

TST 5500

Modem with built-in encryption

The TST-5500 was a telephone modem with a built-in cipher unit, developed and built by Tele Security Timmann in Tutzing (Germany) during the 1990s. The device is suitable for the encryption and decryption of computer data at speeds between 1200 and 28.800 baud. A simplified version of the unit, without the modem part, was known as TST-5573.



The TST-5573 was a simplified version of the TST-5500. It did not contain a modem, so that no approval from the national PTT was required. Instead the unit was inserted between the serial RS-232 line of the computer (COM-port) and the existing modem. The case was nearly identical to that of the TST-5500, but had no LCD display at the front.

The TST-5573 was available in two variants: in a ruggedized military-grade aluminium housing, such as the one shown in the image on the right, and in a plastic enclosure similar to a regular modem (shown in the image below).

