HAM SIDEKICK STATION · HAM NET SPEECH-TO-TEXT

FRONT · SIDE 1 OF 2

Install and Get Started

Writes down every transmission your radio hears, a few seconds after the station unkeys: who is talking, every callsign looked up, the net's log and minutes, and the ICS (Incident Command System) 309 and 213 messages for Winlink. Runs on a Windows PC, with no internet once installed.

Download page
https://github.com/travislhilton/hamsidekick

A · INSTALL (once, on a Windows 10 or 11 PC)

1. **Download:** open the download page (scan the code) → green Code → **Download ZIP**
   Internet is needed this first time: about 4 GB, 10–30 minutes.
2. **Unblock, then extract:** right-click the ZIP → Properties → tick **Unblock** → OK; then right-click → **Extract All**
3. **Run** the extracted folder's `install\windows\install.cmd` and press **Yes**
   "Windows protected your PC"? **More info** → **Run anyway**. It asks for administrator rights itself.
4. **Type your callsign.** Press Enter to skip the QRZ.com question. Wait for `== Done`
   Keep the PC plugged in while it measures. It lists what would slow this PC and the sound inputs it can record from.

B · FIRST STEPS (on the dashboard)

5. **Open** the **HAM Sidekick Station** shortcut on the desktop
   Or `http://localhost:8091`. On a phone: Open on phone → scan the code (same Wi-Fi or Tailscale).
6. **Add your radio:** Radios... → **+ Add a radio** → name, sound input, audio from, mode, frequency → **Save and restart the station**
   Icom IC-705: also its CAT (computer control) port, so the station reads and tunes the radio.
7. **Set level...** on the radio's card: follow its steps with the radio's volume and squelch
8. **Add your nets:** Nets → **+ Add a net**: name, radio, start, length, frequency, how it repeats

Each radio needs its own sound input, never the one VARA or Winlink uses. Two identical adapters? Rename one in Windows: Settings → System → Sound → the input → Rename.

On a laptop: keep it plugged in and set the maker's fan profile to **Performance**. The station keeps the screen on and runs at full speed only while it transcribes, then puts your power plan back.

Optional, in Settings: your name, grid and Winlink account (for the messages) · a QRZ.com login · local names · an xAI key for **Einstein**, the AI assistant. **Help** has its card, and one to record a conversation.
To update: download again and run `install.cmd` again. Your settings stay.

Turn over → side 2: Running a Net

HAM SIDEKICK STATION

BACK · SIDE 2 OF 2

Running a Net

Share this card

BEFORE THE NET

1. **Tune the radio** to the net. Frequency changed? **Change** on the card
   A CAT radio tunes itself for its nets. A net counts only on its own frequency.
2. **5 minutes before**, a yellow alert says what to set. Tune, then **Radio is set**

READING THE LOG

Grey words	Rough text while the station is still talking
improving...	Better text is on its way; the line updates by itself (the accurate pass)
K7ABC · ≈ K7NET	Who is talking: bold = gave its own call; grey ≈ = probably net control; blank = not known
K7ABC	Tap for the station's card (licence, name, grid). **K7ABC?** = no callbook confirms it
▶ 4 s	Play that transmission
Who? · ✎ Fix	Wrong speaker, wrong words or call: fix it. The station learns from your fixes
Net board	Who is in, *heard once* (ask again), traffic, net control's 10-minute ID. After the net: **review check-ins** ✓ ✎ ✕

AFTER THE NET: WINLINK MESSAGES

3. **Net closed** (or press **End net**): recording stops and the accurate pass re-reads the net
4. **Winlink messages...** on the net's header: an **ICS-309** log and an **ICS-213** summary
   Check the To: list (unconfirmed calls start unticked). First time: **Settings** → Winlink Express folder.
5. **Close Winlink Express** → **Put in Winlink Express Outbox** → open Winlink Express and connect

Identify every 10 minutes and at the end (FCC §97.119). **Minutes**, **History** and **Search** (press **/**) keep every net: attendance, announcements, actions, traffic.

WHEN SOMETHING LOOKS WRONG

No text	Radio **Paused**? Does the meter move? Does the squelch open on traffic? Run **Set level...**
Meter red / none	Too loud: turn the volume down. None: check the cable and the radio's input in **Radios...**
Wrong net name	Is the card's frequency what the radio is on? **Change** it
Outbox refused	Winlink Express is still open: close it, then try again
Page won't open	Sign in to Windows on the PC. Phone: same Wi-Fi or Tailscale

This station: _____ Radios / nets: _____

An independent volunteer project (MIT License), a companion to the Church of Jesus Christ EMCOMM forms. Machine transcription: review every message before it is sent. It transmits only with Einstein on Send. ☾ **Night** = red screen for night vision. Manual: README.md.