**General Information**

The Talon® RTS 2620 combines the power of a Pentek Talon Recording System with those of an RF tuner and RF upconverter hardware plus Pentek’s Sentinel Intelligent Signal Scanner. The RTS 2620 provides SIGINT engineers the ability to scan the 6 GHz spectrum for signals of interest and monitor or record bandwidths up to 40 MHz wide once a signal band of interest is detected.

A spectral scan facility allows the user to sweep the spectrum at 30 GHz/sec, while threshold detection allows the system to automatically lock onto and record signal bands. Scan results are displayed in a waterfall plot and can also be recorded to allow users to look back at some earlier spectral activity.

Once a signal of interest is detected, the real-time recorder can capture and store hundreds of terabytes of data to disk, allowing users to store days worth of data. The optional RF upconverter reproduces signals captured at RF frequencies up to 6 GHz.

**Hardware Features**

The Pentek Model 78621 Cobalt board transceiver serves as the engine of the RTS 2620 and is coupled with a 6 GHz tuner to provide excellent dynamic range across the entire spectrum. The 200 MHz 16-bit A/D board provides 86 dB of spurious-free dynamic range and 74 dB of SNR.

The Virtex-6-based DDC with selectable decimations up to 64 k provides exceptional processing gain while allowing users to zoom into communications signals of varying bandwidths.

All system components are integrated into a rackmount chassis that ranges in size from 3U to 6U depending on storage requirements. Front panel removable HDDs, configured as a RAID are hot-swappable and configurable for redundancy and performance.

An optional GPS receiver and built-in PLLs allow all devices in the RF chain to be locked in phase and correlated to GPS time. GPS position information can optionally be recorded, allowing the recorder’s position to be tracked while acquiring RF signals.

**Sentinel Features**

Pentek’s Sentinel™ recorders add intelligent signal monitoring and detection for Talon real-time recording systems. The intuitive GUI allows users to monitor the entire spectrum or select a region of interest, while a selectable resolution bandwidth allows the user to trade sweep rate for a finer resolution and better dynamic range. Scan settings can be saved as profiles to allow for quick setup in the field.

RF energy in each band of the scan is detected and presented in a waterfall display. Any RF band can be selected for real-time monitoring or recording. In addition to manually selecting a band for recording, a recording can be automatically started by configuring signal strength threshold levels to trigger a recording.

The Sentinel hardware resources are controlled through enhancements to Talon’s SystemFlow® software package that includes a Virtual Oscilloscope, Virtual Spectrum Analyzer and Spectrogram displays, providing a complete suite of analysis tools to complement the Sentinel hardware resources.

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**Features**

- Search and capture system using Pentek’s Sentinel™ Intelligent Signal Scanner
- Captures RF signals up to 6 GHz
- Capture and scan bandwidths up to 40 MHz
- 30 GHz/sec scan rate
- Selectable threshold triggered or manual record modes
- 16-bit A/D with 75 dB SNR & 87 dB SFDR
- Built-in DDC with selectable decimation range from 2 to 65,536
- Built-in DUC with selectable interpolation range from 2 to 65,536
- 3U to 6U 19-inch rackmount server chassis with hot-swappable HDDs
- Storage capacities to 192 TB
- RAID levels 0, 5, and 6
- Windows workstation with Intel Core™ i7 processor
- Optional RF upconversion
- SystemFlow GUI with virtual Oscilloscope, Spectrum Analyzer and Spectrogram displays

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**Model RTS 2620**

![Model RTS 2620](image)

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**Graphical User Interface**

**RF Scanner GUI**

An RF Scanner GUI allows complete control of the system through a single interface. Start and stop frequencies of a scan can be set by the user as well as the resolution bandwidth. All user parameters can be saved as profiles for easy setup in the field.

Frequency slices from the waterfall display can be selected and monitored, allowing the user to zoom into bands of interest. Threshold triggering levels can be set to record signals that exceed a specified energy. Recordings can also be manually started and stopped from the RF Scanner GUI.

**SystemFlow Recorder Interface**

The RTS 2620 GUI provides the user with a control interface for the recording system. It includes Configuration, Record, Playback and Status screens, each with intuitive controls and indicators. The user can easily move between screens to set configuration parameters, control and monitor a recording, and play back a recorded signal. The signal viewer, integrated into the recording GUI, allows the user to monitor real-time signals or signals recorded on disk.

**SystemFlow Signal Viewer**

The SystemFlow Signal Viewer includes a virtual oscilloscope and spectrum analyzer for signal monitoring in both the time and frequency domains. It is extremely useful for previewing live inputs prior to recording, and for monitoring signals as they are being recorded to help ensure successful recording sessions.

Advanced signal analysis capabilities include automatic calculators for signal amplitude and frequency, second and third harmonic components, THD (total harmonic distortion) and SINAD (signal to noise and distortion).
## Specifications

### RF Tuner Specifications
- **RF Tuner Bypass Range:** 2 to 70 MHz
- **RF Tuner Frequency Range:** 70 to 6000 MHz
- **Tuning resolution:** 1 kHz
- **Instantaneous bandwidth:**
  - 40 MHz from 70 to 6000 MHz
  - 20 MHz from 10 to 70 MHz
  - 2x tuning frequency from 2 to 10 MHz
- **Internal frequency accuracy:** ±1.0 ppm (-20 to +60°C)
- **External Reference Input Frequency:** 10 MHz
- **External Reference Input Level:** 0 dBm ± 3 dBm
- **RF input:** 50 ohms nominal
- **Noise figure:** 13 dB typical, 16 dB max
- **Maximum RF input without damage:** +15 dBm
- **In-Band Input IP3:** +3 dBm typical, -3 dBm min
- **In-Band Input IP2:** +30 dBm min, +36 dBm typical
- **IF bandwidth:** Nominal 40 MHz bandwidth (3dB)
- **IF center frequency:** 70 MHz center
- **Gain:** +15 dB nominal above RF input
- **Gain control:** Manual –40 dB range (min)
- **Image rejection:** 65 dB min (> 80 dB typical)
- **IF rejection:** 65 dB min (80 dB typical)
- **Phase noise at 5000 MHz:**
  - 1 kHz offset: –75 dBc/Hz typical
  - 20 kHz offset: –80 dBc/Hz max
  - 100 kHz offset: –100 dBc/Hz typical
  - 1 MHz offset: –125 dBc/Hz typical
- **Internally generated spurious:** –100 dBm equivalent RF input typical

### RF Upconverter Specifications (Optional)
- **RF Upconverter Bypass Range:** 2 to 70 MHz
- **RF Upconverter Frequency Range:** 70 to 6000 MHz
- **Tuning Resolution:** 1 kHz
- **Instantaneous bandwidth:**
  - 40 MHz from 70 to 6000 MHz
  - 20 MHz from 10 to 70 MHz
  - 2x tuning frequency from 2 to 10 MHz
- **Internal Frequency Accuracy:** ±1.0 ppm (-20 to +60°C)
- **External Reference Frequency:** 10 MHz
- **External Reference Input Level:** 0 dBm ± 3 dB
- **VSWR:** 3:1 max, <2.0:1 typical at the tuned frequency
- **Noise Figure:** 23 dB max (at 30 dB Gain)
- **Output 3rd-order Intercept Point:** +13 dBm typ, +10 dBm min
- **Output 1dB Compression Point:** +6 dBm min
- **IF to RF Gain:** Nominal 30 dB gain above IF input
- **IF Input Center Frequency:** 70 MHz standard
- **Input Level:** –30 to 0 dBm
- **Output Level (ALC mode):** 0 to –20 dBm
- **Gain control (Manual mode):** 50 dB min, 40 dB typ (0 dBm output power)
- **Non-Harmonic Spurious Rejection:** 60 dB typ, 50 dB min (0 dBm output power)
- **Phase Noise (typical at 3 GHz):**
  - 1 kHz offset: –80 dBc/Hz
  - 20 kHz offset: –90 dBc/Hz
  - 100 kHz offset: –100 dBc/Hz
  - 1 MHz offset: –120 dBc/Hz

Specifications continued on next page ➤
Model RTS 2620
Talon 6 GHz RF/IF Sentinel Intelligent Signal Scanning Rackmount Recorder

PC Workstation Specifications
- Operating System: Windows 7 Professional
- Processor: Intel Core i7 processor
- Clock Speed: 3.2 GHz or higher
- SDRAM: 8 GB
- RAID:
  - Storage: 8–192 TB
  - Supported RAID Levels: 0, 5 and 6

A/D Converter Specifications
- Type: Texas Instruments ADS5485
- Sampling Rate: 10 MHz to 200 MHz
- Resolution: 16 bits
- SNR: 75 dB, typical at 70 MHz
- SFDR: 87 dB typical at 70 MHz
- 2nd Harmonic: 95 dBc typical at 70 MHz
- 3rd Harmonic: 87 dBc typical at 70 MHz
- Next Worst Harmonic/Spurious: 90 dBc typical at 70 MHz
- THD: 85 dBc typical at 70 MHz
- SINAD: 73.7 dBc typical at 70 MHz
- ENOB: 12.1 bits typical at 10 MHz

Digital Downconverter IP Core Specifications
- Decimation Range: 2 to 64 k in two programmable stages of 2 to 256
- LO Tuning Frequency Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to \( f_s \)
- LO SFDR: >120 dB
- FIR Filter: 16-bit coefficients, 24-bit output
  - with user programmable coefficients
- Default Filter Set: 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple
  - >100 dB stopband attenuation

Digital Upconverter IP Core Specifications
- Interpolation Range: 2 to 64 k in two programmable stages of 2 to 256
- LO Tuning Frequency Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to \( f_s \)
- LO SFDR: >120 dB
- FIR Filter: 16-bit coefficients, 24-bit output
  - with user programmable coefficients
- Default Filter Set: 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple
  - >100 dB stopband attenuation

D/A Specifications
- Type: Texas Instruments DAC5688
- Sampling Rate: 800 MHz Max
- Resolution: 16 bits
- SNR: 64 dB, typical at NCO = 140 MHz, \( f_{out} = 150.1 \) MHz
- SFDR: 79 dBc typical at \( f_{out} = 20.1 \) MHz

Physical and Environmental Specifications
- Dimensions: Height: 3U to 6U
  - Width: 19"
  - Depth: 26"
- Weight: 40–85 lb depending on options
- Operating Temperature: +5 to +45 deg C
- Storage Temperature: –40 to +85 deg C
- Relative Humidity: 5 to 95%, non-condensing
- Power Requirements: 100 to 240 VAC, 50-60 Hz, ~400 W

Model RTS 2620 Ordering Information and Options

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<td>Removable OS Drive Enclosure</td>
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</table>

Contact Pentek for compatible Option combinations
Storage and General Options may change, contact Pentek for the latest information

Specifications subject to change without notice