Extended use of Peersonic RPA3 ultrasonic recorder.

PeerSonic®

The RPAx series bat recorders have been used by the BCT on the bats in curches project over some time, the deployment was confined to ensure easy control of data between various users and the BCT for the purpose for the project in hand.

Here are some notes that show how the units are more generally used in many applications beyond the BCT specific project.

Batteries:
I recommend always NiMH batteries, they are rechargeable, and the discharge curve is better than dry cells, so they are more reliable as well as being more acceptable to WEEE and RoHS considerations for environmental reasons. There is a battery PDF available on this.

Memory card :
RPAx units are normally supplied with 16GB cards, 32GB cards are also available from Peersonic, or I can suggest distributors who can supply if you contact me at Peersonic. But be careful about using just any SD card, there can be some quality variations from supplier to supplier.

General Power supply:
Beyond AA batteries, the unit can be run from USB supply, eg a USB power pack. This can give many days of power. But beware, some of the regular units can shut down if the power drain is low (eg on sleep mode). It will also switch over automatically from external USB if that fails to internal battery power if switched to ON.
I have some approved recommendations for supplies, but even with a power pack that shuts down, a little device called the pulsed load can keep them awake.
Many days and nights of recording are easily achieved.

Microphone:
The inbuilt microphone can be replaced by an external mic. This can be deployed up to 10 mtrs away on regular 3.5mm cable by replacing the internal mic with a cheap "plug in" adapter. The remote mic is then weatherproof, and the handheld RPA3 can be put in a sandwich box, or in the

shed to keep dry for outdoor recordings. BTW a special cable will allow up to 50 mtrs, but thsi si a little costly.

Recording Limit:
A max of 3000 files can be recorded onto the SDHC card, but note that this is size independent, so setting to "say" 20 second recoding will make larger files, but yet still 3000 files can be recorded as witha 5 second time lapse. Max time lapse is 4 minutes to be in line with walk transect guidelines from the BCT.

You are always welcome to call, email or use the contact form on my website at -
www.peersonic.co.uk

Full user manual :
https://www.peersonic.co.uk/technical-support

Other PDFS are availabl on request -
. How to get the best out of batteries
. Swapping between internal and external microphones
. Using an external power pack with the RPA3