

field test

C-Scope CS6Pi

C-Scope International have been around for many years and in that time have produced a vast array of metal detectors for the hobby market. The models produced, however, have been mainly intended for use on inland sites, and there has always been a large gap in their range. A good beach machine was needed to fill this void.

It is good to see that C-Scope did not rush headlong into this project and come out with an "iffy" machine for use in wet sand. Rather, they waited until the time was right and their development complete.



C-Scope have coupled their expertise in making metal detectors with Eric Foster's vast knowledge of Pulse Induction machines, and have come up with a detector that is a winner all the way.

C-Scope's new machine is the CS6Pi, a motion detector that already rivals the other great motion P.I. machines on the market.

I have been detecting with this machine for the last month, during which time I was able to put in eleven days detecting. Finds made during the testing of the CS6Pi have been:-

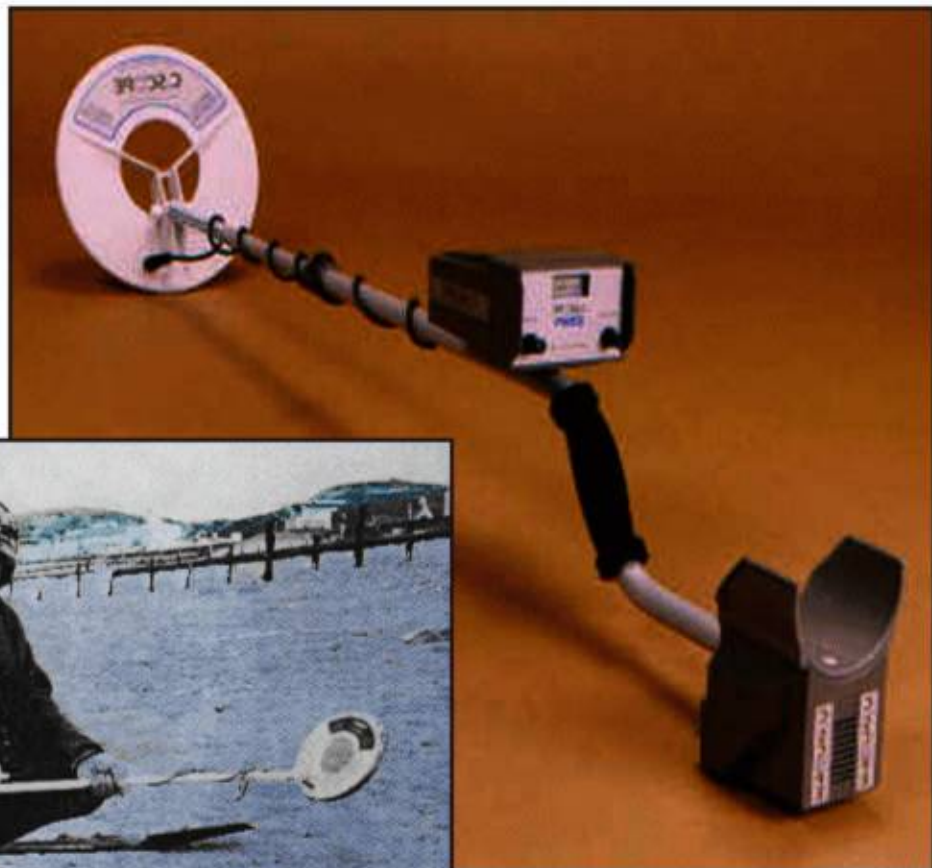
- 16 gold rings
- 14 silver rings

- 4 silver bracelets
- 2 silver necklaces
- 1 gold St Christopher
- 1 gold watch strap
- 3 silver St Christophers
- 2 silver brooches.

All of the gold items were of 18ct or 22ct, apart from one 9ct gold wedding band.

Besides the above there was, of course, the usual array of junk jewellery, and an amount of coinage too great to list or mention.

I must state that this detector is a pleasure to use, and I regard it as being on an "even keel" with the Goldscan. The



Left: 'Willie the Wizard' with the C-Scope CS6Pi at Llandudno

benefit in searching with the CS6Pi is that it is so simple to operate. There is no re-tuning to be done; you just switch on and go.

When a detector is simple to use in this way, it allows the user to concentrate on listening for signals rather than thinking "Is the machine set right?" or "Should I be adjusting something?". Without these worries your mind can concentrate more on the task in hand, and listen for those little faint signals which usually result in a good find.

In the eleven days of detecting I had with this machine, I didn't use any of my other detectors and - what's more to the point - neither did I want to. That's why I tested the CS6Pi for a month... I just didn't want to send it back! Unfortunately back it eventually had to go, and I can only hope

that the next reviewer or user of this fine machine has as much success and joy out of it as I had.

One other point in the favour of the CS6Pi is its weather-proofing. Not only did it look capable of coping with any weather our British climate could throw at it, under test conditions it didn't have much choice but to cope! Every time I went out on test, the heavens opened and it poured down; but the CS6Pi took it all in its stride.

Beach Testing Results

My depth testing of the CS6Pi was on Rhyll beach, in an area as near as possible to where I had tested the Goldquest. Again Terry accompanied me with his own PI detector to carry out some comparisons.

I placed a new 10p coin in an empty plastic 35mm film canister, which was then filled with sand from the bottom of a hole. As before, I dug the hole to varying depths of between 12 and 18 inches. I then experimented to find the maximum depth that the CS6Pi could detect the coin. In this test the maximum depth was 14 inches, in black sand.

Since carrying out this experiment I have dug up old nickel shillings at a depth in excess of the test figure. I have also found a 22ct gold wedding band with the CS6Pi as deep as I have ever found one with a non-motion PI.

One thing that must be faced about using the CS6Pi is that you will have to dig holes ... *deep holes* I mean. Old 2 shilling pieces and old pennies, for example, will come up from tremendous depths.

Signals given by the CS6Pi are very similar to those of other motion PI detectors. A target indicates its presence by a "bleep" which diminishes to a slight rise in threshold for very deep objects. The signal for non-ferrous, when shallow, is short and sharp. The greater the depth of the non-ferrous item, the fainter the signal (although it still stays short). The signal given by iron, however, will blare out much longer than for non-ferrous. Nondescript pieces of iron at good depth or even medium depth will produce a "fuzzy edge" to the signal. The only iron which it is hard to discriminate against takes the form of hair pins, fish hooks, and small pieces of wire in general.

You must bear in mind that this is not a detector that has a built-in or variable ability to discriminate against iron. A lot of iron can be rejected, but it is a case of the user becoming accustomed to the signal it produces.

I tested the CS6Pi on six different beaches (two in France and four in the



UK) and did not find one that it could not handle.

Description

The CS6Pi has the typical C-Scope S-style two-piece shaft and arm rest, and a similar control box to that used on their motion VLFs such as the CS2MX. The finish on this detector is of good quality.

The battery compartment is situated under the arm rest at the top of the shaft. Installation of batteries is a simple procedure. Basically, all you have to do is remove two thumb screws on the battery compartment lid; replace the batteries and reseal (making sure the waterproof rubber seal is correctly in place).

The headphone jack plug socket is on the left side of the battery compartment and is provided with a rubber protective plug. The plug socket on the right hand side is for on board charging of nicads if these are used (charger and nicads are available from C-Scope as an optional extra, if required). On test I used alkaline batteries, which had a life of 28 hours.

The 10 inch coil that comes as standard with the CS6Pi is of the lightweight, open centre type. It is the only one made at present, but seems to be the idea size and I can see no reason why any other size of coil need be used.

Controls

The controls of this detector are simplicity itself. There are just two controls in all: threshold and frequency (I told you it was simple!). These are situated on the fascia panel of the control box. The battery check is coupled to the frequency control and registers the state of battery condition on the small signal intensity meter fitted between the two controls. This meter is ideal for the hard of hearing.

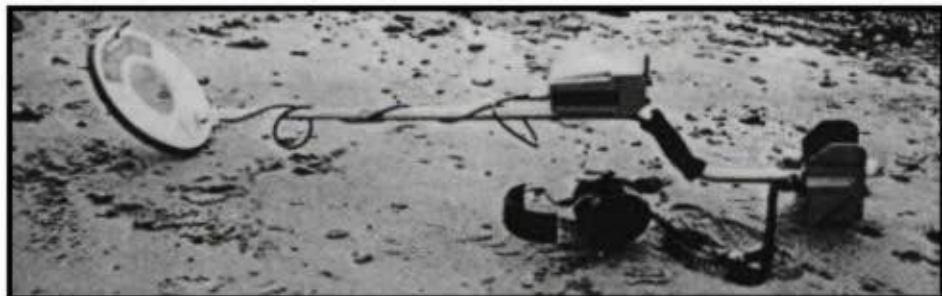
The on/off switch is combined with the threshold or sensitivity control.

Use of Controls

1. The rotary threshold control knob is turned to provide a comfortable threshold. This is usually at the 12 o'clock position but this is only a guide as it could vary slightly

Some of the finds made with the C-Scope CS6Pi





from detector to detector.

2. To check the state of the batteries turn the frequency control until it clicks into the battery check position. The needle should read within the small white lined box in the green section of the meter. When the needle leaves the white-lined box, you will have approximately one hour of detecting time left.

3. Click the frequency control out of the battery check position. This can be turned from "0" to "2.5" without loss of depth. This section is to enable you to cut out interference from other detectors that may be in the vicinity, or from radio stations and CB users.

Pinpointing

The pinpointing on the CS6PI is good and I had no difficulty in locating and retrieving my finds: Most signals will register in the centre of the coil. The CS6PI, like most other PI detectors will pick up

wire on the extreme edge of its coil. That is why you often find wire sticking out of the side of the hole as you dig down.

"Grey Areas"

Trying to find what I call "grey areas" was very difficult. The CS6PI performed well under all the conditions in which I used it, and I found it to be of robust construction. There was only one small detail on which I would like to make comment. The grill covering the speaker appears to be positioned in such a way that either sea water or dry sand could get into it, when the machine is put down on the beach to dig up a find. If I owned this machine I would therefore be tempted to fit some kind of cover over this grill. I have been told the speaker is waterproof so perhaps there are no worries in this direction, but sand could still blow in. A cover would be easy enough for anyone to make, and would prevent this from happening.

'Willie the Wizard'

Summary

The C-Scope CS6PI was tested against severe competition and came out tops on every occasion. It did exactly what was asked of it, whether it was searching at the low tide mark or in the dry sand. It even performed well in the nasty areas, such as jetties and piers, where iron abounds. Now that the CS6PI has gone back, I feel like I have lost a good friend.

SPECIFICATIONS

Model: CS6PI

Type: Motion Pulse Induction

Manufacturers: C-Scope International Ltd, Woolton Road, Ashford, Kent TN23 6LN (tel. 01233-629181).

Recommended Retail Price: £449.99 (inc VAT).

Search Coil: 10 inch lightweight "polo"

Batteries: 8 x AA cell (nicads and charger available as optional extra).

Battery Life: 28 hours obtained on set of alkalines during testing.

Guarantee: two years

Serial No. of Test Machine: 004007