

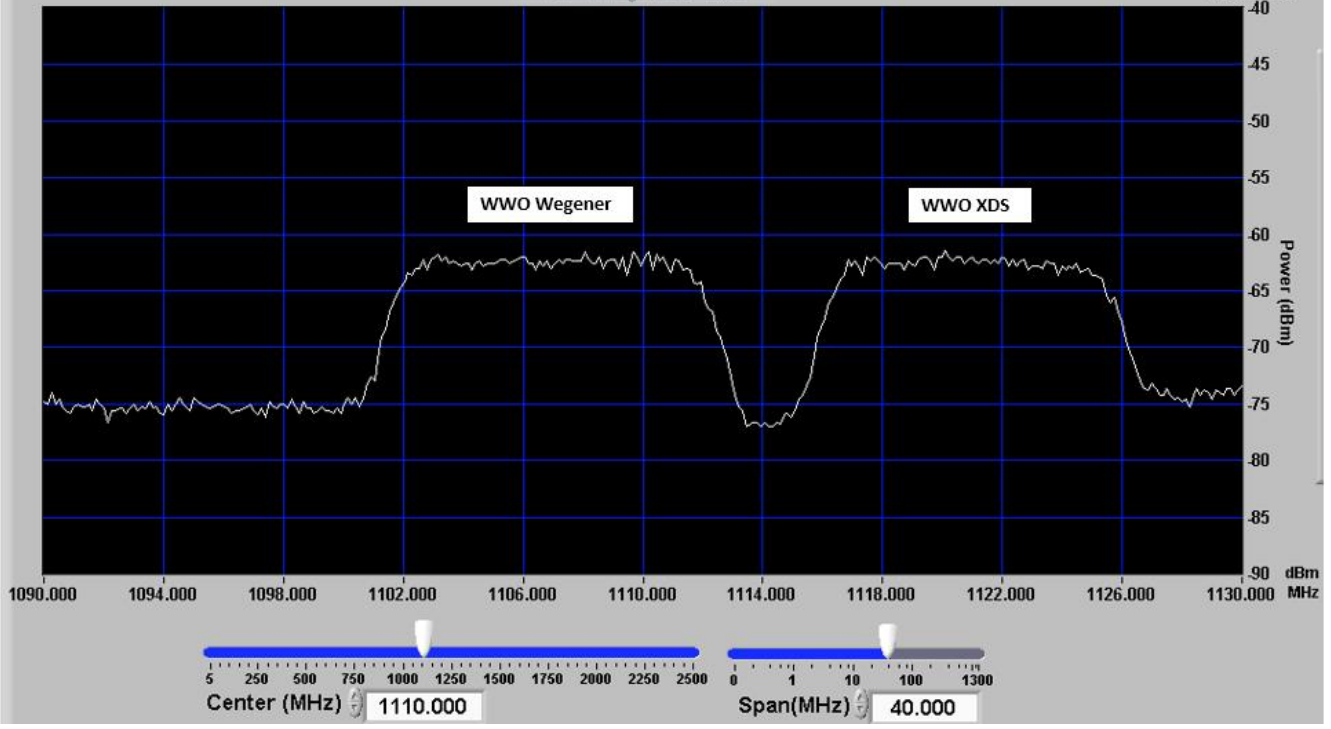
NOTICE

At least two transponders on AMC-18 have active traffic on the horizontal polarization. AMC18, like the other geostationary satellites re-uses frequencies between odd and even transponders, with odd transponders 90 degrees cross-polarized from even transponders. Therefore it is imperative the LNB be adjusted precisely for vertical polarity in order to null the co-channel (crosspol) interference and provide the best quality signal and strength once locked to the new carrier frequencies. For most broadcasters (not in Alaska) this was a non-issue on the old satellite, AMC-8, because the even transponder (crosspol) energy was tightly focused on Alaska and didn't interfere (even if the polarization was way off) with receive sites in the lower 48, Hawaii, or the Caribbean. AMC-18 is a different animal, with very similar coverage patterns on odd and even transponders.

On AMC-18, Westwood One and Orbital Media Networks both have co-channel traffic on the opposite polarization. It is ideal to use an L-Band capable spectrum analyzer because the null of the crosspol traffic is very sharp. If you do not have a spectrum analyzer handy, and if your station airs programming distributed or owned by Orbital Media Networks or Westwood One, it is recommended that you utilize an on-site XDS receiver tuned to the Westwood One frequency (1121.000) or the Orbital Media Networks Frequency (1017.500) to fine tune the LNB polarization once locked to the new carrier. "Crosspol adjustment" is accomplished by rotating the LNB feed assembly of your antenna while watching for a null in the undesirable co-channel traffic. An XDS receiver's front panel Eb reading (Eb/NO) indicates signal quality, and can be used to fine tune the LNB polarization if you don't have a spectrum analyzer handy. The most common 2 degree compliant receive antenna, the GD Satcom 1374 - 3.7m antenna, uses four (3/8" head) bolts to fix the rotation of the feed assembly and LNB(s). If using an XDS receiver, you will need to make small incremental changes in polarization, move out of the aperture of the antenna, wait a few seconds for the Eb (Eb/NO) reading to stabilize between movements. Peak the polarization for maximum Eb reading (which should coincide with the best null of the offending energy) then lock down the bolts.

Utilizing a Learfield, Premiere or Skyview XDS for fine tuning may result in undesirable signal quality and/or strength for the Orbital Media Networks XDS and Westwood One XDS and Wegener equipment. This is because the frequencies utilized by these other networks do not currently have traffic on the horizontal plane. Please note that moving forward crosspol traffic (interference) will be affecting all carriers.

With a properly aligned downlink, there are no issues with the new Westwood One or Orbital Media Networks carriers. Below is a screenshot of what the transponder 17 signal will look like when your spectrum analyzer is set to 1110 MHz center and 40 MHz span and your downlink antenna is properly aligned.

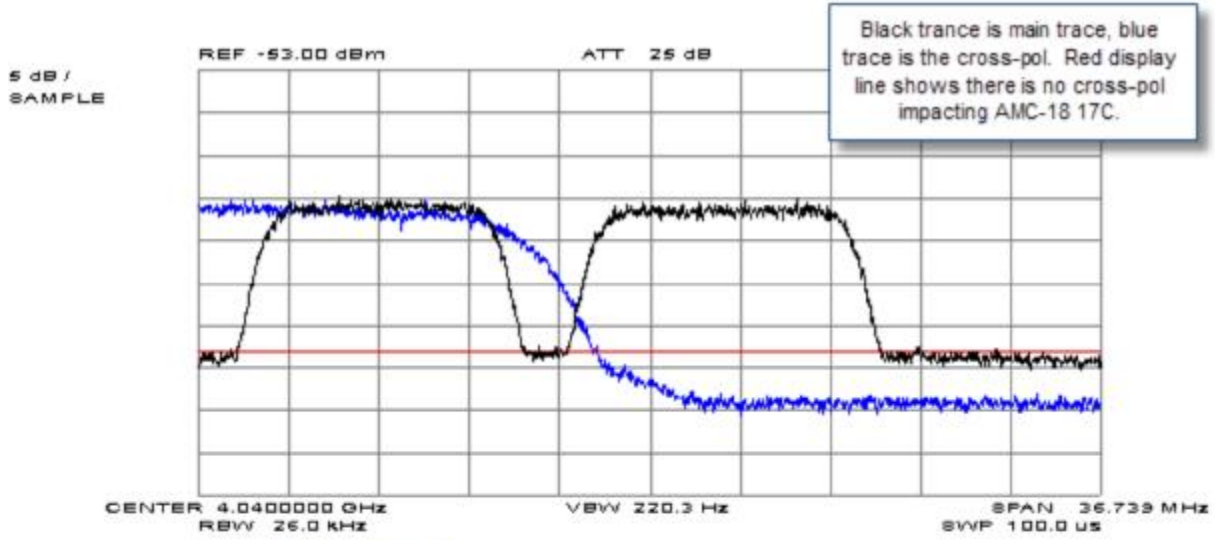


Here is an example of what the transponder 17 signal may look like with a misaligned downlink (provided by an affiliate engineer).

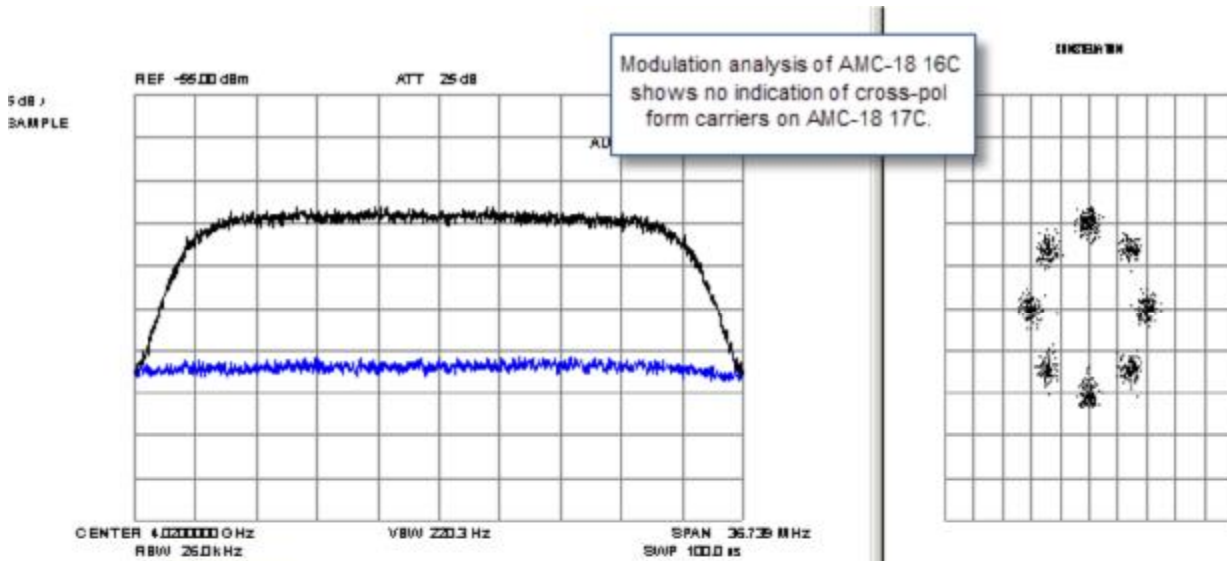


IMPORTANT: Once the downlink antenna is properly aligned, all equipment utilizing that antenna should be checked for proper signal quality and strength before finalizing the re-alignment.

Below are screen shots provided by SES showing that there is no crosspol interference once the downlink is properly aligned.



Selected - Transponder: 'AMC-18_17C' - Customer: 'None'



Selected - Transponder: 'AMC-18_16C' - Customer: 'None'