Packet Radio and Emergency Communications

Outpost Packet Message Manager

EMCOMMWEST 2009

Reno, NV

2 May 2009
Jim Oberhofer KN6PE

Topics

1. Quick introduction to Outpost

2. What's new since 2007

3. What's next… Outpost v2.4

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

Quick intro to Outpost

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

What is Outpost?

- A Windows-based packet messaging client

- Supports ARES, RACES, and other amateur radio emergency response teams and their need to pass digital traffic

- Helps automate the packet message handling environment

- Manages all message-handling between you and the BBS

- Lets you read, delete, create, reply to, or forward messages back to the BBS

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Why use Outpost?

1. **Leverages the existing packet hardware, network, and BBS infrastructure**
   - Uses your existing TNC and packet radio equipment
   - Compatible with many existing BBSs and TNC PBBSs
   - Only your packet client (end-user program) changes

2. **Hides the complexity of the packet operating environment**
   - Similar look and feel to contemporary email programs
   - Shorter learning curve for packet operations
   - Allows users to… "*focus on the message, not the medium*"

3. **Implements most local emergency management policies for digital communications**

4. **Still under active development based on user requests and on-going alignment with the Outpost mission**

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Mission

The Outpost *Packet Message Manager* program supports the Emergency Communications Packet User community with a contemporary amateur radio packet messaging client that allows users to *focus on the message*, and *not the medium*.

Goal

Help get local ARES/RACES teams on the air with digital messaging using their existing hardware and BBS infrastructure.

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Feature highlights

- **Message support**
  - Private, NTS, and Bulletin messages
  - Text formatting in a free-form message window
  - NTS Message Maker with ARL message support
  - On-line report builder
- **Send/Receive Session (connection) control**
  - Serial, AGWPE, and Telnet interfacing with over 20 PBBS and BBSs
  - Controls connecting, sending messages to and retrieving messages from the BBS
- **Configurations and Setups**
  - BBS, TNC, and Interface configurations
  - message type and retrieval options
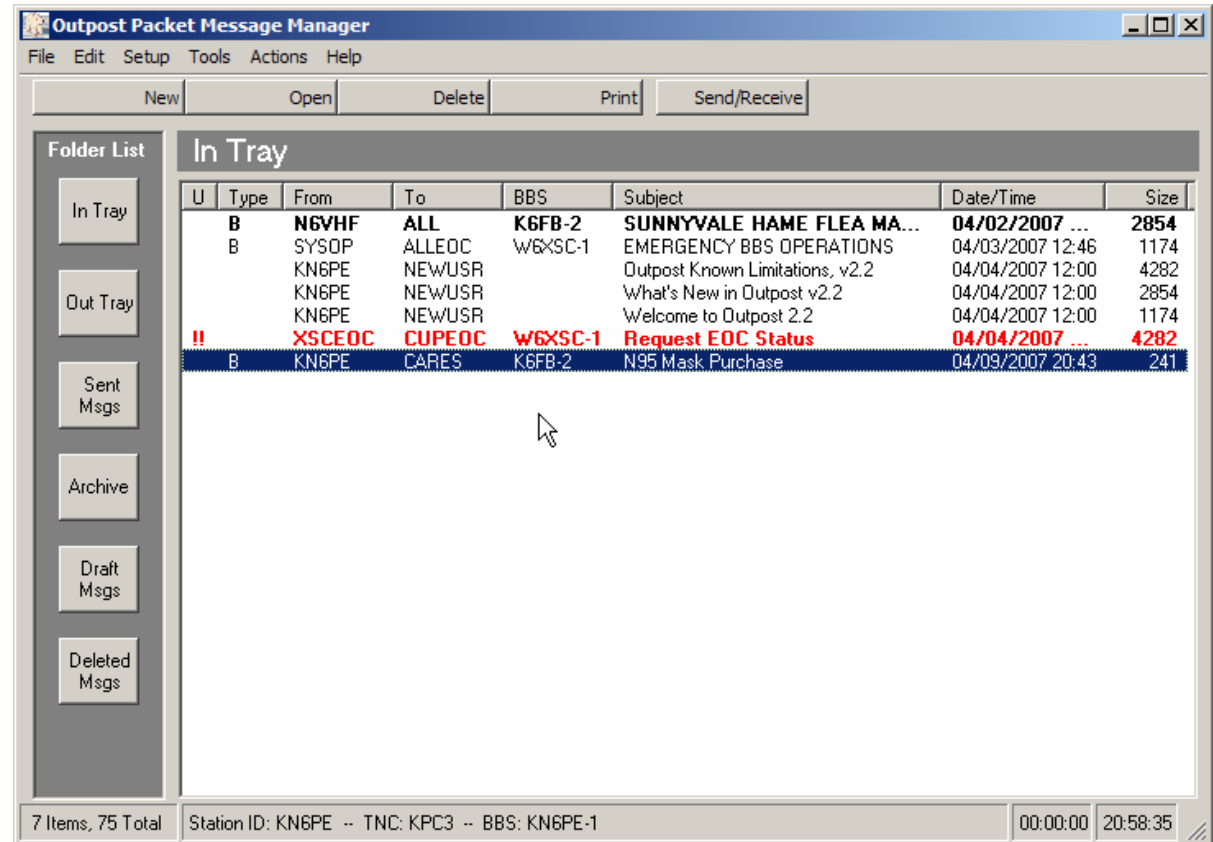 - supports 3 ways for automatically initiating send/receive sessions

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Message support

- Familiar email-app look & feel
- Separate folders for message storage
- Clear message identification (unread=**BOLD**, urgent=**Red**)
- Formal message workflow
- BBS and interface setups
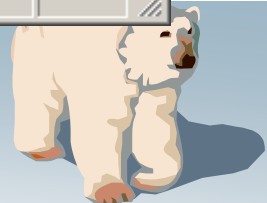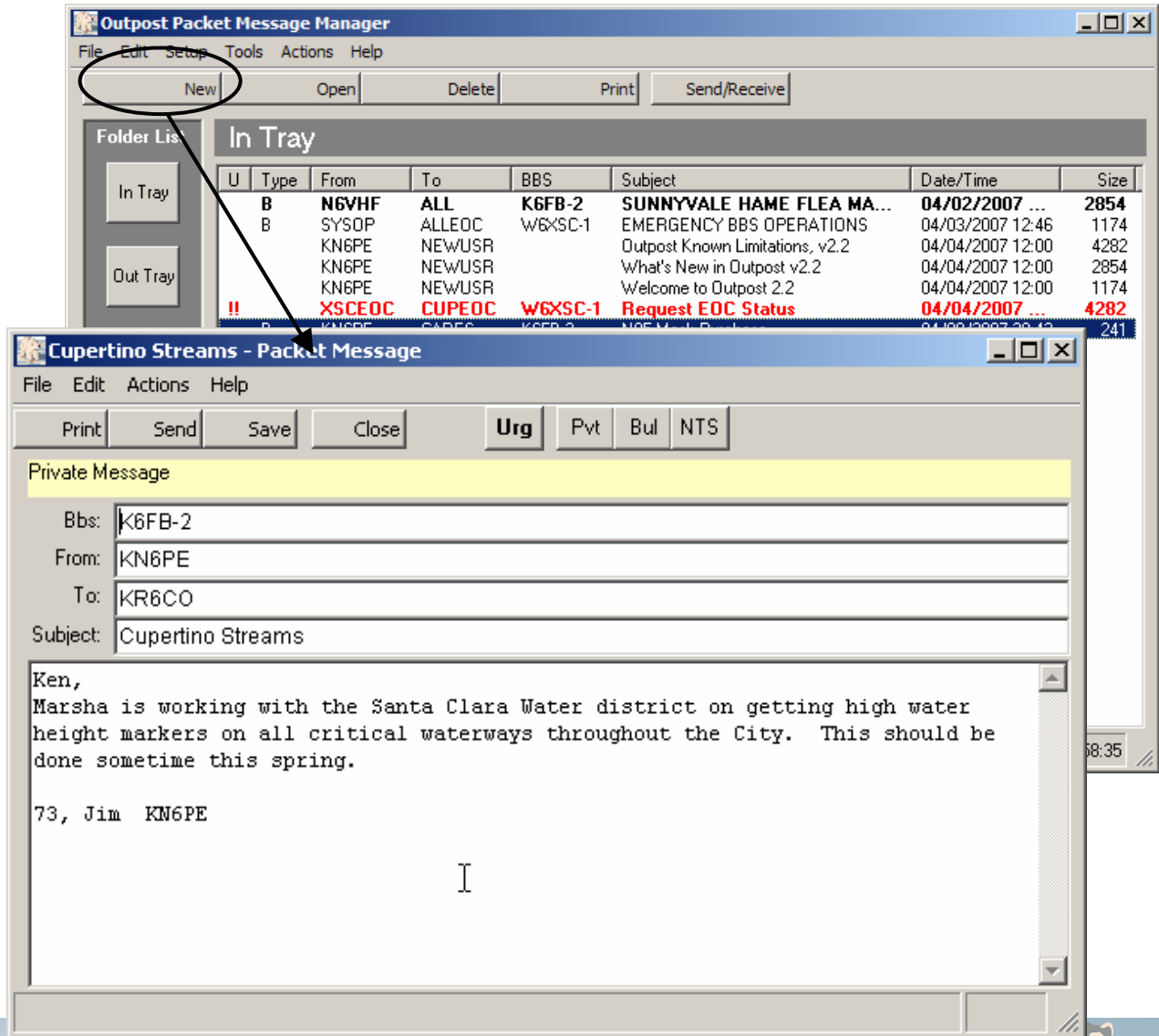- Additional settings control how Outpost behaves

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Creating Messages

- Supports Private, Bulletin, and NTS message types

- Message formatting before sending

- Set messages to **Urg**ent

- Request delivery or read receipts

- Different ways for originating messages

- NTS Message Maker

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Viewing messages

- Supports viewing, printing, deleting or saving a message to a local file

- Reply and Forward message formatting

Outpost Packet Message Manager
HOW-TOs

Outpost How-To's

The Outpost program does not include any online help. Instead, a series of HOW-TO files are provided with the application and are available on-line here. See the Outpost Users Guide for other details.

Interface How-Tos

1. AGWPE Setup
2. Telnet Setup
3. Telnet Setup with Winlink
4. TNC Command File
5. TNC Setup

BBS/PBBS How-Tos

1. BBS Setup
2. BBS Setup for Santa Clara County RACES
3. Connecting to a local KPC3/KPC9612 PBBS
4. Connecting to a local KPC3/KPC9612 PBBS
5. Connecting to a local MFJ-127X PBBS
6. Connecting to a local PK-232/DSP-232 PBBS
7. Using KA-Node/Netrom (BPQ) Access

Messaging How-Tos

1. Acknowledge Read, send automatically
2. Add a Signature
3. Annunciation
4. Automatic Retrieval
5. Create a message
6. Drag and Drop
7. Forwarding/Replying
8. Numbering messages
9. Online reports
10. Online reports, one-touch loading
11. Printing automatically
12. Requesting Delivery and Read Receipts
13. Retrieving selected bulletins
14. Send as Urgent
15. Sending a text file

Miscellaneous How-Tos

1. Enhanced Channel Monitoring
2. Scripts
3. Tactical Calls

What's new since 2007

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

What's new since EmCommWest'07?

v2.2c205 (14-May-2007) to present

- 90 enhancements and defect changes, including…

    1. Enhanced BBS support

    2. Various message and control improvements

    3. Improved Comm Port support

    4. Enhanced Channel Monitoring

    5. Scripting

    6. Opdirect & PacForms

    All release details are up at **www.outpostpm.org**

1. Enhanced BBS Support

Current list of supported BBSs (January 2009)

PBBSs (TNC Firmware-based)	BBSs (Software-based)	Support requested and pending
KPC2, KPC3, KPC3+ KPC9612 KAM, KAM-XL, KAM-98, KAM Plus, **KAM-4** Data Engine (Kantronics) PK-88, PK-232 DSP-232 MFJ-1270x, -1278	AA4RE DXNET F6FBB **HAMSERV** **JNOS, SNOS, TNOS** MSYS N0ARY **NNA** **Winlink: RMS & CMS** W0RLI	Kenwood D-700* MFJ-1274 MFNOS* PK-96* OpenBCM *** Recently added**

- See **http://www.outpostpm.org/bbs/** for...
  - Updates to the list of supported BBSs
  - Instructions on how to get your BBS supported

Overview

*Outpost Packet Message Manager*

Types of controls

- Controls the flow of Send/Receive Sessions
- Sets how messages are created and handled
- Set various data fields to automatically populate on-line reports and messages
- Set up default directory names
- Various log settings
- Outpost Scripting
- Form sizing controls
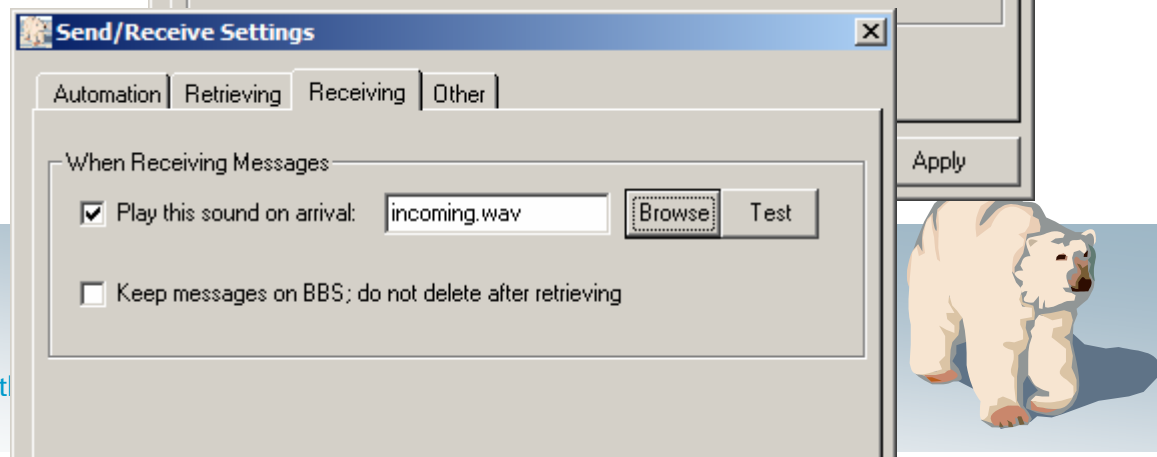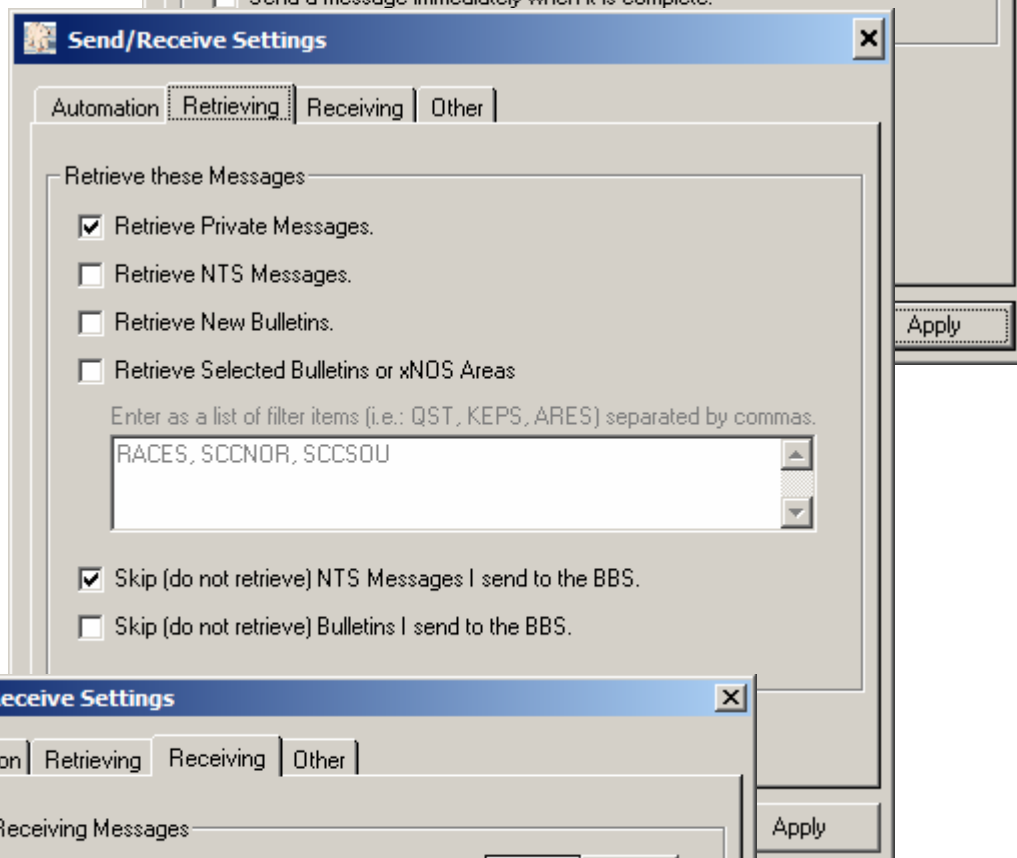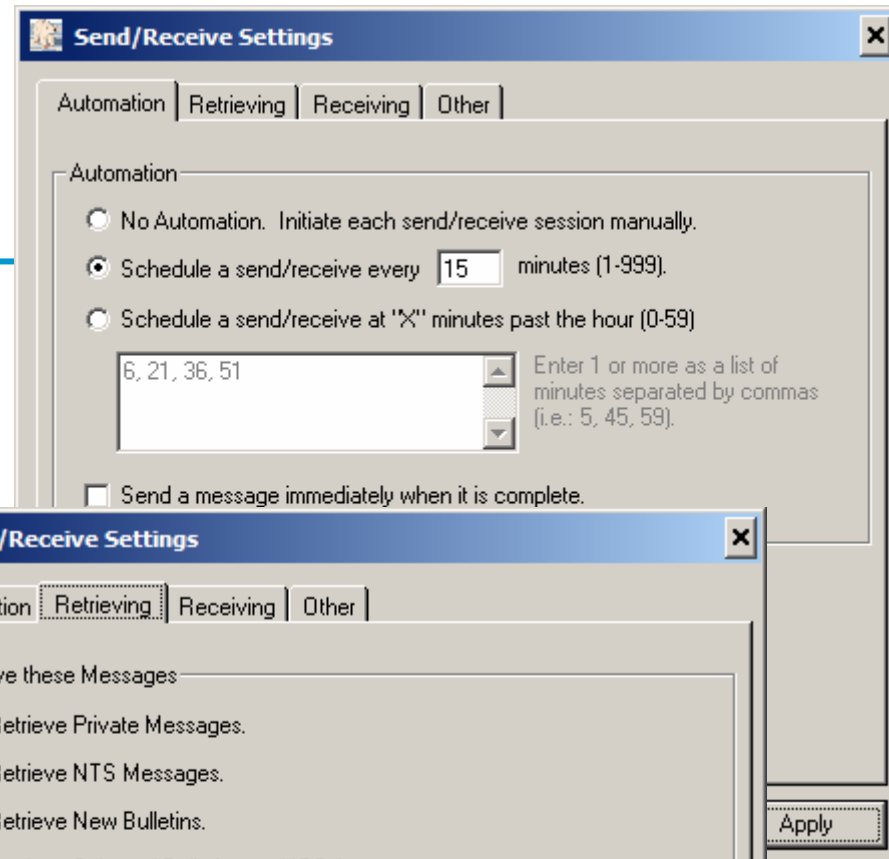- Separate Interactive Packet Windows for…
  - Serial TNCs
  - AGWPE
  - Telnet
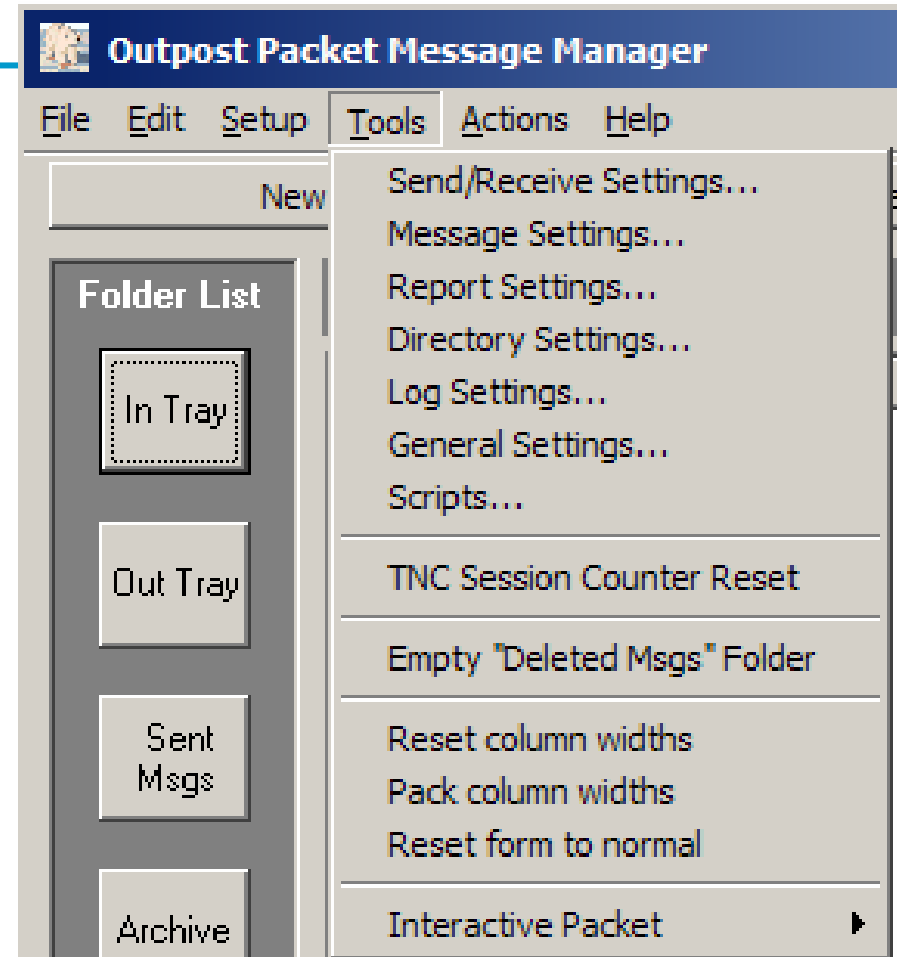
2. General controls

Recent Changes

Send/Receive Settings

- Selects different ways to automate the message send/retrieve sessions

- Select message types to be retrieved
  - New Expanded Filters

- What to do with received messages

- Additional controls (Other Tab) manage printing messages, Alerts, and other controls
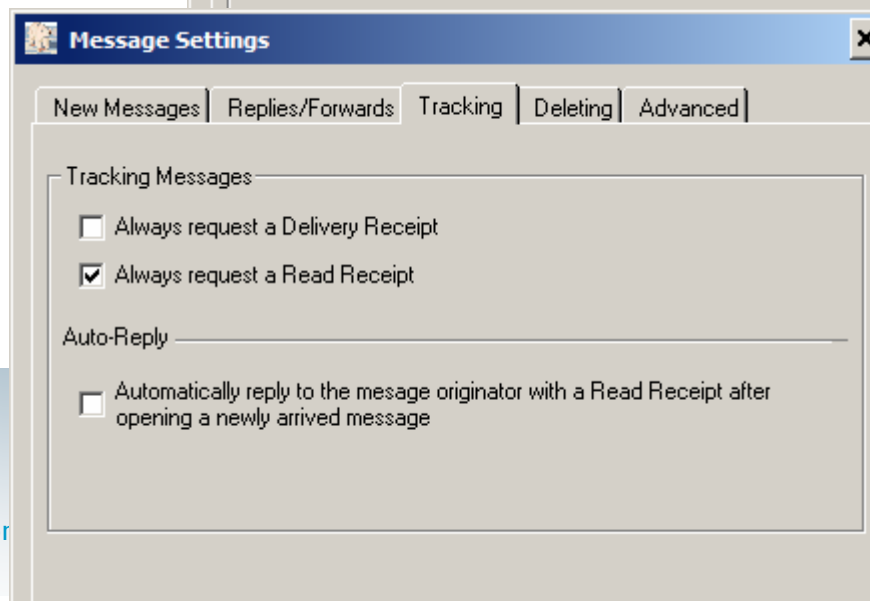
Send/Receive Settings

Automation | Retrieving | Receiving | Other

Automation

- ○ No Automation. Initiate each send/receive session manually.
- ⊙ Schedule a send/receive every `15` minutes (1-999).
- ○ Schedule a send/receive at "X" minutes past the hour (0-59)

`6, 21, 36, 51` Enter 1 or more as a list of minutes separated by commas (i.e.: 5, 45, 59).

- ☐ Send a message immediately when it is complete.

Apply

Send/Receive Settings

Automation | Retrieving | Receiving | Other

Retrieve these Messages

- ☑ Retrieve Private Messages.
- ☐ Retrieve NTS Messages.
- ☐ Retrieve New Bulletins.
- ☐ Retrieve Selected Bulletins or xNOS Areas

Enter as a list of filter items (i.e.: QST, KEPS, ARES) separated by commas.

`RACES, SCCNOR, SCCSOU`

- ☑ Skip (do not retrieve) NTS Messages I send to the BBS.
- ☐ Skip (do not retrieve) Bulletins I send to the BBS.

Apply

Send/Receive Settings

Automation | Retrieving | Receiving | Other

When Receiving Messages

- ☑ Play this sound on arrival: `incoming.wav` [Browse] [Test]

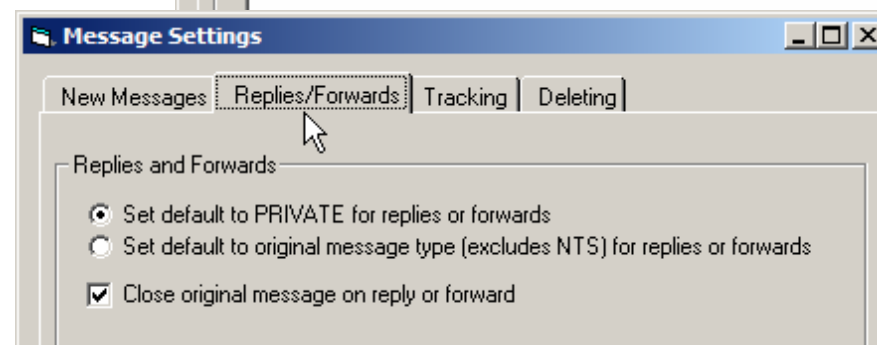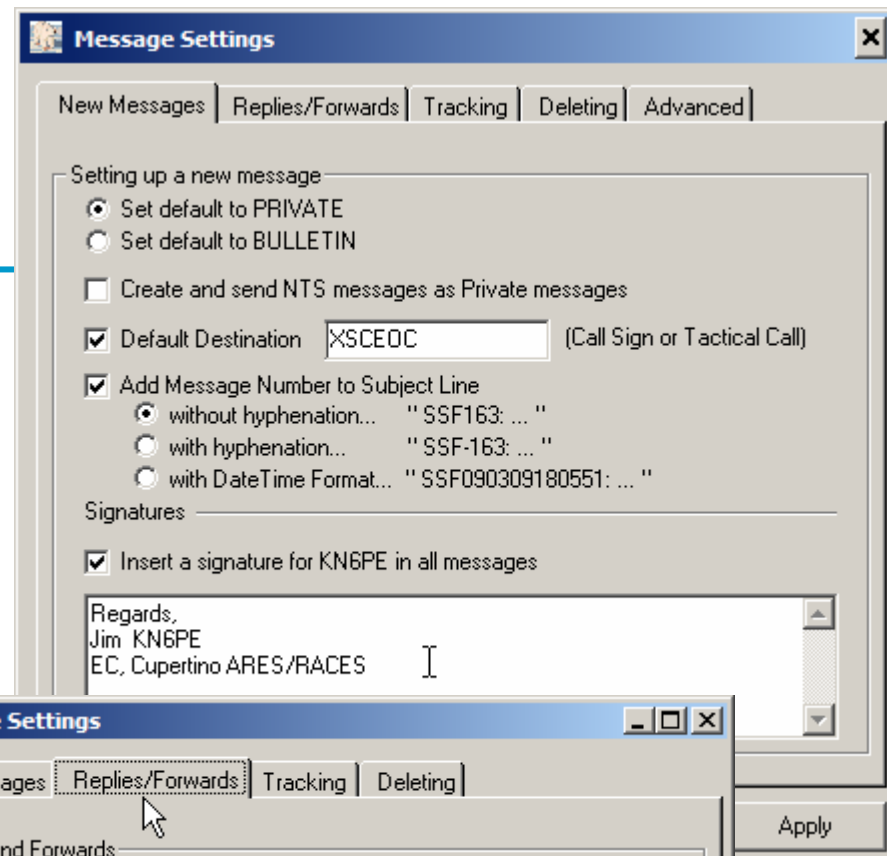- ☐ Keep messages on BBS; do not delete after retrieving

Apply

2. General controls
Recent Changes

Message Settings

- Settings for new messages, includes
  - New NTS handling, Msg Labels
  - Default destinations
  - Auto message numbering
  - Add a Signature

- Handling replies and forwards

- Set defaults for requesting message receipts

- Setting for permanently deleting messages

Message Settings

New Messages | Replies/Forwards | Tracking | Deleting | Advanced

Setting up a new message
- ● Set default to PRIVATE
- ○ Set default to BULLETIN

- ☐ Create and send NTS messages as Private messages

- ☑ Default Destination XSCEOC (Call Sign or Tactical Call)

- ☑ Add Message Number to Subject Line
  - ● without hyphenation...   " SSF163: ... "
  - ○ with hyphenation...   " SSF-163: ... "
  - ○ with DateTime Format... " SSF090309180551: ... "

Signatures

- ☑ Insert a signature for KN6PE in all messages

Regards,
Jim KN6PE
EC, Cupertino ARES/RACES

Apply

Message Settings

New Messages | Replies/Forwards | Tracking | Deleting

Replies and Forwards
- ● Set default to PRIVATE for replies or forwards
- ○ Set default to original message type (excludes NTS) for replies or forwards
- ☑ Close original message on reply or forward

Message Settings

New Messages | Replies/Forwards | Tracking | Deleting | Advanced

Tracking Messages
- ☐ Always request a Delivery Receipt
- ☑ Always request a Read Receipt

Auto-Reply
- ☐ Automatically reply to the message originator with a Read Receipt after opening a newly arrived message

Apply

3. Improved Comm Port support

Recent Changes

#682: Adds TNC Initialization file capability. Allows the user to define a list of TNC commands to be sent to the TNC both prior to a BBS connect and immediately after a disconnect.

#720: Identifies and shows all virtual Comm Ports. Identifies exactly what comm ports exist.

#607: Adds capability for Ipserial.exe to export a current interface configuration to Outpost.
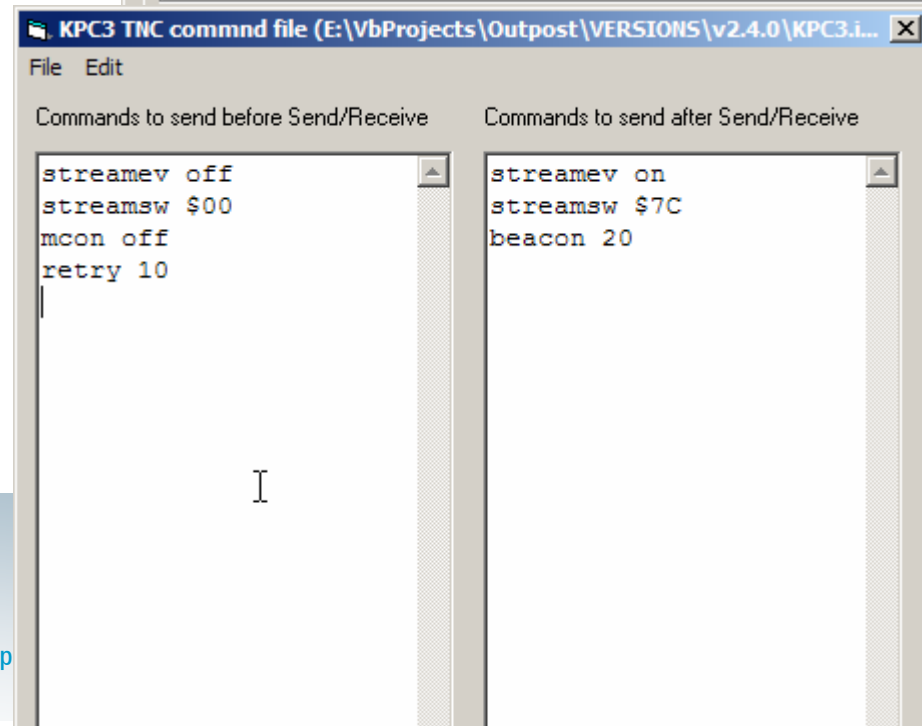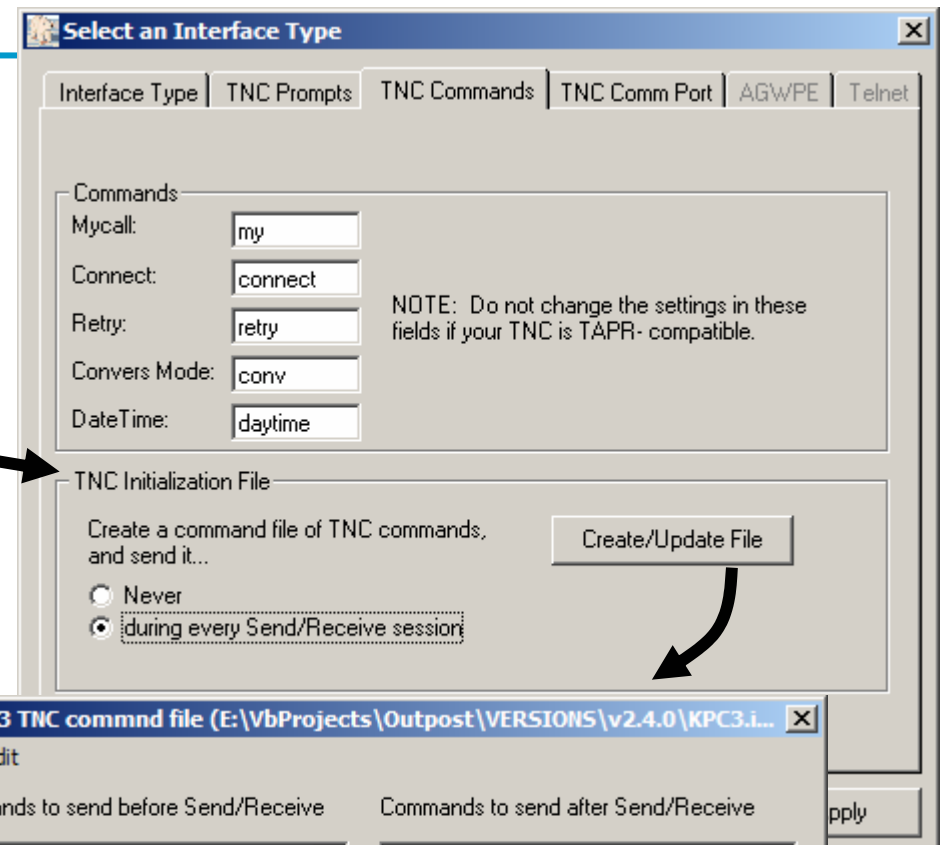
4. Enhanced Channel Monitoring
Recent Changes

The Problem

1. Users want to monitor the packet channel in between Outpost sessions

2. However, 2 apps cannot access a comm port at the same time

The Solution

1. Run Ipserial.exe; from Outpost, select **Tools > Interactive Packet > Serial/Comm Port**.

2. From Ipserial.exe, **Tools > Options,** then check the box titled "**Turn on Packet Monitoring (MON ON) on serial port connect**". Press **OK**.

3. When Outpost runs Send/receive, it …
    (i) first tells Ipserial.exe to disconnect
    (ii) runs Send/Receive Session, then,
    (iii) tells Ipserial.exe to reconnect
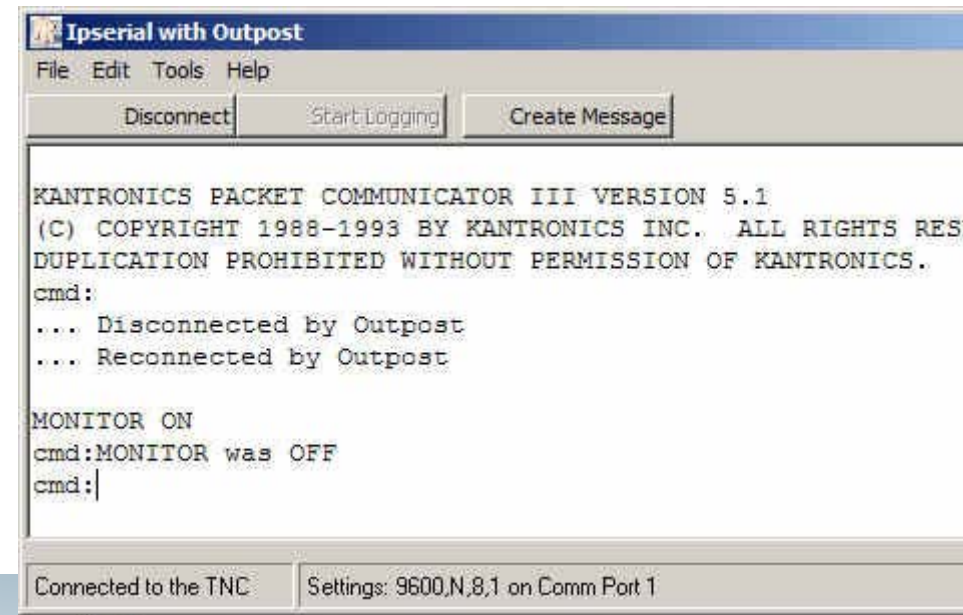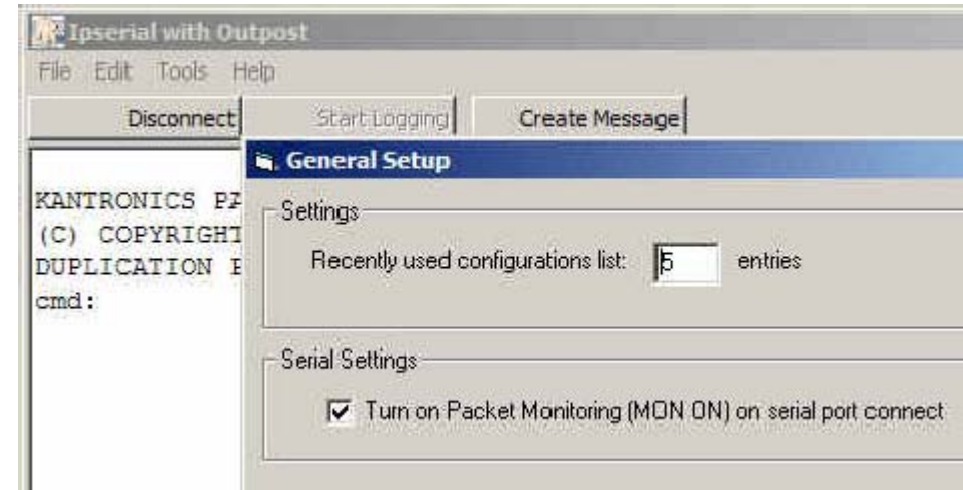
5. A tour of Outpost Scripting
Recent Changes

The problem

1. Users have requested additional capabilities with Outpost that just didn't make sense to add to the core Outpost application, such as…

    - Automatically poll a series of BBSs, one after another

    - Send the same message to several BBSs

    - Detecting a text file on the PC and send it as a message to a BBS

    - Finding and doing something with a message that is received by Outpost

2. Needed a different approach that would let users take advantage of the Outpost capabilities without…

    1. Over-complicating the Outpost program, and

    2. constraining the creative ideas that Outpost users have

A tour of Outpost Scripting

Recent Changes

What is Outpost Scripting

1. The means for users to write their own logic to manipulate the *entire* Outpost messaging environment

2. It is made up of 4 things:

    - **Outpost Scripting Language (OSL).** A series of statements and commands that lets you develop your own messaging process flow based on your particular needs.

    - **Outpost Script Compiler.** The OSL compiler reads the OSL script and produces a "virtual machine language" output for subsequent processing. When run, it reports either a *Pass* or a *Fail*.

    - **Outpost Virtual Machine.** Runs the compiled script.

    - **Outpost Scripting Window.** All scripting capabilities - editing, compiling, and running - are managed by the Outpost Scripts program called Opscripts.exe.

A tour of Outpost Scripting
Recent Changes

Outpost Scripting Language Capabilities

Best understood by spending time running through the tutorials located here…
http://www.outpostpm.org/scripts

1. Basic introduction to scripts
2. OSL components
3. Playing with text strings
4. Arithmetic operations
5. Looping forever
6. Conditional looping
7. Other conditional operations
8. Send/Receive sessions
9. Creating messages (outside of Outpost)
10. Working with received messages
11. File Manipulation
12. Interacting with the outside world

The OSL statements

General Functions and Statements

Beep	Plays a beep on the PC speaker
Begin	Required; Marks the beginning of the script
Clear	Clears the runtime Monitor Display
End	Required; Marks the end of the script
If... Then... Else	Conditional check
Loop... EndLoop	Unconditional loop
OnError	Determine how to proceed in the event an error occurs
Pause()	Causes the script to pause
Play()	Plays a .wav file
Print()	Prints a line of text to the Runtime Monitor window
Run()	Run a program, does not wait for it to complete
Runw()	Run a program, waits for it to complete
Script	Required; Identifies this file as a script
SendReceive	Initiates an Outpost Send/Receive session
Var	Defines a user variable
While.. EndWhile	Conditional loop

File Functions

Delete()	Deletes a file
Exists()	Tests if a file exists
FindFile()	Sets up to find matches to a file mask
GetFileName()	Returns the file name only from a full path file string
MoveFile()	Moves a file to a different directory
NextFile()	Gets the next file that matches a file mask
ReadFile()	Read a file content
ValidFileName()	Creates a valid file name from path and name elements
WriteFile()	Writes text to a named file

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

The OSL statements

String Functions

FindWord()	Sets up to find matches to a comma-delimited string
NextWord()	Gets the next word in a comma-delimited string
Len()	Returns the length of a string

Message Statements and System Variables

CreateMessage	Creates an Outpost message based on parameters
BBS	Holds the BBS name
FROM	Holds the FROM address
TO	Holds the TO address
SUBJECT	Holds the Subject of the message
MESSAGE	Holds the body of the message
MTYPE	Holds the message type
FindMessage()	Searches Outpost for a message
MoveMessage()	Moves an Outpost message to a different folder
NextMessage()	Gets the next Outpost message that matches the search

Send/Receive Statements and System Variables

SendReceive	Initiates an Outpost Send/Receive Session
BBS	Holds the BBS name
TNC	Holds the TNC name
MYCALL	Holds the Station Identifier (Call Sign)
TACCALL	Holds the Tactical Call
RETRIEVE	Holds what message types to be retrieved
FILTER	Holds the categories for a Filter Retrieve

Other System Variables

TRUE, FALSE	Value against which conditions can be checked
ON, OFF	Value that can be used to set items
CRLF	Value that causes a carriage return/Line feed on output

The Opscripts.exe program

1. Single program that manages editing, compiling, and runtime monitoring

2. Scheduled from Outpost (Tools > Scripting) or double-click on the program.

3. When referencing BBSs or TNCs, they previously must be defined in Outpost!

Outpost Scripting

File   Edit   Options   Help

[New] [Save] [Display]   [Run] [Stop] [Resume]

Script Editor

```
SCRIPT

BEGIN

tnc="kpc3"
bbs="kn6pe-1"
sendreceive

END
```

Script: E:\VbProjects\Outpost\VERSIONS\v2.4.0\scripts\tmpscript.txt *   00:00:0
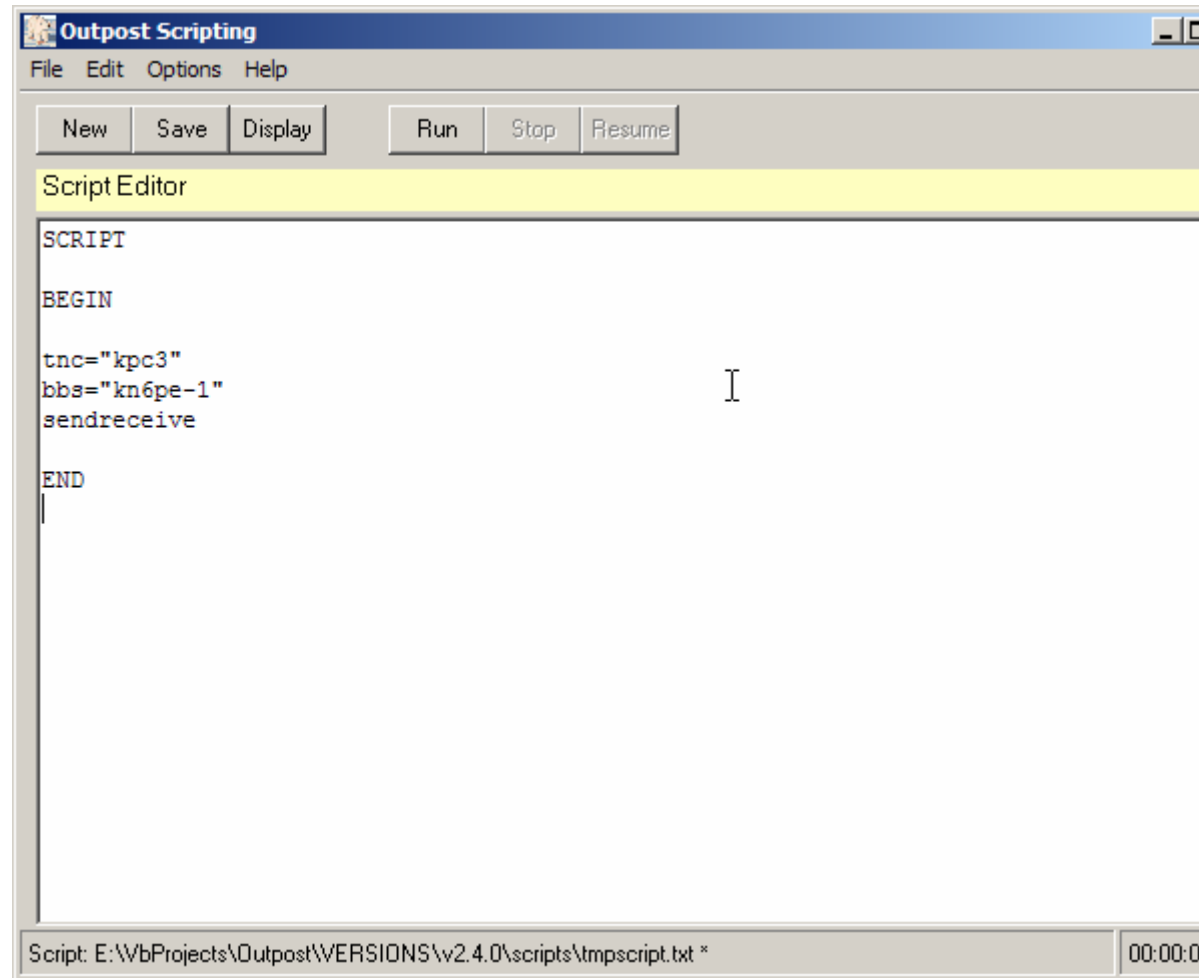
Sample script #1

```
SCRIPT
' *******************************************************************
' Description: Loop on 2 BBSs. This script will continuously loop
' on these 2 BBSs. To exit the loop, press the STOP button on
' the Run Monitor Form.
' Author:          Jim KN6PE
' Revision:        08/05/08 Original


' *******************************************************************

BEGIN
MYCALL = "KN6PE"                        ' check for my personal messages
TNC = "GARAGE-TNC"                      ' use this TNC for all runs

LOOP
   Print(CRLF & "Checking the K6FB-2 PBBS…")
   BBS = "K6FB-2"                       ' check the Las Cumbres ARC PBBS
   RETRIEVE = "PB"                      ' retrieve Private and Bulletins
   SENDRECEIVE

   PAUSE(5)                             ' Pause 5 seconds…

   Print(crlf & "Checking the W6SJC-1 BBS…")
   BBS = "W6SJC-1"                      ' check the San Jose RACES F6FBB BBS
   RETRIEVE = "PF"                      ' retrieve Private and Filtered msgs
   FILTER = "RACES:SCCNOR:SCCSOU"
   SENDRECEIVE

   PAUSE(600)                           ' Pause 10 minutes…
ENDLOOP                                 ' … then repeat

END
```

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

Sample script #2

```
SCRIPT
' ***********************************************************
' Description: Post a H&W message to the BBS every 4 hours
' Author:         Jim KN6PE
' Revision:       08/05/08 Original
'
' ***********************************************************

BEGIN
MYCALL = "KN6PE"
TNC = "GARAGE-TNC"
BBS = "K6FB-2"
RETRIEVE = "PB"                'retrieve Private and Bulletins

LOOP
    Print(crlf & "Creating and sending a H&W message…")
    FROM = "KN6PE"
    TO = "W6TDM"
    SUBJECT = "H&W Check Message"
    MESSAGE = "Allan, system is still running. 73, Jim"
    MTYPE = "Private"
    CREATEMESSAGE

    SENDRECEIVE

PAUSE(60*60*12)                ' Pause for 12 hours (60*60*12=14400 seconds)
ENDLOOP

END
```

Reports of Scripting applications

Two ways that people are using Scripting

1. SoCal: 24 hospitals and EOCs registered in @winlink.org email with their tactical call signs. Once a month at home, user sends a message (via Telnet) with the tactical call signs so that Winlink.org won't let them go dormant.

2. Ontario: Has a RMS packet bridge and a number of other BBSs on the network; polls these nodes in turn.

Outpost Scripting
Before you begin…

… a few things to consider

1. You must be familiar with setting up Outpost, creating messages and initiating Send/Receive Sessions with a BBS.

2. Having some programming background helps, but is not required. Step through the entire **Tutorial Series**, enter all examples, and play with them; get creative!!!

3. OSL is not C++, Pascal, FORTRAN, Visual Basic, or any other language. You will see similarities as well as differences.

4. Error handling will evolve. Most of the errors are trapped and reported, however, it is not yet 100% foolproof.

5. Finally, OSL is evolving. If you have an idea that you think would further enhance the usefulness of Outpost Scripting, let me know.

6. Supporting the EOC
Recent Changes

Emergency Operations Center

- Central command and control facility responsible for emergency or disaster management functions

- Responsible for the strategic overview, or "big picture", of the disaster

- The first most critical component of an EOC is the individuals who staff it

- The second most critical component of an EOC is its *communications systems*

- Most municipalities use ARES/RACES groups for their primary or secondary communications channels
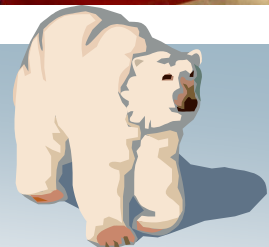
ICS-213

General Message Form

- Originally designed as a multipart self-copying form for use as an interoffice memo.

- Increasingly used for messages between parties who are not in the same location.

- The form is often originated in one location and transmitted electronically to another location.

- Replies are returned electronically and the two "parts" of the form are matched together.

- Incident messaging, message documentation, and transmission are being <u>adapted</u> to include emerging needs and <u>best practices</u>.

Source: http://ics213.com/

Supporting the EOC
Recent Changes

If ICS-213 is what the OES uses, how do we tighten the alignment between what ARES/RACES Teams have to offer with their needs?

How do we support the passing of situational awareness information and strategic orders?

What are the opportunities?

Adding an ICS-213 form to Outpost is one of the more frequent asked-for requests

However, everyone's got an opinion on how ICS-213 should look

ICS-213

General Message Form

- Most ICS-213 Message Forms look like this…

Source: http://ics213.com/

Packet Radio and Emergency Communicatio

GENERAL MESSAGE			
TO:	POSITION:		
FROM:	POSITION:		
SUBJECT:	DATE:	TIME:	

MESSAGE:

SIGNATURE: | **POSITION:**

REPLY:

DATE:	TIME:	SIGNATURE/POSITION:

ICS-213
General Message Form

Multiple flavors

- One way, RACES variation

Source:

http://http://ronhashiro.htohananet.com/am-radio/emcomm/

ICS-213

General Message Form

Multiple flavors

- Header variation…

- Voice-net ready…

General Message ICS-213 form with fields: Message Number, Check, To:, Position:, From:, Position:, Subject:, Date:, Time:, Message:

VIRGINIA RACES - ICS FORM 213 GENERAL MESSAGE

TO: _____ POSITION: _____
FROM: _____ POSITION: _____
SUBJECT: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____
MESSAGE NUMBER: _____

					5
					10
					15
					20
					25
					30
					35
					40
					50

SIGNATURE: _____ POSITION: _____
(Reply on back)

ICS-213

General Message Form

Multiple flavors

- One way, detailed

MESSAGE FORM

▶ Use Ballpoint Pen–Press Hard; Print Clearly
(See back for instructions)

	When Receiving [2] Msg.: Sender's msg. #	Msg. #	When Sending Msg. [3] Receiver's msg. #

Date: (MM/DD/YY) [1]

____/____/____

Time: (24 hour clock)

_____

0001 to 2400
2:00 PM = (12+2)= 1400 Hrs

Situation Severity (✓one) [4]
- ☐ EMERGENCY (e.g., Life Threat)
- ☐ URGENT (e.g., Property Threat)
- ☐ OTHER (All others)

Msg. Handling Order (✓one) [5]
- ☐ IMMEDIATE (As Soon as Possible)
- ☐ PRIORITY (Less Than One Hour)
- ☐ ROUTINE (More Than One Hour)

Message Requests You To: [6]
TAKE ACTION (✓one)
- ☐ Yes   ☐ No

REPLY (✓one)
- ☐ Yes, by_____   ☐ No
- ☐ FOR YOUR INFO. (no action required)

To:
- ICS Position: (required) [7]
- Location: (required) [9]
- Name: (optional)
- Telephone #:(optional)

From:
- ICS Position: (required) [8]
- Location: (required) [9]
- Name: (optional)
- Telephone #: (optional)

SUBJECT: [10] _____

REFERENCE (e.g., Number of earlier msg.): [11] _____

Message: [12] (what, when, where needed; how long; contact name and phone number) **KEEP MSG BRIEF**

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

ACTION TAKEN: [13] (For use by Originator / Recipient) ▶ USE SEPARATE MESSAGE FORM IF SENDING REPLY!

CC: ☐ Management   ☐ Operations   ☐ Planning   ☐ Logistics   ☐ Finance

Operator Use Only: [14.]

| How Received ☐ or Sent ☐ (✓one)	Operator Call Sign:
☐ Telephone ☐ Dispatch Center	Operator Name:
☐ EOC Radio ☐ FAX ☐ Courier	
☐ Amateur Radio ☐ Other _____	Date: Time:

Outgoing (Sent): [15]

Message Originator: Send the top copy (white) to radio, yellow to PLANNING, retain the pink copy for your reference.
Radio: After sending, complete Disposition info., retain white copy for file in radio.

Incoming (Received): [15]

PacFORMS

Santa Clara County RACES

ICS-213 in Santa Clara County

- Santa Clara County OES required a backup means to pass RIMS messages; Packet Radio was the logical choice

- County RACES also needed more standard means for soliciting and collecting information from the cities

- **PacForms** are web-based forms that can be deployed to the EOC staff for quick data entry

- Message can be saved to a file or passed directly to **Outpost** using **Opdirect MCS**

Opdirect MCS (Message Capture System)

Introduction

What is Opdirect.exe?

- An external program

- Listens for and receives messages from remote sources, such as SCC's ICS-213, by a WinSock connection

- Processes and writes a message to the Outpost message DB

- Requires the Outpost Operator to complete the message and then press "send."
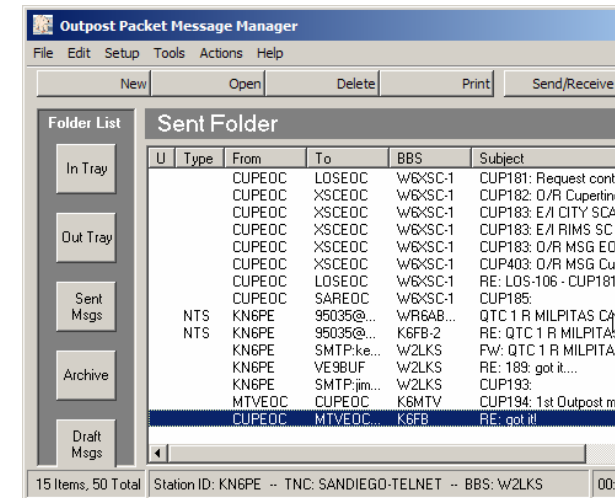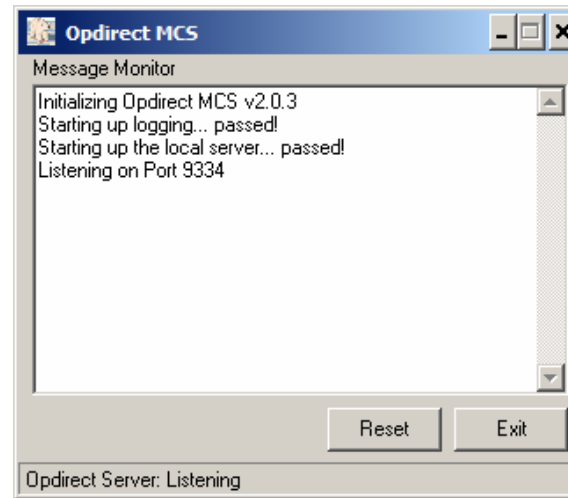
Listens to...
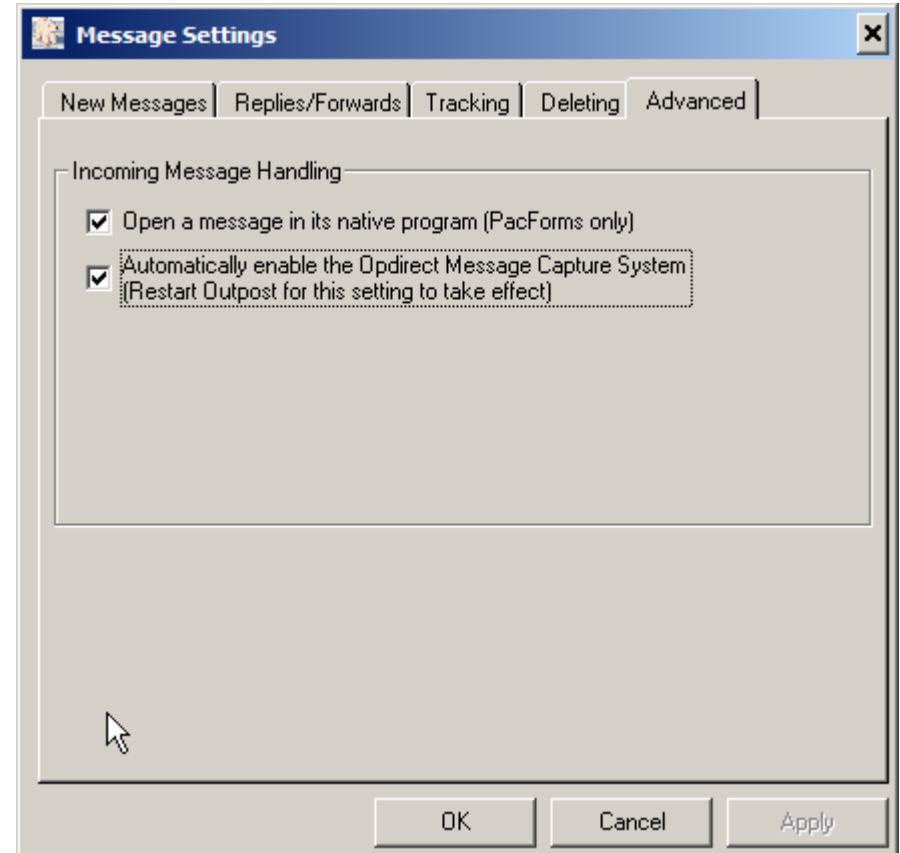**Host: LocalHost (127.0.0.1)**
Port: 9334

Outpost-formatted message

Outpost Message DB
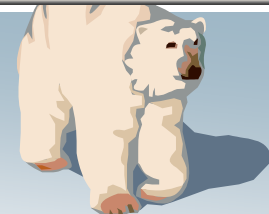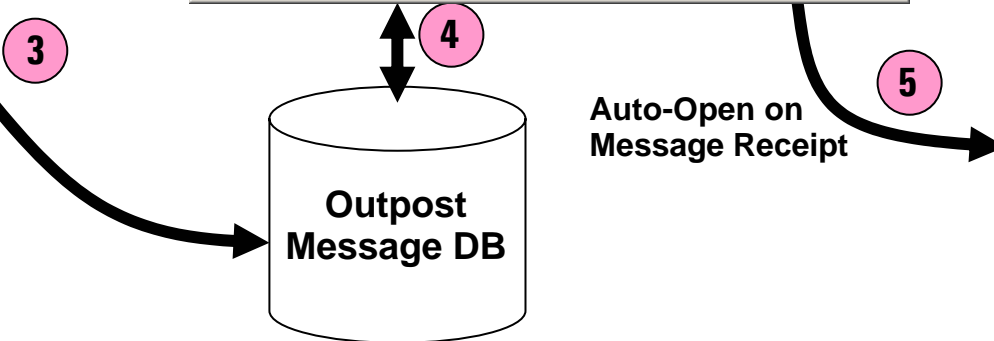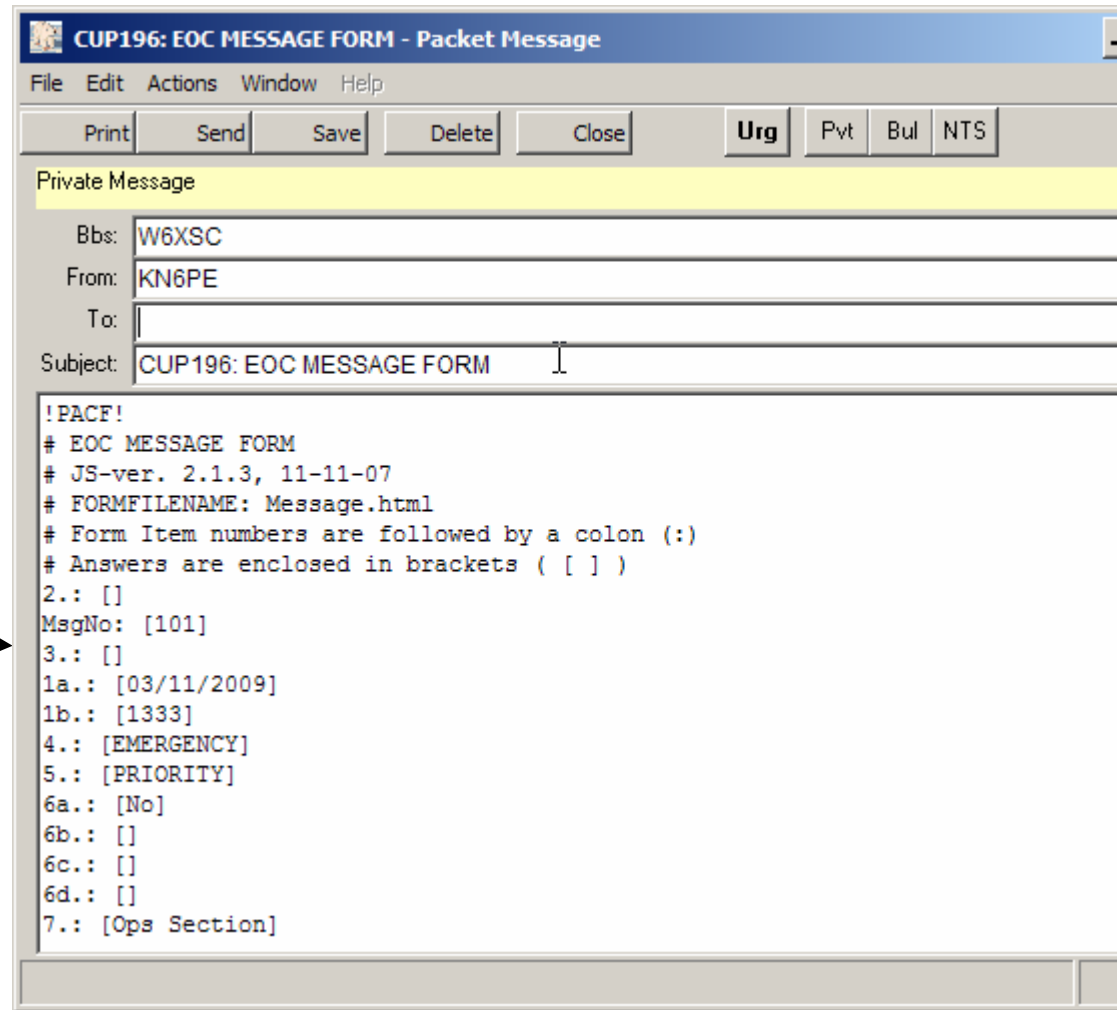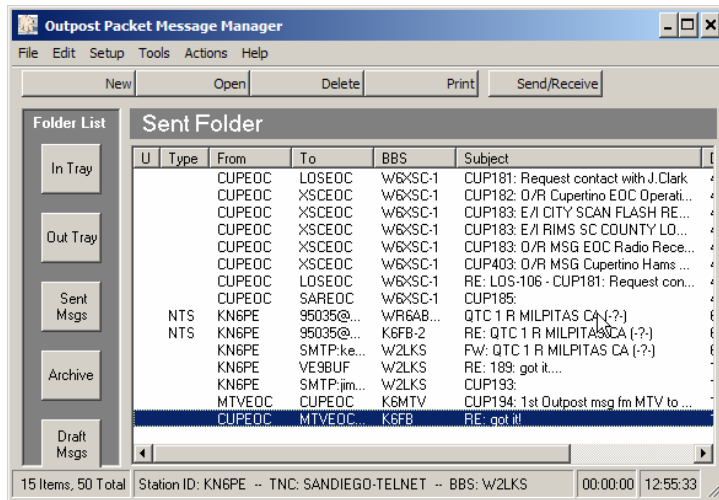
Opdirect MCS
Introduction

Starting Opdirect.exe

- From Outpost,
  Tools > Message Settings,
  Advanced Tab

- Currently, controls to schedule
  Opdirect.exe on Outpost startup

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

PacFORMS and Opdirect MCS

Processing SCC's online EOC Message Form

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

PacFORMS and Opdirect MCS
Processing SCC's online EOC Message Form

Packet Radio and Emergency Communications with Outpost

PacFORMS and Opdirect MCS

Implementation Details

- Opdirect.exe is part of the standard Outpost distribution

- Three forms are available (http://www.scc-ares-races.org/pfpublic/pacforms.html)
  - ICS 213 Message form (**Message.html)**
  - "City-Scan" Flash Report (**city-scan.html,** to report current status of the city after an emergency has happened)
  - Logistics Request Form (**logistics-request.html**, to request logistics support from the county)

- Supports a "reverse read" capability to re-assemble the messages back into human-readable form

- Must be deployed on the **same PC as Outpost** for direct message integration with Outpost

- Can be deployed on a memory stick to the EOC Staff for message entry and file creation

What's next…
Outpost v2.4

What's next… Outpost v2.4
other planned additions

1. **Address book**

   - Distribution Lists

2. **Scripting**

   - Startup automation; kick off a script when you first run Outpost
   - Load and go: run a script directly from Outpost

3. **various changes**

   - Clone BBS and TNC configs
   - Node access to Xconnect, BBS commands
   - Fix to 7 bugs, Adds ~15 enhancements

4. **ICS-213 Message Maker**

ICS-213 Message Maker

What's coming

- A generic ICS-213 general message form

- Supports local message management

- Message delivery to Outpost by Opdirect.exe

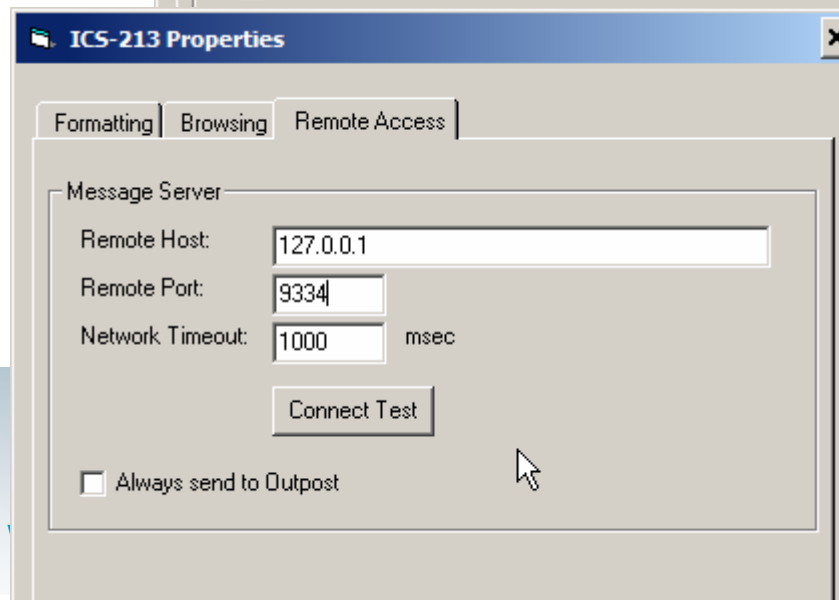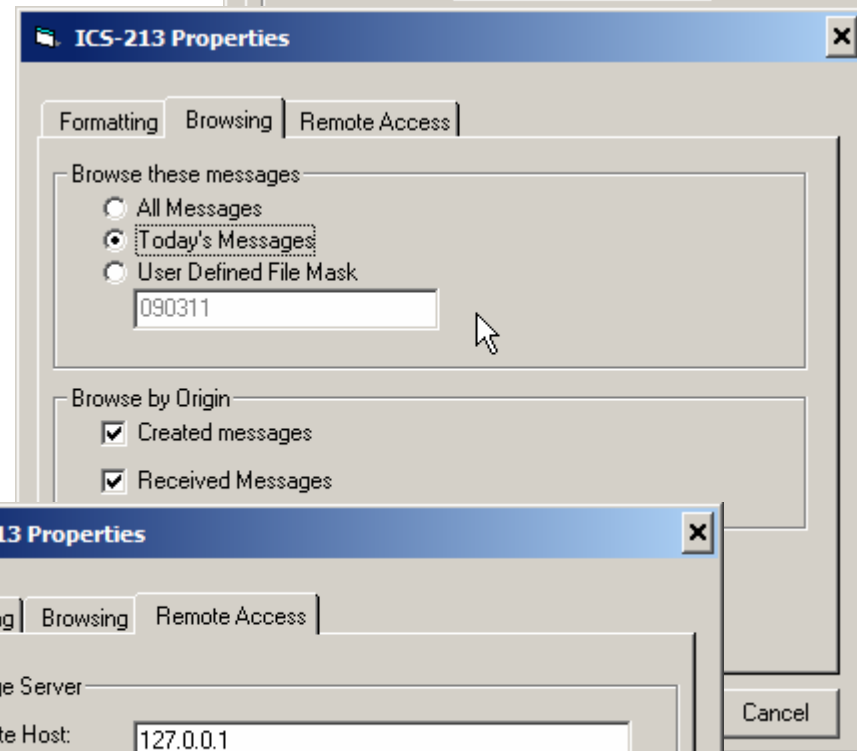- Can exist anywhere on the same LAN as the Outpost PC

ICS-213 Message Maker
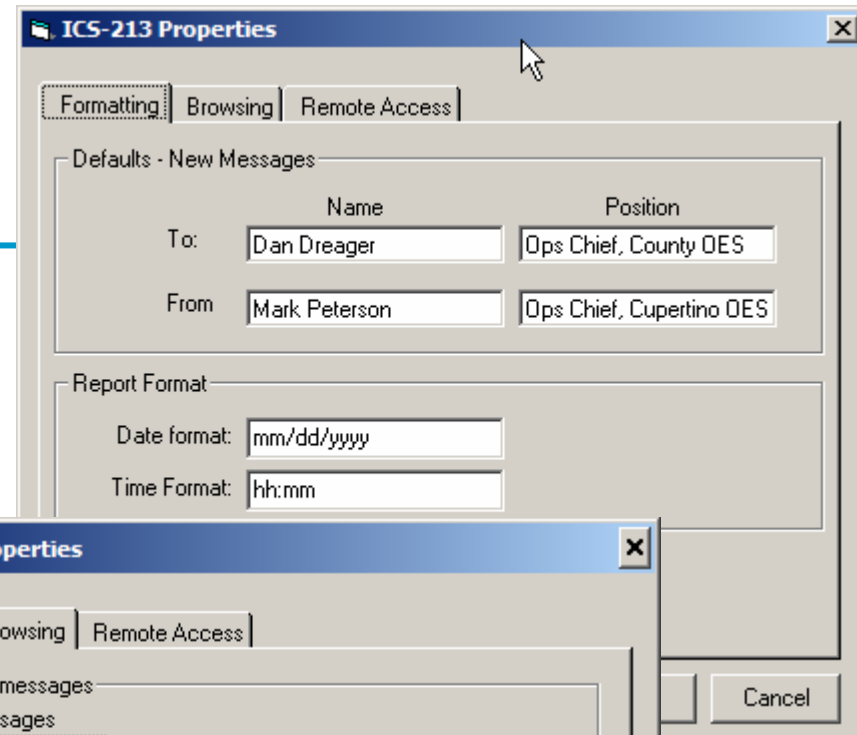
Configuration Options

- File > Properties…

- Formatting… set date, time and From: and To: defaults

- Browsing… lets you look for a message saved, sent, or received.

- Remote Access… the network parameters describing where to find Outpost

ICS-213 Message Maker

Processing an ics213mm message

Pressing New…

- Fills in the defaults…
  To:, From:, Date, and Time

- Sets the Signature to the Sender
  (From:), can be changed

- You fill in the…
  - Subject
  - Message

ICS-213 Message Maker - PROTOTYPE

File   Edit   Help

New   Reply   Save   Cancel   Browse   <<   >>   Edit

Msg# 26, Originated Message, Status is New

To: Dan Dreager   Position: Ops Chief, County OES
From: Mark Peterson   Position: Ops Chief, Cupertino OES
Subject: Date: 04/27/2009 22:46

Message

Signature: Mark Peterson   Position: Ops Chief, Cupertino OES

Reply

Signature   Position:
                     Date:

ICS-213 Message Maker Ready   Disconnected   22:47:14

ICS-213 and Opdirect MCS

Processing an ics213mm message

Pressing Save/Send…
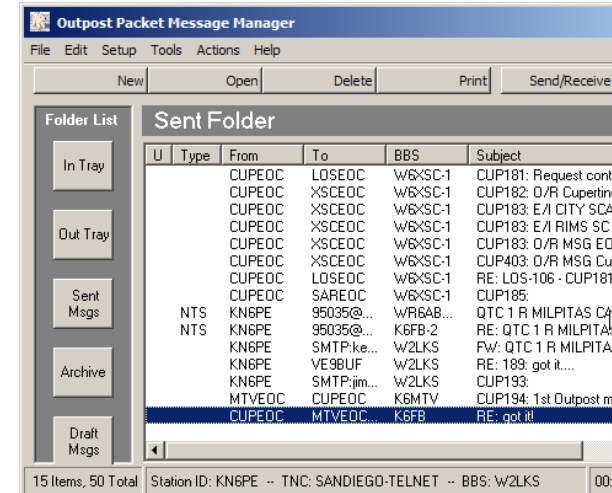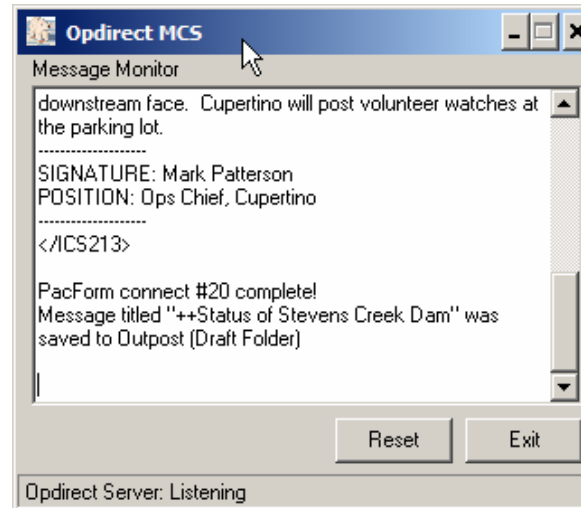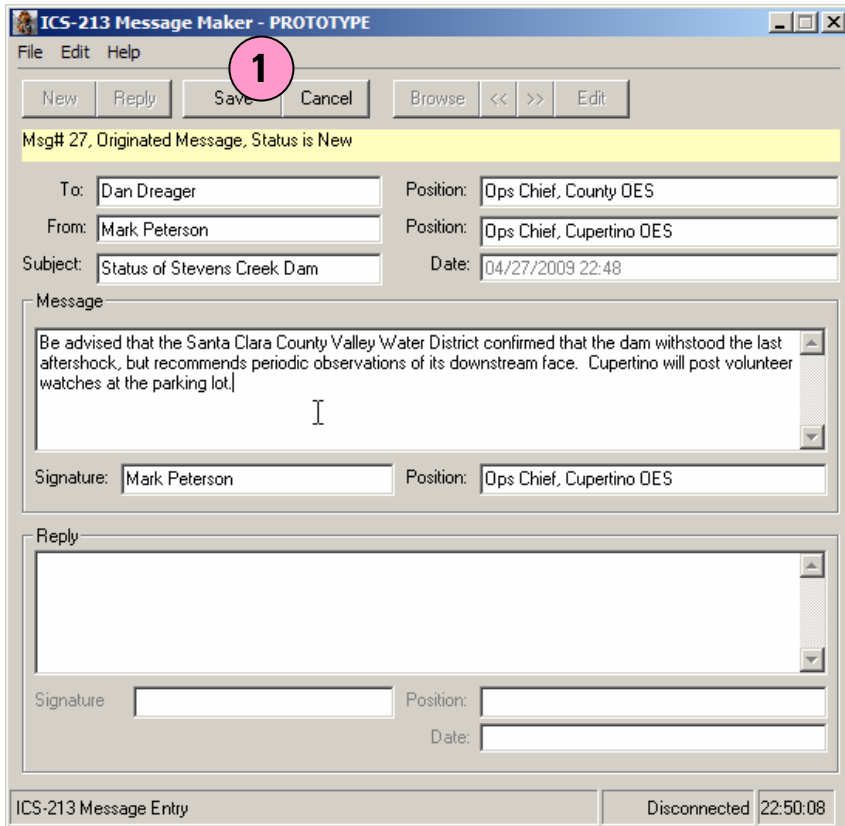
Looking for Opdirect.exe at:
   Host: LocalHost (127.0.0.1)
   Port: 9334

Outpost-formatted message

Outpost Message DB

ICS213 Message DB

ICS-213 and Opdirect MCS

Processing an ics213mm message

Outpost Packet Message Manager

File Edit Setup Tools Actions Help

| New | Open | Delete | Print | Send/Receive |

Sent Folder

Folder List: In Tray, Out Tray, Sent Msgs, Archive, Draft Msgs

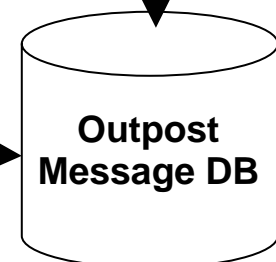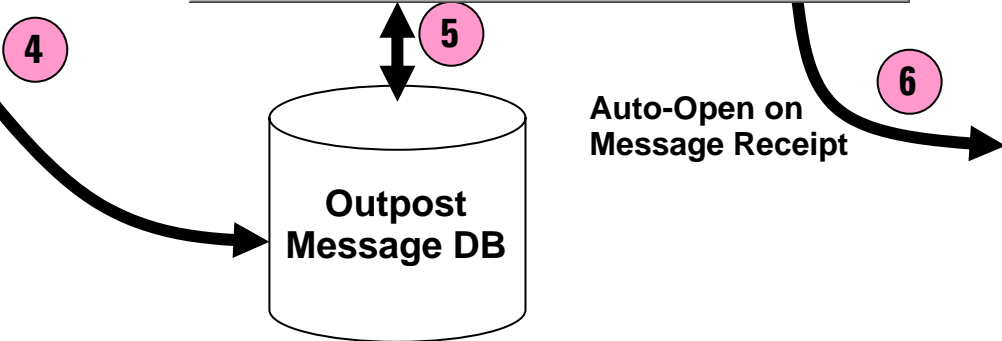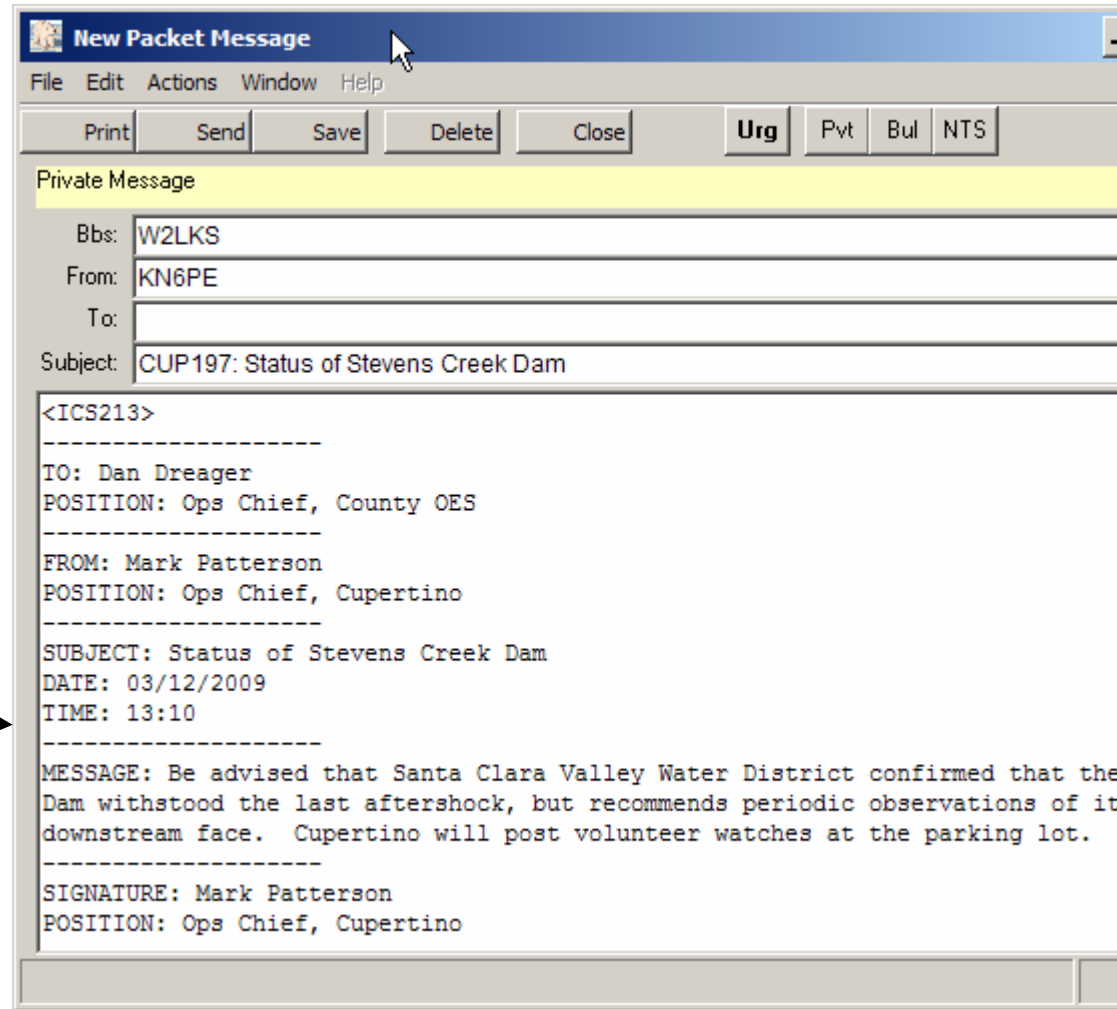| U	Type	From	To	BBS	Subject
		CUPEOC	LOSEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP181: Request contact with J.Clark
		CUPEOC	XSCEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP182: O/R Cupertino EOC Operati...
		CUPEOC	XSCEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP183: E/I CITY SCAN FLASH RE...
		CUPEOC	XSCEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP183: E/I RIMS SC COUNTY LO...
		CUPEOC	XSCEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP183: O/R MSG EOC Radio Rece...
		CUPEOC	XSCEOC	W6XSC-1	CUP403: O/R MSG Cupertino Hams ...
		CUPEOC	LOSEOC	W6XSC-1	RE: LOS-106 - CUP181: Request con...
		CUPEOC	SAREOC	W6XSC-1	CUP185:
	NTS	KN6PE	95035@...	WR6AB...	QTC 1 R MILPITAS CA (-?-)
	NTS	KN6PE	95035@...	K6FB-2	RE: QTC 1 R MILPITAS CA (-?-)
		KN6PE	SMTP:ke...	W2LKS	FW: QTC 1 R MILPITAS CA (-?-)
		KN6PE	VE9BUF	W2LKS	RE: 189: got it....
		KN6PE	SMTP:jim...	W2LKS	CUP193:
		MTVEOC	CUPEOC	K6MTV	CUP194: 1st Outpost msg fm MTV to ...
		CUPEOC	MTVEOC...	K6FB	RE: got it!

15 Items, 50 Total | Station ID: KN6PE -- TNC: SANDIEGO-TELNET -- BBS: W2LKS | 00:00:00 | 12:55:33

4

5

6

Auto-Open on
Message Receipt

**Outpost
Message DB**

New Packet Message

File Edit Actions Window Help

| Print | Send | Save | Delete | Close | | Urg | Pvt | Bul | NTS |

Private Message

Bbs: W2LKS
From: KN6PE
To:
Subject: CUP197: Status of Stevens Creek Dam

```
<ICS213>
--------------------
TO: Dan Dreager
POSITION: Ops Chief, County OES
--------------------
FROM: Mark Patterson
POSITION: Ops Chief, Cupertino
--------------------
SUBJECT: Status of Stevens Creek Dam
DATE: 03/12/2009
TIME: 13:10
--------------------
MESSAGE: Be advised that Santa Clara Valley Water District confirmed that the
Dam withstood the last aftershock, but recommends periodic observations of it
downstream face.  Cupertino will post volunteer watches at the parking lot.
--------------------
SIGNATURE: Mark Patterson
POSITION: Ops Chief, Cupertino
```

ICS-213 and Opdirect MCS
Summary

Features

- Keeps the focus on the message

- Originates new messages

- Receives new messages and create replies

- Produces a readable ICS213 message outside of Outpost

- Deployable anywhere on the same LAN as Outpost

- Supports multiple remote instances

Barriers

- Some Municipalities do not allow PCs on their network that are connected to an external network (Packet?!?!!) or that are not owned PCs (RACES)

- If your packet machine is on the EOC LAN, congratulations!

- If not…consider your own EOC/Radio Room LAN/subnet

ICS-213 and Opdirect MCS

Leveraging Local Area Networks

Wi-Fi capable residential gateway / router

- The device is capable of sharing Internet connections among several computers via 802.3 Ethernet and 802.11b/g wireless data links.

- Look for one with wired and wireless (need to be wired to configure)

- Can co-exit with other wireless environments

- Configure with a unique SSID (Network name, i.e.: CARESEOC)

Need more information?

- User Guide… www.outpostpm.org#documentation
  - A complete description of all features, forms, fields, and controls in Outpost

- HOW-TO pages… www.outpostpm.org/howto.html
  - Specific How-To's for the most common tasks performed

- Application Notes… www.outpostpm.org#documentation
  - Write-ups with more details on a specific topic.

- Troubleshooting page…
  www.outpostpm.org/troubleshooting.html

- Users group…
  http://groups.yahoo.com/group/outpostpacket/

Thank you

Any Questions?