

## R&S®SFE Broadcast Tester

### The compact signal generator for all digital and analog TV and audio broadcasting standards

- Broadcast multistandard platform
- Realtime signal generation for digital and analog transmission standards
- Wide frequency range with excellent signal quality
- Integrated transport stream player and video/audio generator
- Arbitrary waveform generator
- Ideal supplement to the high-end R&S®SFU broadcast test system
- Integrated noise generator and BER tester
- Compact cabinet with convenient graphical user interface





Front view of the R&S®SFE

The R&S®SFE is a multistandard-capable broadcast signal generator that supports all common TV standards and a number of sound broadcasting standards. Whether analog or digital terrestrial TV, cable, satellite, and mobile TV, or sound broadcasting — all these signals can be modulated in realtime. For this purpose, the R&S®SFE combines a high-quality RF modulator, a universal realtime coder, and baseband signal sources in one instrument.

Owing to its modular concept, the R&S®SFE can be optimally adapted to the requirements at hand — for example, with an integrated noise generator or a BER tester. And even after purchase the R&S®SFE can be quickly and easily expanded to include new modulation modes by installing software options.

The versatile baseband signal sources for digital TV standards allow the generation of test signals from Rohde & Schwarz libraries as well as the replay of proprietary transport streams. For analog TV, the R&S®SFE offers an integrated video/audio test signal generator. Alternatively, the user can feed transport streams as well as analog A/V signals from external baseband generators. Irrespective of the realtime coders used, it is possible to generate userdefined modulation signals by means of an optional arbitrary waveform generator and to replay waveform files of the customer.

Although the R&S®SFE has a compact design and does not require much space, it offers the same convenient graphical user interface as the high-end R&S®SFU as well as extensive remote control functions.

### **Applications**

The multistandard capability and the flexible option concept make the R&S®SFE an extremely versatile instrument for many lab applications. However, due to its excellent price/performance ratio, the R&S®SFE is also ideally suited for service and quality assurance applications. In addition, the optional ARB generator in combination with the compact design make the R&S®SFE a cost-efficient solution for production applications.

### **Features**

### **Broadcast multistandard platform**

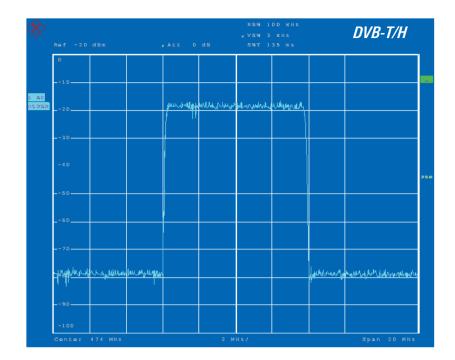
The R&S®SFE broadcast tester is a multistandard instrument that supports all common broadcasting standards. Whether analog or digital, terrestrial, satellite or cable, mobile TV or sound broadcasting — all these standards can be generated by using only one instrument. Switching over between different standards is quick and easy — a press of a button is enough. Additional and future standards can be added as software update at any time.

#### Digital terrestrial TV standards

- DVB-T

The success of the European terrestrial standard DVB-T is continuing. More and more countries, also outside Europe, are switching from analog to digital TV and relying on the DVB-T technology, which has now been tried and tested many times and allows high-quality transmission of digital broadcasting signals.

- ISDB-T/ISDB-T<sub>B</sub>
   ISDB-T is a Japanese standard for the digital terrestrial transmission of video, audio, and data signals by means of 13 segments. ISDB-T with partial reception is for mobile TV reception. The same method is used in Brazil under the name ISDB-T<sub>D</sub>.
- 8VSB/ATSC
   8VSB is a terrestrial DTV standard from the USA with vestigial sideband modulation. At a bandwidth of 6 MHz, a sideband is partially suppressed in the spectrum.



- DTMB (GB20600-2006)
   GB20600-2006 is the official
   Chinese standard for digital terrestrial TV. It combines the two former competing proposed standards
   DMB-T (multicarrier method) and ADTB-T (single-carrier method).
- ◆ Cable TV standards
  - DVB-C (J.83/A)

The R&S®SFE supports all QAM modulation modes defined in the EN 300429 standard. Its powerful hardware is also able to cover high-order QAM modulations that have not yet been standardized.

ISDB-C (J.83/C)
 ISDB-C is the QAM cable TV technique used in Japan. It is identical to DVB-C except that is has a dif-

ferent roll-off factor.

J.83/B
 J.83/B is an American cable transmission standard. The R&S®SFE also supports the enhanced J.83/B standard with 10240AM

#### Mobile TV standards

- DVR-H

In the R&S®SFE, DVB-H and DVB-T have been implemented in one coder. This coder supports the following specific DVB-H functions: the 4k mode, use of the TPS carriers for time slicing signaling, the additional 5 MHz channel bandwidth and required symbol interleavers with native and in-depth interleaving, as well as MPE forward error correction (FEC). Hierarchical coding is also possible.

- T-DMB
  - T-DMB was developed in Korea and is based on the digital audio broadcasting (DAB) standard already introduced in Europe for mobile sound broadcasting reception. The T-DMB/DAB coder in the R&S®SFE supports both the Korean and the European transmission standards.
- MediaFLO™

MediaFLO™ is a proprietary transmission method that was developed by the American company QUALCOMM and is currently used in a nationwide network in the USA. MediaFLO™ is an OFDM method for channel bandwidths of 5 MHz, 6 MHz, 7 MHz, and 8 MHz which uses QPSK and 16QAM for subcarrier modulation. The data rates transmitted to the mobile receiver range between 50 kbit/s and 1 Mbit/s.

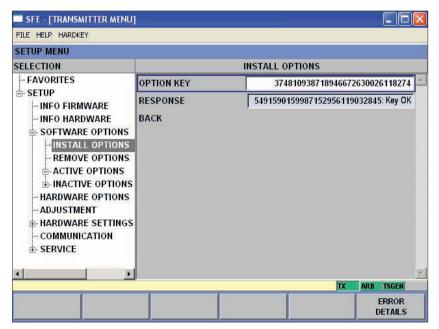
- ISDB-T 1-segment (partial reception)
   With mobile ISDB-T in accordance with ARIB B31 1.5, only one of altogether 13 available segments is used for transmission. The remaining 12 segments can transmit TV programs for stationary reception.
- DMB-TH
   DMB-TH is a proprietary standard that has evolved from the Chinese DMB-T system. It is also suitable for mobile reception. In the meantime, DMB-T has been integrated into DTMB (GB20600-2006), the new Chinese standard for terrestrial TV
- Standards for satellite TV
  - DVB-S, DVB-S/DSNG
     DVB-S (EN 300421/EN 301210) was introduced in 1994 as a satellite transmission standard. DVB-S uses
     QPSK modulation. It has established itself as the world's most widely used satellite transmission standard. DVB-S/DSNG also uses 8PSK and 16QAM.

- DVB-S2
- DVB-S2 employs an innovative and efficient channel coding method that in addition to QPSK and 8PSK is also used with the high-order 16APSK and 32APSK modulation modes. The method is very robust, offers safe reception, and provides up to 30% higher data transmission rates than DVB-S. The R&S®SFE supports the non-backward-compatible broadcast services (BS-NBCBS).
- DirecTV
   DirecTV (also DirecTV legacy mode) is a proprietary standard with encryption that is widely used in America. Transmission is performed via a special transport stream protocol with 130-byte packets. After conversion to 188 bytes, DirecTV transport

streams can be replayed with the

R&S®SFE baseband generator.

#### Key code entry for new options



- ◆ Analog TV standards The B/G, D/K, M/N, L, and I analog standards with the PAL, NTSC, and SECAM color transmission systems are also supported. A video/audio generator for the baseband signal can be integrated, thus eliminating the need for an additional signal generator.
- Sound broadcasting standards

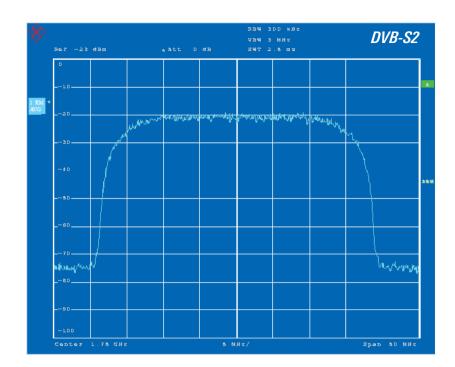
   DAB

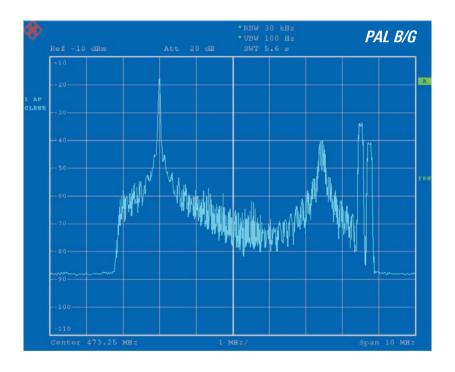
   Based on a COFDM transmission method, DAB was developed for digital and high-quality audio
  - DRM (ARB waveform)
     DRM is a COFDM method for digital transmission of sound broadcasting programs via shortwave.

transmission to mobile receivers.

- ISDB-Tsb
   ISDB-Tsb (sound broadcasting) is an expansion of the Japanese ISDB-T digital TV standard for transmitting sound broadcasting programs.
- AM/FM/RDS
   The R&S®SFE can also generate signals for conventional analog AM and FM sound broadcasting, including the RDS data service.
- ◆ Open for future standards

  New transmission standards are
  provided from Rohde & Schwarz as
  software updates. These updates
  can be installed on the R&S®SFE and
  enabled by key code at any time. The
  R&S®SFE can thus always be used
  for the latest standards.

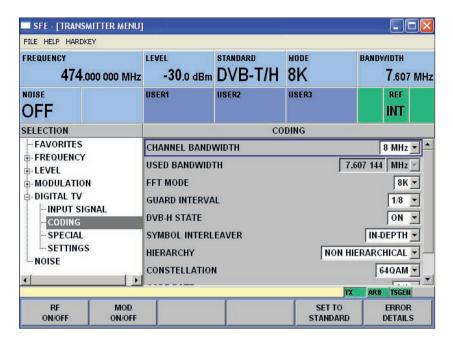




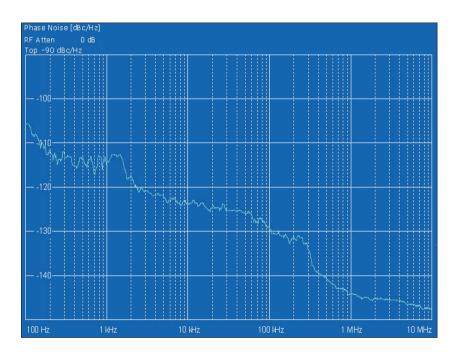
# Realtime signal generation for digital and analog transmission standards

The generation of modulated signals for various transmission standards in real-time is the key function of the R&S®SFE broadcast tester. For this purpose, the R&S®SFE uses a universal coder that in a similar form has already proven itself in the high-end R&S®SFU broadcast test system.

- Universal coder for realtime signal generation
  - The R&S®SFE has a powerful universal hardware platform for baseband signal processing. This platform provides the I and Q bit streams for the broadband vector modulator. Switching over between the different transmission standards is performed by reloading the firmware. Thus, a highly accurate spectrum is produced for all modulation modes.
- ◆ Settable modulation parameters
  Depending on the selected transmission standard, different modulation
  parameters such as constellation,
  code rate, and FFT mode must be
  defined. These parameters can be
  varied irrespective of the transport
  stream or A/V signal to be transmitted. All conceivable versions of a
  standard can thus be tested. The
  required signaling information for the
  receiver is automatically adapted by
  the realtime coder.
- Additional modulation modes as software options
  The various modulation modes for the realtime coder of the R&S®SFE have been completely implemented as firmware. This allows you to quickly and easily add further transmission standards. Many standards have already been preinstalled and can be enabled by entering a key code.



DVB-H coding menu



Typical phase noise at 300 MHz

### Wide frequency range with excellent signal quality

From IF to VHF, UHF and L band all the way up to S band — the R&S®SFE covers the entire frequency range that is relevant for broadcasting applications. Despite its favorable price, the R&S®SFE makes no compromise when it comes to signal quality.

- Frequency range 100 kHz to 2.5 GHz
   The frequency can be set in 1 Hz
   steps. Either the center frequency
   or the channel number is entered,
   which is especially useful in analog
   TV.
- ◆ Signal level −110 dBm to +15 dBm The signal level can be set in 0.1 dB steps. The wear-free electronic attenuator permits a virtually unlimited number of switching cycles with excellent reproducibility. This is a significant advantage, especially in production applications.
- SSB phase noise at 300 MHz typ. <-115 dBc at 20 kHz Advanced COFDM modulation methods place high requirements on the stability and spectral purity of the oscillator signal. In this respect, the RF

synthesizer of the R&S®SFE sets new standards in its class. The R&S®SFE excels not only in terms of its low SSB phase noise but also due to its low broadband noise and good harmonic suppression.

# Integrated transport stream player and video/audio generator

Digital transmission methods require video or audio transport streams as baseband signal, whereas the ATV modulator requires an analog CCVS signal. With its optional integrated transport stream player and video/audio generator, the R&S®SFE can generate both. External baseband generators are therefore no longer required. This significantly reduces the number of instruments, especially in complex production systems.

◆ TS generator (R&S®SFE-K20)

An optional transport stream generator in the baseband internally provides test streams for the realtime coder and allows you to generate endless and seamless high-bit-rate MPEG-2 transport streams. An external MPEG-2 generator is therefore no

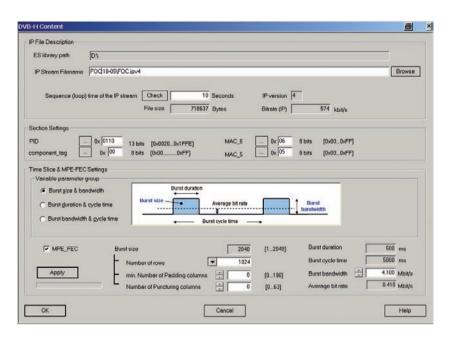
longer necessary. The SDTV transport stream library integrated as standard includes ATSC and DVB test streams. The numerous Rohde & Schwarz transport streams cover a wide variety of applications and test scenarios.

- Transport stream libraries
   A large number of additional libraries
   can be integrated. They make development faster and easier and allow
   new products to be tested.
  - SDTV test streams for DVB and ATSC (included in the R&S®SFE-K20 option)
  - HDTV tests of HDTV receivers
  - DVB-H tests of mobile receivers
  - ISDB-T test streams
  - H.264 test streams
  - TCM STB tests
  - The range of transport stream libraries is constantly being expanded.

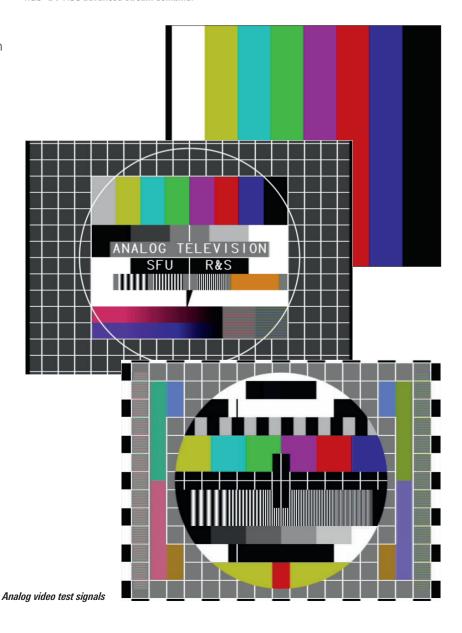
Example of a section of the DVB-H transport stream library

	1	2	3	4	5
Name	DVBH-01	DVBH-02	DVBH-03	DVBH-04	DVBH-05
DVB-H content	video, CIF, H264 coded, 128 kbit/s, IPv6				
PID (dec)	0x012F (303)				
MAC address byte 6; byte 5	0x06; 0x05				
MPE-FEC	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Burst bandwidth	3000 kbit/s	1500 kbit/s	1000 kbit/s	500 kbit/s	256 kbit/s
Constant bandwidth	250 kbit/s				
Burst cycle time	7698 ms	7697 ms	7698 ms	7697 ms	7696 ms
Burst duration	641 ms	1281 ms	1922 ms	3844 ms	7508 ms
Receiver off- time	7057 ms	6416 ms	5776 ms	3853 ms	188 ms
Ratio of burst duration to burst cycle time	1:12	1:6	1:4	1:2	1:1
Burst size	1.816 kbit				
Number of rows	1024	1024	1024	1024	1024
Number of padding columns	28	28	28	28	28
Puncturing columns	0	0	0	0	0
Broadcast content			0 0x100 (256) 4 N 0 0x120 (272) 0.3		

- TRP player (R&S®SFE-K22) The optional TRP player ideally complements the TS generator and permits users to replay their own transport streams in TRP format. The transport streams can be copied via the USB or LAN interface to the R&S®SFE file system and be replayed from there. In addition, the TRP player is used to replay T-DMB and DAB ETI streams as well as MediaFlo™ streams. For this purpose, the TRP player can replay predefined ETI test streams for T-DMB and DAB as well as MediaFlo™ test streams from optional libraries (R&S®SFU-K221 and R&S®SFU-K222).
- Compatible with the advanced stream combiner from Rohde & Schwarz The R&S®DV-ASC advanced stream combiner provides full flexibility when generating your own streams, which can be used with the R&S®SFE-K20 TS generator. It allows you to generate your own transport streams, also for DVB-H.
- ATV video generator (R&S®SFE-K23)
   By means of the ATV video generator, test patterns and audio signals for analog TV can be generated. The ATV video generator includes FuBK and color bar test patterns for PAL, SECAM, and NTSC.
- Rohde & Schwarz ATV video library The ATV video library provides a broad range of test patterns for analog TV that far exceeds the scope of the basic equipment of the ATV video generator. It also includes Cross Hatch, Color Bar, Philips, and Monoscope/Reteoma.



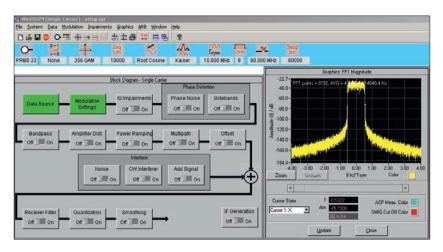
R&S®DV-ASC advanced stream combiner



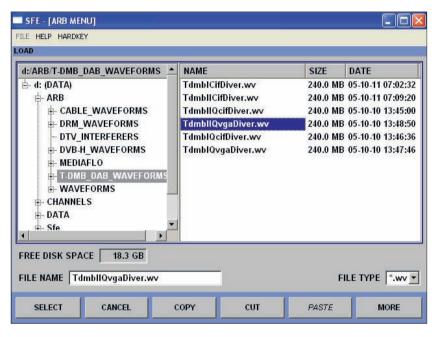
# Arbitrary waveform generator (R&S\*SFE-K35)

The optional integrated arbitrary waveform (ARB) generator of the R&S®SFE can replay proprietary I/Q waveforms as well as waveform libraries from Rohde & Schwarz for various transmission standards and thus opens up a wide range of additional applications. It is possible to generate any externally computed RF signal – from complex modulation signals to special interferers such as notched noise. In particular, modulation signals can be generated irrespective of the realtime coders installed. Externally generated I/Q waveform files can be loaded into the R&S®SFE via one of the computer interfaces (USB or LAN) and read out from the internal memory.

- Up to 256 Msample memory space A hardware resampler and the resulting large sequence length reduce the memory space needed to store I/Q waveforms on the hard disk. This allows you to store a large number of I/Q waveforms directly on the hard disk.
- Sample rate up to 100 Msamples/s
  Due to its high sample rate, the ARB
  generator can generate signals with
  a baseband bandwidth up to 30 MHz.
- Compatible with R&S®WinIQSIM™ (R&S®SFE-K350 option) The R&S®SFE allows the use of the R&S®WinIQSIM™ simulation software. Waveforms generated with R&S®WinIQSIM™ can be loaded into the ARB generator of the R&S®SFE and replayed.
- ◆ Waveform libraries from Rohde & Schwarz Additional waveform libraries allow quick evaluation of new modulation modes. I/Q waveform libraries are available for the following signals: T-DMB/DAB (R&S®SFU-K351),



Generation of ARB waveforms with R&S® WinIQSIM™



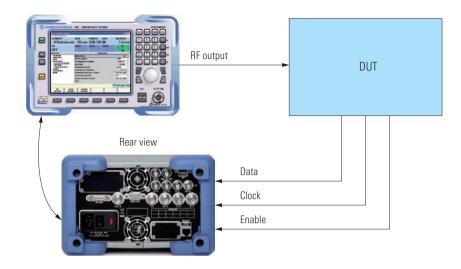
Selection of waveforms in the ARB generator

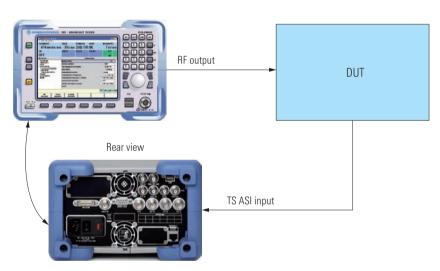
DVB-H (R&S®SFU-K352), DRM (R&S®SFU-K353), MediaFLO™ (R&S®SFU-K355), and cable interferers (R&S®SFU-K356). The range of waveform libraries is constantly being expanded.

## Integrated noise generator and BER tester

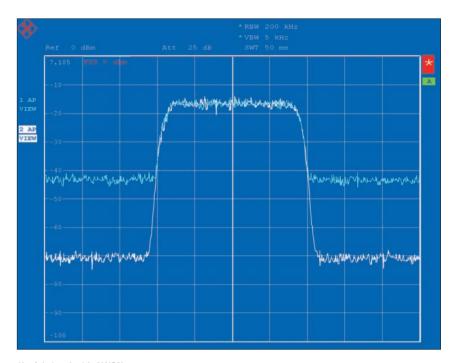
In addition to generating signals, the R&S®SFE offers a number of additional functions for special measurements and for simulating interference in real transmission channels.

- Broadband AWGN generator (R&S®SFE-K40)
  - The optional digital additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) generator is used as a source for generating a pure noise signal modulated onto the carrier and for influencing the actual useful signal. Realistic noise in the transmission path via satellite, cable, or antenna can be simulated by generating a 96 MHz AWGN signal with Gaussian amplitude distribution and settable S/N ratio in the digital baseband processing unit of the R&S®SFE.
- BER measurement at transport stream or bit level (R&S®SFE-K60) The optional BER measurement is used to check the transmission quality in the channel and the reception quality in the device under test (DUT). For this purpose, the R&S®SFE generates a baseband signal with a pseudo random binary sequence (PRBS) as useful data. Either the bit stream received from the DUT or the decoded transport stream can be looped back to the R&S®SFE. The R&S®SFE uses this information to determine the BER by comparing the sent and received data.





Block diagram of the BER measurement



Useful signal with AWGN

# Compact cabinet with convenient graphical user interface

Compact design and convenient operation need not be mutually exclusive:
Although the R&S®SFE is only half as wide as the R&S®SFU, it provides the same controls and user interfaces — both locally on the front panel and by means of remote control.

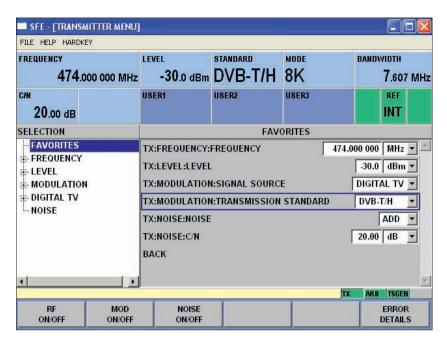
- ◆ ½ 19" × 3 height units
  The cabinet of the R&S®SFE, which is
  only ½ 19" in width, makes it an extremely compact instrument. This is
  an advantage particularly in production applications, when many instruments have to be installed in racks
  without much space.
- 640 × 480 pixels

  The R&S®SFE has a 5.7" easy-to-read VGA color display. Together with the straightforward graphical user interface, the display allows quick, easy,

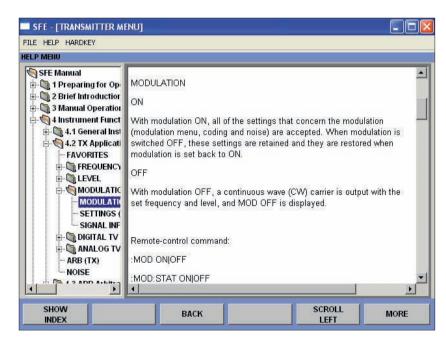
◆ Large VGA color display with

- straightforward graphical user interface, the display allows quick, easy, and reliable operation of the instrument. The most important operating parameters are always clearly visible.
- ◆ Intuitive user interface under Windows XP Embedded The R&S®SFE has the same graphical user interface that is already successfully used in the R&S®SFU. The user interface is straightforward, with a tree on the left side and a work view
- on the right side. The instrument is operated via a keypad and a rotary knob. Additionally, a keyboard and a mouse can be connected to the USB interfaces.
- ◆ Context-sensitive help system
  Even during ongoing operation, the
  R&S®SFE allows you to access the
  extensive help system, which includes the entire information of the
  user manual. The help system always
  starts context-sensitively, i.e. with
  information on the currently selected
  operating parameter.

- User-definable favorites for quick access
  - Parameters that are often used can be copied to the Favorites menu, which makes operation even quicker and easier. This function is particularly useful when you have to often change parameters from different submenus.
- Easy software updates via LAN or USB 2.0 Owing to USB 2.0 and LAN interfaces, software updates for the R&S®SFE can be performed very quickly and easily. For this purpose, you just copy the new software to the R&S®SFE by means of a USB memory stick or via FTP and start the fully automatic installation.
- ◆ Remote operation via Remote Desktop or VNC The R&S®SFE can be easily remoteoperated via an Ethernet connection or in a LAN network over IP and preconfigured for DHCP use by means of the preinstalled Remote Desktop software or the VNC software that comes with the instrument.
- Remote control via LAN
   Remote control is possible by means of SCPI control commands via LAN (VXI11). The R&S®SFE can thus be integrated into existing test programs very easily.
- Remote control commands are compatible with those of the R&S®SFU.



User-definable favorites



Context-sensitive online help

### Benefits

### Expandable for future standards

In the last few years, digital broadcasting and TV technology has made dramatic advances and will continue to evolve in the future. Existing standards are continuously being improved, and new standards and technologies are launched on the market. Rohde & Schwarz keeps a close eye on these developments and, in many cases, actively contributes its expertise — and is therefore always able to provide its customers with signal generators for new standards early on. The multistandard broadcasting signal generators from Rohde & Schwarz can be quickly and easily converted to new standards by means of software update at any time — without any hardware modifications.

#### Modular concept

The R&S®SFE has a completely modular design. Customers can select between various transmission standards and also between a number of optional extra functions. The R&S®SFE can be optimally adapted to customer requirements — with regard to application area as well as scope of functions. Since almost all options have been implemented as software options, the instrument can be expanded on-site by the customer at any time. That means that the R&S®SFE always provides maximum flexibility despite customized optimization.

#### ◆ The same look & feel as the R&S®SFU

Both the tried-and-tested operating concept and the straightforward graphical user interface of the R&S®SFU were completely transferred to the R&S®SFE. Customers who already know the R&S®SFU will be able to operate the R&S®SFE immediately and without training. It is therefore very easy to change between the R&S®SFU and R&S®SFE.



Rear view of the R&S®SFE

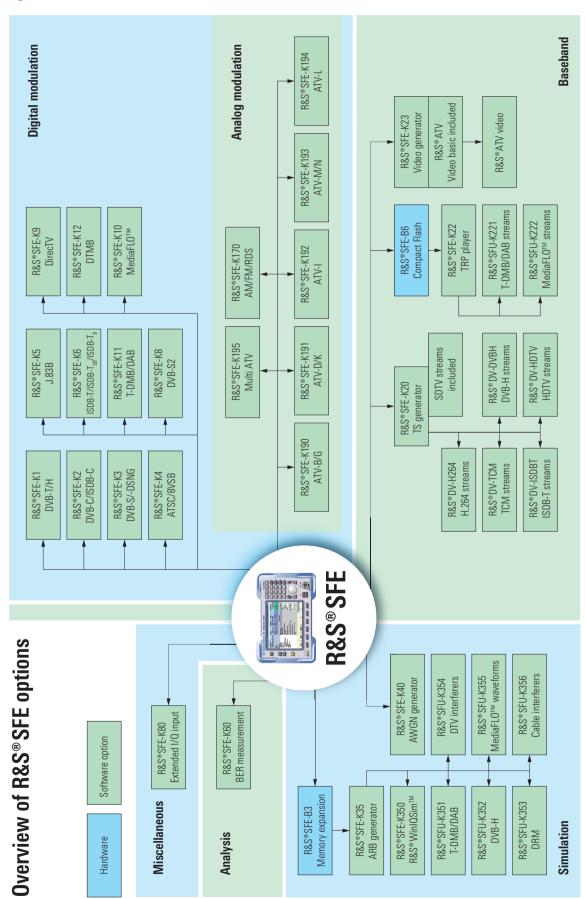
### Specifications in brief

Parameter	Condition	Value
RF signal	frequency range	100 kHz to 2.5 GHz
	frequency resolution	1 Hz
	level	-110 dBm to +15 dBm
	level accuracy	<1.0 dB
Spectral purity	SSB phase noise, at 300 MHz with 20 kHz offset	<-115 dBc/Hz
	broadband noise >10 MHz	<-135 dBc/Hz
Digital modulation modes	terrestrial TV	DVB-T, DTMB, ISDB-T, ISDB-T <sub>B</sub> , ATSC/8VSB
	cable TV	DVB-C, J.83/B
	satellite TV	DVB-S/DSNG, DVB-S2, DirecTV
	mobile TV	DVB-H, T-DMB, ISDB-T 1-segment (par- tial reception), DMB-TH, MediaFLO™
	digital sound broad- casting	DAB, DRM (waveform), ISDB-Tsb
Analog modulation modes	analog TV	B/G, D/K, I, M/N, L
	analog sound broad- casting	AM/FM/RDS
I/Q modulator	frequency range	DC to 35 MHz
Noise generator	RF bandwidth	96 MHz
	distribution function	Gaussian, statistical, separate for I and Q
BER measurement	PRBS measurement	BER clock input, data, enable
	MPEG-2 TS measurement	ASI input
TS generator	net data rate	max. 90 Mbit/s
General information	PC platform	Windows XP Embedded
	remote control	SCPI 1999.5
	Ethernet	10/100BaseT, RJ-45
	USB	2.0
	operating temperature range	+5 °C to +45 °C
	power supply	90 V AC to 240 V AC, 50 Hz to 60 Hz
	dimensions	235 mm $\times$ 55 mm $\times$ 465 mm (9.25 in $\times$ 6.1 in $\times$ 18.3 in)
	weight	<6 kg (<13.23 lb)

### Ordering information

Designation	Туре	Order No.
Base unit		
Broadcast Tester	R&S®SFE	2112.4300.02
Options		
Digital modulation modes		
DVB-T/H	R&S®SFE-K1	2113.4010.02
DVB-C <sup>1)</sup> /ISDB-C	R&S®SFE-K2	2113.4032.02
DVB-S/DSNG	R&S®SFE-K3	2113.4055.02
ATSC/8VSB	R&S®SFE-K4	2113.4078.02
J.83/B	R&S®SFE-K5	2113.4090.02
ISDB-T/ISDB-Tsb/ ISDB-T <sub>B</sub>	R&S®SFE-K6	2113.4110.02
DVB-S2	R&S®SFE-K8	2113.4132.02
DirecTV	R&S®SFE-K9	2113.4155.02
MediaFLO™	R&S®SFE-K10	2113.4178.02
T-DMB/DAB	R&S®SFE-K11	2113.4190.02
DTMB	R&S®SFE-K12	2113.4210.02
Analog modulation modes		
AM/FM/RDS	R&S®SFE-K170	2113.4432.02
ATV-B/G	R&S®SFE-K190	2113.4655.02
ATV-D/K	R&S®SFE-K191	2113.4678.02
ATV-I	R&S®SFE-K192	2113.4690.02
ATV-M/N	R&S®SFE-K193	2113.4710.02
ATV-L	R&S®SFE-K194	2113.4732.02
Multi ATV	R&S®SFE-K195	2113.4755.02
Baseband		
TS Generator, includes SDTV stream library	R&S®SFE-K20	2113.4878.02
TRP Player	R&S®SFE-K22	2113.5274.02
Video Generator	R&S®SFE-K23	2113.4890.02
Simulation		
ARB Generator	R&S®SFE-K35	2113.4932.02
R&S®WinIQSIM™	R&S®SFE-K350	2113.4955.02
AWGN Generator	R&S®SFE-K40	2113.4910.02
Measurement and analysis functions		
BER Measurement	R&S®SFE-K60	2113.5151.02
Baseband inputs		
Extended I/Q Input	R&S®SFE-K80	2113.5251.02
Other expansions		
Memory Expansion	R&S®SFE-B3	2113.4500.02

### Option overview







For data sheet, see PD 5213.8596.22 and www.rohde-schwarz.com (search term: SFE)



#### www.rohde-schwarz.com