



Photo H– Rounding out the new amps at Dayton is the Expert 2K-FA fully automatic linear from Italian manufacturer SPE. Stay tuned for antennas and accessories in the September issue.

Expert 2K-FA Amplifier

Last, but definitely not least, we have the Expert 2K-FA 2-KW solid-state amp from SPE Co. of Rome, Italy (photo H). SPE reps at the booth were quick to let us know that this HF plus 6-meter amplifier is being billed as "The Most Advanced Solid State Automatic Linear Amplifier in the World." With a price quoted at \$7495 U.S., it's obvious that this product is built to be an addition to "a very-high-quality amateur's station."

That's not a description of my station and may not be of yours, but you may get an opportunity to operate this unit at some point in the future, so you should be aware that the company takes pride in its statement that "the operator has only to move the frequen-

cy tuning knob on the transceiver" and let the fully automatic Expert 2K-FA handle the rest.

The amp has a back panel with a USB port for PC control and downloading upgrades along with six antenna connectors, and the paperwork says it is capable of selecting up to three antennas on each band. It also has a 5.4× heat-sink surface and a total of four ventilation fans for continuous operation at any of three different power levels: full, 1 KW, and 500 watts. The front panel offers switchable operator selections for power, input antenna, and operating band, among others, plus a digital display that shows power output, operating band, input antenna, and PA gain in dB and more.

Weight for this contender comes in at just under 50 pounds, so I'll leave it to you to decide if it is lightweight (a relative term) or portable, as the reps mentioned. For more information about the Expert 2K-FA, visit the SPE website at <www.linear-amplifier.com>.

