

THE MADAR GEIGER COUNTER

Information and Installation Instructions

Updated 20250211, 20250215

INFORMATION

Early in the MADAR Project we adopted a specific geiger counter system as the standard to be used along with the MADAR Project. The GMC-500 was adopted by Level-II ops to monitor and upload readings to the GQ-Electronics website. Later, the same device was selected for deployment teams, and SKYWATCH crews. The more sophisticated 500+ got the attention of a number of ops, but so far its use is restricted to hand-held field use since it currently does not work with the MADAR.

A geiger counter is not required for Level-I operators who maintain a MADAR dataProbe device for data-gathering and general alarms. However, Level-II operations suggest a geiger counter for a rapid deployment team. In fact, a well-equipped MADAR site using several moderately priced geiger counters is recommended. One connected to the <https://www.gmcmap.com/> site for 24/7 data gathering. Then HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, a GMC-500 connected to the MADAR. A third one for hand-held field use. But this third one could be the gmcmap unit pulled offline as needed, or ANY brand or model for that matter. The advantage of using the GMC series is they are also dosimeters which log data in the field. BTW, a 300E would even work on the gmcmap site. The more sophisticated two-tube 500+ is even better for the field unit.

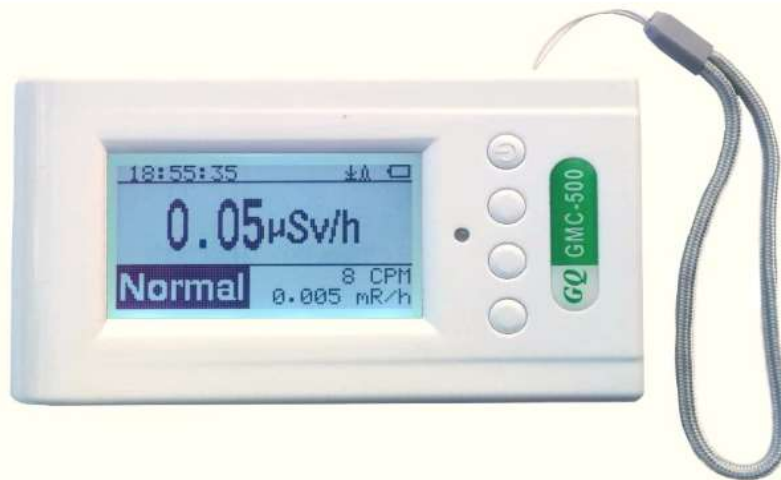
CAUTION

- 1) Currently, the software for the geiger counter installation requires the MADAR device be a GMC-500.
- 2) NOTHING ELSE IS TO BE CONNECTED TO THE MADAR. The GMC-500 runs off the MADAR's USB port which utilizes the MADAR power adaptor which is why we increased the ratings on the power supply.

For MADAR use, a GMC-500 geiger counter physically attached by USB cable

to an online MADAR, only the GMC-500 works with the current software, sending data to the MADAR server and logging the readings both on the MADAR spreadsheets and the MAP pop-ups in cpm (counts per minute).

CONNECTING THE GMC-500 TO YOUR MADAR



The white charging cable is the same one used to interface with the MADAR.

Unplug the MADAR, then run the white cable from the GMC-500 to the MADAR dataProbe, placing the USB plug into any one of the four USB jacks. Then replug your MADAR. Make sure the geiger counter is turned on. Since the USB jack on the MADAR acts as a charging jack, the light on the GMC-500's face will come on, but the device actually needs to be turned on. Holding the device like the illustration above, hold down on the top button until the device comes on and you see the readings in counts per minute.

You should not hear any clicks in this default set-up. If you DO hear any clicks (and don't wish to) you'll need to turn the sound to "OFF". See manual.

USE FOR SKYWATCH SUPPORT

Any MADAR site within 30 miles that is running at Level-II will provide back up for SKYWATCH teams with E-M readings from the MADAR site's magnetometer, compass, and the GMC-500.

This web site page and procedure may be modified at any time.

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