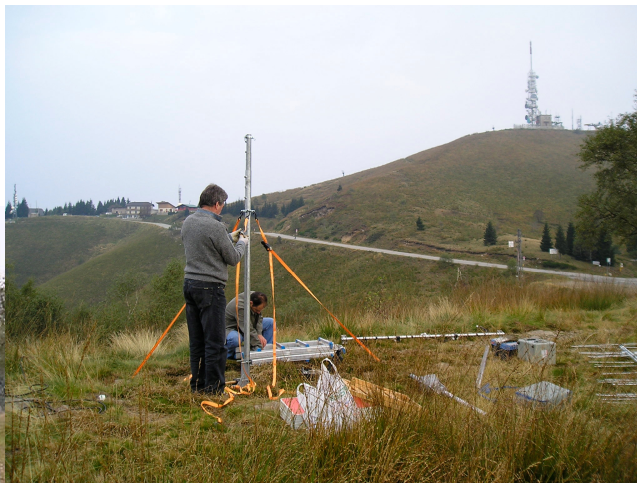
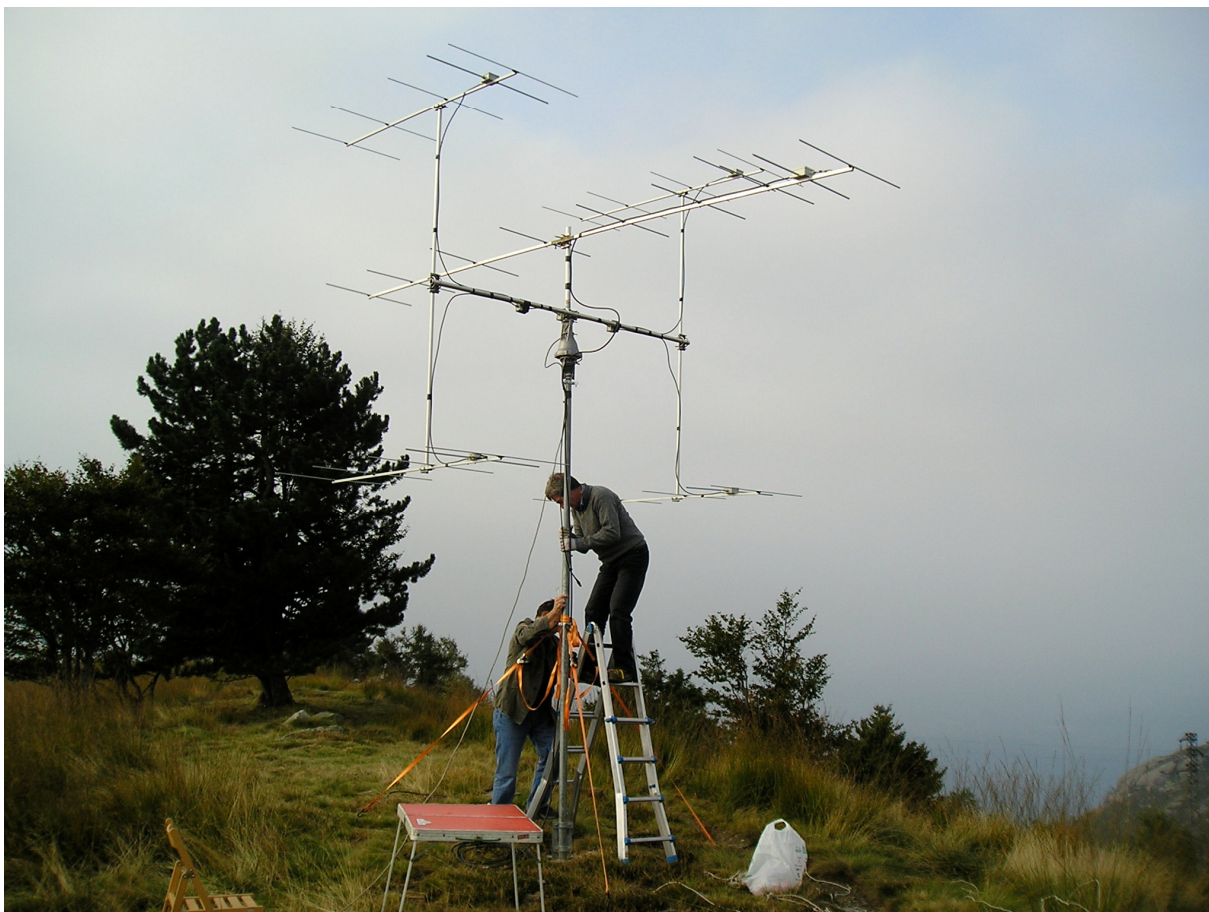


**A fine sunday in radio, with friends.**

We have a passion in common for contests and Dx, and we spoke often in frequency about it; in every contest we try to speak each other to make points. In September Rob had an idea about a test on antenna system; with Dado we organized a 'tour' on Mt. Mottarone (a mountain in JN45FV 1300 m.)



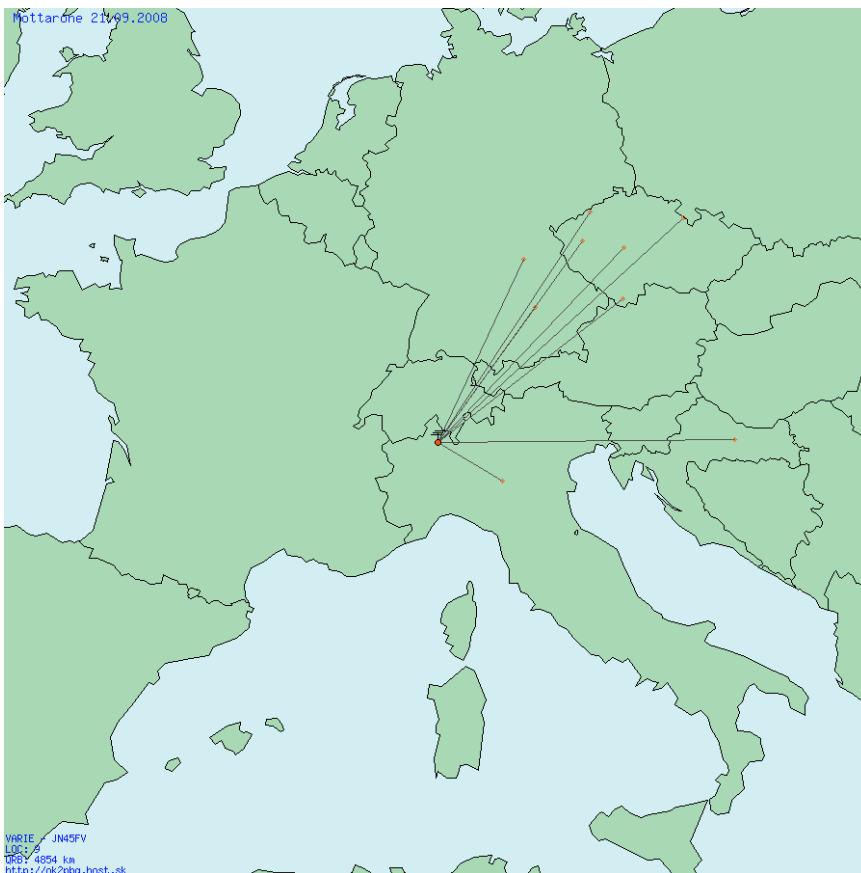
to test if the home made antennas correctly work, in opportunity of the OK contest which had ensured long distance QSO. At 8.00 AM we were on the top of the mountain and under an ugly sky we built the antennas



working with the amazing Rob (BPU) equipment. We assembled four five-elements antenna DK7ZB and one nine-elements DK7ZB, home made by Dado (NRI), rtx 2mt., amplifier, bird, rotor, power generator, table, chairs, etc.,.... At 9.30 AM we were on air with 200 W and we started the calls.



The first controls was made with DK1FG that showed a spread of 5 points between the two antenna system, the best for the 4 stacked antennas. The difference was big in reception too; the signal was better receivable with the stack, but with a strong ambiantal noise. The nine-elements were more quiet, but with low gain. Next, we tried to call to the OK; in two hours we made 7 QSO with great satisfaction, working only with the four-stacked antennas.



We also had fun trying to imagine our corrispondents expressions when connecting three portable station/1 from the same locator in the same time... The signal intensity difference on



great distance was always better for the stacked antenna. Report from italian stations didn't let us make check up because the signals at low power were too strong for a correct report.



At 12.00 AM we stopped the test and packed the equipment under a cloudy sky.

Now we have to think about the results, to understand how organize the future works about antennas and what about the team that will challenge in 2009 contests with hope of good placement. We work together very well and we already know how to realize a good contest.

I1BPU/1 Roberto, IW2NRI/1 Dario, I2DZQ/1 Giorgio.

Italy - Mottarone (VB) - 09.21.2008