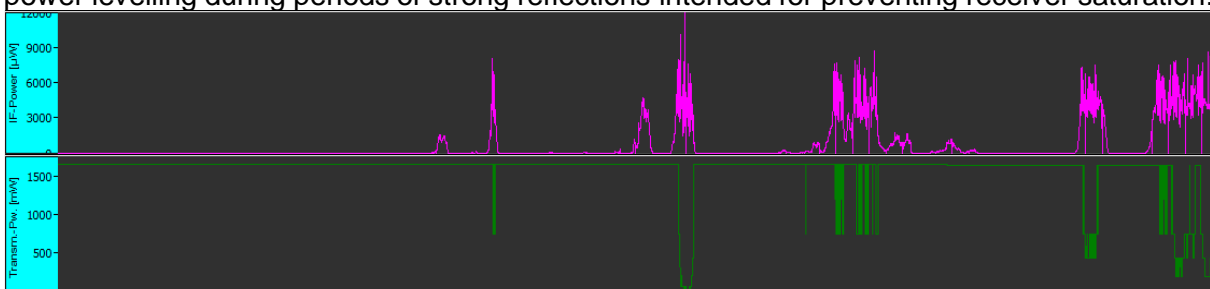
The radar is equipped with a weather station, providing information about environmental temperature, rel. humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed / direction and rain / snow rate:



Another time series group is related to the direct detection passive channel at 89 GHz, which is intended for deriving LWP. Implemented are the DDR (Direct Detection Receiver) detector voltages, brightness temperatures  $T_B$  and LWP:

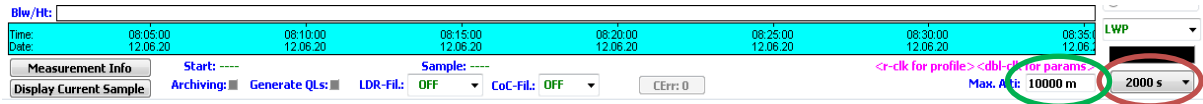


Additionally, information about the IF power level at the ADC board input (end of IF chain) as well as the transmitter power level are presented. The later one demonstrates the automatic power levelling during periods of strong reflections intended for preventing receiver saturation:



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The time series time span is set in another combo box (red ellipse in the figure below) at the bottom line of the screen. Also, the maximum vertically displayed altitude in the main screen area can be modified (green ellipse in the figure below). The measurement start and duration and radar PC archiving status are shown in the lower left corner of the window. Additional information e.g. about the chirp program in use can be accessed by clicking the Measurement Info button.



### 3.3 Connecting Radar to RPG-Radiometers

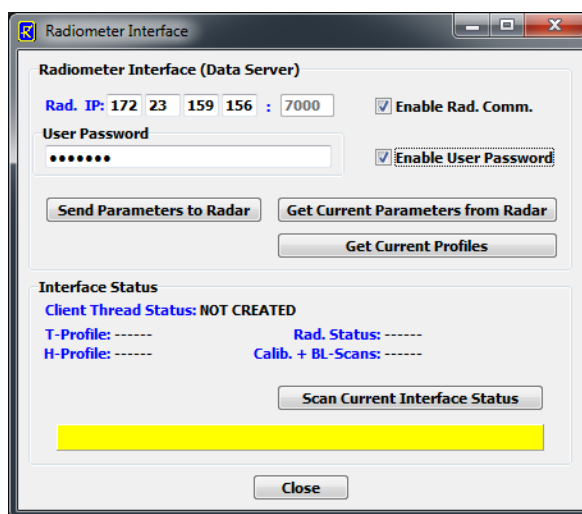
RPG radars provide a passive channel close to the radar observation frequency in order to derive useful parameters as LWP (Integrated Liquid Water Path). Other data of interest in combination with cloud radar data are thermodynamic profiles (temperature and humidity profiles). Such products can be provided by passive RPG microwave instruments like the RPG-HATPRO and do not require a well matched beam of radar and passive microwave sensor.

The two instruments can be operated independently but connected to the same network. The passive radiometers provide a data server interface (RDS = Radiometer Data Server) for downloading the currently measured profiles online by external software. The radar software provides the data interface to locate a radiometer within the network and automatically downloads the newest temperature and humidity profiles when the connected radiometer is a profiler and currently running a measurement. If the radar does not detect a radiometer, it creates standard atmosphere profiles tuned by the met station's surface parameters.

The thermodynamic profiles are stored to both, level 0 and level 1 data files, together with the radar samples data.

In order to establish a connection between the radar and a passive radiometer like the RPG-HATPRO, interface parameters need to be defined. This is accomplished by starting the

**Radiometer Interfacing** menu (  ):



#### **Radiometer Interface menu.**

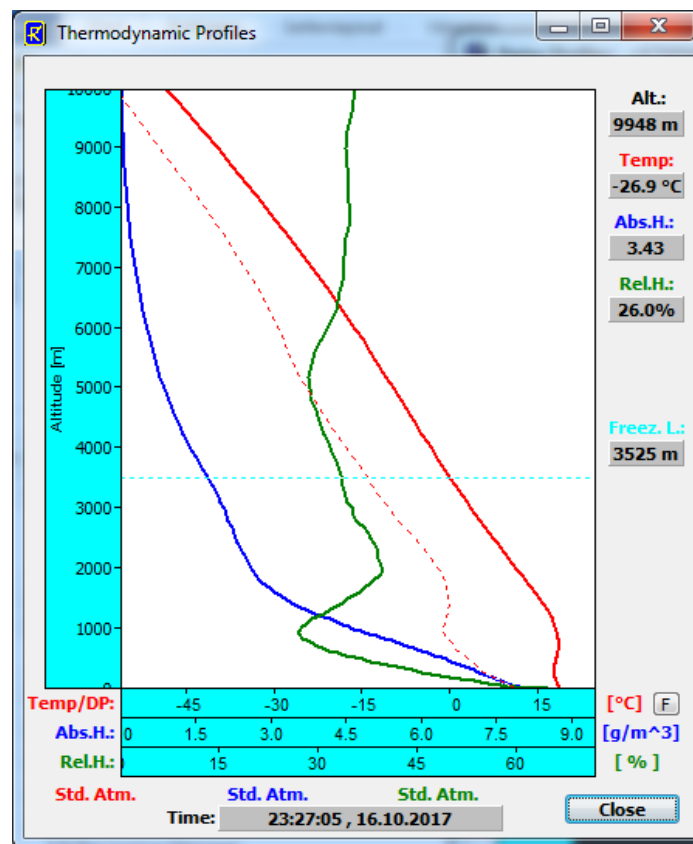
The most fundamental parameter is the RDS' IP address within the common network (the radar itself is connected to). It is important to note that only the radar PC is connecting to the RDS, but NOT the radar Host PC itself! Therefore, the thermodynamic profiles will also be stored to

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file backup data files on the radar PC and not just to archived data files on the host PC. The process even works for radars not connected to a host PC, running in stand alone mode. The RDS provides a fixed port address (7000) which cannot be changed. It also utilizes a User Password (UPW) to authorize access to radiometer data. When the radar downloads profiles from the radiometer, it needs this UPW (only if the password checking is enabled). The UPW and enabling password checking are both set on the radiometer PC and cannot be changed via the radar interface. The UPW entered to the dedicated box in the **Radiometer Interfacing** menu is NOT necessarily identical to the UPW defined for the radar Host PC → radar PC communication. If password checking is activated for the RDS, the checkbox **Enable User Password** must be checked and the valid password should be entered. The communication between the radar PC and a radiometer can be enabled / disabled (**Enable Rad. Comm.** checkbox).

The current interfacing settings can be loaded with **Get Current Parameters from Radar** and stored to the radar PC by **Send Parameters to Radar**. If a communication to the RDS is established, this is indicated by a corresponding message in the yellow message field and the latest profiles are displayed by clicking **Get Current Profiles**. In order to continuously check for the Interface status, the **Scan Current Interface Status** button is clicked. The status checking automatically stops when the menu is exited.

During measurements, the current radar reflectivity profiles and Doppler maps are displayed within the **Radar Reflectivity Profile** window which contains the checkbox **Display Thermodynamic Diagrams** which controls the display of the radiometer profiles. The same checkbox can be found in the **Reflectivity and Sensitivity Profile** window when opening existing data files from the data archive: The display looks like this:



**Thermodynamic Profiles Display.**

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The following profiles are shown:

- temperature profile (in red)
- dew point profile (in dotted red)
- absolute humidity profiles (in blue)
- relative humidity profile (in green)

The freezing layer is indicated as a light dotted blue line. The temperature axis can be switched between °C, °F and K. Profile types, as standard atmosphere (Std. Atm.) and radiometer profile (Radiom. Prof.) are shown below the diagram along with the profile sample time. When running over the profile display with the mouse, a display of cursor coordinates is given on the right side of the diagram.

The thermodynamic profiles are important information for the level 2 processor (separate software product available at RPG), which uses humidity profiles for the correction of radar signal gas absorption and temperature profiles for the classification of hydro meteors, the determination of ice particle types in certain altitudes and detection of undercooled liquid water. The freezing level should also be consistent with the melting layer height detected by the radar.

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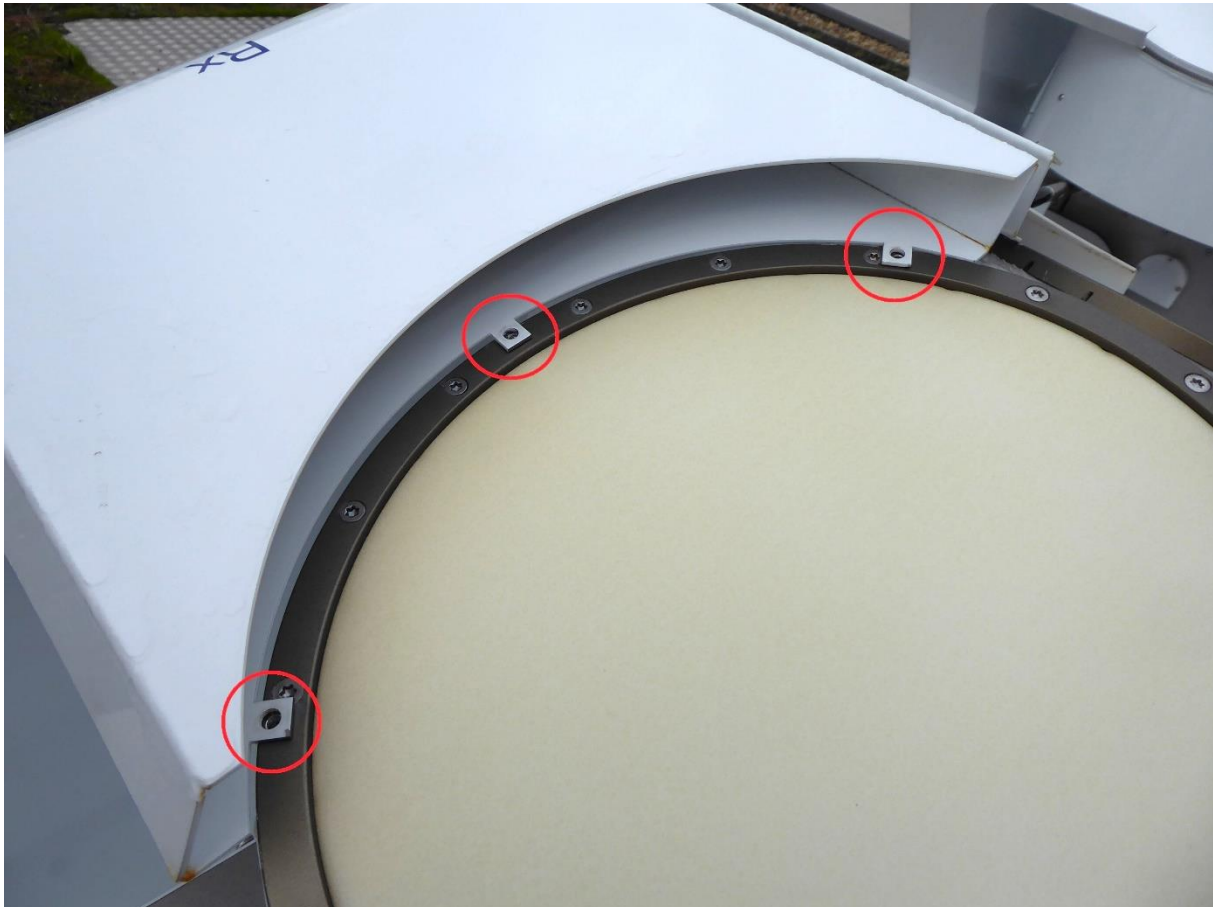
## 4 Maintenance

### 4.1 Absolute calibration with MiniCal

Please refer to RPG-MiniCAL Operation and Software Guide.

### 4.2 Changing the radome sheets

Remove 6 screws tightening the air-guides to the radome-holding cylinders, 3 on the transmitter and 3 on the receiver side. (This step is only required for older radars.)



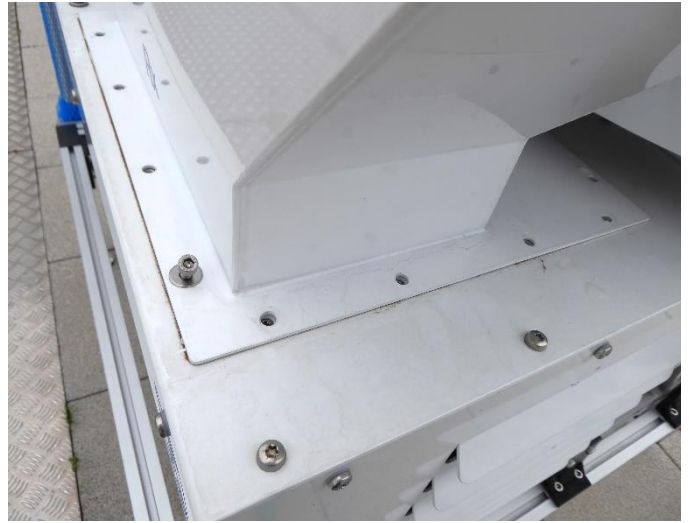
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Remove all the screws holding both air-guides.

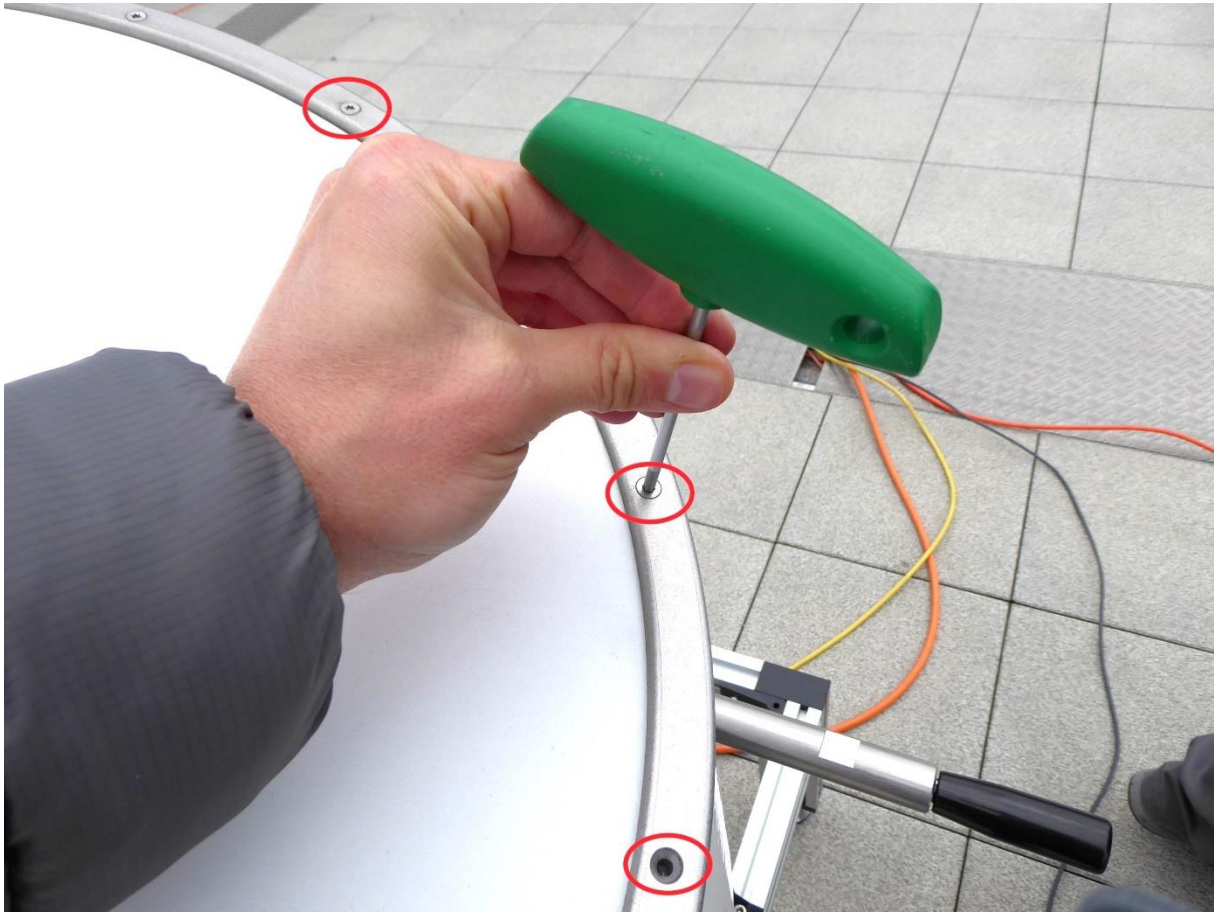


Move the both air-guides a bit to a side.



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Unscrew all 16 screws holding the radome.



Remove the metal ring and the old radome material.



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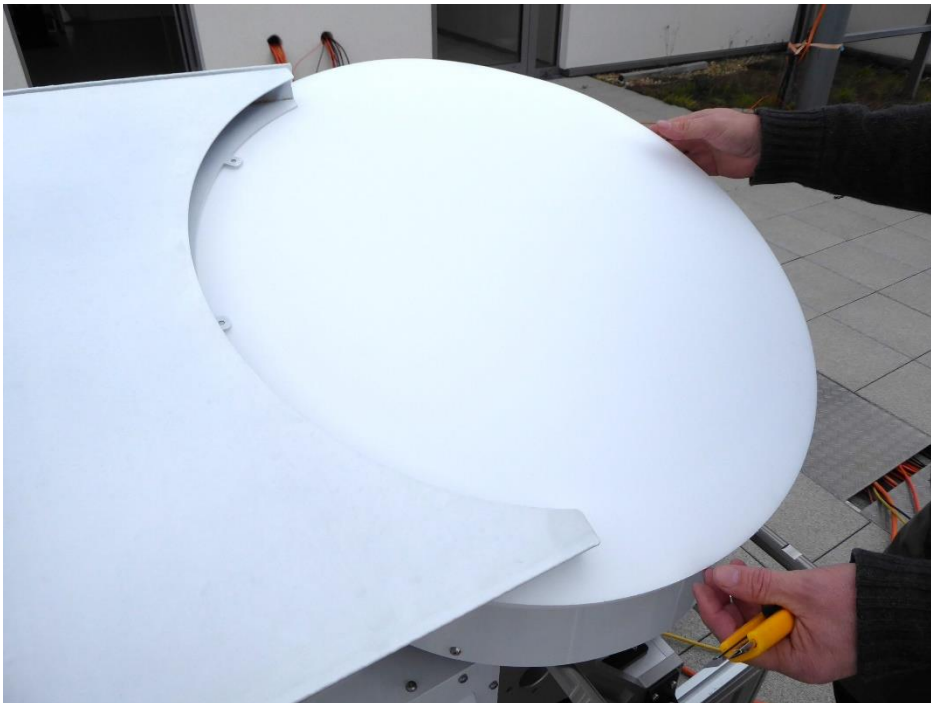


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Make sure that the secondary (internal) radome is clean.



Put a new radome sheet on the cylinder. Make sure the coated (rough) side is facing upwards.





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Put the metal ring on the radome sheet.



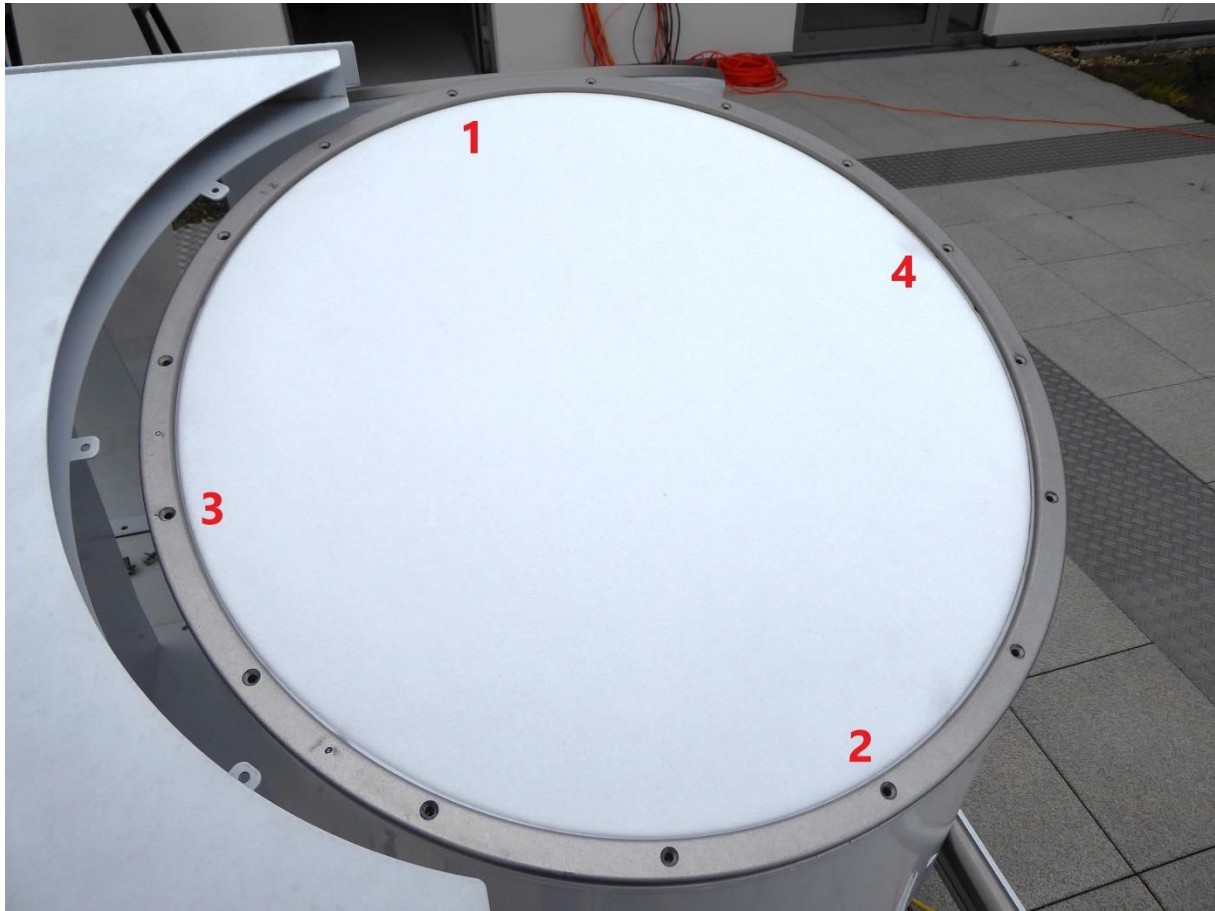
Punch the radome material with one screw through one of the ring holes and screw it down lightly.



Do the same at the opposite side of the ring. Please do not pull the material at all.

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Insert all screws and tighten them, ensuring that the first 4 screws are orthogonal to each other.



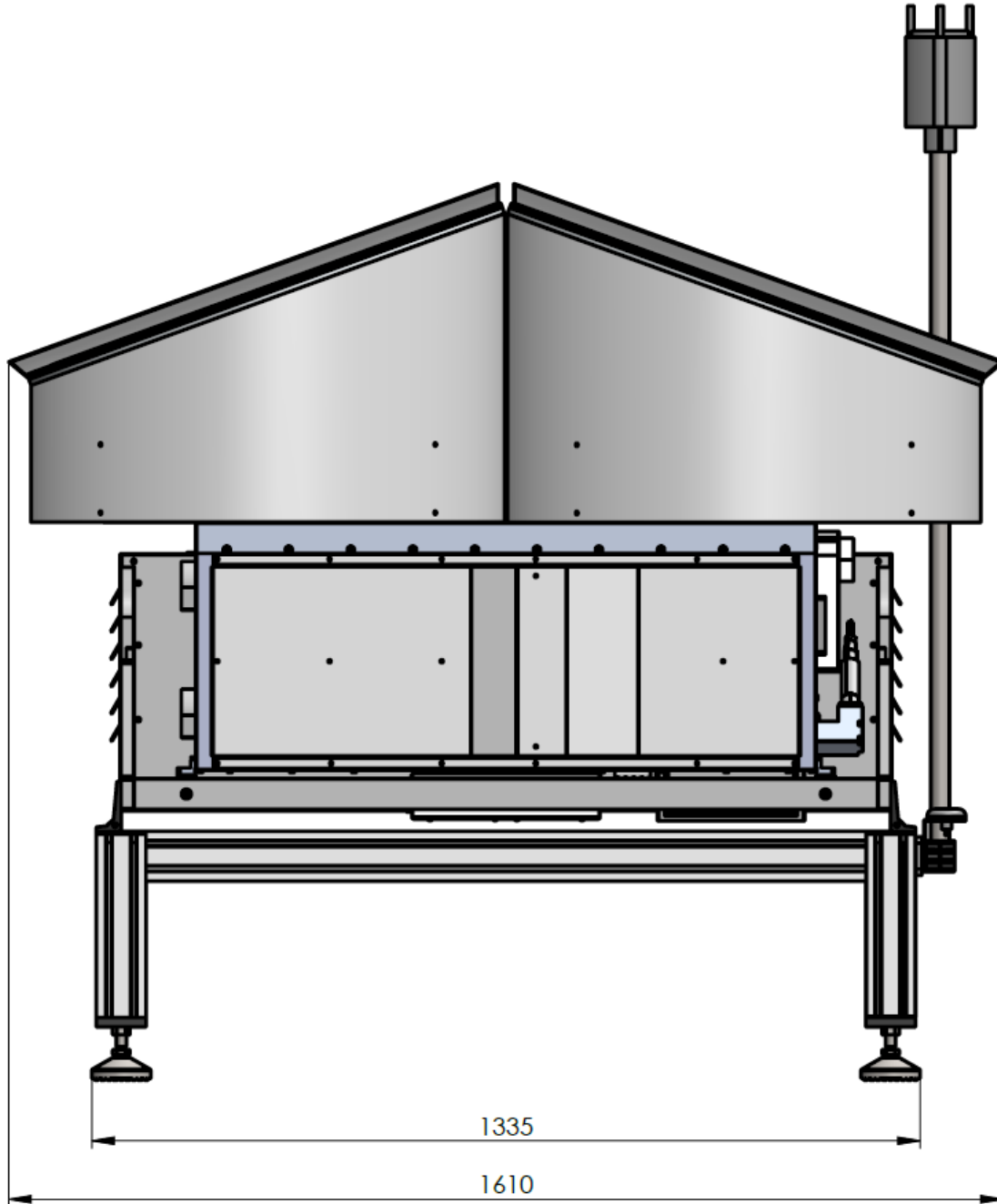
When all the screws are tightened, cut off the material outside the ring with a sharp knife.



Repeat the steps for the other antenna and reinstall the air guides.

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## 5 Instrument Dimensions



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