DATASHEET RFSG2,4,6 Specification v2.20

Signal Generators from 9 kHz to 2000 MHz, 4000 MHz and 6100 MHz

DEFINITIONS

The specifications in the following pages describe the warranted performance of the instrument for 23 ±5 °C after a 30-minute warm-up period (unless otherwise stated).

Min/Max: Parameter range that is guaranteed by product design, and/or production tested. Warranted performance specifications include guard-bands to account for the expected statistical performance distribution, measurement uncertainties, and changes in performance due to environmental conditions.

Typical: Expected mean values, not warranted performance.

INTRODUCTION

RFSG2,4,6 models comprises a set of very compact, portable analog signal generator models from 9 kHz up to 6100 MHz. A combination of good signal purity, fast switching speed and wide dynamic range makes these units useful for a variety of applications.

The RFSG2,4,6 is a series of a low-noise and fast-switching analogue signal generator covering a frequency range from 9 kHz up to 2.0, 4.0, and 6.1 GHz, respectively.

The RFSG2,4,6 provides full RF signal generator capabilities including OCXO-stabilized low phase-noise signal with micro-Hz frequency resolution, wide and accurately levelled output power range, extensive modulation capabilities, and fast switching.
It is targeted for a wide range of applications where a high-quality analogue signal is mandatory, offering an alternative to expensive high-end RF signal generators, where small size and excellent RF performance at an attractive cost is required.

The very compact and rugged design of the RFSG2,4,6 operates at very low DC power consumption (only 12 watts), with minor heat dissipation and not requiring noisy fan. This gives the RFSG2,4,6 a great advantage in laboratories or production test facilities.
The low power design allows the use of optional internal battery modules which make it a truly portable instrument, ideally suited for field testing, installation, and maintenance.

Available Options:

Option PE3 is an optional power level extension to accurately level below -120 dBm.
Option B3 adds an internal rechargeable battery module
Option AVIO adds dedicated avionics modulation like VOR/ILS

19-inch rack-mount solutions are also available.

The RFSG2,4,6 support various standard interfaces such as USB (USBTMC), LAN (VXI-11), or GPIB and extensive API with programming examples are available.

SPECIFICATIONS

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Frequencyrange	9 kHz		2.0 GHz 4.0 GHz 6.1 GHz	**RFSG2** **RFSG4** **RFSG6**
resolution		0.001 Hz		
Phase resolution		0.1 deg		
Settling time		20 µs 20 µs	100 µs 200 µs	<= SN xx-xxx2xxxxx-xxxx >= SN xx-xxx3xxxxx-xxxx
Frequency update rate List/Sweep mode		400 µs 400 µs		time from receipt of SCPI command firmware
SSB Phase noise at 1 GHz				
at 20 kHz from carrier		-130 dBc/Hz		See measured phase noise plots
Total jitter		68 fs RMS		10 Hz to 1 MHz BW

Spectral purity
  Output harmonics
  Sub-harmonics
		
		-40 dBc
		-80 dBc
			
			-30 dBc
			-70 dBc
				P_{out} = +10 dBm

Non-harmonic spurious < 1 MHz > 1 MHz		 -70 dBc -75 dBc	 -60 dBc -65 dBc	P_{out} = +10 dBm
Residual FM @ 1 GHz			 3 Hz	0.3 kHz to 3 kHz, weighted (ITU-T)
			12 Hz	0.03 kHz to 23 kHz
Power level				
Range Without Option PE3 With Option PE3	-30 dBm -120 dBm		18 dBm typically 17 dBm typically	> 10 MHz See plots on page 8
Resolution		0.01 dB		
Level uncertainty		0.3 dB 0.5 dB 1.5 dB	< 0.8 dB < 1.3 dB	-20 to + 10 dBm -80 to -20 dBm < -80 dBm
Output impedance VSWR		50 Ω 1.5 1.7	 1.8 2.0	 < 3 GHz > 3 GHz
Reference frequency input	8 MHz		200 MHz	User programmable
Reference inputlevel	-5 dBm	0 dBm	+13 dBm	
Lock Range			+/- 1.0 ppm	
Reference inputimpedance		50 Ω		
Internal referencefrequencyoutput		10 MHz		

		±40 ppb		calibrated at 23 ± 3 °C at time of calibration
Initial accuracy of internal reference		±40 ppb		calibrated at 23 ± 3 °C at time of calibration
Temperature stability (0 to 50 degC)			±100 ppb	
Aging 1st year		0.5 ppm		
Aging per day (after 30days operations)			5 ppb	
Warm-Up time		5 min		
Output of internal reference		+0dBm 50 Ω		
Reverse Power Protection				
DC Voltage		30 V		
RF power			36 dBm	
Dimensions				
Excludingconnectors	W x L x H = 172 x 250 x 106 mm			
Includingconnectors	W x L x H = 172 x 273 x 106 mm			

Sweeping Capability

Sweeps can be performed with combined internal or external AM/FM/PM/pulse modulation running. With modulation enabled, the minimum step time increases to 2 ms.

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Frequency sweep				
Sweep type: linear, logarithmic, random				
Step time (t_{step})	400 µs		19998 s	
Dwell time (t_{dwell})	50 µs		9999 s	
Off-time (incl. transient time) (t_{off})	0 / 50 µs		9999 s	
Timing accuracy per point		1 µs		
Generalized list sweep				
allows individual setting of frequency, power, dwell-time, and off-time for each point				
List size	2		20.000	
Step time (t_{step})	200 µs		19998 s	
Dwell time (t_{dwell})	50 µs		9999 s	
Off-time (incl. transient time) (t_{off})	0 / 50 µs		9999 s	
Time resolution		0.1 µs		
Timing accuracy per point		1 µs		
Frequency Chirps				
(linear ramp, up/down)				
Bandwidth			10%	
Dwell time (tdwell)	10 ns		100 µs	
Numberoffrequencies			20'000	

Modulation Capabilities

All modulation types (FM, PM, AM, and pulse modulation) may be simultaneously enabled except: FM and phase modulation cannot be combined. For example, AM and FM can run concurrently and will modulate the output RF.

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Pulse modulation On/off ratio		70 dB		
Repetition frequency	DC		33 MHz	
Pulse width	30 ns 50 µs		20 s 20 s	ALC hold ALC on
Pulse rise/fall time		5 ns		
Pulse trainslength (pulses)	2		4192	
Video crosstalk		-40 dB		
External input amplitude Delay (to RF)		1 V TTL 20 ns	 40 ns	AC DC
Frequency modulation Maximum Frequency deviation (peak)		> 2 MHz N x 100 MHz		*< 0.37 GHz* *0.37 GHz to 0.75 GHz (N=0.125)* *0.75 GHz to 1.5 GHz (N=0.25)* *1.5 GHz to 3 GHz (N=0.5)* *> 3 GHz to 6.1 GHz (N=1)*
Modulation waveforms		Sine, triangle, FSK		
Modulation rate	1 Hz/DC		800 kHz	-3dB frequency response Max. phase deviation degrades above 20 kHz modulation rate
External input sensitivity		$< N \cdot 100$ MHz for 1 Vpp		settable in AC mode discrete values in DC mode
Total harmonicdistortion		< 1%		1 kHz rate & $N \cdot 100$ kHz deviation
Phase modulation Phase deviation (peak)	0		$N \cdot 80$ rad	
Modulation rate	1 Hz		800 kHz	> -3dB frequency response
Modulation waveforms		Sine, triangle, FSK		
External Input sensitivity		$N \cdot 40$ radfor 1 Vpp		
Total harmonicdistortion		< 1%		1 kHz rate & $N \cdot 20$ rad deviation
Amplitude modulation Modulation rate	10 Hz 10 Hz		20 kHz 50 kHz	applies for internal and external >= SN xx-xxx5xxxxx-xxxx
Modulation depth	0 %		95 %	
Modulation waveforms		Sine, triangle, square		
Distortion		2 %		
Accuracy		3 %		
External inputsensitivity		X % per 1 Vpp		settable

Avionics Modulation (option AVIO)

ILS		
Localizer RF frequency	108 to 112 MHz	
Nominal tone frequencies	90 & 150 Hz	
Frequency accuracy	< 0.02 Hz	
Centerline (in %)	DDM: 0 ± 0.1; SDM: 40 ± 2.0	
Fly left (in %)	DDM: 15.5 ± 0.5; SDM: 40 ± 2.0	
Fly right (in %)	DDM: -15.5 ± 0.5; SDM: 40 ± 2.0	
Flag (in %)	DDM: 0 ± 0.1; SDM: 30 ± 2.0	
Glide Path RF frequency	328.6-335.4 MHz	
Angle of Descent (in %)	DDM: 0 ± 0.1; SDM: 80 ± 3.0	
Fly up (in %)	DDM: 17.5± 0.5; SDM: 80 ± 3.0	
Fly down (in %)	DDM: -17.5± 0.5; SDM: 80 ± 3.0	
Flag (in %)	DDM: 0 ± 0.1; SDM: 70 ± 2.5	
VOR RF frequency	108 - 118 MHz	
Subcarrier Frequency	9960 ± 2.0 Hz	
FM deviation	480 Hz	
AM tone	30 ± 0.02 Hz	
Bearing north	TDM: 30 ±2.0 %	
	Phase: 180 ± 0.5 deg	
Bearing south	TDM: 30 ± 2.0 %	
	Phase: 90 ± 0.5 deg	
Bearing east	TDM: 30 ± 2.0 %	
	Phase: 0 ± 0.5 deg	
Bearing west	TDM: 30 ± 2.0 %	
	Phase: 270 ± 0.5 deg	
Test 1	TDM: 20 ± 1.5 %	
	Phase: 0 ± 0.5 deg	
Test 2	TDM: 40 ± 2.0 %	
	Phase: 0 ± 0.5 deg	

Multi-Purpose Output (FUNC OUT)
Output is FUNC OUT at rear panel

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
MULTIFUNCTION GENERATOR				
sine, triangle, square wave				
Frequency range	1 Hz		3 MHz	sine
	1 Hz		1 MHz	triangle
			50 kHz	square
Frequencyresolution		0.1 Hz		
Output voltage amplitude peak-peak	10 mV		2 V	Sine, triangle
		5V		Square (CMOS output)
Harmonic distortion		1 %		< 100 kHz, 1 Vpp
Output impedance		50 Ω		Sine, triangle
		CMOS		squarewave
VIDEO OUTPUT (of internal pulse modulator)				
Output		CMOS		
Period	30 ns		50 s	
Pulse Width	15 ns		50 s	
RF delay		10 ns		

TRIGGER OUT Synchronization mode for multiple sources

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Modes		Trigger on sweep start Trigger on each point		
Trigger waveform pulse width		100 ns		

Trigger (TRIG IN)

Input is TRIG IN at rear panel

PARAMETER	MIN	TYPICAL	MAX	NOTE
Trigger Types		Continuous, single, gated, gated direction		
Trigger Source		RF key, external, bus (GPIB, LAN, USB)		
Trigger Modes		Continuous free run, trigger and run, reset and run		
Trigger latency		tbd		
Trigger uncertainty		5 µs		
External Trigger delay	50 µs		40 s	
External Delay Resolution		15 ns		
Trigger Modulo	1		255	Execute only on Nth trigger event
Trigger Polarity		Rising, falling		

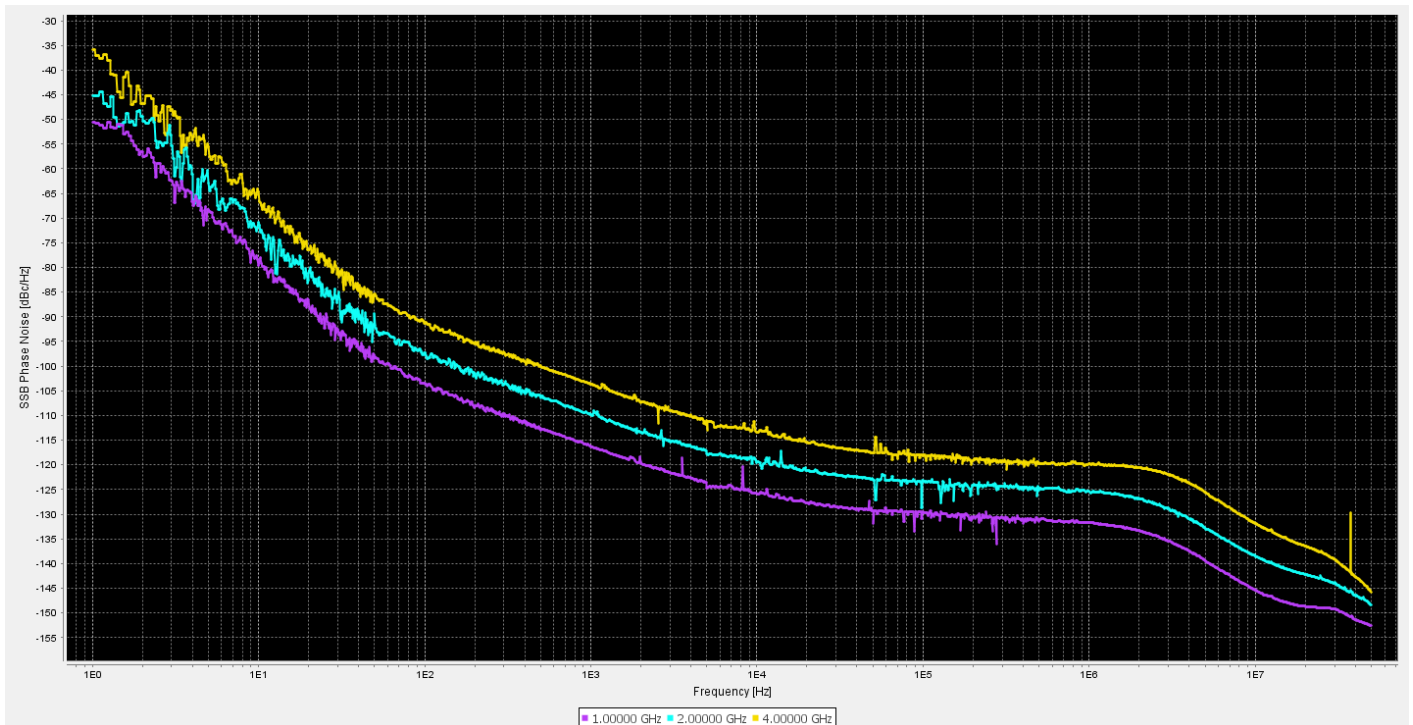**Typical Maximum Output Power (without option PE3)**
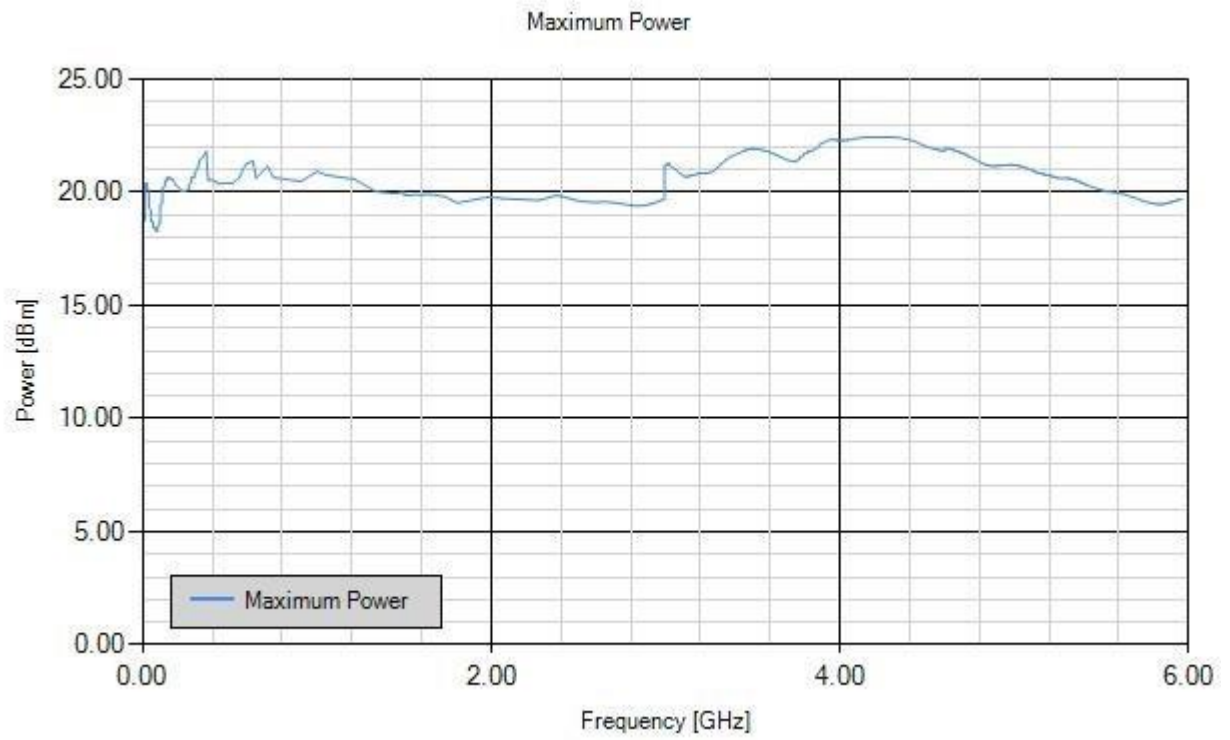
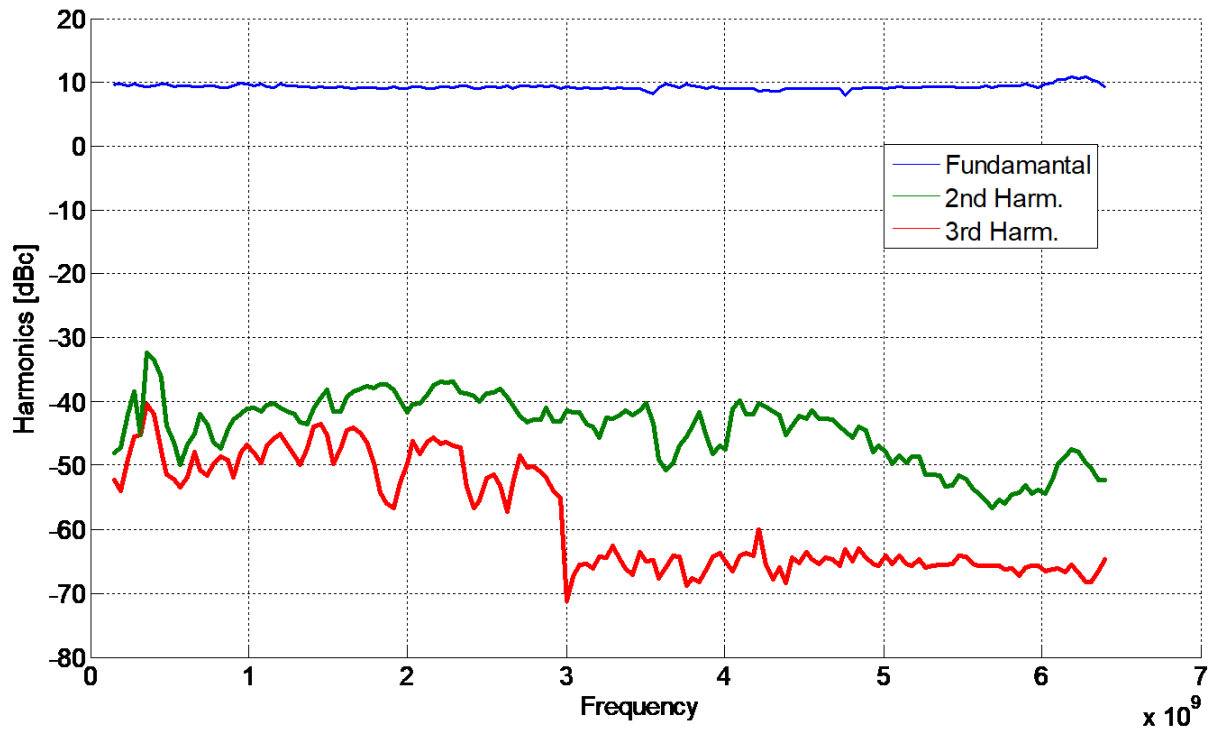**Typical Maximum Output Power (WITH option PE3)**

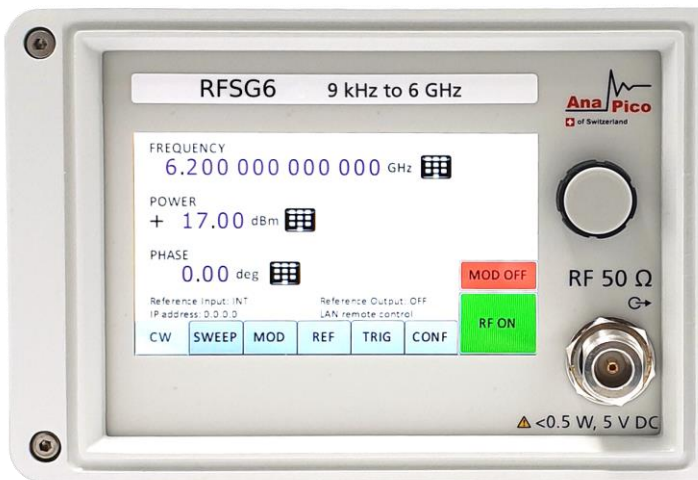## Maximum Output Power (1 kHz to 10 MHz)
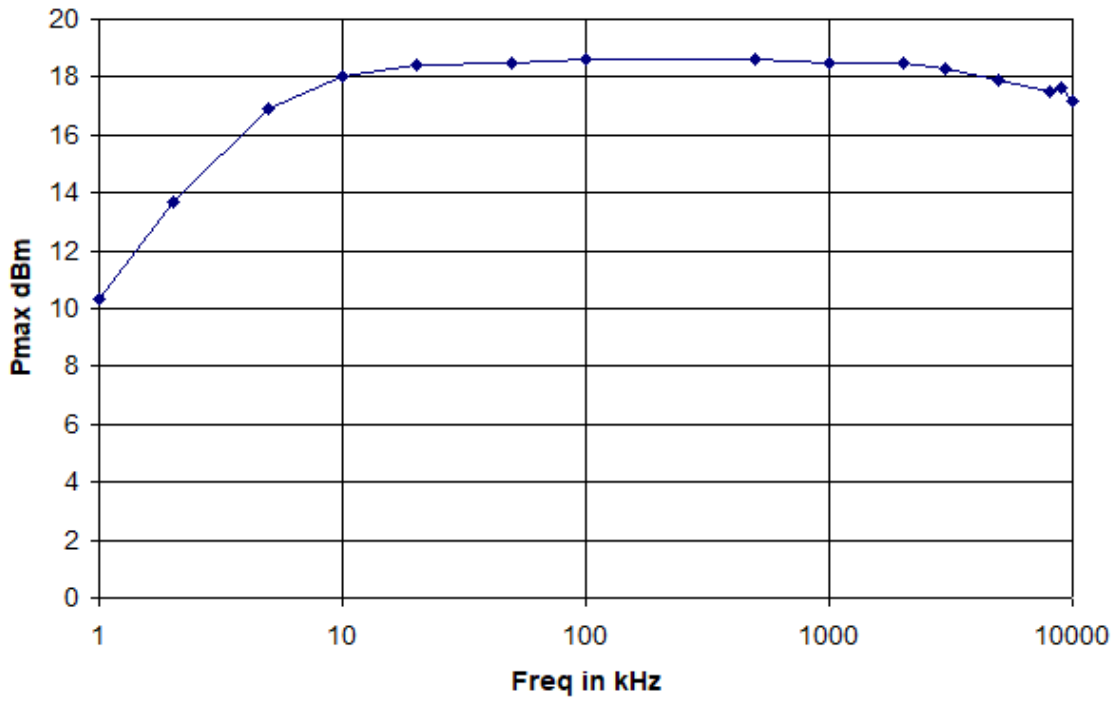
Phase Noise Performance (1,2 and 4 GHz)
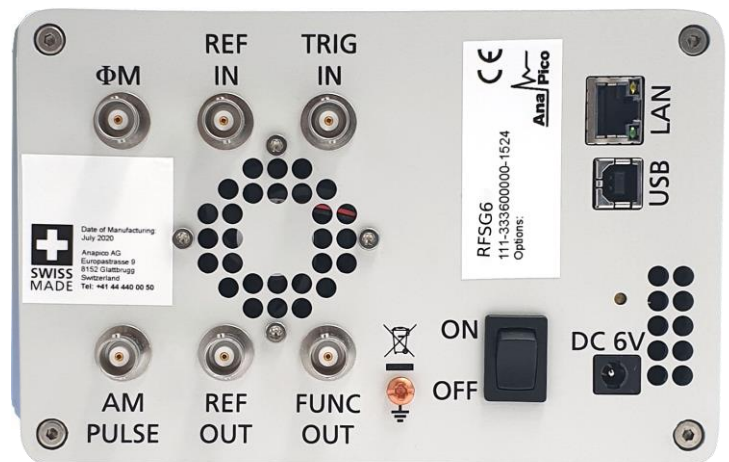
Harmonic performance at + 10 dBm

Connectors (Front)

1. RF output: N female
2. RF on/off button
3. Rotary knob
4. Menu and ↓↑←→ arrow keys

Connectors (Rear)

1. Trigger input: BNC female
2. Function output: BNC female
3. External reference input: BNC female
4. Internal reference output: BNC female
5. FM/PM modulation input: BNC female
6. AM and Pulse modulation: BNC female
7. LAN connection: RJ-45
8. USB 2.0 host and device
9. GPIB: IEEE-488.2, 1987 with listen and talk (optional)
10. DC Power plug (6V, 6 A)
11. DC power switch

ORDERING INFORMATION

HOST MODEL	PRODUCT	DESCRIPTION
RFSG2,4,6	**RFSG2**	9 kHz – 2000 MHz Signal Generators
RFSG2,4,6	**RFSG4**	9 kHz – 4000 MHz Signal Generators
RFSG2,4,6	**RFSG6**	9 kHz – 6100 MHz Signal Generators
RFSG2,4,6	B3	Internal rechargeablebatterymodule
RFSG2,4,6	GPIB	GPIB interface
RFSG2,4,6	AVIO	Avionics modulation capability (VOR/ILS)
RFSG2,4,6	1URM	1U rack-mount module
RFSG2,4,6	REAR	Move output to the rear panel
RFSG2,4,6	OEM	OEM package
RFSG2,4,6	WE	One-year warranty extension (standard: 2 years)
RFSG2,4,6	ReCal	Recalibration with test data (recommended: two years interval)

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

Remote programming interfaces
> Ethernet 100BaseT LAN interface
> USB 2.0 host & device
> GPIB (IEEE-488.2,1987) with listen and talk (optional)
> Control language SCPI Version 1999.0

Power requirements:6 VDC; 20 W maximum

Mains adapter supplied: 100-240 VAC in/ 6 V 6.0 A DC out

Storage temperature range −40 to 70 °C

Operating temperature range 0 to 45 °C

Operating and storage altitude up to 15,000 feet

CE notice
Safety/EMC complies with applicable Safety and EMC regulations and directives.

Weight ≤ 2.5 kg (6 lbs) net, ≤ 4 kg (8 lb.) shipping

Dimensions:
> 116.9 mm H x 173.6 mm W x 270.7 mm L (incl. connectors)
> [4.60 in H x 6.83 in W x 10.66 in L]

Recommended calibrationcycle24 months

Compatibility languages supporting commonly used commands
Agilent Technologies N5181A MXG, Aeroflex, Rohde & Schwarz SMA and SML models

Document History

Version	Date	Author	Notes
V10	2010-06-01	jk	first release
V11	2010-08-01	jk	mechanicalinformationadded
V12	2010-11-01	jk	Options,
V13	2010-12-30	jk	Measurementsadded
V131	2011-3-10	jk	Concurrentsweeps / modulation
V140	2011-4-28	jk	Frontpanel, measurementplots
V142	2011-5-20	jk	Reference output 10 MHz, Pmax adjusted
V143	2011-9-1	jk	Phase Noise plot
V144	2012-09-15	jk	Reference inputrangeadjusted
V145	2012-09-15	jk	Added trigger, chrips, pulse trians
V146	2013-08-26	db	Modifiedsweeptimingspecs
V147	2013-10-04	db	Added frequency settling time specs
V148	2014-01-21	jk	correcteddimensions
V149	2014-02-06	jk	Maximum power plotsadded
V150	2014-06-30	jk	New phasenoiseplot
V200	2014-12-10	jk	Unified data sheet for RFSG2,4,6HC series
V210	2015-05-10	jk	Updated sweepingtimingparameters
V211	2015-06-23	db	Added >= SN xx-xxx5xxxxx-xxxx AM bandwidth data
V212	2016-07-05	db	Added option PE data
V214	2016-12-15	jk	Refine power levelaccuracy
V215	2017-5-15	jk	Option AVIO
V216	2017-8-15	jk	VSWR Specrefined
V217	2019-01-30	mm	Dimension up-date
V218	2019-03-25	mm	New layout
V219	2019-07-10	ee	Minor corrections
V220	2020-09-15	db	Clarified Power accuracy at > + 10 dBm

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