

# ARCHIVED REPORT

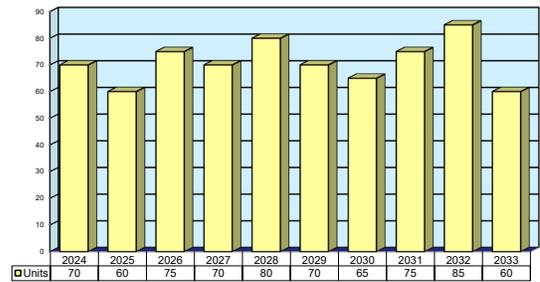
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## PRC-188

### Outlook

- Significant lack of publicly available information on the Chinese-made PRC-188 makes any production forecast inherently speculative
- Given the enormous variety of desirable radios already available on the worldwide market, the potential of the PRC-188 may depend mostly on its relative affordability

Unit Production Forecast  
2024-2033



### Orientation

**Description.** The PRC-188 is a manpack, vehicular, and base station military radio.

**Sponsor.** Shaanxi Communications Group Co Ltd.

**Status.** Likely ongoing support and production.

**Application.** Communications.

**Price Range.** The price of one PRC-188 radio is estimated to be \$18,000.

### Contractors

#### Prime

**Shaanxi Communications Group Co Ltd**

<http://www.fenghuo.cn/Item/list.asp?id=1780>, No. 72 QingJiang Rd, Baoji, Shaanxi, China, Tel: + 86 0917-3624411, Fax: + 86 0917-3625666, Email: fh@fenghuo.cn, Prime

Contractors are invited to submit updated information to Editor, International Contractors, Forecast International, 75 Glen Road, Suite 302, Sandy Hook, CT 06482, USA; rich.pettibone@forecast1.com

**PRC-188****Technical Data****Specifications**

**Modes:** F3E narrowband FM; 12-16 kbits/digital voice simplex

**Frequency Range:** 30-88.000 MHz

**Channel Spacing:** 25 kHz

**Number of Channels:** 2,320

**Stored Channels:** 20

**Frequency Stability:**  $\pm 8 \times 10^{-6}$

**Sensitivity:** Better than 0.35  $\mu$ V (SINAD = 12 dB)

**Audio Power Output:** 3.5 mW (rated), 15 mW (max)

**IF Rejection:** 70 dB

**Image Rejection:** 60 dB

**Power Output:** 8 W,  $\pm 1.5$  dB high power; 1 W low power

**Harmonic Component:** Less than -40 dB

**Narrowband (Analog Voice) Frequency Deviation:** 5 kHz (rated)

**Wideband (Digital Voice) Frequency Deviation:** 5.6 kHz,  $\pm 1$  kHz

**Pilot Tone:** 150,  $\pm 2$  Hz

**Power Consumption:** RX 150 mA, TX 2 A

**Antenna:** 1.5-m whip antenna, 40-m beam antenna

**Power Supply:** 14.4 V Li-ion battery; hand generator

**Dimensions:** 210 x 72 x 246 mm (not including battery box); 210 x 72 x 322 mm (including battery box)

**Weight:** 2.8 kg (main set)

**Program Review**

Information on the PRC-188 is extremely limited.

What is known is that the PRC-188 radio is primarily designed for communications among commanders and other personnel at the battalion, company, and platoon levels. The radio can also be utilized as a fixed transceiver. When the radio is set up with a 50-W

power amplifier and a 3-meter center-fed antenna, it can be used as a vehicle-borne transceiver. The PRC-188 also has encryption and data capabilities.

The PRC-188 radio provides F3E narrowband FM voice and wideband digital voice. An LCD frequency synthesizer and antenna tuning unit (ATU) are built in.

**Funding**

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Funding for the development and manufacture of the PRC-188 is thought to be provided by the government of the People's Republic of China, through Shaanxi Communications Group Co Ltd.

## Contracts/Orders & Options

No recent contracts have been identified.

## Worldwide Distribution/Inventories

There have been no announcements of any international agreements. Forecast International believes that the PRC-188 is in service with the Chinese armed services.

## Forecast Rationale

The PRC-188 is a manpack, vehicular, and base station military radio manufactured by China's Shaanxi Communications Group Co Ltd. The forecast period will likely see some production, given the potentially large military client base for the system in China.

Considering the enormous variety of tactical radios already available on the worldwide market, the appeal for potential buyers of the PRC-188 outside of China and some of its usual military equipment purchasers, such as some nations of Africa, may depend mostly on the system's likely relative affordability.

## Ten-Year Outlook

ESTIMATED CALENDAR YEAR UNIT PRODUCTION												
Designation or Program	High Confidence					Good Confidence			Speculative			Total
	Thru 2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	
Shaanxi Communications Group Co Ltd												
PRC-188 <> China <> Armed Services												
	580	70	60	75	70	80	70	65	75	85	60	710
<b>Total</b>	580	70	60	75	70	80	70	65	75	85	60	710