

sci.astro.amateur: Re: tired of freezing to death outdoors!!– help!

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rmollise@aol.com (Rod Mollise) wrote in message
news:<20041204145038.06175.00000980@mb–m27.aol.com>...
> *I'm not sure...I assume you can keep adding boosters for at least this long.*
> *How about it, computer gurus?*

Wireless technology has come down is price so much that is may be a more cost effective solution. For example, the Wireless DSL/Cable Gateway Router, 802.11g, F5D7230–4 (\$30), is probably good up to 200ft although the advert literature says they'll broadcast out to 500ft:

http://www.compusa.com/products/product_info.asp?product_code=300875&pfp=SEARCH

Network adaptor or USB cards are available within a reasonable price:

Belkin Wireless G USB Network Adapter, 802.11g, F5D7050, can be plugged into the end of a 2ft USB cable(\$20):

http://www.compusa.com/products/product_info.asp?product_code=313104&pfp=srch1

A PC and notebook card versions are available:

http://catalog.belkin.com/IWPS_JumpToSection.process?RestartFlow=t&IWAction=Load&Merchant_Id=&Catalog_I

The advert literature does not state the broadcast range of the remote units, but PC card wireless adaptor has an optional extension antenna, to increase the broadcast range of the the remote laptop, back to the network station, out to 800 feet:

http://catalog.belkin.com/IWCatProductPage.process?Merchant_Id=&Section_Id=201522&pcount=&Product_Id=126

One could visualize an insulated storage case, like the types used in the beds of pickup trucks, containing two portable car starter batteries with cigarette lighter ports. One power supply runs a small laptop with the wireless network card, possibly with an extension antenna. The second power supply drives the telescope and dew heaters.

Only one small perforation needs to be in the storage box to pass cables.

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The remote laptop could then be run over the wireless network from a second computer within the comfort of your home, using Windows Remote Desktop Manager or the superior Linux or X–windows remote desktop managers.

Just an idea. I'm no computer guru.

Give Peace a Chance – Canopus56

See also with respect to robotic telescopes, the Bradford Robotic Telescope at:

<http://www.telescope.org/index.php>