

STATION-FORMAT

The FRS-Holland sound has a taste of international flavour. Our programmes are aimed at an audience in Central and Western-Europe. Therefore we broadcast in 3 different languages: English, German and Dutch. FRS-Holland plays a wide variety of pop music and tries to keep its listeners well-informed in the world of radio. The format is based on MUSIC and INFORMATION. Remember our station-slogan "a balance between music and information..."! As far as the music is concerned it is basically a rock format with hit music, oldies, album music as well as alternative music. The DX-programme is a news-service to keep the listeners up-to-date in the (free) radio world. The latest developments are reported and it is beyond doubt this programme meets the wishes of a large number of radio enthusiasts throughout Europe. Information about reception and what the listener thinks of FRS-Holland is read out in "the International Listeners' Letter Show" by means of the letters reaching us via P.O.Box 41. General info on a particular station or the radio-scene somewhere else in the world is the main idea of the Free Radio Spot thus being one of the informative programmes.

The following programmes are based on music: "FRS Magazine" (with inside news on FRSH), "FRS Golden Show" (oldies from 60's & 70's), the "German Show" (rock music), "Sounds Alternative" (musical trends & album music from the alternative music scene) and finally the "Musical Express" (hit music and oldies). One programme isn't mentioned: "FRS goes Nuts". It's an extraordinary programme in which everything is possible. Original and crazy things are to be heard. Be surprised!

On special occasions such as X-Mas FRS-Holland can depart from its usual programme-schedule. This will always be announced in one of the previous months.

Music is 60%, information is 40% of our programmes.

COVERAGE

Our target areas are Central and Western-Europe. The range of the tx - it has a capacity of 1 kW output - is more than enough to cover large areas in Europe, including the just mentioned target areas. The quality of reception depends on propagation conditions. These are best during autumn and winter-period. Especially in summer short wave broadcasts can suffer from so-called long-skip conditions. That means that the first hop of the signal, reflected under a relatively big angle against the ionosphere, is so big that when it comes down to earth a large area has been SKIPPED. In this area there is NO RECEPTION at all. Remember: this 'no reception area' is bound between the transmitting location and where the FIRST HOP of the reflected signal comes down. In terms it is called a DEAD ZONE. Conditions not only depend on different seasons but also on the current sunspot-cycle. Such a sunspot-cycle lasts 11 year. Within those 11 years there's a sunspot MINIMUM which means conditions are unfavourably influenced. The opposite of course is a sunspot MAXIMUM. As you have discovered by now there is an obvious connection between short wave conditions and the coverage!

Taking into account that Central and Western-Europe are our TARGET AREAS, it is quite interesting to figure proportionally out how the FRS-Holland listeners audience is spread over the various European countries. To get an accurate picture, letters we've been receiving over the period 1981- 1985 have been counted. The results are as follows:

F.R.G.	42%	Holland	8%	Norway	2%	Italy	1.3%
G.D.R.	22%	Belgium	1%	France	3%	Switz.	0.8%
U.K.	13%	Sweden.	5%	Denmark	1%	Finland	1.2%