

# The CG-3000 Automatic Antenna Tuner

## A Question

By Dick Whittering G3URA

I am a simple soul. I ask simple questions. I prefer simple answers. 'Twas ever thus. However, today I have a question to which I would love to know the simple answer.

I am interested in an Automatic Aerial Tuner for use with a long wire, well, part vertical actually, and I am drawn to the CG-3000. This is an auto-atu that is sold by Martin Lynch and was reviewed in November RadCom. You can purchase one from ML & Sons for £199.95.



Consider then, the MFJ-926 auto-atu as sold by Waters & Stanton. These are exactly the same as the CG-3000, the 'instruction manual' is the same size, contains exactly the same phrases (although MFJ call in a Tunner rather than a Tuner), but the cost from W&S is £349.95.

How do we know it is the same model? Because the CG web site tells you so!

Now, I know that maths was not my pet subject, way back when they still used chalk and blackboards at school, but I make the difference to be about £150.00.

So, my simple question is: - "Why should there be *such* a difference?"

Are MFJ trying to rip us off, or Waters & Stanton?

Discuss.

### Addendum Part I:

After writing the above, I received my copy of SV-Nea, the Greek Radio Club's version of RadCom. In it, the CG-3000 is advertised at €289.00.



At the current rate of exchange (tourist rates), this works out as £196.52, which is close to the ML & Sons price, but hang on a minute – the VAT rate here is 17.5% while in Greece it is 19%. In theory, the Greek price should be higher, not lower!

Discuss again.

### Addendum Part II:

From further surfing, I see that MFJ list the MFJ-926 on their US web site at \$399.95 (£203.00). A quick look at the WiMo German web site has the GC-3000 at €305.40 (£207.67), slightly more than the Greek price. WiMo have just increased their prices as the VAT rate in DL-land has also gone up to 19% recently.

Discuss some more.



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### Links

ML & S

[http://www.hamradio.co.uk/catalogAntenna\\_Tuning\\_Units.html#a2309](http://www.hamradio.co.uk/catalogAntenna_Tuning_Units.html#a2309)

W & S

[http://www.wsplc.com/acatalog/Automatic\\_ATUs.html](http://www.wsplc.com/acatalog/Automatic_ATUs.html)

CG-3000 Data

<http://www.cgantenna.com>

MFJ USA

<http://www.mfjenterprises.com/products.php?prodid=MFJ-926>

WiMo Germany

[http://www.wimo.de/cqi-bin/verteiler.pl?url=tundiv\\_e.htm](http://www.wimo.de/cqi-bin/verteiler.pl?url=tundiv_e.htm)

*See also E-ham and some positive reviews. Including OH4NV who is using the CG-3000 to remotely tune a 7MHz bobtail curtain array to 1-30MHz. The CG-3000 is located 30 metres from his shack.*  
<http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/5975>

