

FROM SEPTEMBER 2011 QST, Public Service column

The Haiti Project – A Post-Catastrophe Personal Radio System

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Appendix 3: Modifications of the case and Other Details

1. I added a shelf of ¼ inch plywood fitted snugly on the molded grooves without any fasteners. This leaves the case unpenetrated and still usable as a cooler. The shelf divides the interior of the cooler into:
 - a larger upper compartment for the antenna, its ropes and pulleys, string, a 2 ounce lead weight, ground rods, solar cell panel, and charge controller.
 - A smaller lower compartment for the radio, the battery, the battery charger, cell phone charger, the key, the microphone, the clock, and the radio's manual.
2. A top was applied to the underside of the lid, and hinge-mounted, with Velcro to hold it shut. This provides a work surface and a small compartment for pencils, paper, ear buds, and an LED light. The underside of the top serves as a bulletin board. The edges of the top are beveled to sit flush into the recess of the lid.
3. A microphone hook was applied to the inside of the cooler, and a Velcro patch secures the LED.



Photo: The case: Igloo Island Breeze cooler

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Photo: Open, with shelf, microphone clip, and lid compartment



Photo Lid compartment contents – note use of top as bulletin board

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Photo: Fully stocked radio system including solar panel, antenna, and pulleys.



Photo: LED illuminates desktop



Photo: Battery charger for AAAs and cell phone charger

The total weight is 28 pounds. The antenna, its coax, and its ropes and pulleys are each packed in ziplock bags. This allows repeated storage of them in the case after use without soiling the interior of the case.