

Packet Network Update

Date: February 18, 2015

From: Santa Clara County ARES/RACES Packet Committee

Subject: Packet Network Update – New SCCo Packet Installer

Attention: All ECs, AECs, MACs and Santa Clara County Packet Users

This Packet Network Update contains important information which affects your ability to access and use the county packet network. This update covers the following topics:

- New SCCo Packet Installer v89
- Action Item Summary for ALL Packet Users
- Questions / comments / concerns

Please read this information thoroughly, take any recommended actions, and pass along to any packet users in your local area.

New SCCo Packet Installer v89

A new version of the SCCo Packet Installer is now available: version 89. This new installer includes an upgrade to both Outpost and PacFORMS.

This version of Outpost removes the message size limit. This is a step toward being able to use Outpost with larger attachments on higher speed channels. Use this feature with caution on the current 1200 baud channels because large messages will tie up the channel for a long time!

This version of Outpost also includes a number of bug fixes. The README file included with the installer provides full details. The following issues reported by Santa Clara County packet users have been resolved:

1. Message database timing issue. Example error messages:
 - a. "An error has occurred in Procedure: Outpost:BuildNewMsgList ... File not found:
 - b. "BbsSendMsgs App Error ... Path/File access error, step=771"
2. Global message number is not saved if configured using Tools > Message Settings > Msg Numbering > Edit Subject Line Identifier Values
3. Printing functions always print to the system default printer
4. Duplicate TNC configuration when using XSC_MFJ_1270C-1274C template

This version of PacFORMS fixes some minor typographical errors. It also fixes a bug which caused PacFORMS to not load if the user included a “/” in the “User Name” field in Outpost Setup > Identification.

Action Item Summary for ALL Packet Users

- 1) Visit the software download page:
 - <http://www.scc-ares-races.org/packet/client-software.html>
- 2) Follow the instructions to download and run the installer
- 3) Perform basic setup of the “Outpost” profile
 - Setup > Identification (Enter call sign, name, message number prefix)
 - Setup > TNC (Select a TNC type, set the COM port)
 - Setup > BBS (Select one)
- 4) Send and receive a test message to yourself
- 5) Review any other user-created configurations (profiles, TNC setups, BBS setups). Compare to the documented standards and make any needed updates.
 - Standard Outpost Configuration Instructions
 - Standard TNC Parameter Settings

Questions / Comments / Concerns

That’s all for this update. If you have a question, comment or concern, it is likely that someone else does, too. So please post it to the scc-packet Yahoo group. That way, everyone can see the question and the answer. URL: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/scc-packet>