

Even with the advance of mobile phones and the Internet, radio remains the primary way that people in developing countries obtain information. Reliable information is essential for relief and developmental activities and radio broadcasts are also a proven educational tool. Barriers to listening access include the lack of electricity and the high cost of batteries, which are often hard to come by outside of towns and cities.



Prime

A rugged solar and wind-up radio, light and charger

The Prime is the next generation of power independent, multi-band radio thoughtfully designed and developed to provide 24/7 listening access - anytime, anywhere.

An analog radio with FM, AM and three SW bands, the Prime features an attractive digital LCD screen, enabling accurate tuning for even hard to find stations. Frequencies are displayed in a large, clear, easy-to-read format. A color-coded user interface, with only three buttons and one knob, makes use easily understandable for children and adults alike.

The Prime features a suite of power options a solar panel, a hand crank, and a DC input which can be plugged into either a wall socket or a car battery. The solar panel can charge the radio directly while attached by a cable, or removed and charged wirelessly. The upgraded option, which has a powerful, rechargeable battery pack allowing users to charge wirelessly, provides additional battery capacity and extends playtime.

As charging mobile phones in rural areas can be a problem, the solar panel includes a USB output socket, enabling mobile phone charging on demand.

When charging the radio by hand in either direction, a green indicator light shines to let the user know that they are winding at optimum speed.

Careful attention was paid to sound quality, and its powerful speaker makes it ideal for group listening in classrooms, marketplaces, or in community meetings. Radio distance education classes can have more than 100 learners gathered around one radio. To cater for this, there is an auxiliary speaker output socket, allowing for additional speakers to boost listening volume.

The Prime has an integrated LED light to provide efficient illumination at night, or in unlit classrooms that can aid in reading or grading papers.

Some of the team that brought you the famous Lifeline radio also designed and developed the Prime. Like with the Lifeline radio, we listened to end-users to determine how we could make practical improvements ensuring that the Prime is fit-for-purpose for its users.

The Prime is available is available to the humanitarian and aid sector only and is not for commercial sale. It is available for purchase by public and private sector relief and development organizations for the humanitarian sector.



NAME

Prime

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Highly dependable self powered solar & wind-up radio, light and charger

POWER SOURCE – SELF CHARGE

Direct drive spur gear transmission driving a high power 3-phase alternator with high efficiency rectification

POWER SOURCE – SOLAR PANEL

Integrated 0.7 Watt polycrystalline solar panel with epoxy encapsulation.

POWER STORAGE/MANAGEMENT

High conversion efficiency rechargeable NiMH 3.6V pack

SPEAKER

4-inch, 5 W (max), 8-ohm paper cone loudspeaker
Auxiliary speaker output for additional speaker driven by independent amplifier

PERFORMANCE (will vary depending on volume setting)

Fully Charged Battery
24 hours at normal volume
60-second wind
1 hour at normal volume
1-hour solar exposure (radio off)
1 hour at normal volume

ANTENNA

FM: User replaceable flexible steel wire antenna (non telescopic)
MW: Built in ferrite bar

FREQUENCIES

FM 88-108 Mhz
MW 500-1700 kHz
SW1 2.3 - 7 Mhz
SW2 7 - 15.9 Mhz
SW3 15.9 - 22 Mhz

WEIGHT AND DIMENSIONS

Height 305 mm Depth 131 mm
Width 144 mm Weight 1.4kg

Specifications may be subject to change.