



Packet Network Update

W1XSC Frequency Change
Outpost/PacFORMS Installer v61
Two-way E-mail Gateway



Santa Clara County ARES[®]/RACES

Last Updated: 22-Sep-2013

W1XSC Frequency Change

- New 2-meter frequency: 145.750
 - Repeaters are prohibited in this part of the band
- Be sure to update your radio memories

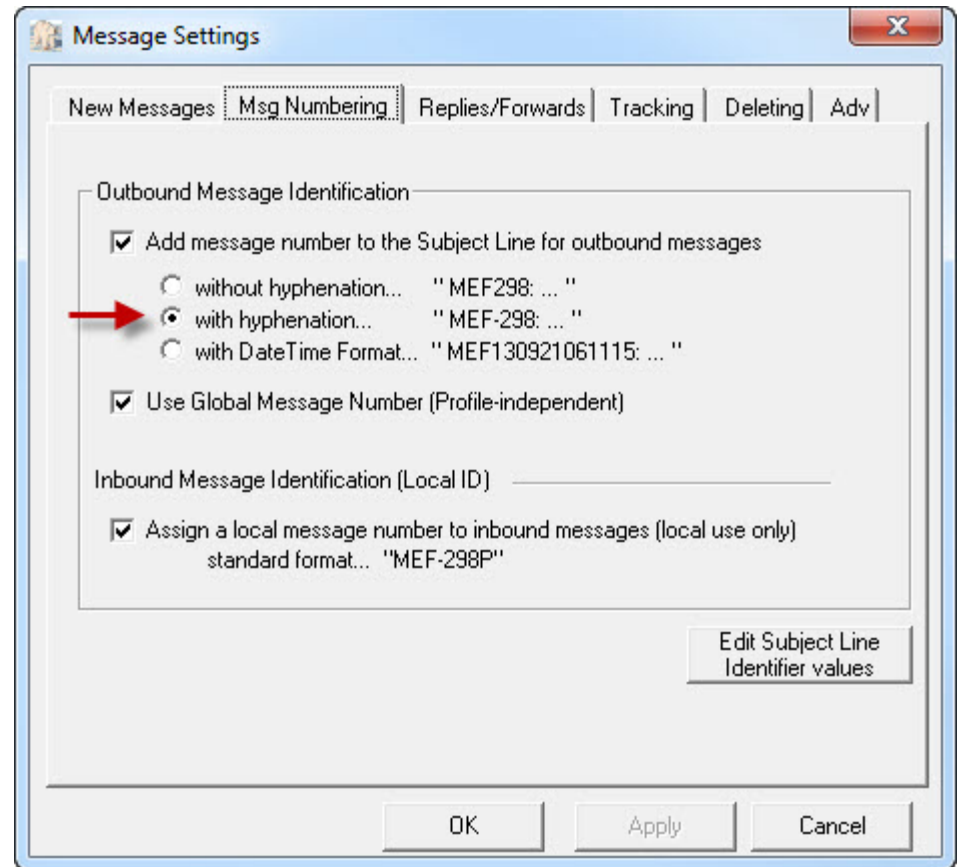


Outpost v2.8's big change

- Serial Com Library change
 - The previous comm port library worked great with hardware comm ports, but struggled with USB-to-Serial adaptors on Windows 7/64 bit machines.
- This new library offers several improvements
 - Better USB-to-serial adaptor tolerance
 - Outpost now recognizes comm ports up to COM99
 - Better Linux/Wine operability. While Outpost still does not run native on Linux and it has not been fully tested, it now works with both hardware serial ports and USB-to-Serial adaptors on Linux.
!!! Until fully tested, Outpost on Linux should be considered a Pilot.

Hyphen in Message Number Now Default

- Improves readability
 - FS1234 vs. FS1-234
- Update your old profiles
 - Tools > Message Settings



Global Message Numbering: What is it?

- Outpost automatically generates the next message number when you send a new message
- Profiles were added in the last version, but message numbering was on a per-profile basis
- If you don't pay attention to how you set up the profiles, you could cause duplicate message numbers
- Example:
 - Create Profile 1, next message number = 100
 - Create Profile 2, next message number = 100
 - Send a message using Profile 1; assigned msg # is 100
 - Switch to Profile 2
 - Send a message using Profile 2: assigned msg # is 100; Duplicate!

Configuring Global Message Numbering

- Global message numbering is now the default
- To update old profiles ...

Tools > Message Settings

Message Settings

New Messages | **Msg Numbering** | Replies/Forwards | Tracking | Deleting | Adv

Outbound Message Identification

Add message number to the Subject Line for outbound messages

without hyphenation... "MEF129: ..."

with hyphenation... "MEF-129: ..."

with DateTime Format... "MEF130912161232: ..."

Use Global Message Number (Profile-independent)

Inbound Message Identification (Local ID)

Assign a local message number to inbound messages (local use only)
standard format... "MEF-129P"

Edit Subject Line Identifier values

OK Apply Cancel

Tools > Report Settings

Report Settings

Variables | **Reports** | ICS 309

Global Variables

Next Message Number: 123 Independent of profile settings

Report Variables, this profile

Next Message Number: 100

Organization: RACES

City:

County: Santa Clara County

State/Prov (2 char): CA

Tactical Location:

Tactical ID (3 char): MEF

Tactical TX Text:

Text Variable #2:

Text Variable #3:

OK Cancel

Improved Address Handling

- BBS-style
 - Allows use of “#” character (ex: kn6pe@w1xsc.#nca.ca.usa.noam)
- SMTP-style
 - Now supports standard address formats (with/without “< >”)
 - Allows use of 2-char top-level-domains (ex: user@host.domain.eu)
 - No longer sends delivery receipts to “mailer-daemon”
 - Considered bad practice to respond to mailer system messages

PacFORMS 7-bit Compatibility

- Previously, PacFORMS used some 8-bit ASCII characters (¿¥€) for internal formatting purposes
- These were normally stripped out when the PacFORM was received and displayed in the browser
- But if a 7-bit system was in the transmission path, these characters would be corrupted, resulting in lost formatting and extra “?” symbols in messages
 - Examples: some really old TNCs, some e-mail systems
- PacFORMS now uses only 7-bit ASCII characters

Two-Way E-mail

- Outbound e-mail has been available for more than a year
- Inbound e-mail is now accepted at all four BBSs
- Send/receive e-mail to/from Internet, Winlink
- Address format:
 - *usercall*@*bbscall*.ampr.org
 - where
 - *usercall* is an FCC call sign or a tactical call sign
 - *bbscall* is w1xsc, w2xsc, w3xsc or w4xsc
 - Example:
 - Herman Munster, W6XRL4 on w4xsc: w6xrl4@w4xsc.ampr.org
- Full address overrides auto-forwarding of tactical calls
 - Be sure you know which BBS to send to
- IMPORTANT: Set your e-mail client to plain text before sending to the packet network – much smaller e-mails!

Detailed Packet Network Addressing Web Page

Santa Clara County ARES/RACES

Home Operations Packet Training and Events Reference Info. FAQ September 21, 2013

Packet Network Addressing

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Quick Reference

The following tables provide a quick reference for the various address formats that are supported by the Santa Clara County ARES/RACES BBS network. For more information about different network types, consult the details further down the page.

Sending TO an FCC Call Sign on any Santa Clara County BBS

Legend: *usercall* The FCC call sign of the recipient
bbscall The FCC call sign of the BBS used by the recipient: W1XSC, W2XSC, W3XSC or W4XSC
 W6XRL4 The fictitious call sign of Herman Munster, a character in a 1960's TV sitcom.

Format	Example	Notes
From: Any Santa Clara County BBS (W1XSC, W2XSC, W3XSC, W4XSC)		
<i>usercall@bbscall.ampr.org</i>	w6xr14@w1xsc.ampr.org	The complete address is always best
<i>usercall@bbscall.ampr</i> or	w6xr14@w1xsc.ampr or	Within the Santa Clara County network, works equally well as the complete address

- We connect to lots of nets!
- Each type has it's own rules
- This page explains all of them
- Contents:
 - Quick Reference
 - Network Types
 - Sending messages to/from:
 - AMPRnet
 - BBS Network
 - Winlink 2000 (updated)
 - Internet E-mail (updated)
 - Sending NTS traffic
 - ... all with examples

Questions / Technical Support?

- Yahoo group: scc-packet
- Currently over 140 members

- This is a closed group to avoid SPAM. You must join before you can send a message.