

## QUICKSTART Win-Test 3.11.0 by F1HAR and F5HRY

Last update : July 1st 2007

**Preamble :** This QUICKSTART gives the user basic informations to use Win-Test as fast as possible. It's not the full documentation which is also available on this site. Description is thus voluntarily "light". A full documentation is now available in English in "wiki" format at : <http://docs.win-test.com>

### 0 - Download Win-Test :

Win-Test is available in a fully-functioning trial version for a 15-day period. You can download it on this site:

<http://www.win-test.com>

In this trial version, the application randomly quits (between 30 minutes and 2 hours after startup), and report files (cabrillo, reg1test) are limited to 50 QSO.

Install the software in a directory on your haddisk you like, normally in C:\Program Files\Win-Test.

After this period, you can purchase and register Win-Test, in order to use it without limitation, or uninstall it.

When registration is complete, you will no longer have to press the [1], [2], or [3] buttons.

### 1 - Launch WIN-TEST and setup the contest :

Select **File/New** and give a name to your contest file. It is advised to use a characteristic name which you will easily identify later (ex : FY5KE2002arrISSB). The filename must be compatible with Windows limitations, and must respect Win-Test extension : **.wtb**

To load a previous contest file use **File/Open**.

**Contest configuration**

Station

Callsign:  Locator:  Exchange (zone, ...):

DXCC Prefix:  WAZ zone:  ITU zone:  State/Province/Other:

Name:

Address:

Address:

Address:

Club:

Load

Save as

Contest

Contest:   Contests of the month

Category:  Mode:

Overlay:  Band plan:

Class:  Power:


Operators:


Network


Station:   Enable time distribution across the network


## Contest Setup


Most of the fields in this dialog are used for contest report file, so fill them with attention. Please note that :


 Station informations will be displayed in the report file.

 Profiles: You can define 5 different station profiles. Profiles are a set of station information (Callsign, Name, Address, etc.) that can be grouped and reused when necessary. Profiles are saved in specific sections in the wt.ini file (Button "Save as"). They can be recalled by pushing Button "Load".

 Points are computed according to the rules of the selected contest.

 The "Exchange" field will be transmitted in CW (see CW messages configuration).

 The "Locator" field must be filled only for VHF contests, but it will be also useful for an HF contest to accurately compute beam headings and Sunrise/Sunset times.

 All computers in the network must have different names. In order to synchronize the time of the QSO recordings, one computer (and only one) must be declared "time master".

When done, it is advised to enable the **Options/Load contest at startup** option. Win-Test will then restart quicker during the contest if needed.

Select **Options/Language** to choose the language (French, English, German) of the menus in Win-Test. This change doesn't take effect until you restart Win-Test.

### 2 - Setting up the interfaces :

Select **Options/Configure Interfaces** to access interfaces settings.

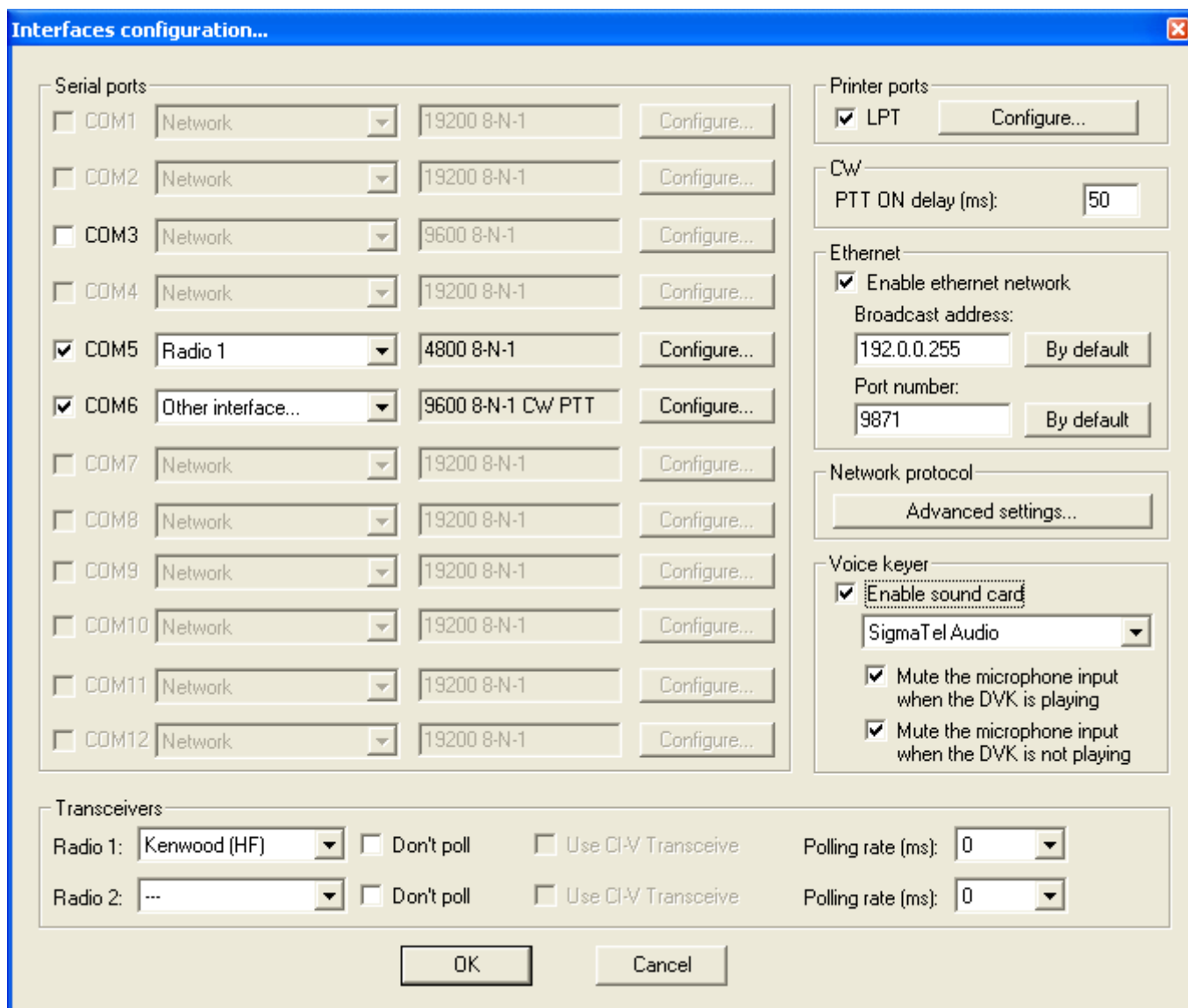
#### Transceiver control :

Win-Test can control (frequency, mode) by the serial port (RS232) the most current HF transceivers (Kenwood, Icom, Yaesu, Ten-Tec, Elecraft). Some of them are directly compatible, in particular the most recent ones, others may require an interface (ex : TS-850S [Interface Link](#)). You must specify the transceiver model, and the communication port properties (speed, data bits, ...).

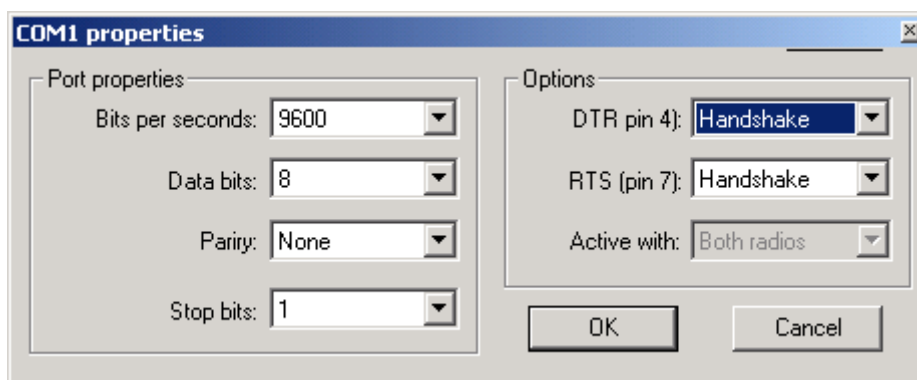
Please note that :

 SteppIR Antenna Interface([www.steppir.com](http://www.steppir.com)) is compatible with Win-Test (Use an Y cable).

 ALPHA Amplifier Interface is also support by Win-Test.



*Interfaces Setup*



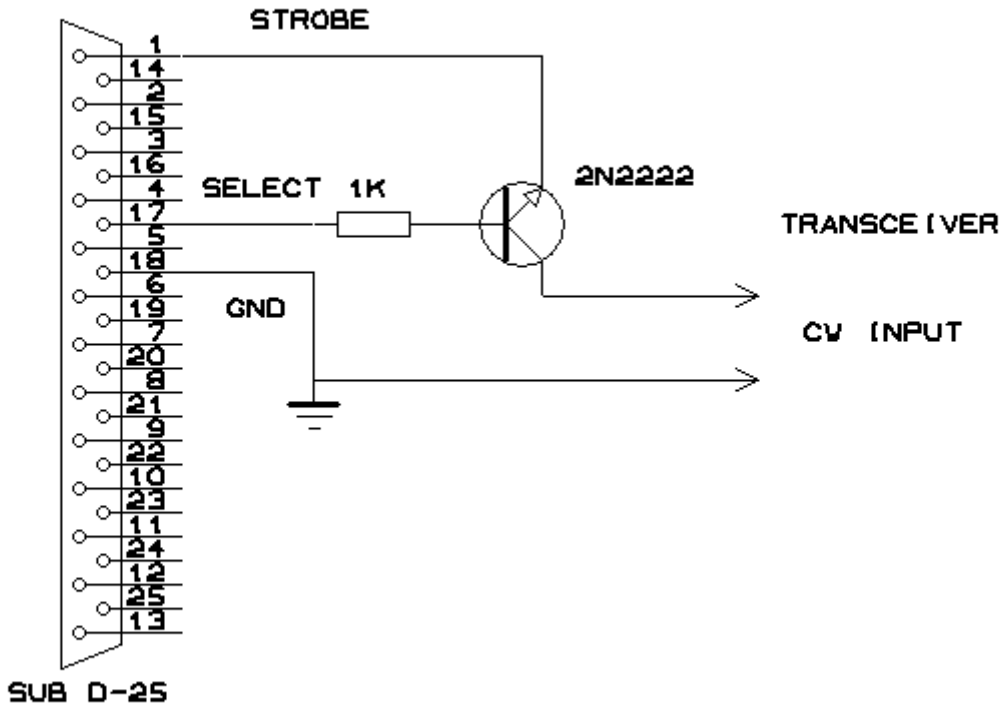
*Serial ports COM properties*

**CW Interface :**

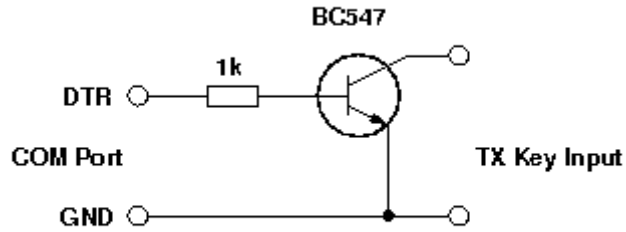
Win-Test automatically generates CW and PTT keying with the parallel port (LPT) outputs or with the serial port (COM) outputs. The interface described below is very simple. It is compatible with several other great contest softwares. However, there is no direct input for an external paddle. If you want to send CW with a key, you will need an external CW keyer, whose output will be wired in parallel to the CW key input of the transceiver.

CW interface diagram :

**LPT PORT**

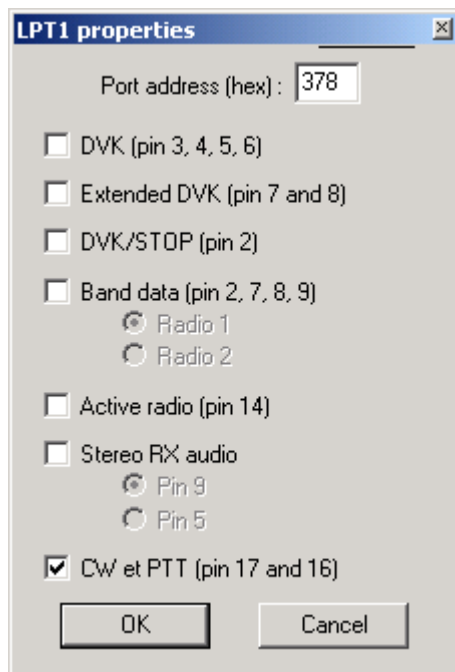


*CW LPT interface*

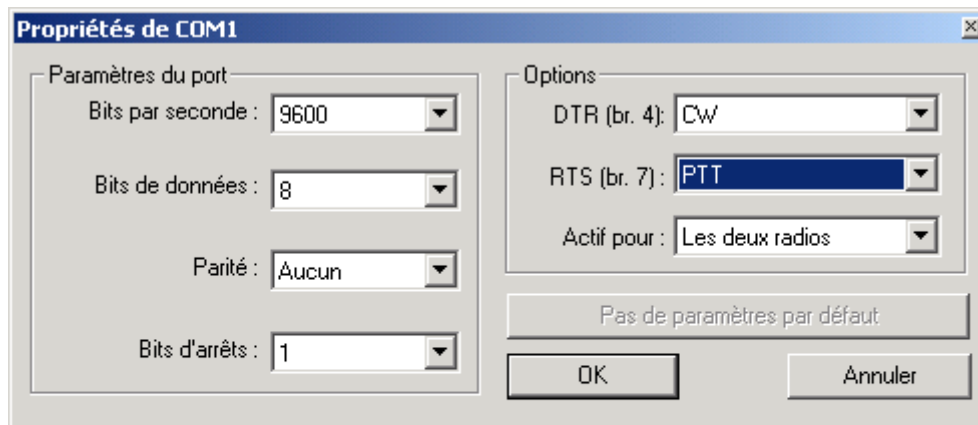


*CW COM interface*

Transmission will be activated with the VOX, or with an identical interface using pin 16 (instead of the 17) : The collector of the transistor will then be wired to the PTT IN input of your transceiver.



*LPT port properties*



*COM port properties*

If you choose the serial port (COM) , use the pins listed below :

Serial Port (9 pins) [usual case]



Pin 7 = PTT (RTS)



Pin 4 = CW Output (DTR)



Pin 5 = Ground

Serial Port (25 pins)



Pin 4 = PTT (RTS)

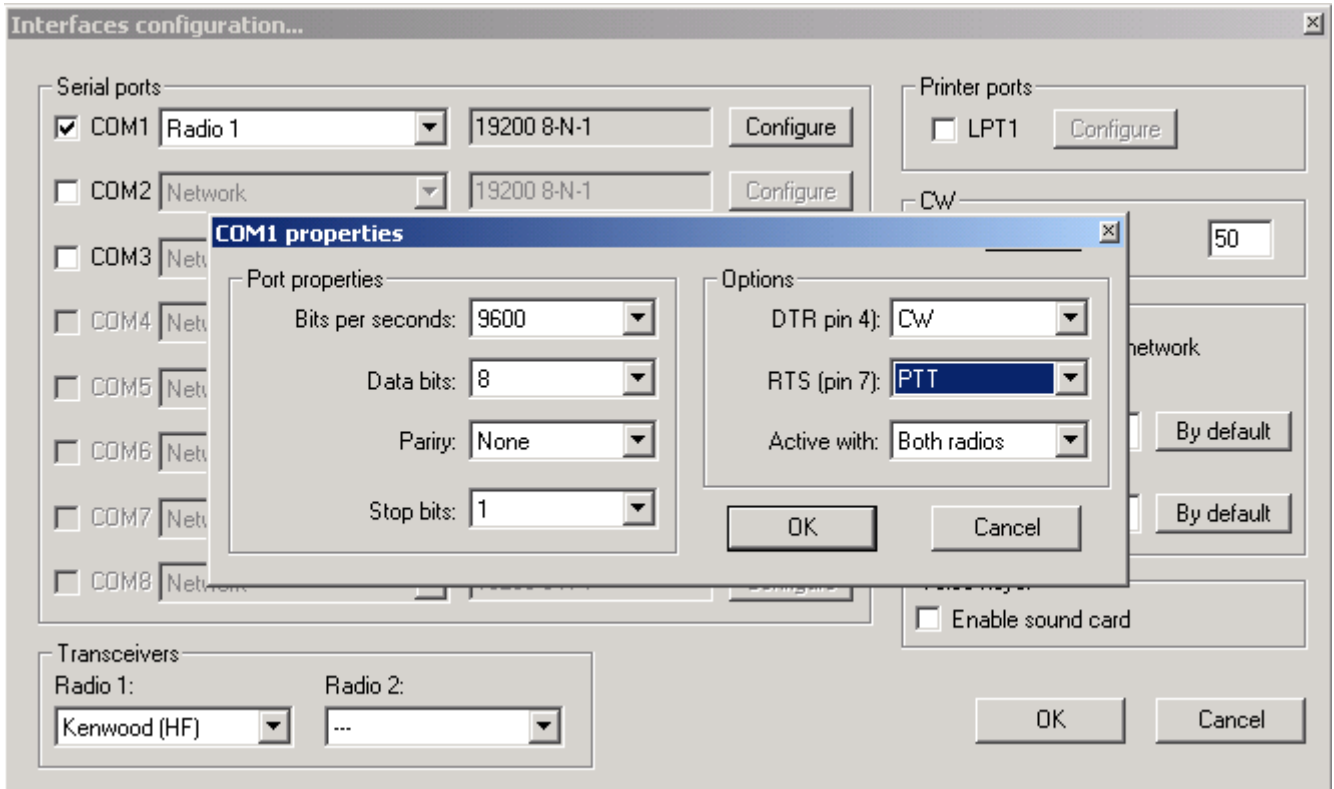


Pin 20 = CW Output (DTR)



Pin 7 = Ground

Don't forget to wire the transistor emitter to the ground pin of the serial output.



*CW serial port properties*

Be careful if RTS and DTR are used for CW/PTT , no hardware handshaking is available for this Serial Port.

Note : WINDOWS 2000, XP or NT users will need the DLPORIO.DLL to use serial and parallel ports.










You will easily find sites to download and install this DLL, for example :

<http://www.driverlinx.com/Download/DIPortIO.htm>

Port95nt.exe must be launched to install the appropriate DLL and generate CW with the parallel or the serial ports.

Click on **Options/CW/Modify standard messages** or **Options/CW/Modify additional messages** to setup the CW messages.

You can use the following variables :

-  \$MYCALL : My Callsign
-  \$GRIDSQUARE or \$LOCATOR : My Locator
-  \$ZONE, \$DPT, \$STATE, \$OBLAST or \$PROVINCE : Content of exchange field in contest configuration window
-  \$PWR ou \$POWER : Power (ARRL DX - DX side)
-  \$RST : RST sent
-  \$LOGGED or \$LOGGEDCALL : As its name indicates
-  \$SERIAL : QSO serial number
-  \$CR : Mimics a Carriage-Return in the Log
-  \$CORRECT : Send logged call if it were corrected by the operator

██████████ \$QSOB4 : Send QSOB4 if dupe qso. **Note** : Data following the \$QSOB4 variable are not keyed if it's a dupe QSO.

██████████ \$F1 : send message #1

██████████ etc...

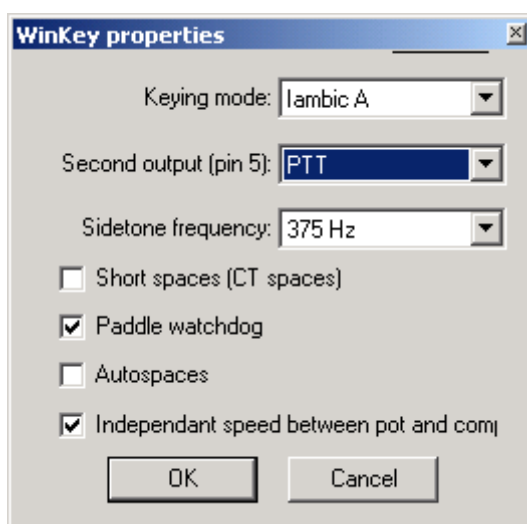
██████████ \$F7 : send message #7

+ and - signs can be used to increase or to decrease the keying speed within the message. Exchange abbreviations can be setup with **Options/CW/Serial number** (cf full documentation) , or by the text command : NOCUT, SEMICUT, FULLCUT, PROCUT.

The weight of the CW can be ajusted by the text command WEIGHT or CWWEIGHT in the callsign field of the main window or by **Commands/CW Weight**.

██████████ The W5XD/K5DJ Multi-keyer is supported by Win-Test, it is then necessary to choose W5XD in **Options/Configure Interfaces/Serial Port**.

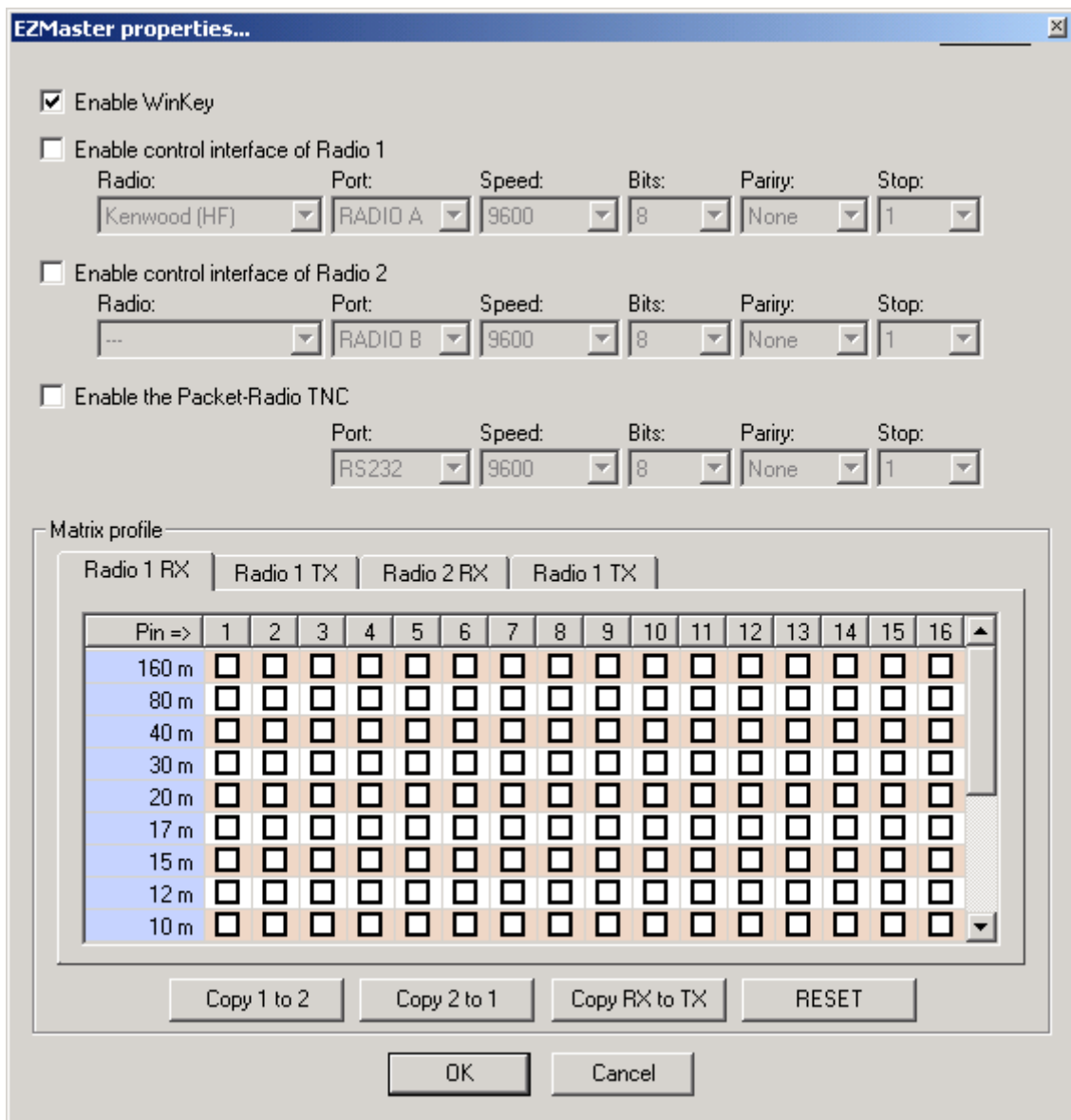
██████████ The K1EL Win-Key ([www.k1el.com](http://www.k1el.com)) is also supported by Win-Test, it is then necessary to choose Win-Key in **Options/Configure Interfaces/Serial Port** for COM Port configuration, and then Winkey configuration in **Options** to set WinKey properties.



*WinKey K1EL Properties*

## SO2R Boxes :

██████████ EZMaster SO2R box from hamradio-solution ([www.hamradiosolutions.com](http://www.hamradiosolutions.com)) is supported by Win-Test in **advanced mode**. Radio switching, DVK, Winkey are controlled by Win-Test. Choose EZMaster in **Options/Configure Interfaces/Serial Port** for COM Port configuration. Connect EZMaster box via USB cable is the best. Choose EZMaster Configuration in **Options** to set properties (Matrix profile,...), please refer to EZMaster Documentation.



ZS4TX SO2R (<http://www.zs4tx.co.za/sck/>) is also supported by Win-Test.

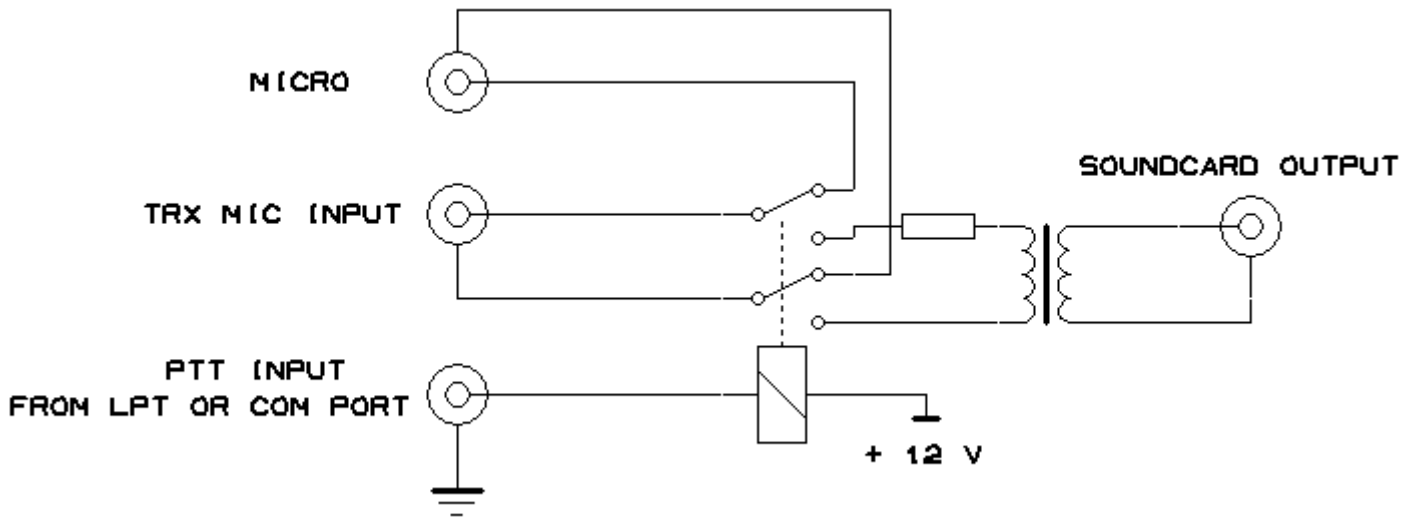
MK2R SO2R from MicroHam (<http://www.microham.com/>) is also supported by Win-Test in advanced mode. Go to Options/Configuration MK2R to set properties.

With So2R boxes you can enable pin14 of LPT to drive the active radio (A/B), select the pin for Stereo RX (A and B).

In SO2R mode the SHIFT Key can be used to bind every keyboard entries relevant into the "Secondary Radio". Set/Reset by **Operating/Shift bind to the secondary radio**. SHIFT + numpad can also be bound to 2nd radio.

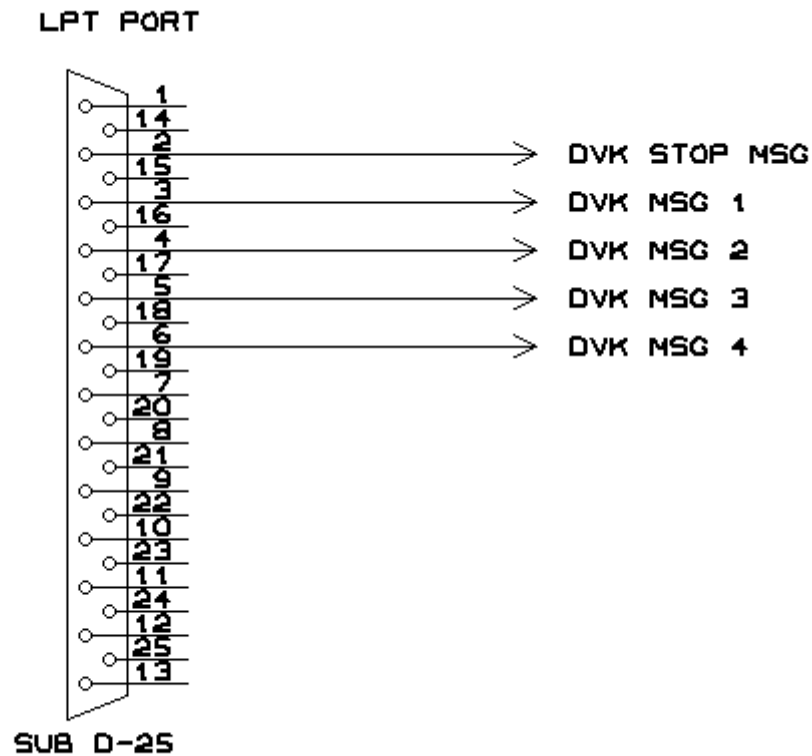
**Automatic Voice-Keyer :**

Win-Test can also send calls in phone modes, using your PC soundcard via an audio interface (PC/transceiver).



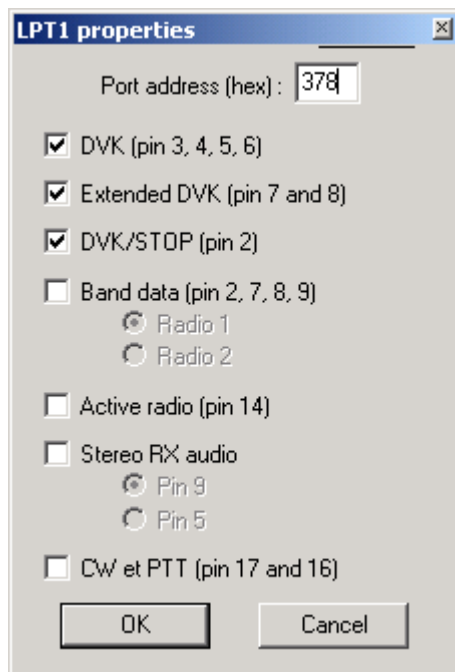
*SoundCard Interface*

It can also control an external DVK (Digital Voice Keyer) like MFJ-434, Check the boxes for DVK in LPT properties (be careful Pin 2 is shared between DVK and BandDecoder).



*DVK Interface*

Extended DVK allows 6 messages (ZS4TX SO2R for ex) , pin7 for msg#5 , pin8 for msg#6.



*DVK LPT Properties*

Activate the **Tools/Automatic CQ repeat mode** option to send CQ message at timed intervals.

Press F1 to start sending CQ message.

**Network :**

Win-Test work with RS-232 (COM port "3 wires" or "5 wires"), or with Ethernet network (crossed cable for 2 computer or via a Hub for more). Your computer must have a network card. Ethernet is the best way because less HF sensitive and do not use COM port wich are very useful for TRX interface for ex.

To active your Ethernet network, please refer to the windows Options/Configure Interface. Each computer have is own Ip address in the network. Win-Test use Broadcast. For more details on Ethernet network configuration go [here](#) .

**Packet cluster :**

Win-Test control TNC (Normally 8 bits DATA, No parity, 1 bit Stop), use a 3 wires cable (Software Handshaking), or a 5 wires cable (Hardware Handshaking).

**Internet cluster :**

Connecting to a telnet cluster is the work of an external application provided as part of the Win-Test package called 'wtDxTelnet'. This program maintains the connection to the cluster, NOT Win-Test itself! . Download wtDxTelnet [here](#) . Configure wtDxTelnet : Choose your Cluster , IP port , your login password on this cluster. Then configure Win-Test (Options/configure Interfaces) to allow Win-Test and wtDxTelnet to communicate (IP + port). For more details please refer to wiki : [wiki Telnet](#) .

**Band Decoder :**

Information on LPT port is also available to drive a band decoder, it's compatible with Yaesu Data.

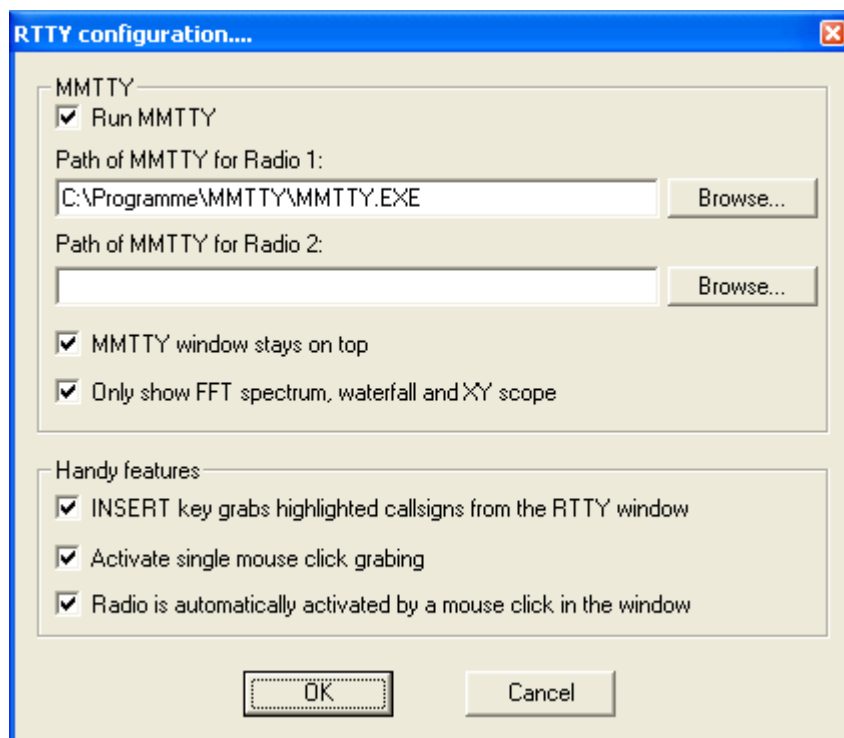
**BAND DATA**

D(9)	C(8)	B(7)	A(2)	Band
0	0	0	0	-
0	0	0	1	160m
0	0	1	0	80m
0	0	1	1	40m
0	1	0	0	30m
0	1	0	1	20m
0	1	1	0	17m
0	1	1	1	15m
1	0	0	0	12m
1	0	0	1	10m
1	0	1	0	6m

LPT pin in parentheses.

**RTTY Mode:** Win-Test support RTTY contest with MMTTY engine from JE3HHT. First download "MMTTY Engine" from [MMTTY Website](#) and install it. Launch MMTTY to set properties. Then , go to Option/RTTY Configuration in Win-Test, and set Path of MMTTY and other properties.

For more details please refer to [wiki RTTY](#) and to the [RTTY Contesting web site](#).



*RTTY Configuration*

<<< **When all setup is done , click on OK** >>>

### 3 - Main Window and Contest entry

The main window is composed of :

- ▶ Menus (from File to Help), and menu items
- ▶ Shortcuts and icons
- ▶ Windows which can be opened, located, and resized
- ▶ Entry fields for callsign and report

The Ctrl key + wheel-mouse combination may be used to resize the font of most of the windows.

Note that function keys and text commands are described in the full documentation.





displayed in this window. Background colors shows the time position of the sked. A right click configures display options. A double click fills the callsign field and automatically tunes the radio on the sked frequency.

▶ **Solar activity** : **Solar/Activity** allows to display the graph of the solar activity, which is generated with the data issued from the cluster.

▶ **Check Callsign** : **F9** to open (**F9** to close), or **Windows/Check Callsign** allows to display the bands on which the callsign was already worked. You can also customize this window by a simple right-click.

### **3 - Permanent windows, recommended to be always opened :**

▶ **Check Multipliers (DXCC country)** : **F10** to open (F10 to close), or **Windows/Check Multipliers**. Displays already worked countries DXCC (by band).

▶ **Summary** : **Alt+S** to open (**Alt+S** to close), or **Windows/Summary**. Displays score in realtime. You can copy this window with a right click.

▶ **Check partials** : **F12** to open (**F12** to close), or **Windows/Check partials**. The check partial window displays all the callsigns from the Database, which match the letters/numbers in the callsign field of the main window. Already worked calls on other bands are displayed in GREEN, non-worked calls in WHITE, Dupe are in RED. In this window, you can also quickly check if a "ZONE" multiplier has been already worked on different bands : Enter the "ZONE" (State for ARRLDX for example) in callsign field then **Shift F10**.

▶ **Check N + 1** : **F8** to open (**F8** to close), or **Windows/Check N+1**. Displays all the callsigns from the database which are different by 1 (and only one) letter/number of the call entered in the callsign field of the main window. "Fat fingers check" (2 characters swap) are also displayed. Already worked calls on other bands are displayed in GREEN, non-worked calls are in WHITE, dupes are in RED.

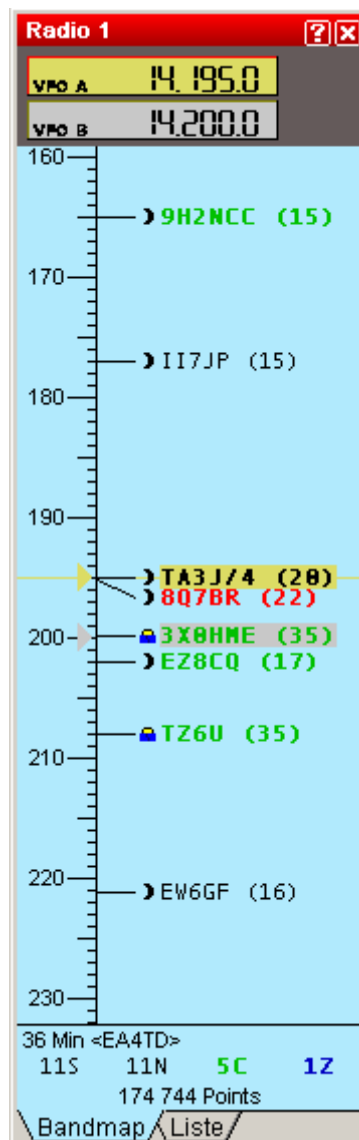
▶ **Rate** : **Alt+R** to open (**Alt+R** to close), or **Windows/Rate**. Displays rates, QSO points value, time ON , time OFF, time since last band change, instant continental distribution, and multiplier value. A very complete list of options is available with a right-click on the window. A moving histogram (you can also customize it by a simple right-click) is displayed in addition to the statistical data. A time off timer reset by every entered qso display the time passed since the last qso, set it by a right click on the window.

▶ **Partner** : **Windows/Partner** to open/close. This window displays all the callsigns entered by your partner ( He uses ALT+ENTER after entering the call in the callsign field of its own computer ). Double Click on the callsign or ALT+line # grabs it in the callsign field. Use ALT+BACKSPACE to clean all the partner window.

▶ **Band map** : **Alt+1** to open (**Alt+1** to close), or **Windows/Radio1** (Alt+2 for Radio2). The Bandmap window displays the frequency spectrum. The center frequency scrolls as you turn your VFO, if your transceiver is controlled by Win-Test. You can easily associate a callsign to a signal. The "band map" is fed by DX-Cluster announcement, or by the operator (select or enter a call in the callsign field then **Ctrl Enter**). With a double-click on the call display in the band map, your radio is tuned on this frequency and Win-Test fills the callsign field of the main window with the band map chosen callsign.

**NB** : This function is useful only if the transceiver is controlled by Win-Test via the serial port.

"Band map" Example:



*Band map*

You can modify display options (scale, spot comment and other properties) by a right-click in the window. You can display segments of band map in different colors (regarding the licence type for example), segment are defined in a .seg file. CQ and QSY (set by PASSFREQ text command) cursors can also be displayed using the contextual menu (Right Click) display options. You can also display Markers in the band map ( Beacons for example ), Markers are defined in a .mkr file. Use contextual menu ( Right Click ) to choose colors.

A tab named "LIST" is also available, use right click to customize display.

A small icon allows to visualize the position of the sun in the country of the spot (Moon for night, Sun for daylight, Sunrise/Sunset), and guessed exchange. A summary is displayed in bottom of this window. The following informations are available: Number of spots, Number of needed Qsos, Number of new countries, Number of new zones, time since last spot and "spotter" callsign.

The split frequency of the current Radio can be modified by **Commands/Split Frequency** or with the "-" (minus) key of the numeric pad or by the text command SPLITFREQ in the callsign field of the main window.

- ▶ **Dx-Cluster Announcement** : **Alt+A** to open (Alt+A to close), ou **Windows/Dx-Cluster Announcement**. To display missing multipliers announced by DX Cluster. You can change multiplier sort display, filter by bands , delete spot and customize display with a right-click. A double click tunes the radio on the right frequency and fills the callsign field. You can move in the window with the scrollbar , and go to the last line by clicking the small icon in the title bar. Spots can be deleted by CTRL+Double click on it.
- ▶ **Clock** : **Windows/Clock**. To display UTC TIME. Set time on your PC in local time and select the correct time zone in Windows. Win-Test will then compute and correctly log time in UTC.
- ▶ **Extra** : **Windows/Extra** or **ALT-X**. This windows displays data included in .xdt file (textual file)

#### 4 - After Contest Logfile

Use **File/Create log files** menu item. Then, select correct file type (ADIF, Cabrillo), add a short comment in the SOAPBOX, and finally choose a file name.

You can then enter your working conditions and your off-periods if you are single-op in the next window.

## UTILITIES AND TOOLS

- ▶ **Merge** To merge files , Select **File/Merge Logs**, then choose first the MASTER file by clicking on ADD, and then other files to be merged in the master file.
- ▶ **Import/Export** : Select **File/Import Export** to Import or Export Log files in Cabrillo or Editest format and convert it in Win-Test format.
- ▶ **Clean Log** Launch Win-Test or close file which is in use. Select **File/Clean Log** , choose the .wtb file to be cleaned ( By security , make a backup copy before ). You can choose to delete all qso with your home call, duplicates , and remove /qrp extension. check the Confirm box , the file is cleaned and opened in Win-Test.
- ▶ **Objective Files** Launch Win-Test with the .wtb file you want to be the objective file. Select **Tools/Export an objective file** , choose a name for this file (.OBF) , choose the title to be displayed in the future statistics window, select data to be used , and the click OK. The objective file is ready to be imported for a future contest as a reference.
- ▶ **Time Shifting** : Select **Tools/Time Shifting** to time shift selected QSOs by any amount of time - either positive or negative. It lets you correct a constant time offset (like you had set the wrong date on the computer, or the clock was off by one hour).The time shift can be applied to the entire log or to a range of QSOs, to the QSOs entered by your own station (this could make sense in a multi operator environment), to QSOs entered by several stations. **WARNING : CREATE A BACKUP FILE BEFORE USING THIS OPTION.**
- ▶ **Check Log** : Select **Tools/Check Log** to use tools to check your log regarding the contest rules :
  - ▶ CQWW 10 minutes rules in Multi-Single.
  - ▶ 8 or 10 QSY per hour rule
  - ▶ Sometimes the multiplier station makes a QSO which turns out not to be a multiplier.
  - ▶ Check Probably Bad exchanges (like zone reagrding to the callsign)
  - ▶ Display all unique QSOs in the Log, with a N+1 search available.
- ▶ **Automatic Backup** : **Options/Automatic Backup** allows you to proceed or schedule a backup of your log on floppy-disk or USB key. for example.

## 5 - In case of Problem

If you have any question or problem, you can read the FAQ and archives of the mailing list :

<http://www.win-test.com>

You can also subscribe to the Win-Test mailing list : send a mail to [support-request@win-test.com](mailto:support-request@win-test.com) with subject : SUBSCRIBE if you don't find an answer to your problem.

Development and technical support team wish you good contests with Win-Test !