Outpost Packet Message Manager v3.3

Quick Start



Forward

This guide provides some brief instructions on how to install, configure, set up, and use the Outpost Packet Message Manager Application suite. While this will step you through the basics to get you up and running, your ultimate reference will be the Outpost User Guide.

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Requirements

System Requirements

Outpost has been verified to run under on the following operating system environments:

Microsoft Windows:	98 2 nd Edition						
	NT, 2000, ME, XP, Vista						
	Windows 7, 8, 8.1, and 10						
Linux running WINE:	<u>0/s</u>	Wine	Status				
	Ubuntu 14.04.2	Wine 1.6.2	Confirmed				
	Linux Lite 2.8	Wine 1.7.55	Confirmed				
	Zorin OS9 Lite	Wine 1.7	Confirmed				
	openSuSE 42.1	Wine 1.8.1-6.1	Confirmed				
	openSuSE 13.1	Wine 1.7.2-2.1	Confirmed				
	Linux Mint 13	Wine 1.4	Fails Automation Error				
	openSuSE 12.1	Wine 1.4-2.12.1	Fails Automation Error				
	NOTE: Outpost shou	Ild work with Linux and	d Wine v1.6.2 or later.				
Mac Book Pro, INTEL	Requires a product c (<u>http://www.codewe</u> access the BBS's usin	Requires a product called Crossover MAC from the Codeweavers site (<u>http://www.codeweavers.com</u>). This configuration was confirmed to access the BBS's using the TELNET. Serial Port use was not confirmed.					

Hardware Requirements

Outpost system requirements are minor and the application should work on any system with 10MB of free disk space.

Processor:	Intel-based; required to support any of the above Operating Systems.			
Interfaces:	One or more o	One or more of the following:		
	Serial Port:	An available Serial Port for Serial or AGWPE interfacing, or		
	USB port:	Any compatible USB-to-Serial adaptor to connect to the TNC		
	Network:	Network interface for remote AGWPE or Telnet interfacing		
Hard Drive:	Minimal; 10Mb should be more than sufficient to get started.			
Peripherals:	Printer for me	essage printing (if required)		

Installation

Installing the software off the Web begins by downloading the Outpost Install Program to your PC.

- 1. Go to the website (<u>www.outpostpm.org</u>), navigate to the Downloads section, and look for the current Outpost Installation program.
- 2. Click to download the installer. Or right click on the link, and select "Save Target As". The install program is named **opsetup330cxxx.exe**, where "xxx" is the current installation version.

The Outpost installation program includes all the files needed to install and use Outpost on your PC. After downloading the install program, run the program as follows:

- 1. Click on the program to start the installation process.
- 2. **Information**. This is general information that you should check out depending on the type if install you want to perform. When done, press **Next** >.
- 3. Select Destination Location. This is where the Outpost Programs will be installed. Unless you have special requirements, accept the default location, and press Next > to continue.
- Select a Data Location. This is the location where Outpost data will be installed. You can change this if you want your Outpost data in a different directory, or possibly on a USB Memory Stick. Unless you have special requirements, accept the default location, and press Next > to continue.
- 5. Select components. Outpost can install program components as follows:
 - a. **First time installation for new users:** Installs all components; programs, documentation, configuration files, samples, etc. You can uncheck specific components as necessary.
 - b. **Update for Existing users:** Installs only the Program Files. You may also want to include the User Documents component to get the latest user guides for this release.
 - c. **Custom Installation:** Lets you pick whatever components you want to install.

Choose whichever installation option is right for you, then press Next > to continue.

- 6. **Select Start Menu Folder:** The location where the install program will place the program shortcuts. Accept the default location.
- 7. **Select Additional Tasks:** Lets you determine if you want icons placed on the desk top. The installer will place 4 icons for the most popular programs. This choice is purely optional, but makes it easier to find Outpost when you want to run it.
- 8. **Ready To Install:** This summarizes the options you selected. Press **Install** to continue with the install process.
- 9. View the README.TXT file (also found in the Outpost data directory).
- 10. When done, double-click on the Outpost icon to run the program.

Basic Configuration

Configuring Outpost settings allow you to not only personalize your application, but also set up the program to access packet messages from a variety of BSSs using different interfaces. To minimally get Outpost up and running, do the following:

- 1. Find and click on the Outpost icon on the desktop, or
- 2. Go to the Start button, select Programs, and select the Outpost program.

The following describes the three things you must set up before you can send and receive packet messages. If this is an update installation, all your previous configurations were preserved.

Station Identification

On a first-time run, the Station Identification form opens. If this form does not open, you can open it manually from the Outpost main window by selecting **Setup > Identification**.

Do the following:

- 1. Click on New to the right of "User Call Sign".
- 2. Enter your call sign in the User Call Sign field.
- 3. Enter your name in the **User Name** field.
- The Message ID Prefix (used when message numbering is turned on) will default to the last 3 characters of your call sign. You can change this to any 3 characters, such as your initials.

Skip the Tactical Calls area for now; this will be covered later.

Identification BBS	Logins Signatures	-
Current Profile: 0	itpost	
Legal User Call Sign: User Name: Message ID Prefix:	KN6PE Vew Jim Oberhofer Delet	e
Tactical	I for all BBS interaction	_
Tactical Call Sign: Additional ID Text:	<choose call="" create(new)="" tac=""></choose>	
Message ID Prefix:	(3 Characters max)	8
Show this form on	startup OK Apply C:	ancel

When done, press **OK**.

Setting up a BBS

Check with the local packet user community to find out what BBSs are available and used in your area. Make sure you get the *frequency* on which the BBS operates.

🔐 BBS setup for LCAF

To create a new BBS entry,

- 1. Select **Setup > BBS**. Press **New**.
- 2. Enter a friendly name in the Friendly Name field.
- 3. Enter the BBS connect name in the **Connect Name** field. This is the BBS **Call Sign** and **-SSID** number.
- 5. Enter a **Description**. This is a good place to list things such as the owner, location, and frequency on which this BBS operates.
- 6. Click the button "Let Outpost determine the BBS".

Connect Name:	K6FB-2	
Description:	Las Cumbres ARC, PBBS, 145.050	
BS Type	determine the BBS and set up the prompts the BBS prompts	New
Non-Identifying I C AA4RE BBS C AA4RE BBS	385s with Tactical Call Customization	Copy Delete
NC Name Set/Get TN		

Name Prompts Commands Init Commands Retrieving Path

Press **OK** when done.

Setting up a Serial Interface

Outpost supports Serial Comm Port (includes USB-to-Serial), AGWPE, and TELNET interfaces. To set up a **Serial Comm Port (or USB-to-Serial) interface**, you need one of two things:

- 1. A TAPR TNC connected to your PC or Laptop's Comm Port, or
- 2. A TAPR TNC connected to a properly configured USB-to-Serial adaptor plugged into your PC or Laptop.

To create a new Interface entry,

- 1. Select **Setup > Interface**. Press **New**.
- 2. Enter a name in the **Interface Name** field.
- 3. Enter a **Description**. This is a good place to list such as like the TNC make and model, and the Serial Port number.
- 4. Click the button "**TNC**" button under Interface Type.

🔐 Device setup for KPC3	×
Type Prompts TNC Cmds Init Cmds Com Port AGWPE	Telnet
Choose a Name Interface Name: KPC3 Description: KPC3, USB-to-Serial Adaptor, Com4	
litierface Tune	New
	Сору
C AGW Packet Engine	Delete
C Telnet	
OK Apply	Cancel

Type Prompts TNC Cmds Init Cmds Com Port AGWPE Telnet

<u>⊢ E</u>cho

OK

C Off

-Flow Control-

RTS/CTS

🖸 On

Apply

Cancel

•

-

-

•

-

Device setup for KPC3

Comm Port Settings

Max Speed 9600

Comm Port: Com4

Connection Preferences

None

Data Bits: 8

Stop Bits: 1

Parity:

- 5. Next, Select the **Comm Port** Tab.
- 6. From the **Comm Port** drop-down, select the **Comm Port** to which the TNC is connected.

Press **OK** when done.

NOTES

- Only valid comm ports (interfaces that actually exit to the operating system) will be listed in the **Comm Port** drop-down. This could be a hardware Serial Port or a properly configured USB-to-Serial adaptor.
- 2. A "**None**" in the Comm Port Dropdown means no Comm Ports were found.
- 3. See the *Outpost User Guide* for information on the **Prompts**, **TNC Cmds**, and **Init Cmds** tabs.

Checking your Configuration

Outpost will always display the base configuration at the bottom left portion of the **Status Bar** on the main Form. This will include your Call Sign, the selected BBS Friendly Name, and the selected Interface Name. This is the configuration that will be used to connect to a BBS.

	B gonnym toonwim	
Items: 27 Unread: 22	KN6PE LCARC KPC3 (Com4))

Testing the Configuration

The best test of the configuration is an actual connection to a BBS. Perform these steps:

Confirm the Comm Port setting

- From Outpost, select Tools > Interactive Packet. Select Serial/Comm Port. The Ipserial with Outpost program opens.
- From Ipserial, select Setup > Comm Port Settings. Select the Comm Port that you set up in Outpost.
- 3. Press **OK** when done.
- Connect your TNC to your PC or laptop. Apply power.
- 5. From Ipserial, press **Connect**. Verify the TNC is talking to the program (see *NOTES* below).

Press **OK** when done.

NOTES

- If you see bursts of garbled text displayed on the screen, the TNC may be searching for the baud rate. On Kantronics TNCs, watch for the string "PRESS (*) TO SELECT BAUD RATE". Press the Asterisk key immediately when you see this text and then enter your call sign when prompted to do so.
- 2. If you press the **ENTER** key on your keyboard and see garbled text, then the Comm Port settings may not be correct (baud rate, stop bits, parity). Check your TNC manual and make sure the Outpost settings match the TNC settings.

Initiating a Send/Receive Session

To run the Send/Receive Session,

- 1. Turn on the Radio. Set the frequency to the *BBS frequency*.
- 2. Turn on the TNC.
- 3. From Outpost, Press **Send/Receive**.
- 4. The Outpost Packet Session Manager form will open and Outpost will automatically send TNC commands to connect to the BBS.
- Outpost will then send BBS commands to check for messages addressed to you, and then retrieve them.
- 6. When done, Outpost will exit from the BBS and disconnect from the interface.
- 7. If all this happened, your configuration is good!

nager				
ms Actions	Help			
Delete	Print S	end/Receive	Pofile: Out	post
			,	
y			,	
y From	To	BBS	Local ID	Subject

🙀 Packet Session Manager								
Abort Session								
Calls v181110								
N 4 xscperm	xsceoc	Nov	24	3351	SCCo	Weekly	Packet	
Practice v181124								
N 5 xscperm	xsceoc	Nov	24	2096	SCCo	Packet	Check-	
In/Out v181124								
N 6 xscperm	xsceoc	Nov	24	2822	SCCo	Packet	Subject	
Line v181124								
(#1) >								
A XSCEVENT								- 1
xscevent: 0 message	es.							
(#0) >								
A ALLWW								
Catting Massage Area ALLY			-			00	00.07	_
Setting Message Alea ALLY	er wr					00.	00.07	

	<u>R</u> I	pserial								×	
[File	Edit	Setup	Tools	Help						
	С	onnect	C	omm Po	ort Settin	gs	1			AZ	S
	General Settings										
	ι.	Log to text file									
	ι.										
	ι.										
	ι.										
	ι.										
	ι.										
	Disco	nnecteo	d from TN	IC Se	ettings: 96	00,N,8,1 on C	omm Port 4	I, STD TI	VC 00):00:00	

Creating Messages

Using Folders

Outpost organizes its messages in a series of folders. Once a folder is selected, the contents of that folder are displayed and the selected folder name is shown above the message list area. The first 3 folders support the program's message workflow.

Creating: On creating a message, the following can happen:

- When you press **Send** on the message form, the message is saved to the **Out Tray**. All fields **must** be filled in and are checked when **Send** is pressed.
- When you press **Save** on the message form, the message is saved to the **Drafts** Folder.
- If a previously saved message is opened, edited, and the **Send** button pressed, then the message is moved to the **Out Tray**.
- As long as it is not sent, these messages can be edited.

Sending: During a Send/Receive session, the message is sent to the BBS. When the message is sent, Outpost moves the message to the **Sent Msgs** Folder. The date/time for this message is updated to the date/time the message was sent. Sent messages cannot be edited.

Receiving: Messages retrieved from the BBS by Outpost are placed in the **In Tray** and shown in **BOLD** typeface. Once the message is opened, the message is listed in regular typeface. Received messages cannot be edited. However, they can be forwarded or replied to.

Creating a message

- From the Outpost tools bar, press New.
 A new message form will open with the following fields automatically filled in.
 - a. BBS: From the BBS setup.
 - b. From: From station Identification.
- 2. Fill in the rest of the blank fields:
 - a. To: Enter a destination call sign.
 - b. Subject: Enter a subject text.
 - c. Message body. Enter the message. Tabs are OK to help with the formatting.
- 3. Once all fields are filled in, press Send.
- 4. The message is saved in the Out Tray and will wait for the next Send/Receive Session. The form is closed.

🙀 6PE-596P: Stevens Creek Dam Status (PM:324)									
File Edi	File Edit Actions Window Help								
Send	Print	Save	Delete	Close	Urg	Pvt Bu			
Private Me	Private Message								
Bbs:	W1XSC-1								
From:	From: KN6PE								
То	CUPEOC								
Subject:	6PE-596P	Steven	s Creek I	Dam Statu	s				
To: Ops From: S	To: Ops Chief From: Stevens Creek Dam Watch								
Stevens Creek Dam is at capacity and water is starting the spillway. It is difficult to tell if there is any the dam face because of the rain last night, but there running water from the dam face.									
Signed, Jim KN6	PE								

Adding a Signature

You can create a *Signature* that will be added to the bottom of all your messages at message create time. This signature will be specific for the user identified on the Identification form.

- Select Setup > Station ID. Select the Signatures Tab.
- 2. Check the box "☑ Insert a signature for <call sign> in all messages".
- 3. Enter your signature text in the space provided. There is no limit to what you can add.

Press **OK** when done.

Next time you press **New**, the message form will open with the signature text inserted at the end. Then, you can add your message above your signature.

Station ID is KN6PE	
Identification BBS Logins Signatures	1
I Insert a signature for KN6PE in all messages	
Signed, Jim KN6PE	^
	~
Show this form on startup OK Apply	Cancel

Default Destination

If you always send messages to the same location (e.g.: the EOC), then you can set up a default destination. If you intend to send messages to different users, skip this setup.

- Select Tools > Message Settings. Select the New Messages Tab.
- Check the box "Default Destination". Enter a call sign, tactical call, or email address where messages are to be sent. NOTE: Default destinations can be overwritten on the message form at create time.
- 3. Default Destinations can either be a valid Call Sign or a Tactical Call.

Press **OK** when done.

🎊 Message Settings			×	
New Msgs Msg Number Setting up a new message Set default to PRIVAT Set default to PULLET Set default to NTS Create and send NTS Default Destination	rring Replies/Fwd E TIN messages as Private r CUPEOC	ls Receipts D messages - (Call Sign or Tact	eleting Adv	
OK Apply Cancel				

Message Numbering

For casual Outpost use, Message Numbering is usually optional. However, most emergency communications teams will set up message numbering to ensure the messages they send are uniquely identified and traceable. Check your local packet message policies for guidance on this topic.

- 1. Select Tools > Message Settings. Select the Message Numbering Tab.
- 2. Check the box " Add message number to Subject Line for outbound messages"
- 3. Choose the desired message number format.
- 4. Optional: check the box " Add message number prefix" (adds a "P" to the end of the number).
- 5. Optional: check the box " Add a local message number to inbound messages" (supports message tracking).

Message Settings New Msgs Msg Numbering Replies/Fwds Receipts Deleting Adv Outbound Message Identification Add message number to the Subject Line for outbound messages without hyphenation... "6PE597P: ... "
 with hyphenation... "6PE-597P: ... ' O with DateTime Format... " 6PE190420203505P: ... " Add message number suffix Add message number separator Inbound Message Identification (Local ID) I Assign a local message number to inbound messages (local use only) standard format... "6PE-597P" Edit Subject Line Identifier values OK Cancel

Press **OK** when done.

Message Receipts

You can request message delivery and read receipts when sending messages to or receiving messages from other Outpost stations. Check your local packet message policies for guidance on this topic.

- 1. Select Tools > Message Settings. Select the Receipts Tab.
- 2. If you always want a Delivery Receipt, check the box " Always request a Delivery Receipt". This lets you know the message was retrieved.
- 3. If you always want a Read Receipt, check the box "Always request a Read Receipt". This lets you know the message was opened.
- 4. If you always want send a Delivery or Read Receipt, check either or both the "Auto-Delivery Receipt" or "Auto-Read Receipt" boxes.

Press **OK** when done.

👔 Message Settings New Msgs | Msg Numbering | Replies/Fwds | Receipts | Deleting | Adv | Tracking Messages 🔽 Always request a Delivery Receipt 🔲 Always request a Read Receipt Auto-Receipts

- Auto-Delivery Receipt: Always send back a Delivery Receipt after
- trieving a messag Auto Read Receipt: Always send back a Read Receipt after opening a
- newly arrived message

Sending a Text File

A message can also originate from a text file created elsewhere. To import a message from a text file, do the following:

- 1. From the Outpost tools bar, press **New**.
- 2. Fill in the message header (To:, Subject:).
- 3. On the message form, select

File > Open a File. Navigate to the directory where the text file resides and select the file.

Press OK.

- 4. The text will be loaded into the message area and the message subject will include the text file name.
- 5. Once all fields are filled in, press **Send**.

孩 New Packet Message 🗕 🗖 🗙 🗐 N95-Purchase.txt - Notepad	-		×
File Edit Actions Window Help File Edit Format View Help			
Send Urg Pvt Bul NTS A A Hello Packet-enabled CARES member	5,		^
	nunchas	ing NOE	
Open a Report	purchas ase let i	ing N95 me know	P
Save Ctrl+S We will do a bulk purchase at a d	ost of \$	1 per	
Save As mask for CARES members.			
Image: Select the destination file name regards,			
Jim KNGPE			
Organize Vew folder			
Compiler Anne Date modified			
BBS LM Listing Layouts.bt 9/2004 9:58 PM			
Distributions Beta-Test-Status.tt 6/10/2003.9/20 PM			~
Desc App Notes Using Services and Services and Services Amplified Serv			
Docs, Compiler 1900		- 0	= x
Docs, Lithingy File Edit Actions Window Help			
Docs, MARS	Bul NTS		
Docs, Tech Dev	Dui Nic		
Docs, Test			
Docs, User V KING-1			
File name: N95-Purchase.tx V Text Files (*.txt)			
Open Cancel			5
Subject: IprE-46/4P: N95-PUIChase.bt			
Hello Packet-enabled CARES members,			
Those CARES members interested in purchasing N9	masks as	descri	bed by
Marsha, please let me know. We will do a bulk ; ner mask for CAPES members	urchase a	t a cos	t of \$1
per more for order memory of			
regards, Jim ZNGPF			
			233

Receiving Messages

The Send/Receive Session

The Outpost *Send/Receive Session* handles originating all commands to the BBS that control sending, listing, receiving, and deleting messages on the BBS.

The Send/Receive Session does the following:

- 1. Initializes the Comm Port, AGWPE, or TELNET interfaces (Setup > Interface).
- 2. Sends post-connect TNC initialization commands (Setup > Interface, Init Cmds Tab).
- 3. Processes the BBS path if defined (Setup > BBS, Path Tab).
- 4. Connects to the BBS (Setup > Interface, TNC Cmds Tab; Setup > BBS).
- 5. Sends any pre Send/Receive BBS initialization commands (Setup > BBS, Init Cmds Tab).
- 6. Sends any user-created bulletin message delete requests.
- 7. Sends messages from the Out Tray where the messages...
 - a. BBS field matches the connected BBS, and
 - b. FROM field matches the Call Sign or Tactical Call selected in the Station Identification.
- 8. If **Retrieve Private** was selected, lists and retrieves my messages (**Setup > BBS**, Retrieve Tab).
- 9. If Retrieve NTS was selected, lists and retrieves NTS messages (Setup > BBS, Retrieve Tab).
- 10. If Retrieve Bulletins or Filter or Custom was selected, lists and retrieves Bulletin messages.
- 11. Sends any **Delivery** or **Read Receipt** messages (**Tools > Message Settings**, Receipts Tab).
- 12. Sends post Send/Receive BBS initialization commands (Setup > BBS, Init Cmds Tab).
- 13. Disconnects from the BBS
- 14. Sends pre-disconnect TNC initialization commands (Setup > Interface, Init Cmds Tab).
- 15. If Tactical Call is enabled, transmits an unproto packet of your call sign and tactical call as a legal station identification.
- 16. Shuts down / disconnects from the interface.

- - a. Select All New... for known small BBSs, like a KPC3 PBBS (should not be a lot of bulletins).

 - c. Select Custom... for JNOS, TNOS, or SNOS

There are three automation settings that determine when and how often Outpost will connect to the BBS. Check your local packet message policies for guidance on this topic.

- 1. Select **Tools > Send/Receive Settings**. Select the Automation Tab.
- 2. For manual control, click on **OManual**.

Send/Receive Automation

- 3. To initiate a connection at a *fixed* interval, click on •Schedule... every...; enter a minutes value.
- 4. To initiate a connection at a *variable* interval, click on • Schedule... at X minutes past the hour... and enter one or more minutes.
- 5. To send a message immediately after it was completed, check the box "☑ Send a message immediately when it is complete".
- 6. Press **OK** when done.

Selecting Messages for Retrieval

Most amateur radio BBSs support some or all of the following message types:

- a. Private (addressed to a single user, are usually deleted at retrieve time)
- b. NTS (National Traffic System, requires special handling)
- c. Bulletins (retrievable by everyone, only the originator or sysop can delete it)

Retrieval settings are BBS-specific, meaning you can configure different BBSs to retrieve different kinds of messages.

To configure BBS retrieval:

- 1. Select **Setup > BBS**. Select the **Retrieving** Tab.
- 2. Click on the appropriate message type for retrieving.
- 3. There are three options for retrieving bulletins.

 - b. Select Selected... for BBSs like K6FB

Press **OK** when done.

The **Selected Retrieval** option works with the BBS *List* Filtered command (Setup > BBS, Commands Tab, defaults to "L>") and can retrieve specific BBS messages sent to a named area. To the fight is an example of a PBBS- or F6FBB-specific bulletin message retrieval.

BBS setup for XSC_W1XSC-1 Name Prompts Commands Init Commands Retrieving Path Retrieve these Messages

Retrieve Private Messages

Retrieve NTS Messages

Retrieve Bulletins C All new Bulletins

Send/Receive Settings

Automation

	Enter 1 or more as a list of minutes separated by commas (i.e.: 5, 45, 59).
Send a message immed iend/Receive Button Setup Send/Receive Send Only Receive Only	fately when it is complete NOTE: This change will be reflected on the Send/Receive button located on the Outpost main form.

Automation Receiving Printing Notifications Other

Enter as items (i.e ARES).	a list of filter .: QST, KEPS,	~ ~	
Custom I Enter as BBS Are- commany	Retrieval a list of JNOS a and List ds	^ V	
	ОК	Apply Cano	el
 Selected Enter as a items (i.e. ARES). 	Bulletins a list of filter : QST, KEPS,	INUX, ARES, KEPS	^
 Selected Enter as a items (i.e. 	Bulletins a list of filter : QST, KEPS,	INUX, ARES, KEPS	^

Skip NTS Messages that I send

Keep messages on BBS; do not delete after retrieving

Skip Bulletins that I send

The **Custom Retrieval** option accepts any BBS message area or list commands. This is an example of a JNOS-specific bulletin message retrieval.

Custom Retrieval Enter as a list of JNOS BBS Area and List commands A ALLWW L> EQUAKE L> KEPS A LOCAL LA

V AKE 5 L

Announcing Received Messages

When retrieving messages automatically, there are times you may not notice when a message arrives. This setting will cause Outpost to play a .wav file on receipt of a message.

- Select Tools > Send/Receive Settings. Select the Receiving Tab.
- 2. Check the box "D Play this sound on arrival"
- 3. Use the **Browse** button to select .wav files that are included with Outpost, or browse elsewhere for your favorite.
- 4. Press the **Test** button to verify your sound card works and that the selected file is the one you want.

Press **OK** when done.

tomation	Receiving Pr	inting Notific	ations	
tomation	iteeening [11	inang produce	auono ounor	
√hen Recei	ving Messages —			
🔽 Play thi	s sound on arrival:	incoming.w	Brow	se] Test
Once Retriev	/ed			
Immediately	open the message	e where		
the FR	OM matches one c	if these values (s	eparate with comm	as)
				~
				~
the SU	BJECT matches or	ne of these value	s (separate with co	v mmas)
the SU	BJECT matches or	ne of these value	s (separate with co	mmas)
the SU	BJECT matches or	ne of these value	s (separate with co	mmas)
the SU	BJECT matches or	ne of these value	s (separate with co	mmas)
the SU	BJECT matches or DY matches one o	ne of these value f these values (s	s (separate with co eparate with comma	mmas)
the SU	BJECT matches or DY matches one o	ne of these value f these values (s	s (separate with co eparate with comma	as)
the SU the BO	BJECT matches or DY matches one o	ne of these value f these values (s	s (separate with co eparate with comma	mmas)
the SU the BO	BJECT matches or DY matches one o nessage is flagged	ne of these value f these values (s as URGENT	s (separate with co eparate with comma	mmas)
the SU the BO	BJECT matches or DY matches one o nessage is flagged	ne of these value f these values (s as URGENT	s (separate with co	mmas)

Setups for Tactical Operations

Tactical Calls

During an activation, amateur radio operators use tactical calls to identify an assignment with which message traffic is exchanged. Because several different operators may be assigned to a specific location over time, a tactical call makes the assignment "operator neutral," thereby allowing the operators to change without having the assignment name change.

Picking tactical calls

Not all BBSs inherently support a non-call sign (tactical call) login. You will have to experiment with your BBS to see to what extent it supports a tactical call. Check with your local emergency communications team for guidance. Also, see the **Outpost Users Guide** for more information.

Confirm the BBS can handle your Tactical Call

- 1. Pick a tactical call based on your BBS TYPE.
- From Outpost, select Tools > Interactive Packet.
 Select Serial/Comm Port to run the Ipserial program.
- 3. Verify the TNC Comm Port, and press **Connect**.
- 4. Set your TNC to your Tactical Call with the TNC mycall command.
- 5. Issue the BBS connect command for your BBS.
- 6. Verify the BBS does not generate an error.
 - a. IF you receive an Error, then you need to pick a different Tactical Call format.
 - b. Receive a prompt to register? This Tactical Call format should work; register this logon.

Set up Outpost

- 1. Select Setup > Station ID
- 2. Check the " Use Tactical Call for all BBS interaction" box.
- 3. Click on New to the right of "Tactical Call Sign".
- 4. Enter your Tactical Call Sign.
- 5. Enter any Additional ID text (such as the location of your assignment).
- 6. Enter a Tactical Message ID Prefix (usually the first or last 3 characters of the tactical call; make sure it is unique with other stations!).
- 7. Press **OK** when done.
- 8. Press **Send/Receive** to confirm to can connect without problems.

CMD: <u>mycall CUPEOC</u> MYCALL was KN6PE CMD: CMD: c K6SJC-1

Station ID is KN6PE as CUPEOC	×
Identification BBS Logins Signatures	1
Current Profile: Outpost	
User Call Sign: KN6PE 🔹 New	
User Name: Jim Oberhofer Delete	
Tactical [7] Use Tactical Call for all BBS interaction	
Tactical Call Sign: CUPEOC New	
Additional ID Text: Cupertino CA EOC Delete	
Message ID Prefix: CUP (3 Characters max)	
Show this form on startup OK Apply Canc	al

Profiles

Most of Outpost's configuration settings are stored in an initialization file. *Profiles* are essentially different combinations of Outpost settings stored under different profile names. Once defined, you can switch from one profile to another, thereby changing your configuration as needed. See the *Outpost Users Guide* for more information.

On installing Outpost for the first time, the "Outpost" profile is loaded as shown on the top of the Outpost main form.

🔐 Outpos	st Packet N	/lessage Manager						×
File Edit	Setup	Tools Forms A	Actions Help					
New	Open	Archive De	lete Print	Send/Receive	Profile:	Outpost		-
Folder	Liet	In Trav			-			

Creating a new Profile

- 1. Select Setup > Profiles > New Profile...
- 2. The Profile is created with the last profile as the starting point.
- 3. Any change made now will be saved under the new profile name.

New Profile	×
Enter a Profile Name:	OK Cancel
Emergency	

Profile: Outpost

Local ID

Emergency Outpost

Subject

SCCo Dackot Subject Line v1

Send/Receive

BBS

MAX SC

Switching Profiles

- 4. From the Outpost main form, select the Profile dropdown. The list of defined Profiles will be presented.
- 5. Select the Profile you want to load.
- 6. When switching profiles, the current profile settings are saved before the selected profile is loaded.

Protecting Profiles

- 1. You may need a profile definition to be preserved from one time to the next, while still making changes to it for a specific session. This can be done with the Profile Save options.
- Select Tools > General Settings. Select the Profiles Tab.
- 3. Select the Profile Save option that suits your needs.
- 4. When switching profiles, the current profile settings are saved before the selected profile is loaded.
- 5. Press **OK** when done.



Other Resources

See the following information for more details and hints on using Outpost:

- 1. Users Guide... <u>http://outpostpm.org/index.php?content=docs#user</u>
- 2. Application Notes... <u>http://outpostpm.org/index.php?content=docs#app</u>
 - a. Setting up Outpost for Winlink and Telnet Access (2016)
 - b. TNC Settings for Santa Clara County Packet (2016)
 - c. KA-Node, Netrom, and telnet access setup(2014)
 - d. Spell checking for Outpost (2012)
 - e. KPC-3P BBS-in-a-Box (2009)
 - f. Poor Man's Attachments (2009)
 - g. FBB Implementation Guide (2006)
 - h. Getting Outpost to work on Windows 95 (2006)
 - i. Sending Spreadsheet Data (2004)
- 3. Users Group. A Yahoo Group exists for users to ask questions, post ideas and hints, and share experiences. <u>https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/outpostpacket/info</u>