

# Outpost Packet Message Manager Version 2.2.0

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# Topics

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

- **Overview**
- **Features**
- **Setups**
- **Tools and Controls**
- **Creating Messages**
- **Special Message Handling**
- **A Typical Session**
- **Limitations and Constraints**
- **Questions**



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



# Overview

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Why use Outpost?

- Leverages the existing packet hardware, network, and BBS infrastructure
  - Compatible with many existing BBSs and TNC PBBSs
  - Uses your existing TNC and packet radio equipment
  - Only a packet client (end-user) change is required
- 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”*
- Implements most local emergency management policies for digital communications
- Still under active development based on user requests and on-going alignment with the Outpost mission.



# Overview

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### **General Outpost Features**

- Message Management
  - Multiple message folders
  - Supports the three primary message types: Private, NTS, and Bulletins
  - Text Formatting in a free-form message window
  - NTS Message Maker with automated ARL message support
  - On-line report builder using report templates
  - Supports Urgent message, Delivery and Read Receipts
- Send/Receive Session Management
  - Supports Serial, AGWPE, and Telnet interfacing with over 20 of PBBS and BBSs
  - Automatically controls the sequence for initializing the selected interface, connecting to, and sending messages to and retrieving messages from the BBS



# Overview

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### **General Outpost Features**

- Configurations and Setups
  - BBS, TNC, and Interfaces – manages a list of BBSs & Interfaces
  - Message Retrieval – choose the message types to be retrieved
  - Send/Receive automation – 3 ways for automatically initiating BBS sessions



# Overview

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### **Outpost History**

- Commenced Development... November 2002
- v0.95; First Beta Release... May 2003
- v1.0; First Release... October 2003
- v1.1; enhanced look and feel... March 2004
- v1.2; on-line reports, MSYS support... May 2004
- v1.3; collaborative messaging... December 2004
- v2.0; AGWPE and telnet support... June 2005
- v2.0.4; NTS extensions, other enhancements... February 2006
- v2.1: Tactical Calls; KA-, Netrom Node support October 2006
- v2.2: Winlink/telpac, other BBS support... April 2007

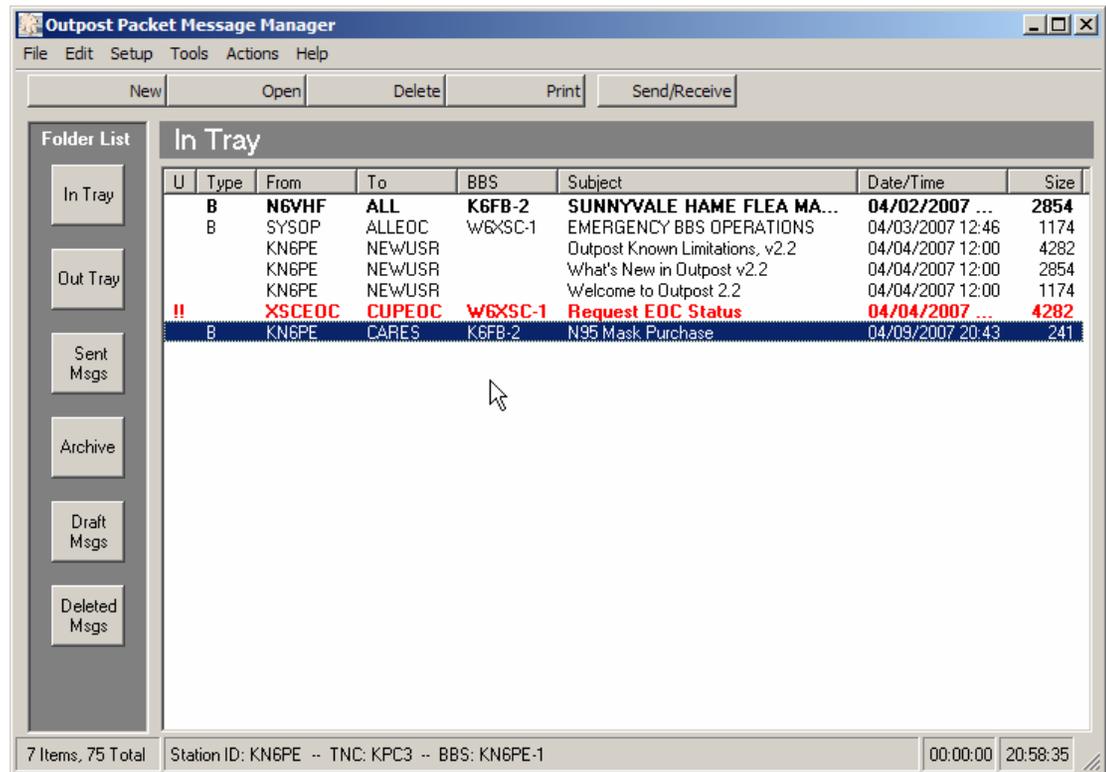


# Features

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Message management

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

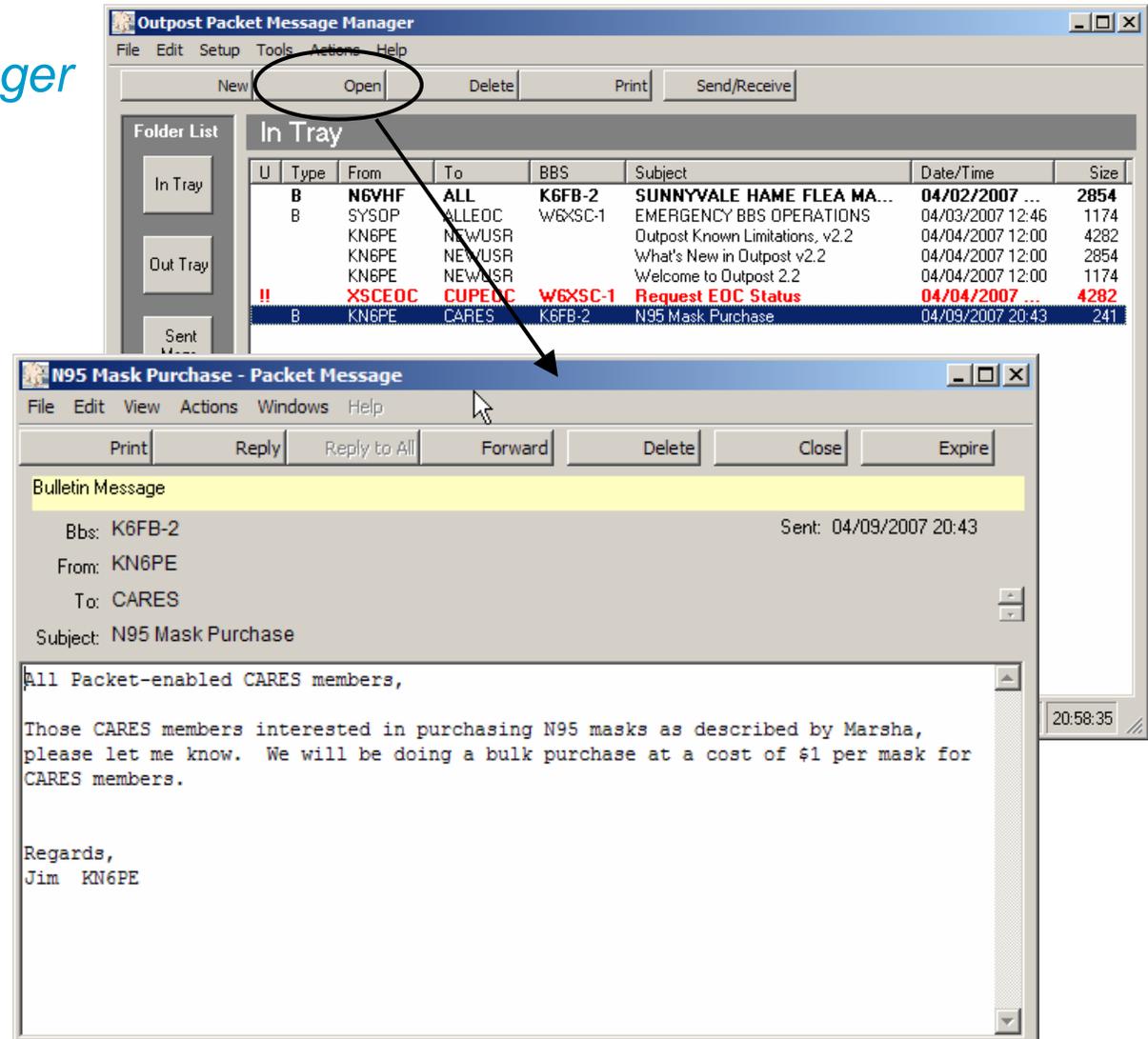


# Features

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Message viewing

- Supports viewing, printing, deleting or saving a message to a local file
- Reply and Forward message formatting

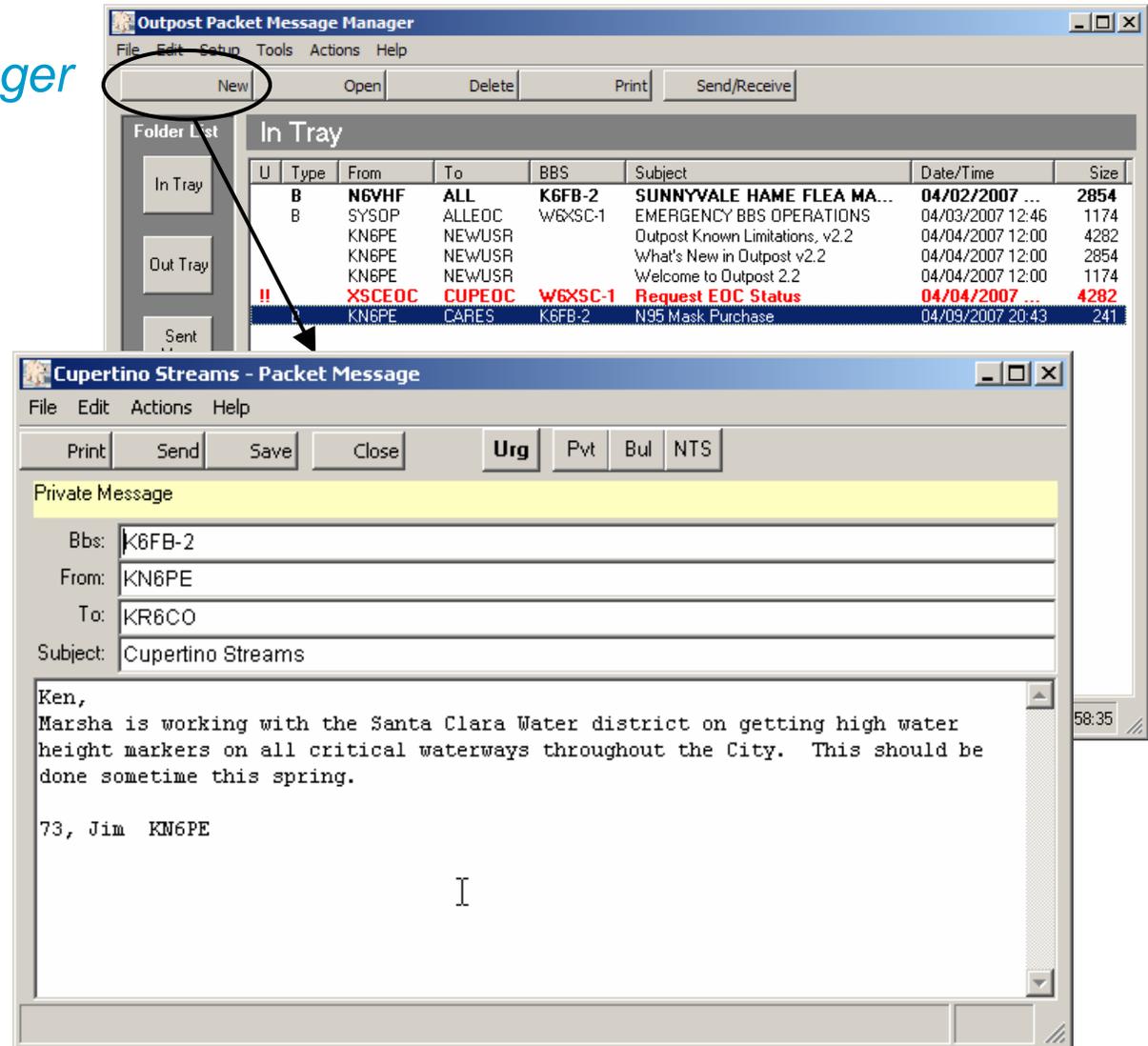


# Features

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Message creation

- Supports Private, Bulletin, and NTS message types
- Message formatting before sending
- Set messages to **Urgent**
- Request delivery or read receipts
- Different ways for originating messages
- NTS Message Maker

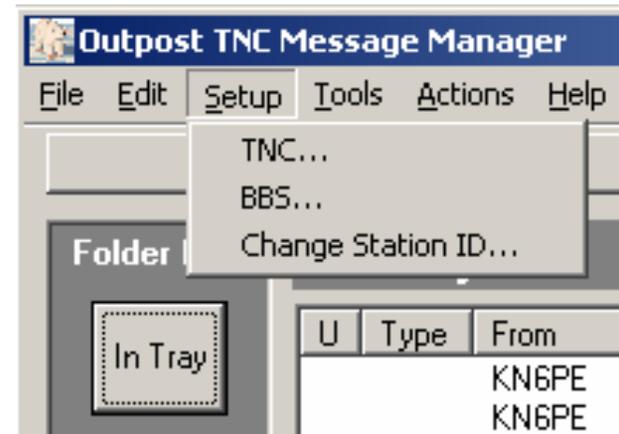


# Setups

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Application setups

- TNCs: create, update, or delete
  - Configure Serial Comm Ports that are associated with each TNC
- BBSs: create, update, or delete
- Change the Station Identifier (the call sign assigned to the TNC)



# Setups

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- TNC Interface setup

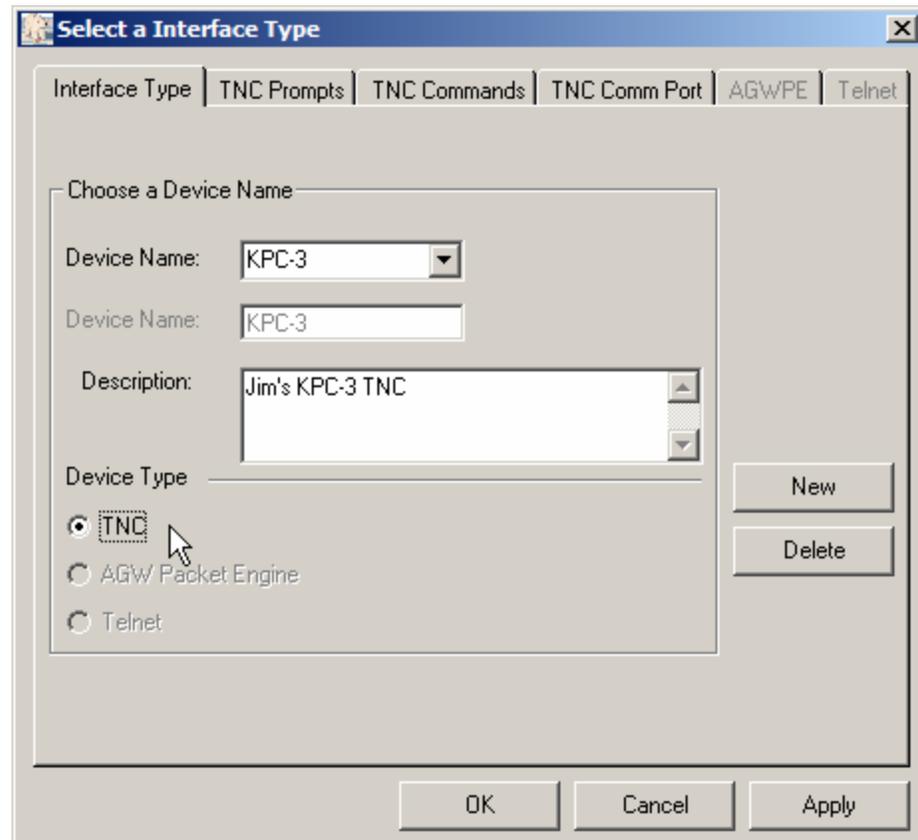
- TNC Prompts
- TNC Commands
- Comm Ports

- AGWPE
- Telnet

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### Notes...

- Create, update, or delete interfaces.



# Setups – Serial TNC

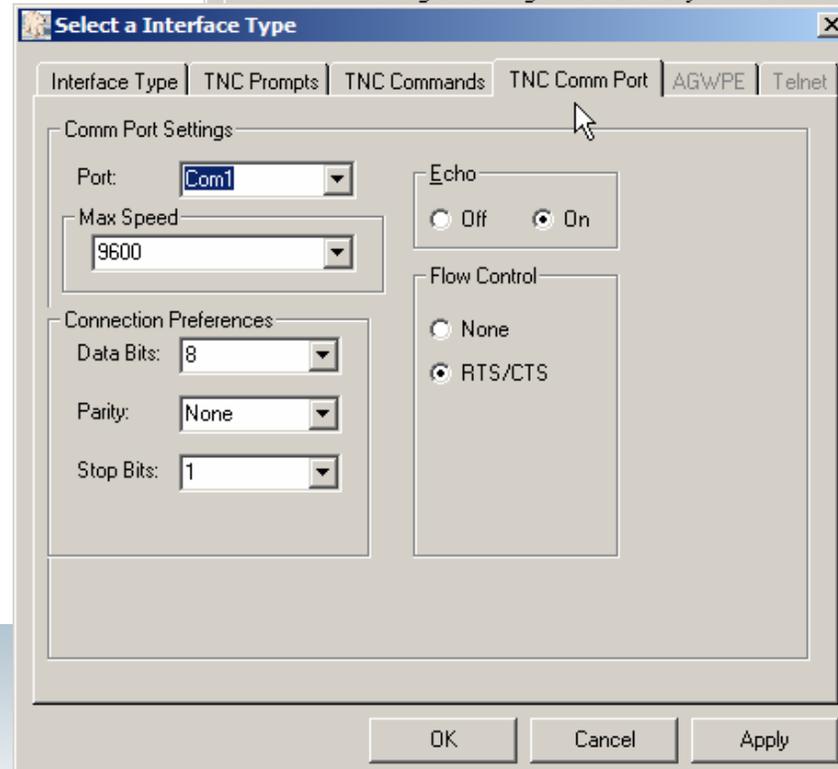
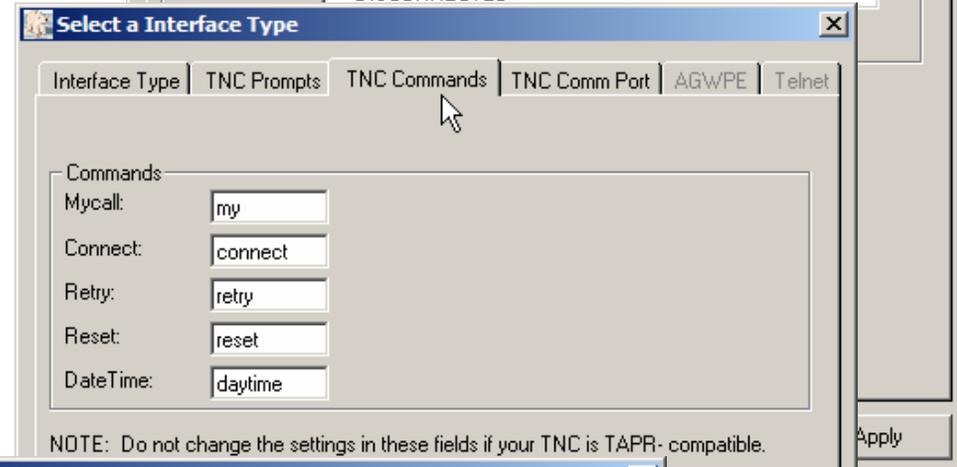
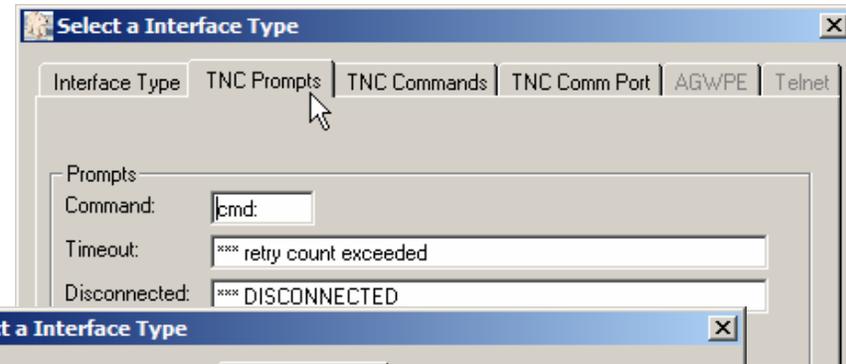
## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- TNC Interface setup
  - TNC Prompts
  - TNC Commands
  - Comm Ports
- AGWPE
- Telnet

### Notes...

- Outpost sends TNC commands to the TNC as part of the TNC initialization.
- Supports Hardware Flow Control.
- Confirmed operational with USB-to-Serial port adapters.



# Setups – AGWPE

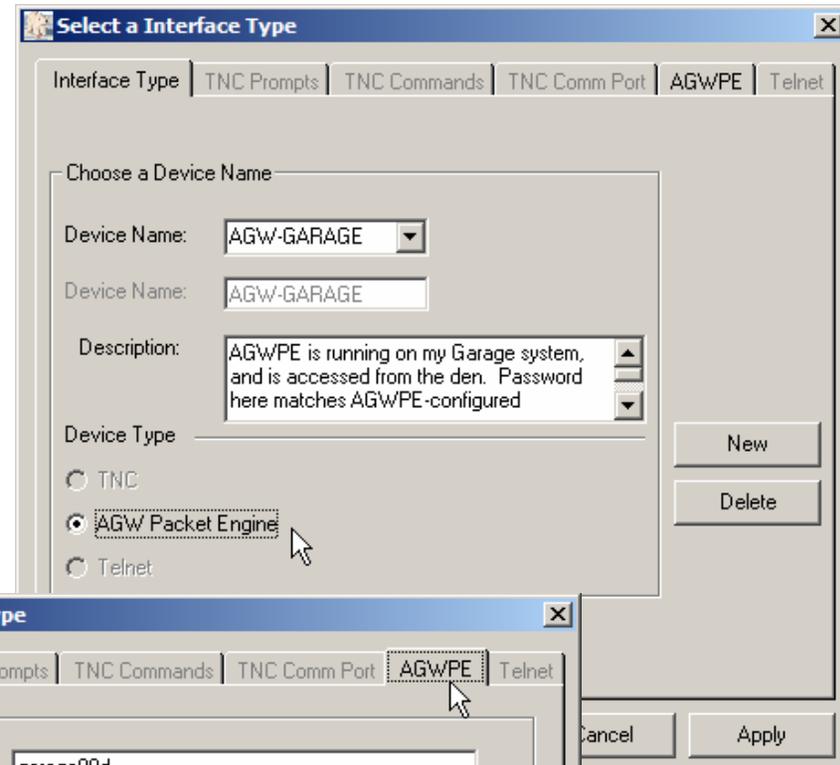
## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

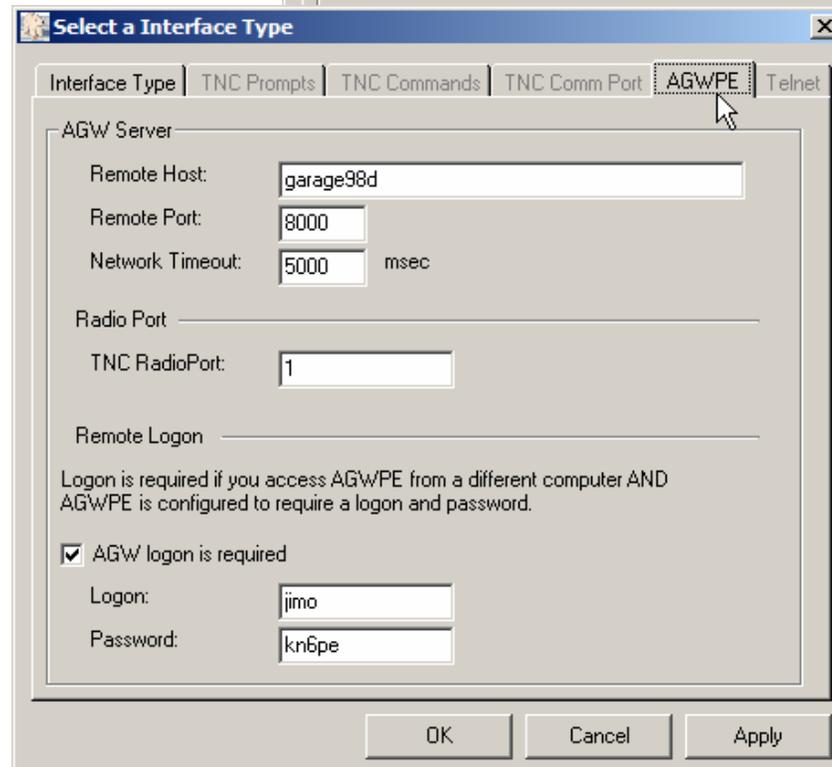
- TNC Interface setup
  - TNC Prompts
  - TNC Commands
  - Comm Ports
- AGWPE
- Telnet

### Notes...

- Implements the AGWPE TCP/IP API specification.
- Supports AGWPE v2000.20 or higher.



The screenshot shows the 'Select a Interface Type' dialog box with the 'AGWPE' tab selected. The 'Interface Type' tab is active, and the 'Device Name' is set to 'AGW-GARAGE'. The 'Device Type' is 'AGW Packet Engine'. The 'Description' field contains the text: 'AGWPE is running on my Garage system, and is accessed from the den. Password here matches AGWPE-configured'. The 'Device Type' section has radio buttons for 'TNC', 'AGW Packet Engine' (selected), and 'Telnet'. There are 'New' and 'Delete' buttons on the right side of the dialog.



The screenshot shows the 'Select a Interface Type' dialog box with the 'AGWPE' tab selected. The 'AGW Server' section is visible. The 'Remote Host' field contains 'garage98d', 'Remote Port' is '8000', and 'Network Timeout' is '5000 msec'. The 'Radio Port' section has 'TNC RadioPort' set to '1'. The 'Remote Logon' section has a checkbox for 'AGW logon is required' which is checked. The 'Logon' field contains 'jimo' and the 'Password' field contains 'kn6pe'. There are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Apply' buttons at the bottom of the dialog.



# Setups – telnet

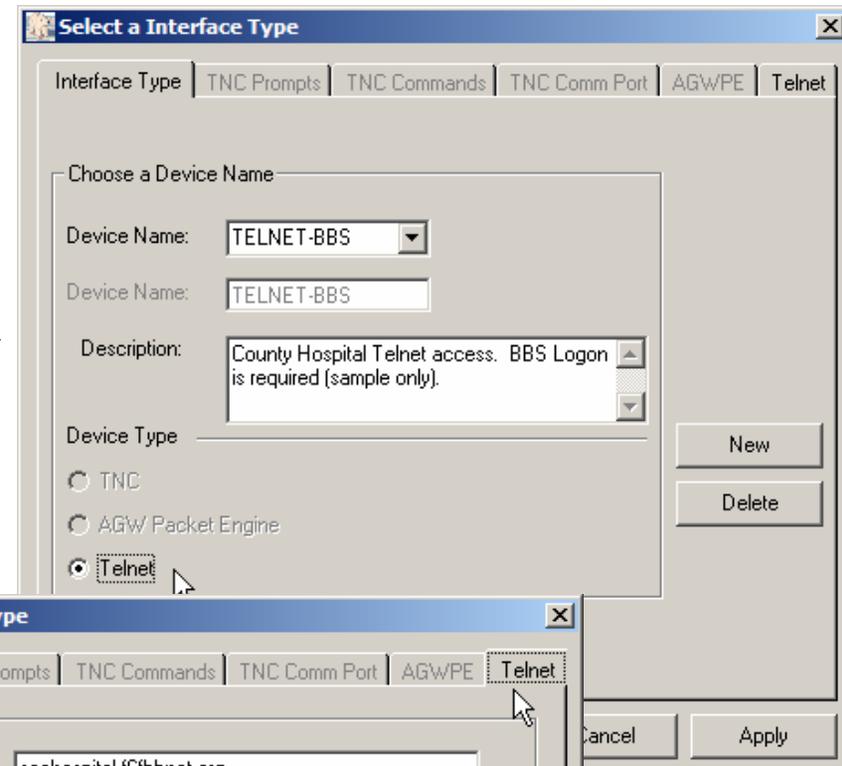
## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- TNC Interface setup
  - TNC Prompts
  - TNC Commands
  - Comm Ports
- AGWPE
- Telnet

### Notes...

- Requires access to a LAN or the internet, depending on where the BBS is.



Select a Interface Type

Interface Type | TNC Prompts | TNC Commands | TNC Comm Port | AGWPE | Telnet

Choose a Device Name

Device Name: TELNET-BBS

Device Name: TELNET-BBS

Description: County Hospital Telnet access. BBS Logon is required (sample only).

Device Type

TNC

AGW Packet Engine

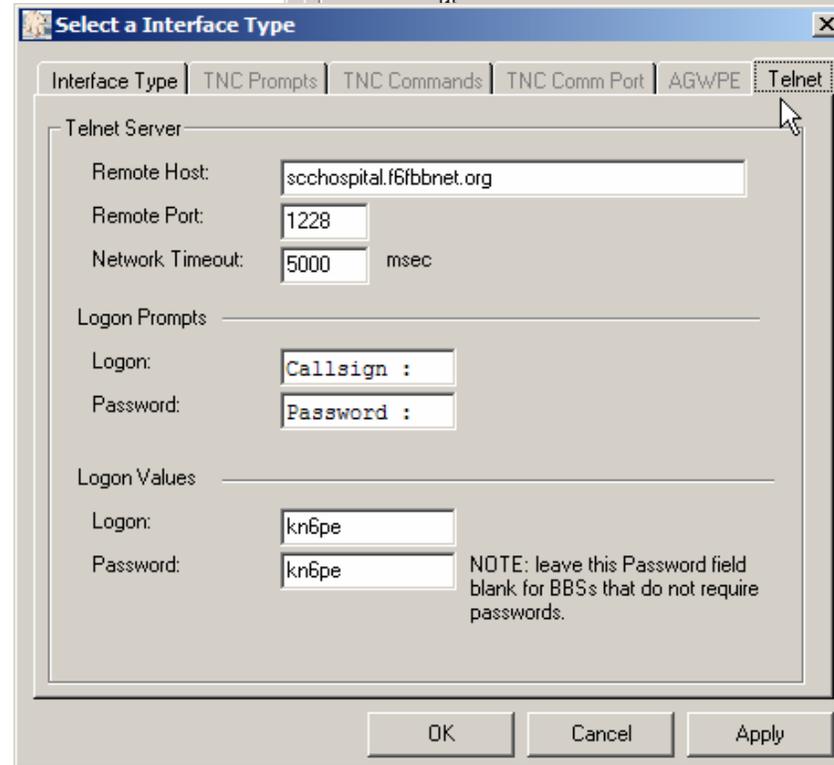
Telnet

New

Delete

Cancel

Apply



Select a Interface Type

Interface Type | TNC Prompts | TNC Commands | TNC Comm Port | AGWPE | Telnet

Telnet Server

Remote Host: scchospital.f6fbbnet.org

Remote Port: 1228

Network Timeout: 5000 msec

Logon Prompts

Logon: Callsign :

Password: Password :

Logon Values

Logon: kn6pe

Password: kn6pe

NOTE: leave this Password field blank for BBSs that do not require passwords.

OK

Cancel

Apply

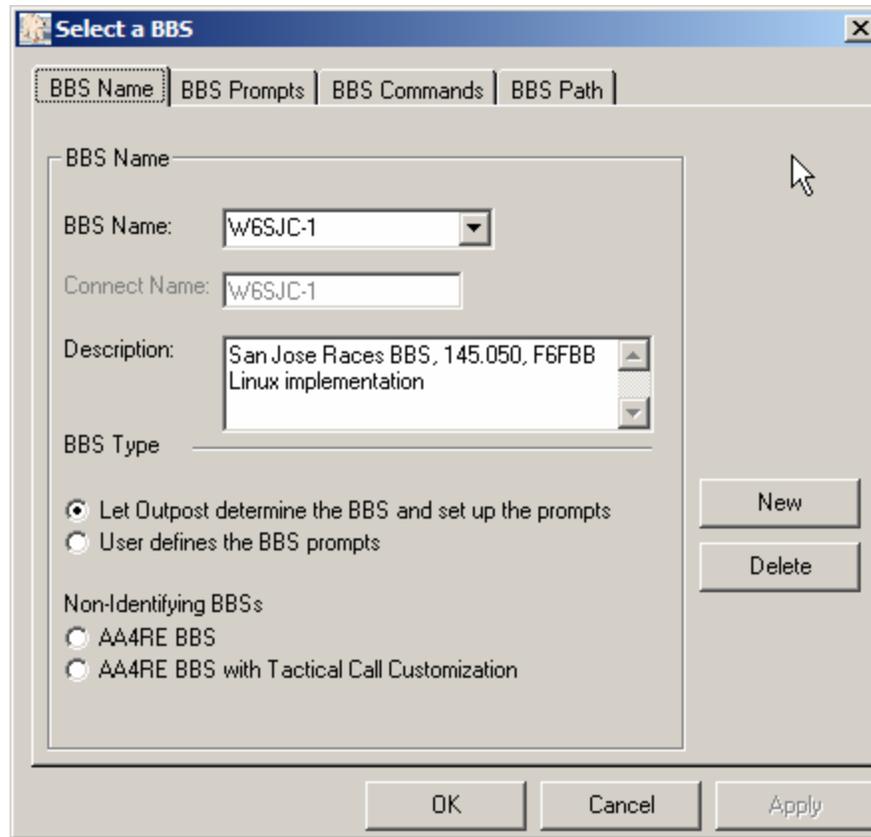


# Setups – BBS

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- BBSs →
  - BBS Prompts
  - BBS Commands
  - BBS Path



### Notes...

- Auto-identifies BBSs and determines the BBS Prompts
- Special handling for non-identifying BBSs

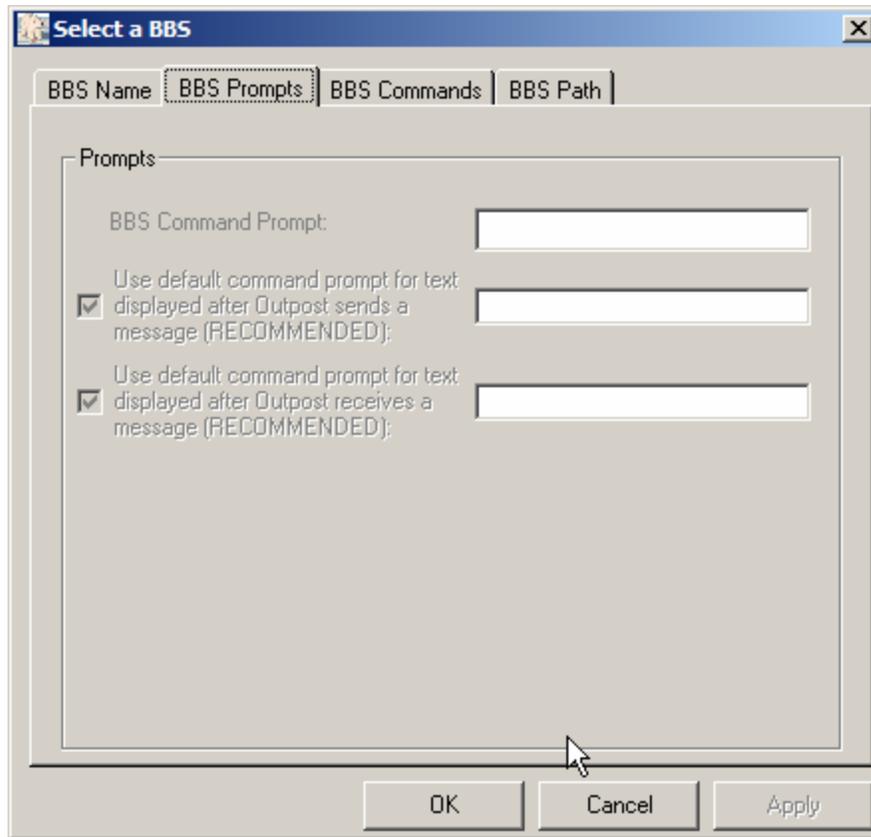


# Setups – BBS

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- BBSs
  - BBS Prompts
  - BBS Commands
  - BBS Path



### Notes...

- This form is disabled if you checked: **“Let Outpost determine the BBS and setup the prompts”**
- If you checked: **“User defines the BBS Prompts”**, only the command prompt is typically used; all other fields default to the Command prompt.
- Remember that “Help>” and “Help >” are not the same!

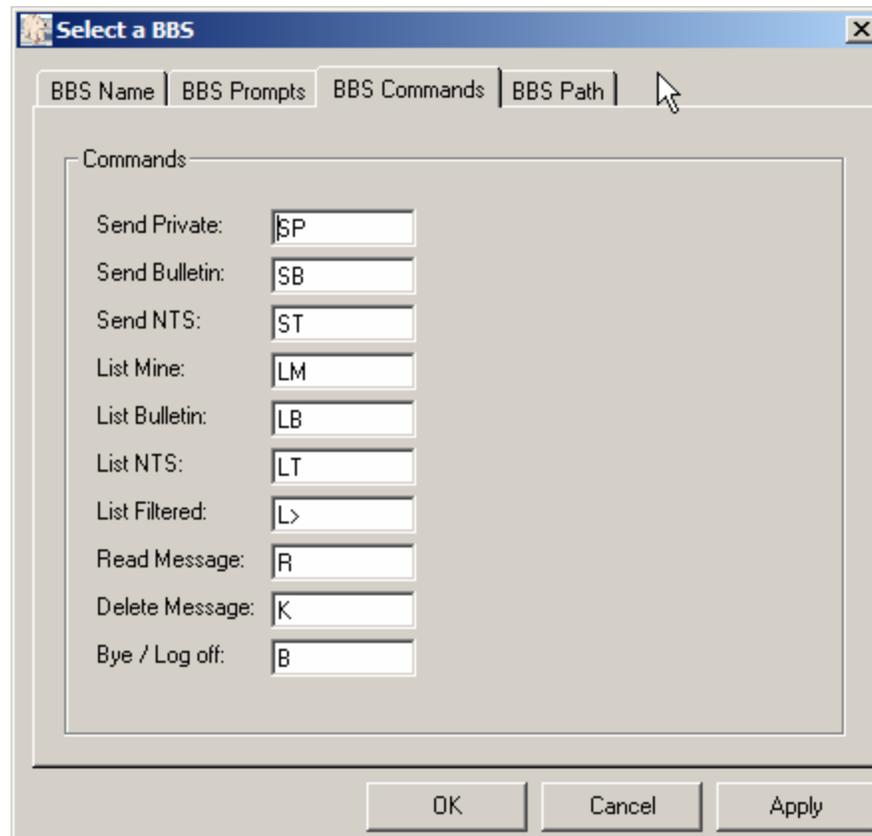


# Setups – BBS

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- BBSs
  - BBS Prompts
  - BBS Commands
  - BBS Path



### Notes...

- Common commands that Outpost needs to interact with the BBS.
- Outpost sends these commands to the BBS as part of the send/receive session.

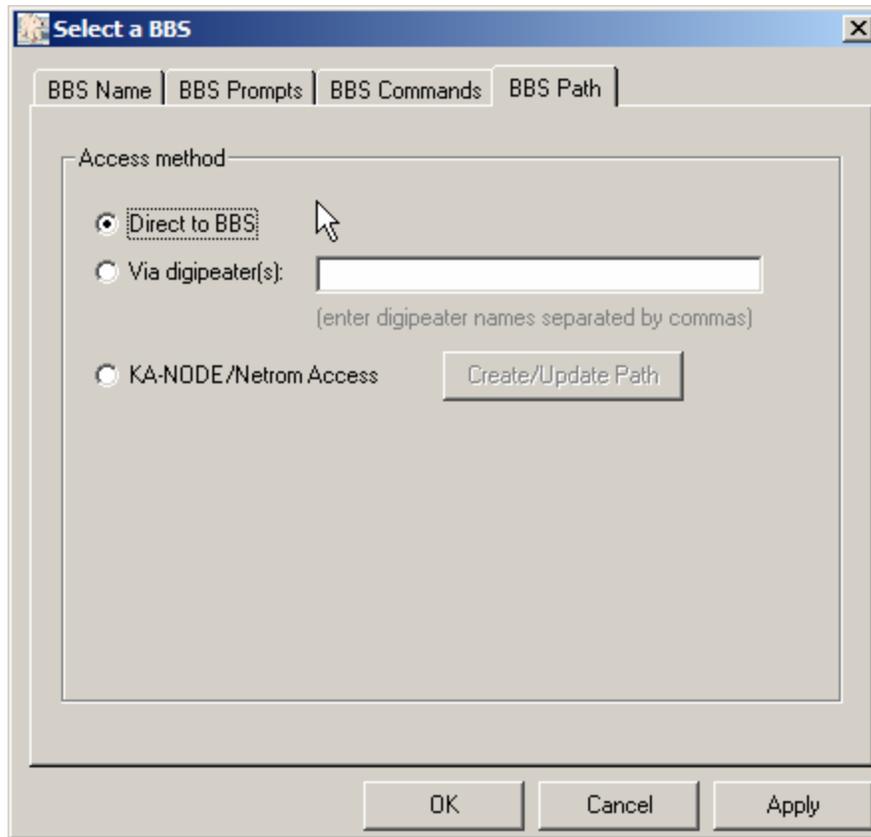


# Setups – BBS

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Application setups

- BBSs
  - BBS Prompts
  - BBS Commands
  - BBS Path



### Notes...

- Direct: from your station to the BBS
- Digipeat: one or more digipeater stations between you and the BBS
- KA-Node/Netrom: one or more nodes between you and the BBS



# Setups – BBS

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Setting up nodes

Do not start without...

1. Understanding the path between you and the BBS
2. The information needed to define each node...

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Node Path Setup for W6SJC-1". It contains the following fields and buttons:

- Node Number: 1 / 2
- Node Name: W6TDM-3
- Successful Connect Message: \*\*\* CONNECT
- Port number: 2
- Unsuccessful Connect Message: Failure
- Buttons: Next, Previous, Add, Delete, Move Up, Move Down, OK, Cancel

Node Name	The actual connect name of a node in the node path, such as K6FB-7 or W6TDM-7.
Successful Connect Message	The string that is returned by the node indicating that the connection was successful
Port Number	The port number to be taken <b>out of this node</b> to the next node. Some nodes have multiple radio ports typically set up on different bands. For single channel nodes, leave this value as 0.
Unsuccessful Connect Message	The string returned by the current node to tell Outpost that the next connect was not successful.

3. When in doubt: see the Application Note titled [Setting up KA-Node/Netrom Network Access](#) on the Outpost website for a more detailed walk-through of this topic.



# Setups – BBS

*Current list of supported BBSs*

<b>PBBSs (Firmware-based, resides in TNCs)</b>	<b>BBSs (Software-based)</b>	<b>Support pending (26-Apr-2007)</b>
KPC3, KPC3+ KPC9612 KAM, KAM-XL, KAM-98 KAM Plus Kantronics' Data Engine PK-88, PK-232, PK-88 DSP-232 MFJ-1270x MFJ-1278	AA4RE F6FBB MSYS N0ARY DXNET Telpac/Winlink W0RLI	KPC3 5.1 MFJ-1274 OpenBCM JNOS TNOS

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## Notes...

- The above list is effective as of 26-April-2007.
- See the <http://www.outpostpm.org/bbs/> for...
  - Updates and the latest list of supported BBSs
  - Instructions on how to get your BBS supported

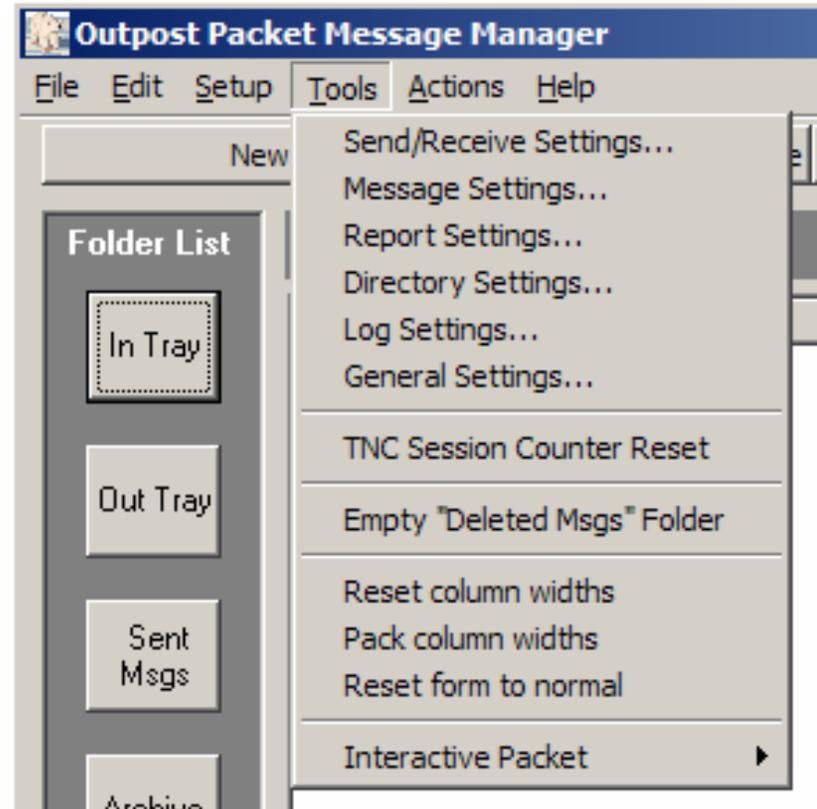


# Tools and Controls

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Types of controls

- Controls the flow of each Send/Receive Session
- Sets how messages are created and handled
- Set various data fields to automatically populate on-line reports, messages, other areas
- Set up default Directory Names
- Various Log Settings
- Controls to re-size message listing column widths
- Separate Interactive Packet Windows for Serial, AGWPE, and Telnet where the user can manually interact with the TNC (Serial only) or BBS

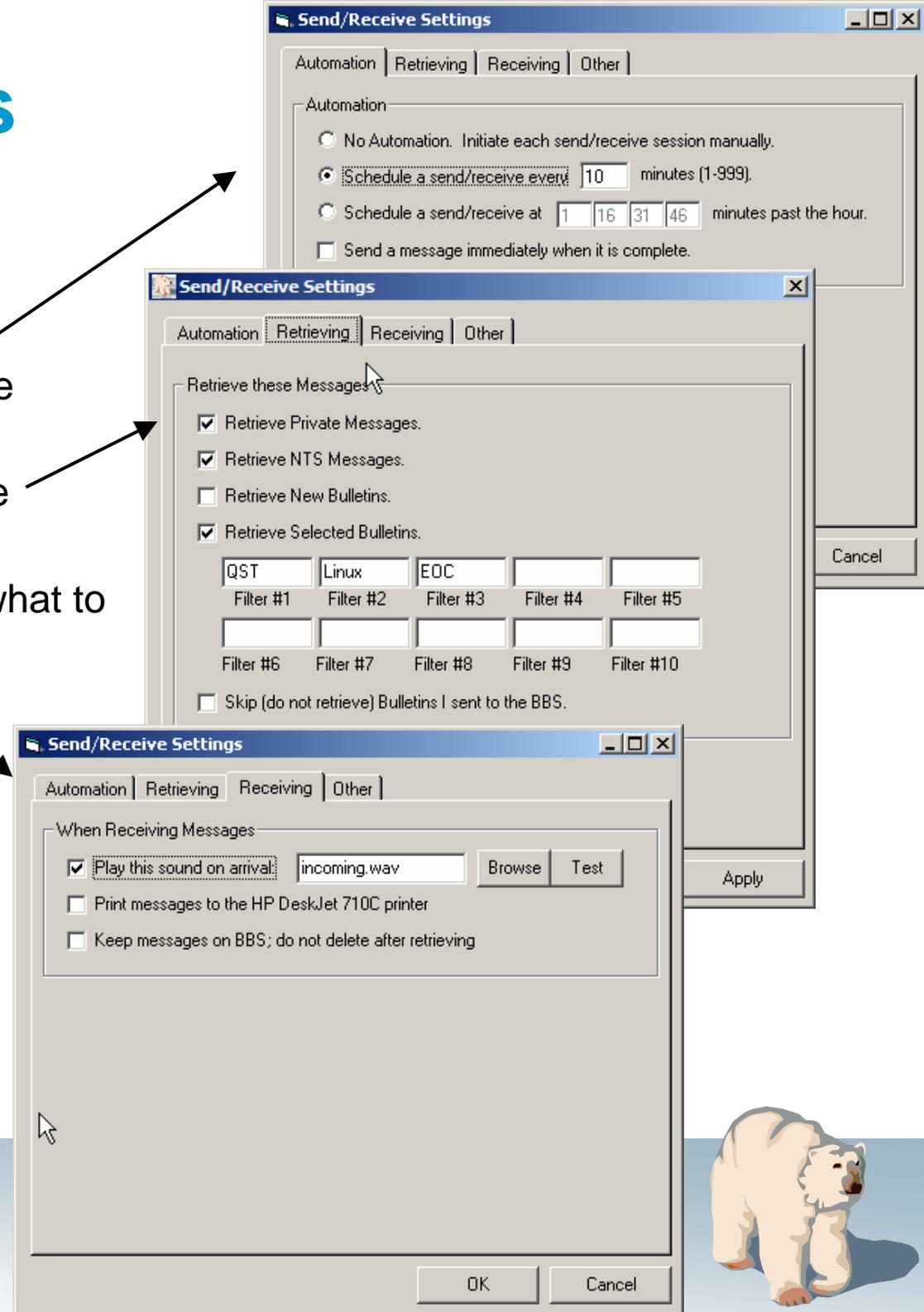


# Tools and Controls

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Send/Receive Settings

- Selects different ways to automate the message send/retrieve sessions
- Select which message types are to be retrieved
- Once a message is received, select what to do with it
- Additional controls (**Other** tab) manage printing received and sent messages

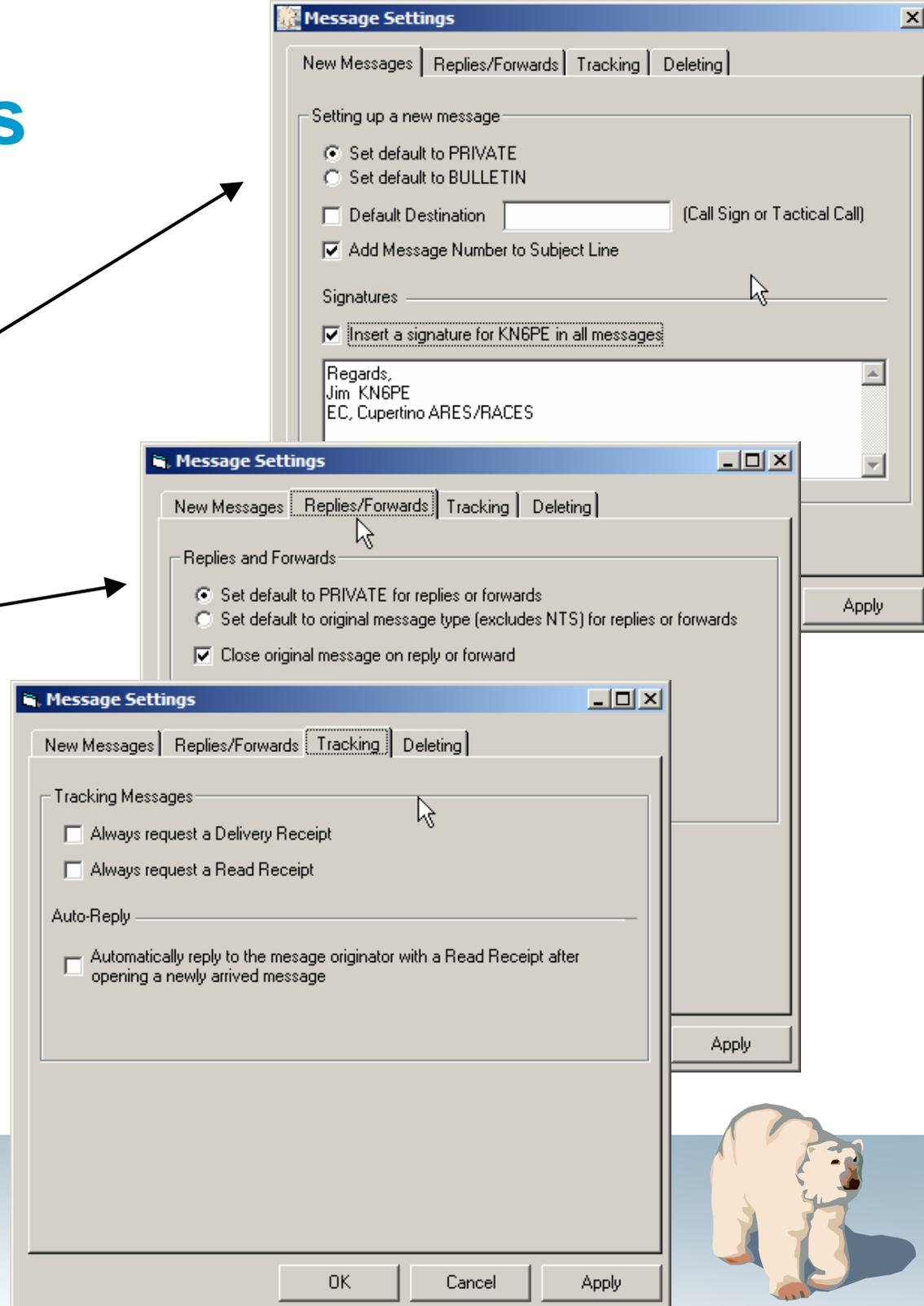


# Tools and Controls

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Message Settings

- Define default settings for new messages, includes
  - Default destinations
  - Auto message numbering
  - Message Signature
- Handling replies and forwards
- Set up defaults for requesting message receipts
- Setting for permanently deleting messages



# Tools and Controls

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### Report Settings

- Message number automatically increments and populates...
  - Subject Line
  - NTS Messages
  - On-line reports
- Standard report variables automatically replace <tags> in On-line Reports (described later)
- Note where tags are used...

Report Settings

Report Variables

Next Message Number: 126

Organization: Cupertino ARES/RACES

City: Cupertino

County: Santa Clara

State/Prov (2 char): CA

Tactical Location: Seven Spring Fire Station

Tactical ID (3 char): SSF

Tactical TX Text: Cupertino OES

Text Variable #2:

Text Variable #3:

OK Cancel

Field	On-Line Reports	NTS Message Maker	Message Subject Line
Next Message Number	X	X	X
Organization	X		
City	X	X	
County	X		
State/Prov	X	X	
Tactical Location	X		
Tactical ID	X		X
Tactical TX Text	X		
Text Variable #2, 3	X		

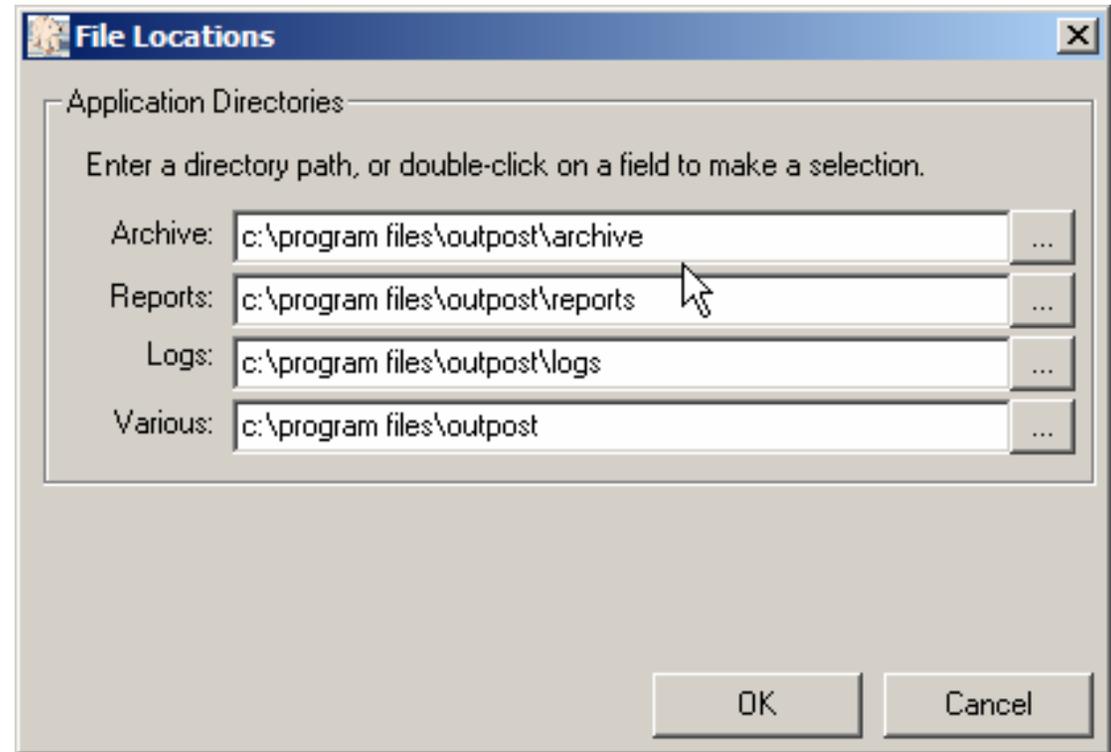


# Tools and Controls

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Directory Settings

- Used for optional organization of application files...
  - Archive directory is used for message archive export and import files (\*.oaf)
  - Reports directory is checked for any On-line Reports (\*.txt)
  - Log directory is home for all Outpost logs (\*.txt)
- On first time startup after installation, the directories listed here are created
- User defined to any existing or new directory on the PC

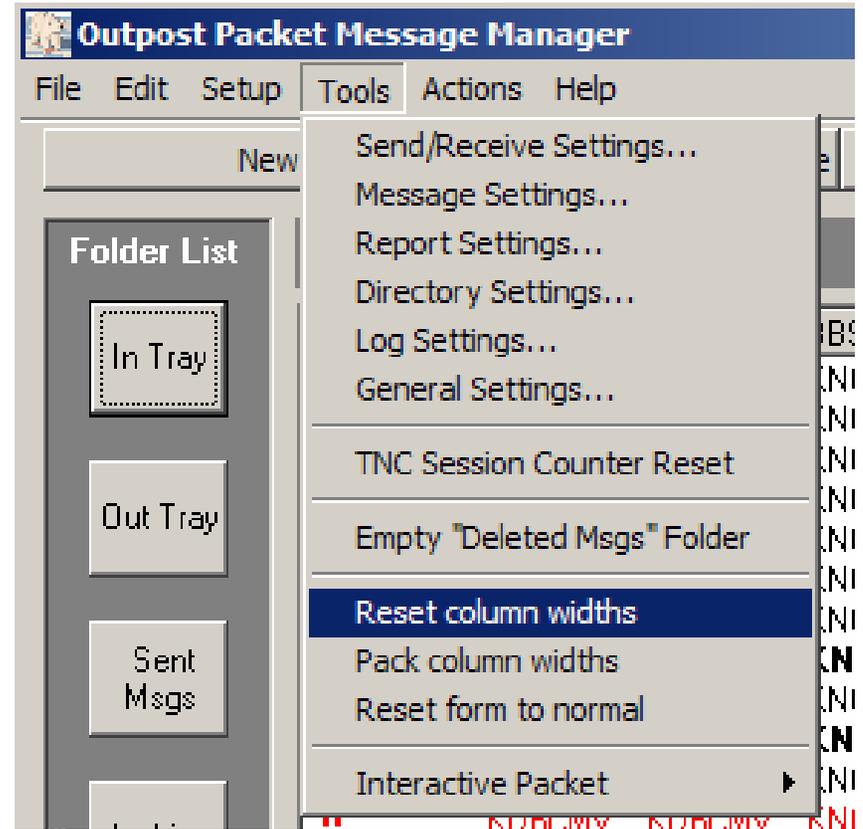


# Tools and Controls

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Other Controls

- General Settings...
  - Show station ID form on startup
- TNC Session counter displays in session logs; increments with each Send/Receive Session
- Bulk delete of the Deleted Msgs Folder
- Display controls
  - Resets column widths to their default settings
  - Packs column widths for optimal viewing
  - Resets the form if it gets stuck in a “minimized” state

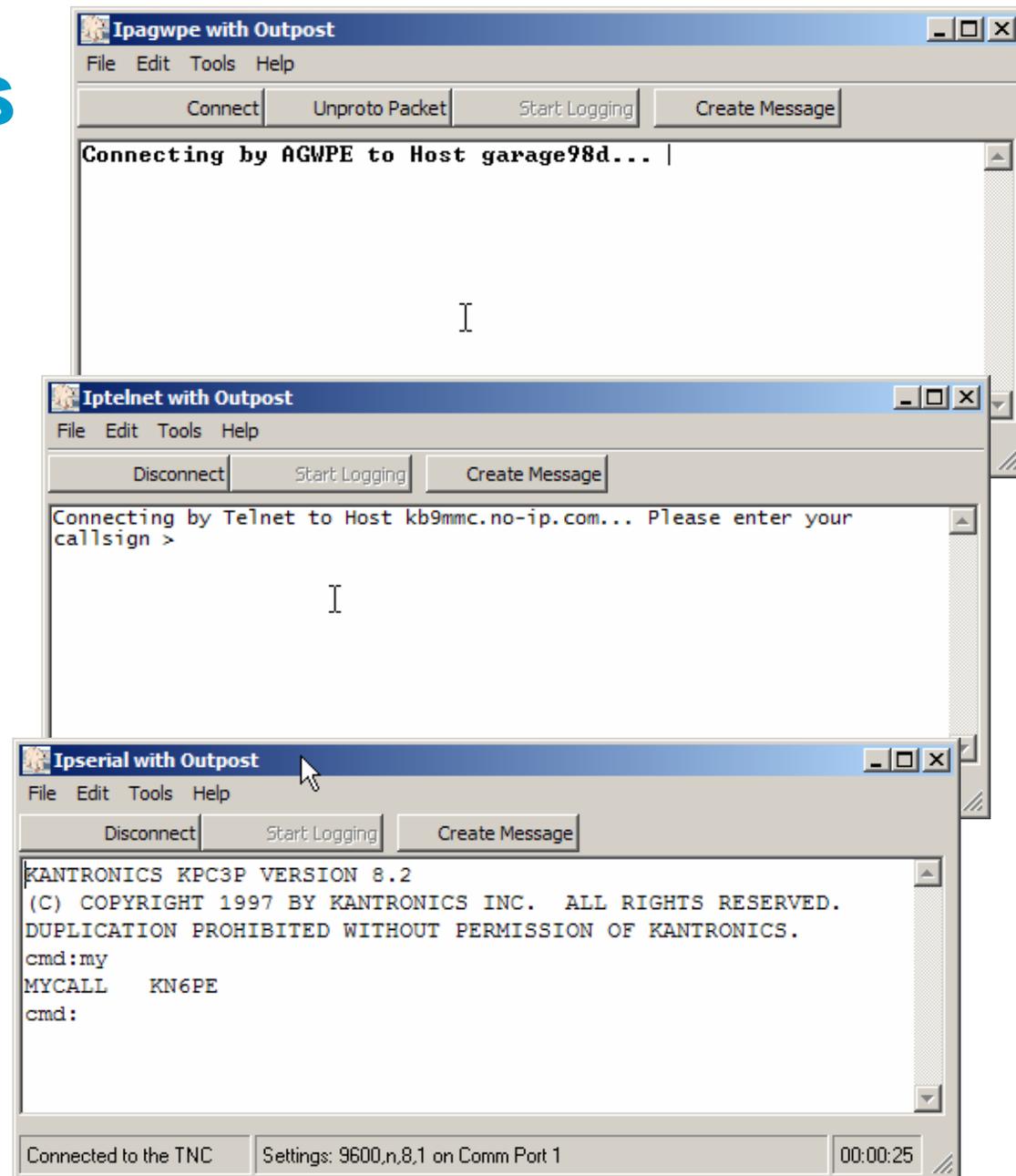


# Tools and Controls

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### Interactive Packet Window

- Programs to manually interact with the TNC (serial only) and BBS by
  - AGWPE
  - Telnet
  - Serial
- Logging controls
- Cut-and-paste clipboard support into and out of the IPW window
  - use the Edit control on the menu
  - cntl-c gets the TNC's attention
- Directly create an Outpost message from highlighted IPW text



# Messages

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### • **Creating Messages**

- Direct Entry
- NTS Message Maker
- On-line Report Builder
- Cut-and-paste from other apps
- Import Text from a file

### • **Special Message Handling**

- Bulletins
- NTS
- Telpac/Winlink messages
- Tactical Calls



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 1. Direct entry

- Allows cursor placement within the text field
- Supports TAB characters (cntl-tab) thereby reducing character count
- Allows text files to be directly imported into the message form

**New Packet Message**

File Edit Actions Help

Print Send Save Close Urg Pvt Bul NTS

Private Message; Delivery Receipt Requested

Bbs: W6XSC-1  
From: CUPEOC  
To: XSCEOC  
Subject: Status of Cupertino EOC

The following operating positions are staffing at the EOC:

Director Emergency Services	Dave Knapp	777-1234
Planning/Intel Section	Bob Knight	777-2345
Logistics Section	Ken Smith	777-3456
Operations Section	Bill Wright	777-4567
Finance Section	Trudy Collins	777-5678

All phone numbers are in the 408 area code.

Jim O KN6PE



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 2. NTS Message Maker

- Step 1: Forms-based with field validity checking

NTS Message Maker

File Edit

ARL Msg Check Save Clear Msg Cancel

Preamble

Msg No: 183

Precedence: R (R, W, P, E)

Handling Instr: HX

Station of Origin: KN6PE

ARL Message:

Check:

Place of Origin: CUPERTINO, CA

Time of Origin: 13:07

Date of Origin: Apr 26

Destination Address

Name: Dave Larson

Call Sign:

Address: 5301 East Ranch Road

City: SACRAMENTO

State/Prov: CA Zip/Postal: 95825

Phone No: 915 555 1212

Message

Cannot attend the meeting this week. All airports are closed. Please advise the repeater committee that the project is almost complete.

Signature

Jim KN6PE

Ready for NTS message entry



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 2. NTS Message Maker

- Step 1: Forms-based with field validity checking
- Step 2: Press Check; reformats the message per the NTS Packet message standard

NTS Message Maker

File Edit

ARL Msg Check Save Clear Msg Cancel

Preamble

Msg No: 183

Precedence: R (R, W, P, E)

Handling Instr: HX

Station of Origin: KN6PE

ARL Message:

Check: 23

Place of Origin: CUPERTINO, CA

Time of Origin: 13:07

Date of Origin: Apr 26

Destination Address

Name: Dave Larson

Call Sign:

Address: 5301 East Ranch Road

City: SACRAMENTO

State/Prov: CA Zip/Postal: 95825

Phone No: 915 555 1212

Message

Cannot attend the meeting this week X All airports are closed X Please advise the repeater committee that the project

Signature

Jim KN6PE

Message looks good!

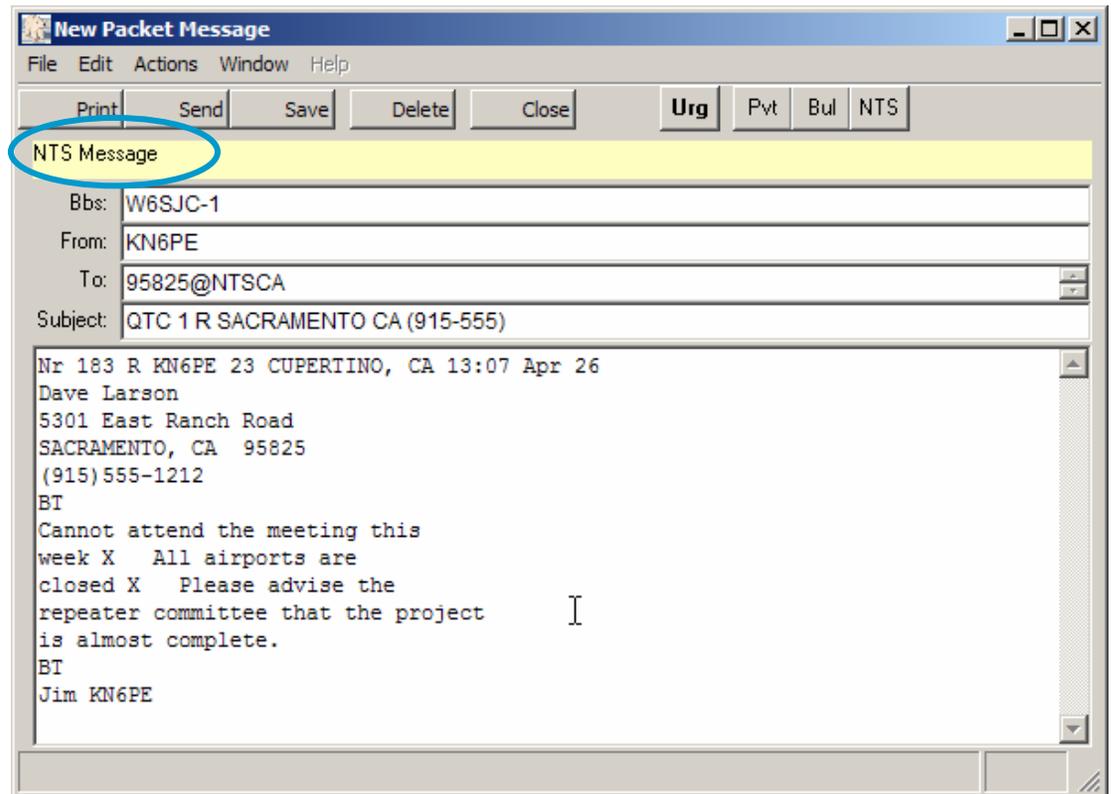


# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 2. NTS Message Maker

- Step 1: Forms-based with field validity checking
- Step 2: Press Check; reformats the message per the agreed NTS Packet message standard
- Step 3: Saves the message to a message window; message type is NTS. Press Send when ready.



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 2. NTS Message Maker

- and ARL Messages...
  - Select the message Type...  
Routine or Emergency
  - Select the message
  - Provide any additional information
  - Send the message as usual

The screenshot shows the NTS Message Maker interface. The main window has a menu bar (File, Edit) and buttons for ARL Msg, Check, Save, Clear Msg, and Cancel. The main form includes fields for Preamble, Msg No (184), Precedence (R), Handling Instr (HX), Station of Origin (KN6PE), ARL Message (checkbox), Check (checkbox), Place of Origin (Cupertino, CA), Time of Origin (21:17), and Date of Origin (Feb 08). A Destination Address field is also present. An ARL Message Wizard dialog is open, showing Message Type (ROUTINE), ARL Number (SIXTY FIVE), and a text area with a template: "Arriving <Location> on <Flight No/Train No/etc>. Please arrange to meet me there." Below the wizard is an ARL Message Information dialog with a text input field containing "San Jose" and OK/Cancel buttons. The main window's Message field contains the text: "ARL SIXTY FIVE San Jose HA 44 X". The status bar at the bottom reads "Ready for NTS message entry".



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 3. On-line Report Builder

- Step 1: Set up the Report Settings (described previously)
- Step 2: Understand the list of Report <tags>

**NOTE:** there are some report variables that have to methods for representing them

Tag	Description
<D>, <date1>	mm/dd/yy (5/21/04).
<date2>	dd-mmm-yyyy (21-May-2004)
<T>, <time>	hh:mm (22:45)
<M>, <msg#>	Message Number; from Report Settings
<C>, <call>	Call, as entered at the Station ID form
<name>	Name, as entered at the Station ID form
<bbs>	BBS name; current BBS
<subj>text	Places "text" on subject line
<org>	Organization; from Report Settings
<city>	City name; from Report Settings
<county>	County name; from Report Settings
<state>	State name, 2 char; from Report Settings
<province>	Province name, 2 char; instead of state
<tacloc>	Tactical Location; from Report Settings
<tacid>	Tactical ID, 3 char; from Report Settings
<text1, 2, 3>	User defined text; from Report Settings
=	Prompt
/ comment	Place a comment in the report



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 3. On-line Report Builder

- Step 1: Set up the Report Settings (Tools > Report Settings)
- Step 2: Collect the list of Report tags, most in the format “<tag>”
- Step 3: Develop the report template, save as a .txt file.  
**NOTE:** see the use of comments (/), <tags>, and prompts (=)

```
DamageAssesment 3.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
/*****
/ Author:      Jim Oberhofer KN6PE
/ Rev Date:    29-May-2004
/*****
<subj>ARC DSR 5972
/
DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT:  <org>
-----
DATE/TIME: <D>, <T>  Message Number: <tacid><msg#>

TOWN: <city>
ADDRESS OR LOT NUMBER: =
SUBDIVISION: =
PROPERTY TYPE: =
DAMAGE->(DESTROYED, MAJOR, MINOR, AFFECTED): =
DAMAGE DESCRIPTION:
=

OWNER INFORMATION:
NAME: =
PHONE NUMBER: =
NUMBER OF PEOPLE AFFECTED: =
      ADULTS: =      CHILDREN: =
      HANDICAP: =      ELDERLY: =

NUMBER OF CONFIRMED INJURIES: =
NUMBER OF CONFIRMED DEATHS: =

OPERATOR: <name> <C>
STATION TACTICAL: <tacloc>
AR
----- End of message -----
```



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 3. On-line Report Builder

- Step 1: Set up the Report Settings (Tools > Report Settings)
- Step 2: Collect the list of Report tags, most in the format “<tag>”
- Step 3: Develop the report template, save as a .txt file.
- Step 4: From a new message form, “File > Open a Report” and choose a report template.

**NOTE:** Subject line is updated, <tags> are replaced, and cursor is positioned at the first prompt.

- Press ctrl-Tab or left-mouse to progress to the next prompt.
- Press “File > Clear Remaining Prompts” for any unfilled prompts
- Press Send when done.

New Packet Message

File Edit Actions Help

Print Send Save Close Urg Pvt Bul NTS

Private Message

Bbs: W6XSC-1

From: CUPEOC

To:

Subject: ARC DSR 5972

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT REPORT: CARES

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DATE/TIME: 12/26/04, 11:40 Message Number: CMV211

TOWN: Cupertino

ADDRESS OR LOT NUMBER: =

SUBDIVISION: =

PROPERTY TYPE: =

DAMAGE->(DESTROYED, MAJOR, MINOR, AFFECTED): =

DAMAGE DESCRIPTION: =

OWNER INFORMATION:

NAME: =

PHONE NUMBER: =



# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 4. Copy-and-Paste from other apps

- From Excel, highlight the fields to be copied, then paste into an Outpost message.
- At the receiving station, highlight and copy the message, then paste back into Excel.
- Tabs are preserved so the message can be pasted back into another spreadsheet.

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet titled "Shelter Requirements.xls" with a table of material requirements. Below the spreadsheet, the "New Packet Message" dialog box is open, showing the copied data from the Excel table pasted into the message body.

Item Num	Description	On Hand	Units	Qty needed	Req Date	Req Time
1	cots	30	ea	25	18-Mar	18:00
2	blankets	45	ea	15	18-Mar	18:00
3	water, 12 oz bottles	200	bottles	100	19-Mar	12:00
4	First Aid kits	3	kits	12	ASAP	
5	Toilet paper	50	rolls	250	19-Mar	12:00
6	tooth brushes	10	ea	50	ASAP	

The "New Packet Message" dialog box shows the following fields:

- Bbs: W6XSC-1
- From: CUPEOC
- To: XSCEOC
- Subject: Shelter Material Requirements

The message body contains the following text:

Please send the following material to out shelter:

Item Number	Description	On Hand	Units	Qty needed	Req Date	Req Time
1	cots	30	ea	25	18-Mar	18:00
2	blankets	45	ea	15	18-Mar	18:00
3	water, 12 oz bottles	200	bottles	100	19-Mar	12:00
4	First Aid kits	3	kits	12	ASAP	
5	Toilet paper	50	rolls	250	19-Mar	12:00
6	tooth brushes	10	ea	50	ASAP	
7	tooth paste	5	ea	55	ASAP	
8	note pads	0	ea	25	19-Mar	18:00
9	pencils	0	ea	25	19-Mar	18:00
10	MRE	10	300	18-Mar	18:00	

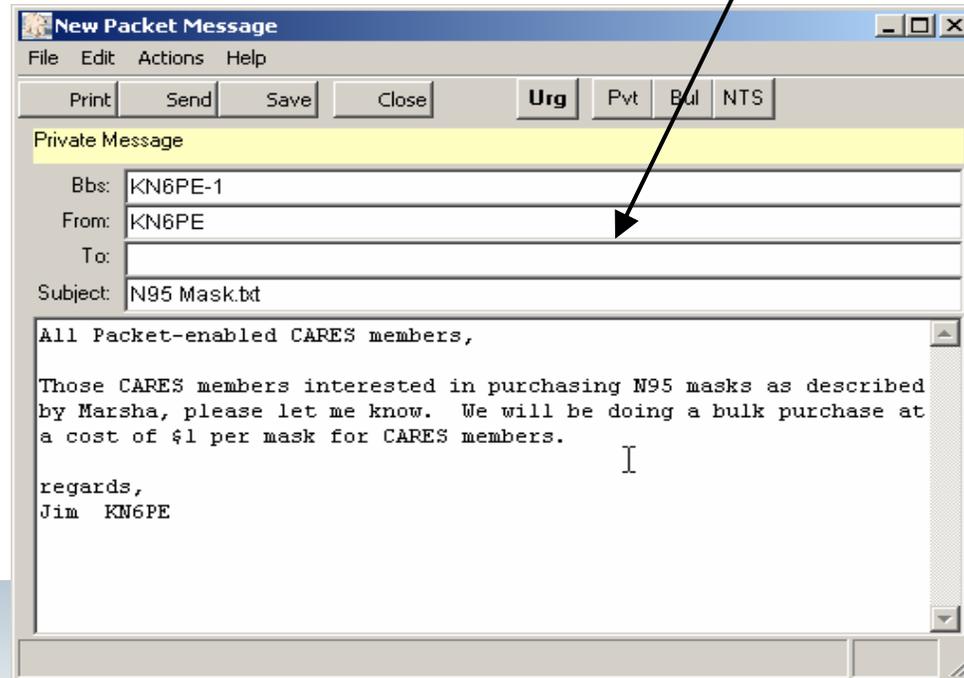
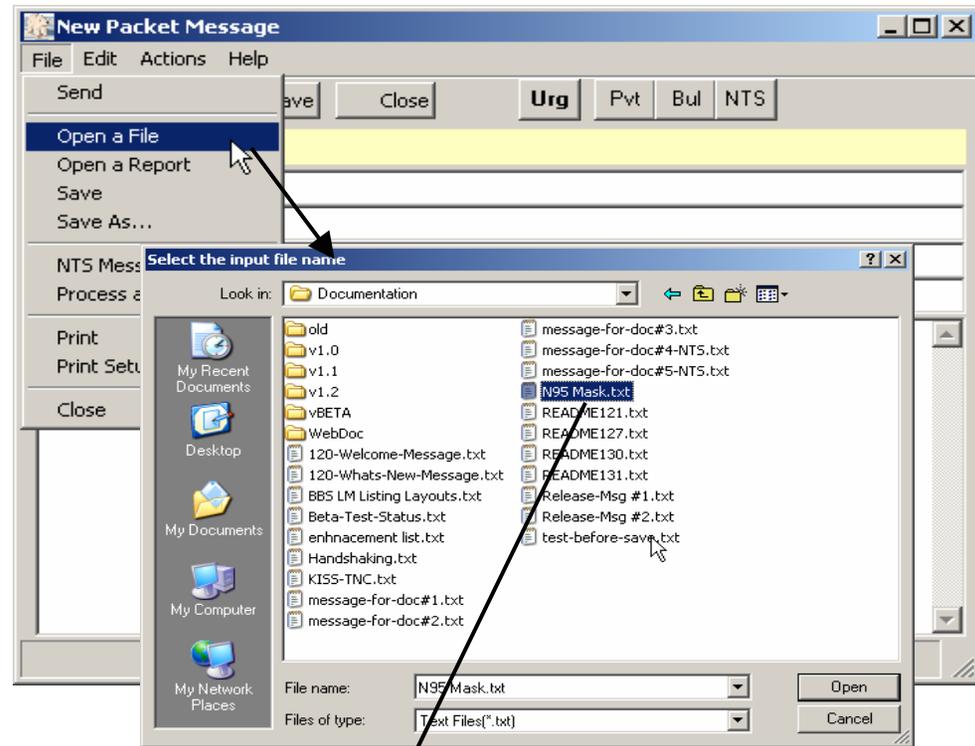


# Creating Messages

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 5. Import text from a file

- Open a new message
- File > Open a file
- Select the text file, press OK
- Fill in the Destination and Subject.
- Press Send when done.

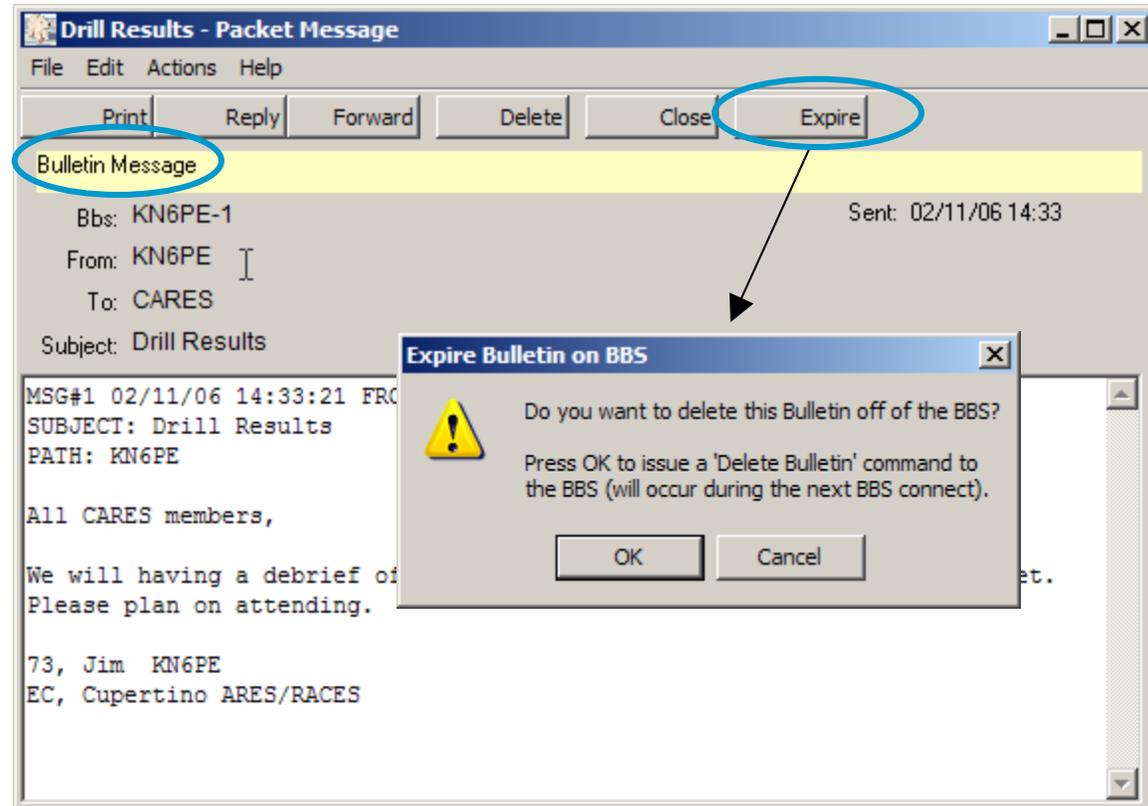


# Special Message Handling

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 1. Bulletins

- To delete a bulletin off of the BBS that you originated...
  - Retrieve the bulletin from the BBS
  - Open the message
  - Press Expire
  - On the next send/receive session, the bulletin will be deleted off of the BBS.



### Notes

- You can on delete bulletins that you create

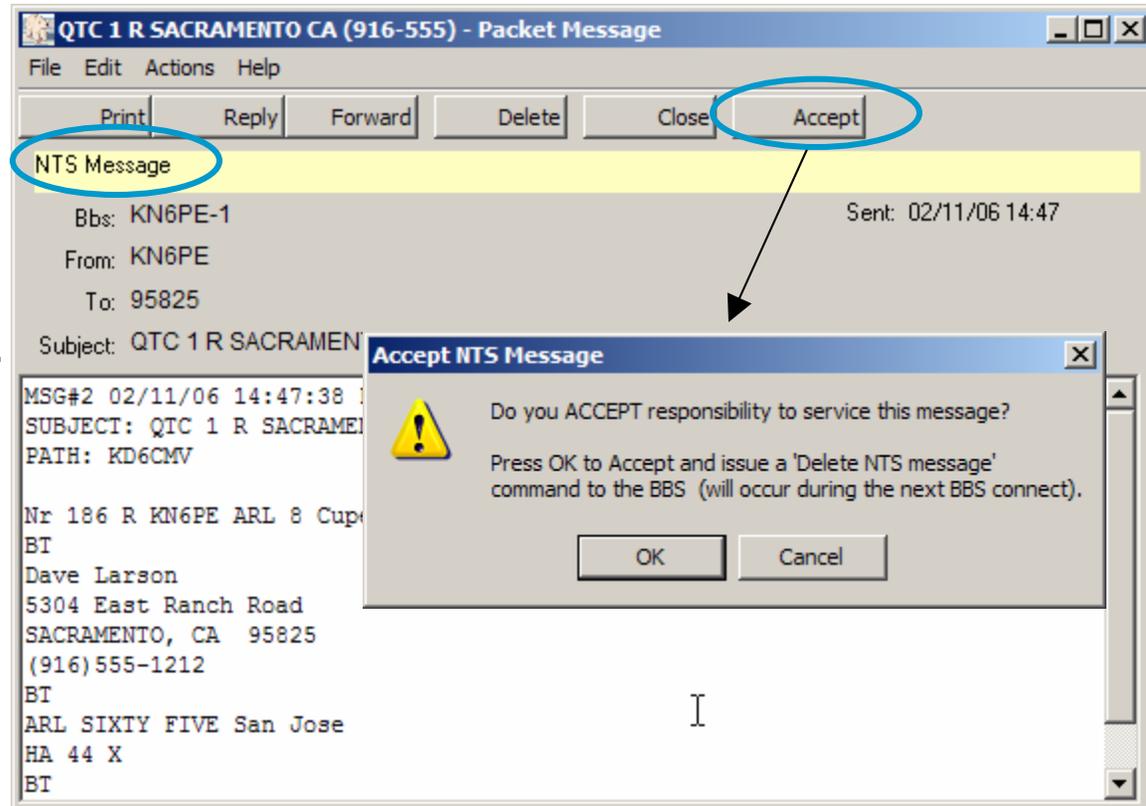


# Special Message Handling

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 2. NTS Messages

- Retrieved NTS messages are not automatically deleted off of the BBS. To accept a message for servicing...
  - Retrieve the NTS message from the BBS
  - Open the message
  - Press Accept
  - On the next send/receive session, the NTS message will be deleted off of the BBS.



### Notes

- If you change your mind and do not plan to service the NTS message, it is common courtesy to post it back up on the BBS

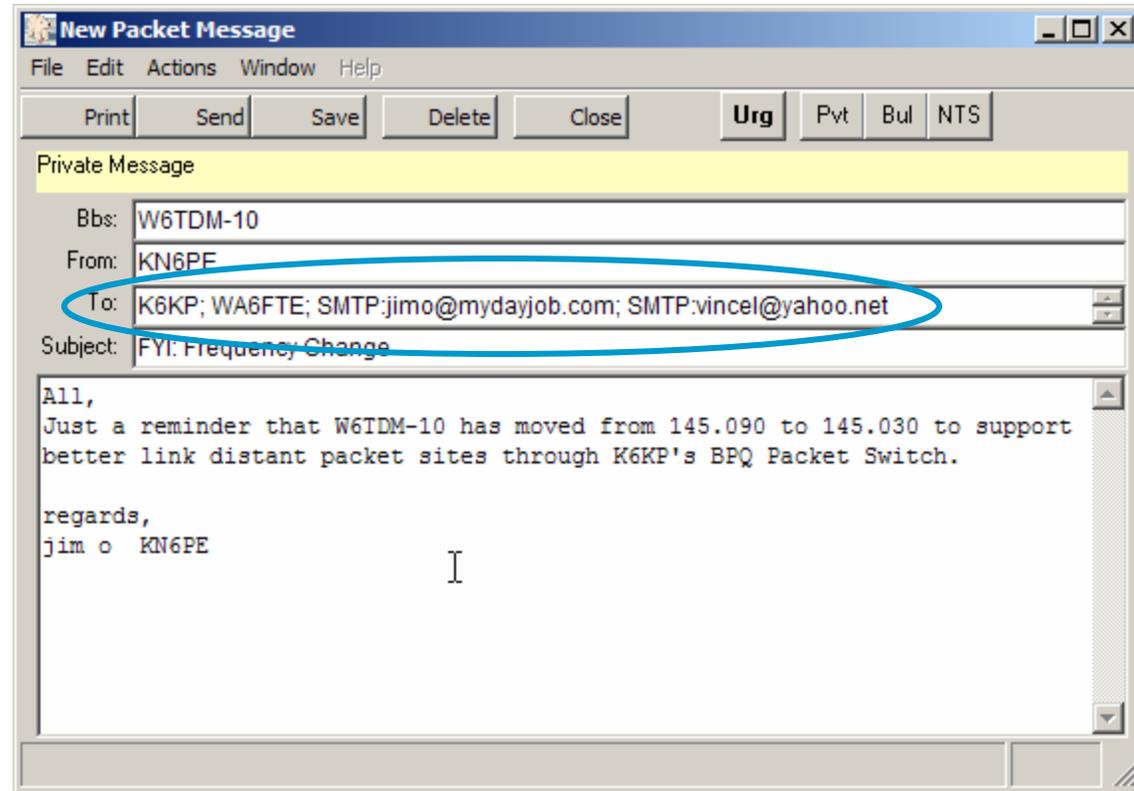


# Special Message Handling

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 3. Telpac/Winlink

- Supports internet email addressing (format is: SMTP:name@isp.net)
- Multiple destinations
- Received message form supports Reply-to-all for multi-destination addressed messages



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### Notes

- Internet email addresses must be preceded with "SMTP:" If it is missing, the message will fail.
- For multiple addresses sent to non-Telpac BBS, Outpost will send the message to the first listed station, and then report an error.



# Special Message Handling

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 4. Tactical Calls

- **Definition:** a call sign that identifies a tactical location and is operator-neutral allowing the operators to change, without having the assignment name change.
- Implemented by Outpost, not the BBS
- Example: For the Santa Clara County Hospital System, hospitals are assigned Tactical Calls such as:
  - 1MVECH Mountain View El Camino Hospital
  - 1PASMCM Palo Alto Stanford Medical Center
  - 1SJVMC San Jose Valley Medical Center
  - 1SJGSH San Jose Good Samaritan Hospital

Station Identification

Identification

Legal

User Call Sign: KN6PE

User Name: Jim

Tactical

Use Tactical Call for all BBS interaction (EMERGENCY MODE)

Tactical Call Sign: 1CUEOC

Tactical TX Text: Cupertino OES

OK Cancel Apply



# Special Message Handling

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

### 4. Tactical Calls

#### Notes

- Before using tactical a call, register the call sign with the BBS if required

#### Is it legal?

- AX.25 extended address field contains source and destination call sign
- Outpost uses the TNC's "my call" command to set the Tactical Call as the station identifier.
- The selected Tactical Call needs to be a sufficiently valid call sign to "fool" the BBS's call sign checking logic
- Outpost sends a "Legal Identifier String" that satisfies FCC Part 97.119

```
1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<C>>:
W6SJC-1>1CUEOC: <<UA>>:
W6SJC-1>1CUEOC: <<I00>>:
[FBB-7.04j-AB1FHMRX$]

Hello Jim,
Welcome to The San Jose EOC Mailbox

W6SJC >

1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<I01>>:
LM

W6SJC-1>1CUEOC: <<I11>>:
*** : Nothing found
*** : TO Field Filter is set to:- [ * ]

W6SJC >

1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<I12>>:
B

W6SJC-1>1CUEOC: <<I22>>:
73 Jim,

W6SJC-1>1CUEOC: <<D>>:
1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<I23>>:
StationID=KN6PE, TacCall=1CUEOC, Cupertino OES

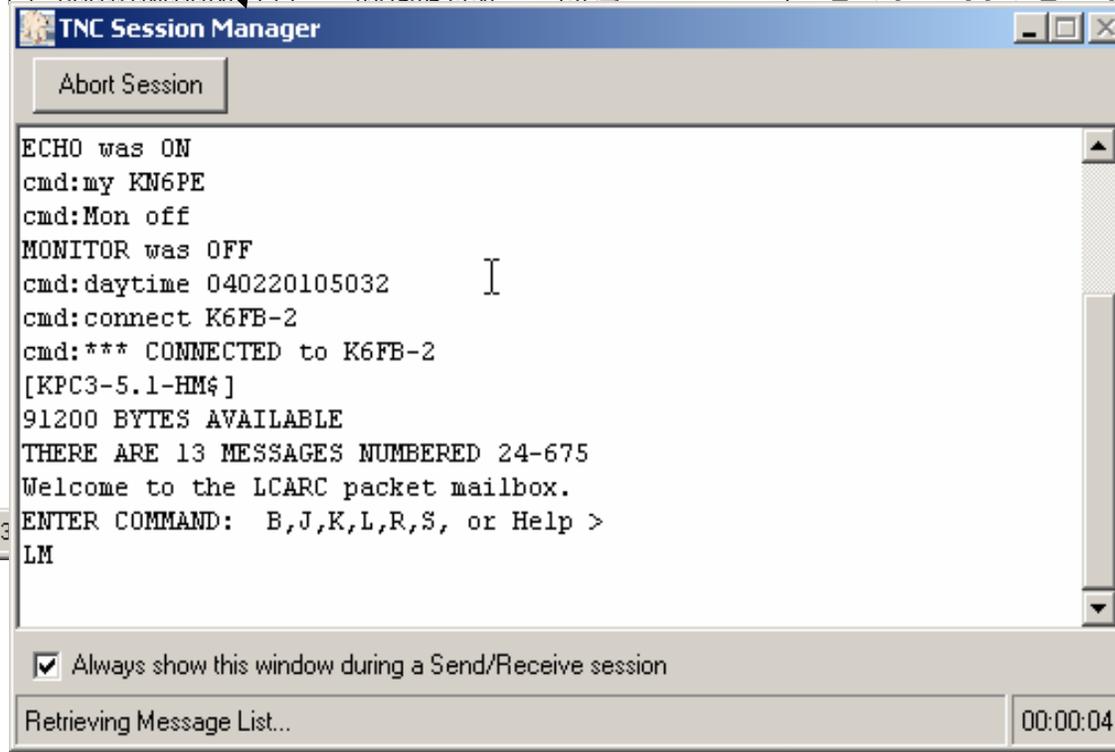
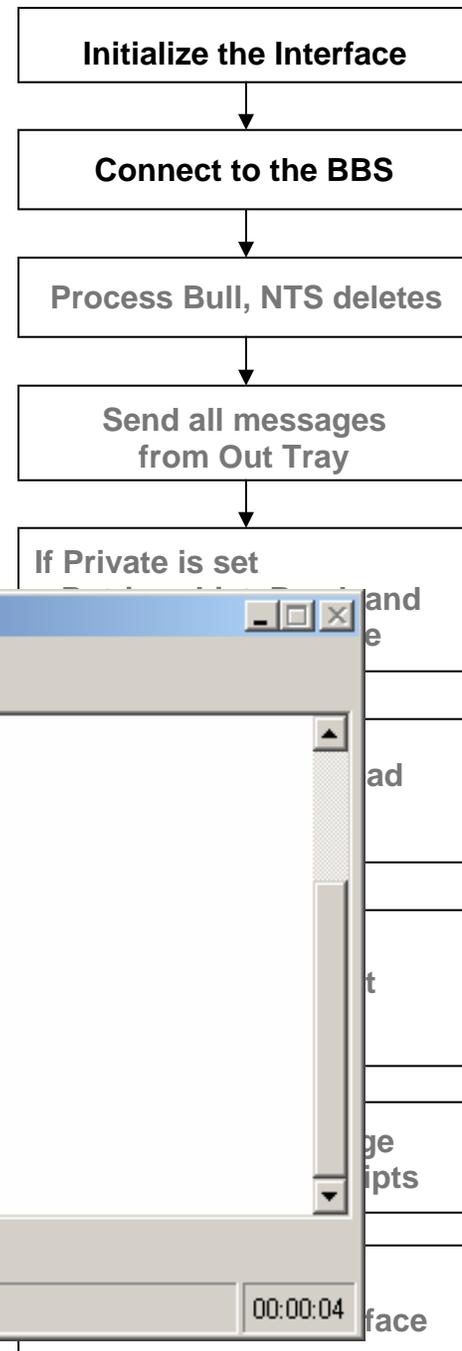
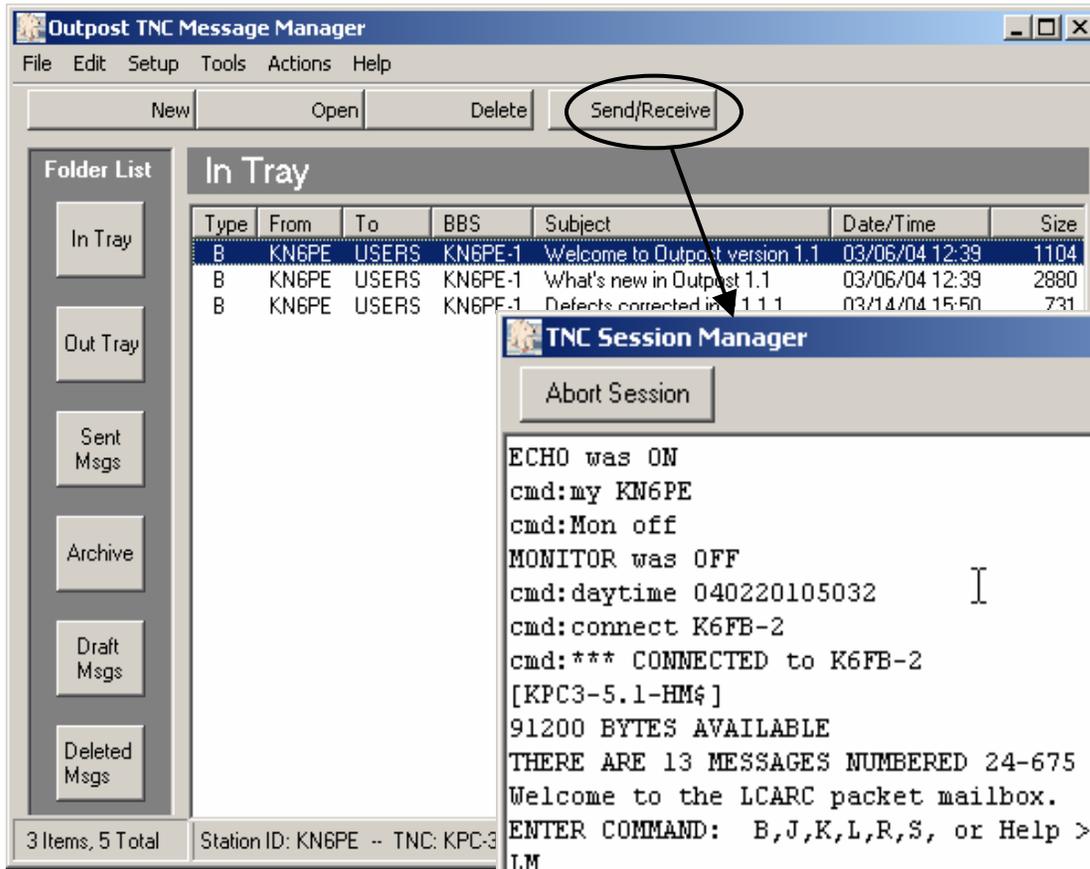
1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<I33>>:

1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<I43>>:

1CUEOC>W6SJC-1: <<UA>>:
```

# A Typical Session

## Outpost Packet Message Manager



# A Typical Session

## Outpost Packet Message Manager

- **Influenced by...**

- Send/Receive Settings

- **Send Messages**

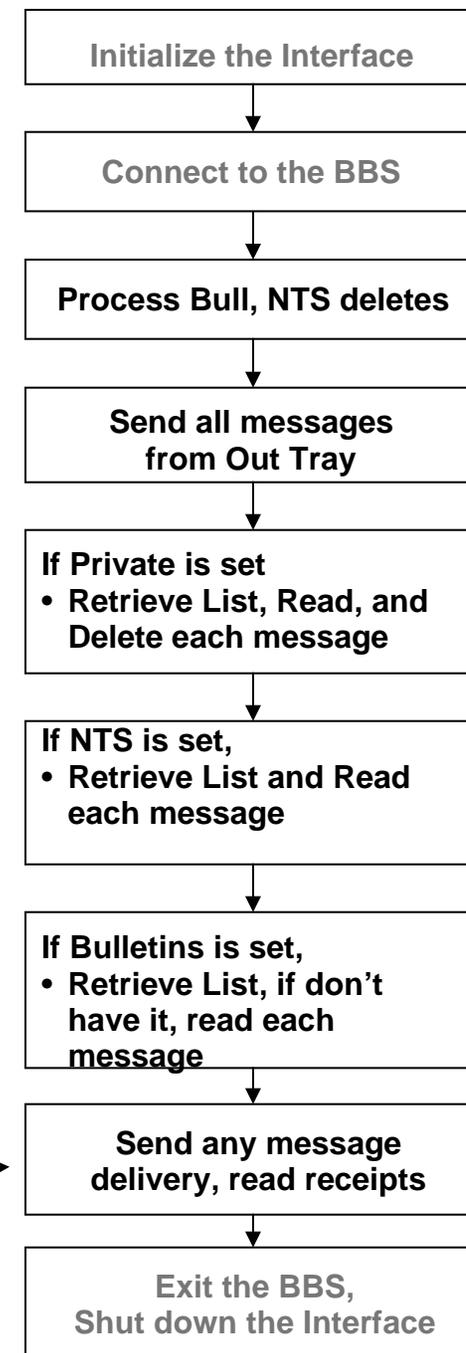
- Only sent from the Out Tray to this BBS
- Messages must be “Sent” not “Saved”
- Moved to Sent Folder when sent

- **Retrieve Messages**

- Depends on the Retrieve settings; if none are selected, none are retrieved
- Depends on the “Keep on BBS” setting
- Bulletins are never deleted
- New messages are stored in the In Tray

- **Send Receipts**

- Any pending Delivery and Read Receipts are sent back to the requester



# Considerations, Limitations and Constraints

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

### **What Outpost does not do**

- No support for any bulletin board forwarding protocol
- No support for common mail protocols (POP3, SMTP, etc.)

### **Things to avoid**

- Sending bulletins to a named person (instead of a group Identifier such as ALLEOC, etc.) will cause repeated retrievals by that person
- Embedding the BBS prompt string in a message (fails to ensure the uniqueness of the BBS prompt) will cause erroneous results



# For more information

## *Outpost Packet Message Manager*

Visit the Outpost website...

<http://www.outpostpm.org>

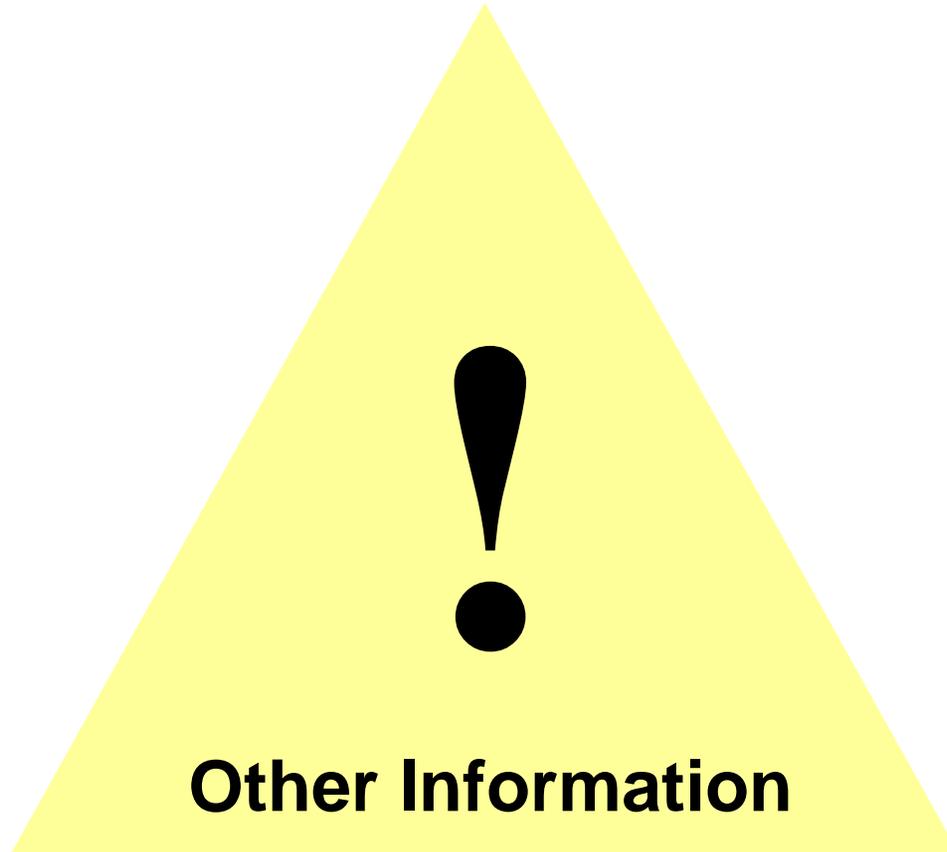
And supporting links...

- Users Guide... <http://www.outpostpm.org/#documentation>
- HOW-TOs... <http://www.outpostpm.org/howto.html>
- Support Info... <http://www.outpostpm.org/support.html>
- Users group... <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/outpostpacket/>

Send inquiries to...

Jim Oberhofer, [kn6pe@arrl.net](mailto:kn6pe@arrl.net)





# Tools > Send/Receive Settings

Area	Setting Description	Setting
Automation	Choose one... 1.No Automation 2.Schedule a Send/Receive Every [ ] minutes 3.Schedule a Send/Receive at [ ][ ][ ][ ] minutes past the hour	<b>1. Default</b>
Automation	Send a message immediately when it is complete	Unchecked
Retrieving	Retrieve Private Messages	<b>Checked</b>
Retrieving	Retrieve NTS Messages	Unchecked
Retrieving	Retrieve New Bulletins	Unchecked
Retrieving	Skip (do not retrieve) Bulletins I sent to the BBS	Unchecked
Retrieving	Retrieve Selected Bulletins	Unchecked
Receiving	Play this sound on arrival	Unchecked
Receiving	Print Message to the (default) printer	Unchecked
Receiving	Keep messages on the BBS; do not delete after retrieving	Unchecked
Other	Show TNC Session Window during Send/Receive	Unchecked



# Tools > Message Settings

Area	Setting Description	Setting
Setting up a new message	Choose one... 1. Set default to Private 2. Set default to Bulletin	<b>1. Default</b>
Setting up...	Default destination [            ]	Unchecked
Setting up...	Add message number to subject line	Unchecked
Replies and Forwards	Check one 1. Set default to Private for replies and forwards 2. Set default to original message type (excludes NTS) for replies and forwards	<b>1. Default</b>
Replies and...	Close original message on reply or forward	<b>Checked</b>
Tracking Messages	Always request a delivery receipt	Unchecked
Tracking...	Always request a read receipt	Unchecked
Deleting Messages	Prompt before permanently deleting a message	<b>Checked</b>



# Tools > Report Settings

	<b>Setting Description</b>	<b>Setting</b>
	Next Message Number	100
	Organization	Blank
	City	Blank
	County	Blank
	State/Prov	Blank
	Tactical Location	Blank
	Tactical ID	Blank
	Text Variable #1	Blank
	Text Variable #2	Blank
	Text Variable #3	Blank

