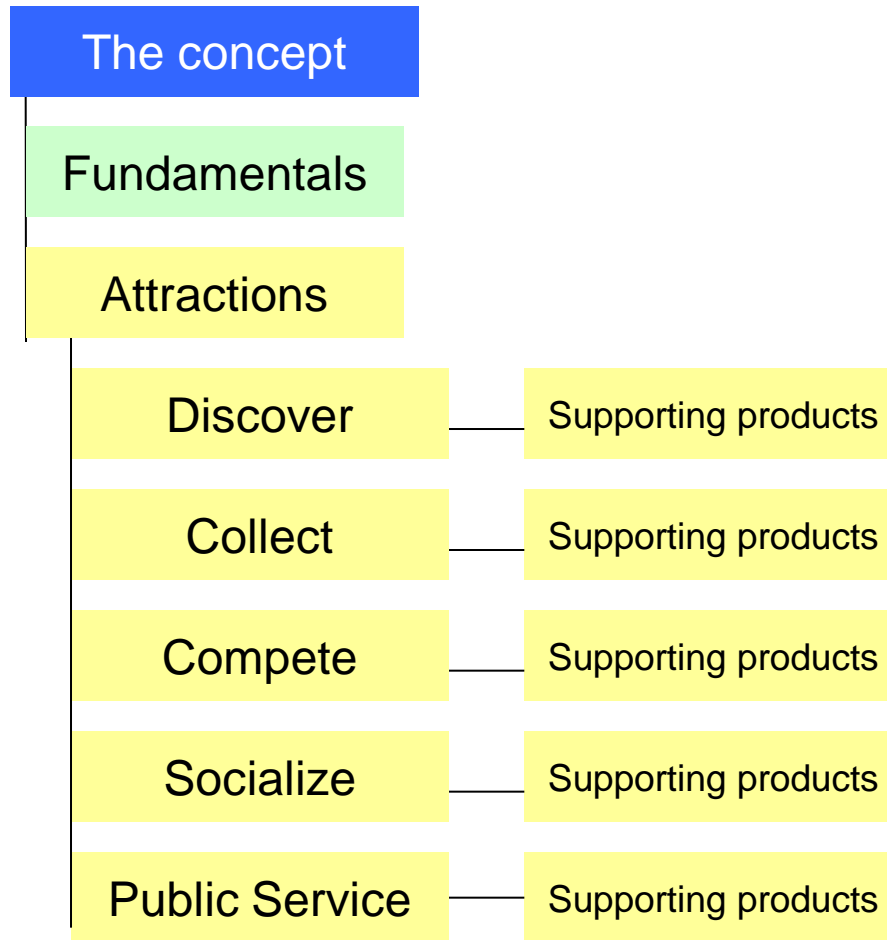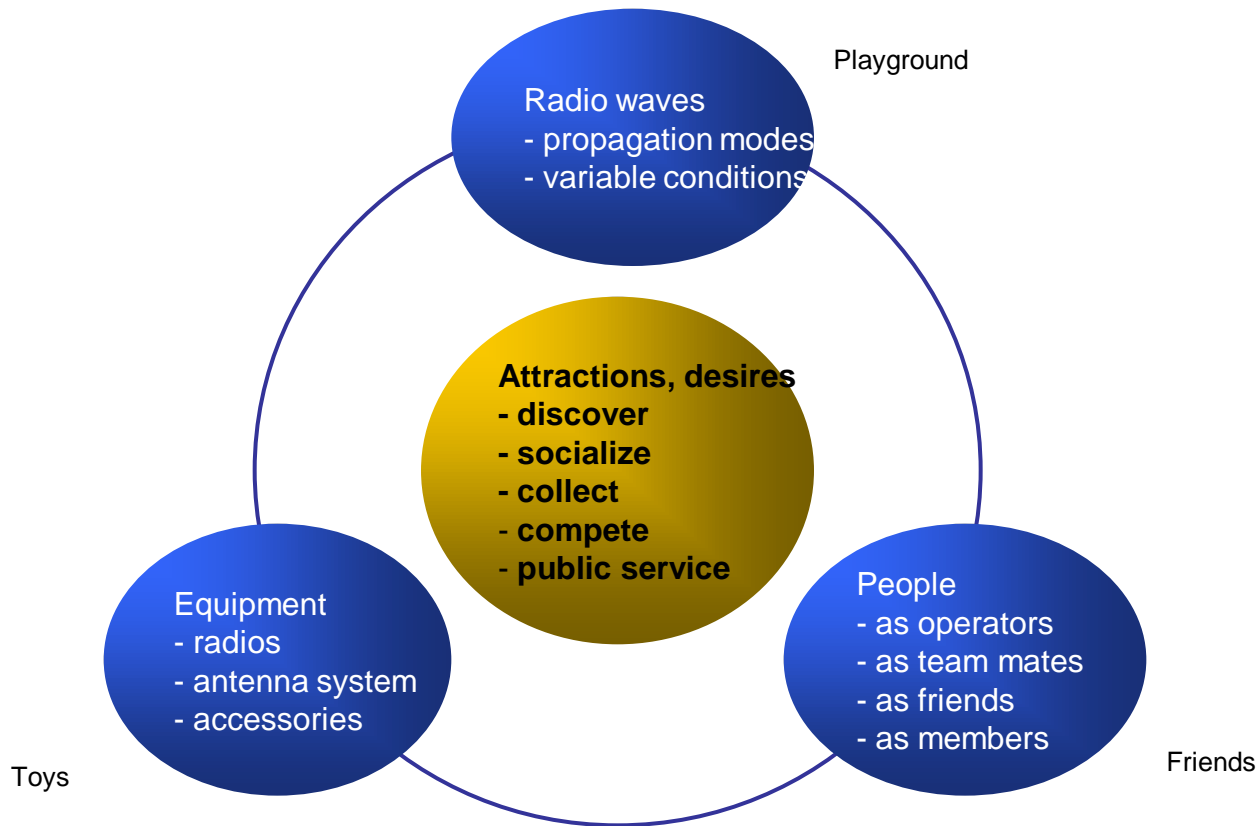# What is Amateur Radio ?

This presentation is an analytical approach to amateur radio with motivation to develop the hobby further and keep it alive. Recent development has been mainly in supporting products enabled by Internet and computers. There might be also other areas for development…

V1.2

Amateur radio

The concept

Fundamentals

Attractions

Discover	— Supporting products
Collect	— Supporting products
Compete	— Supporting products
Socialize	— Supporting products
Public Service	— Supporting products

The concept of amateur radio

Playground

Radio waves
- propagation modes
- variable conditions

Attractions, desires
- discover
- socialize
- collect
- compete
- public service

Equipment
- radios
- antenna system
- accessories

People
- as operators
- as team mates
- as friends
- as members

Toys

Friends

Amateur radio fundamentals
Enabling framework

Fundamental products

– Enabling legal framework

– Access to radio spectrum

– Coordinated band usage

– Flexible call sign administration

– Relations to government

– Functioning rule enforcement

– Eager ham radio community

  • Effective new hobbyist recruitments

– Financial and other resources to do things above

– other

Parties, actors

– National government

  • Ministry of communications

  • Ministry of justice

  • Ministry of education

– ITU

– International ARC, IARU

– National amateur radio clubs

  • SRAL, ARRL,..

– Individual hams

Attractions

We all are different. Based on our personality our interests are different, or at least they are in different priority. In amateur radio the following attractions have been identified:

- Discover
  - Enjoying when learning or experiencing something new
- Collect
  - Enjoying when having collected them all, those exciting things
- Compete
  - Enjoying when being better than ?
- Socialize
  - Enjoying good company
- Public Service
  - Happy by contributing to common good

Discover
Satisfaction by learning

Products

- Reach a challenging goal
- Learn Radio theory, phenomena
  - Propagation
  - Antennas
  - Modulation
  - Radios
  - Soft ware
- Learn Radio practice
  - Radio operating skills
  - Practical materials and tools
  - Measurement techniques
  - Home brewing, experimenting
- Exceed known limits, doing extreme things, invent
- Geography and history
- Language skills
- other

Supporting products

- Books, ARRL,..
  - Theory
  - Handbooks, manuals
  - History
- QST, AR magazines
- Training cources
- Radio station
- Workshop
- Challenging projects
- Modelling SW
  - Antennas, Eznec
  - Circuits, Micro cap
- Internet / Google
- Maps

On Internet

Collect
Satisfaction by having them all

Products (collectables)

- DXCC-countries
- Marathon, all band points
- IOTA-islands
- Counties
- VUCC, grid squares
- OHA-awards, OH hams
- QSL-cards as such
- Mode specific
  - RTTY, EME,..
- Frequency specific
  - HF, VHF, SHF,..
- Vintage radios
- Morse keys,..
- other

Supporting products

- Radio station
- QSL-cards
- LoTW
- eQSL
- Logging SW, DX4WIN etc
- DX-bulletins: Bernie's, ARRL,.
- DX-clusters like Summit
- VOACAP
- QRZ.com
- Clublog
- Reverse beacon system

On Internet

Compete
Satisfaction by being better

Products (competitions)

- Contests
    - ARRL, CQWW, SAC, NRAU,..
    - Frequency, mode specifics
    - International, national, regional
- Competition related to collectable products
- DX-pedition leaderboard
    - band-mode-points
- Distance records on upper bands
- Fox hunting
- other

Supporting products

- Radio station
- Contest calendars
- DX-bulletins
- DX-clusters
- Contest magazines CQ,..
- Clublog, leaderboards
- 3830 reflector
    - Claimed scores and comments
- Contest logging SW
- Log checking computer

On Internet

Socialize
Happy by having friends

Products

- Mutual interaction between hams
  - Learning
  - Teaching
  - Helping
  - Sharing experiences
  - Trust, respect
  - Influence
  - Belonging to "we"
  - Enjoying together
- Recruit new hams
- other

Supporting products

- Your radio station
- QSO's
- Visits
- Club meetings
  - Club home page
- Joint projects
- Luncheons
- Annual meetings
- Thematic meetings
- Celebrations
- Ham fests
- Training courses

On Internet

Public service
Happy by contributing to common good

Products

- – Emergency communication
- – Search and rescue
- – other

Supporting products

- – Portable station

Ways to develop AR further

1. Develop new products in each attraction category
2. Develop new supporting products
   - Many recent new supporting products are based on Internet and computers
   - Paper QSL card waits still good electronic replacement
3. Similar structure can be seen in other hobbies. Main attractions are the same but playing ground, products and supporting products are different.
   - Therefore ideas can be taken from others and applied in amateur radio