

Presentation written by Norm W4QN.

Revised By Dave N3BUO For Hamcom 2015



LoTW eQSL Clublog

N3BUO

DXCC Award	New LoTW QSLs	LoTW QSLs in Process	DXCC Credits Awarded	Total (AII)	Total (Current)
Mixed	194	0	0	194	193
<u>CW</u>	75	0	0	75	74
<u>Phone</u>	178	0	0	178	177
<u>Digital</u>	132	0	0	132	131
<u>160M</u>	10	0	0	10	10
<u>80M</u>	73	0	0	73	72
<u>40M</u>	102	0	0	102	101
<u>30M</u>	8	0	0	8	8
<u>20M</u>	143	0	0	143	142
<u>17M</u>	63	0	0	63	63
<u>15M</u>	146	0	0	146	145
<u>12M</u>	71	0	0	71	71
<u>10M</u>	138	0	0	138	137
<u>6M</u>	1	0	0	1	1
Challenge	750	0	0		750

^{* =} Award has been issued

Better Dxing Through Software

Hamcom 2015

the DXLab Suite

Developer- Dave Bernstein AA6YQ

Note, many slides are courtesy of Dave AA6YQ

the DXLab Suite

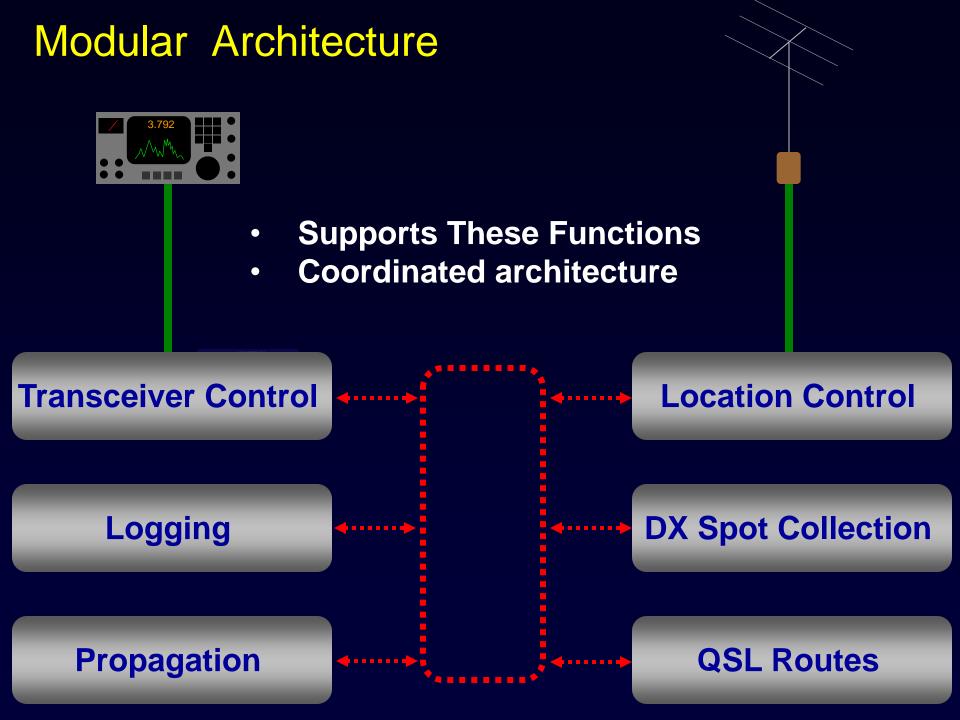
Developer- Dave AA6YQ

Eight free applications that run individually but

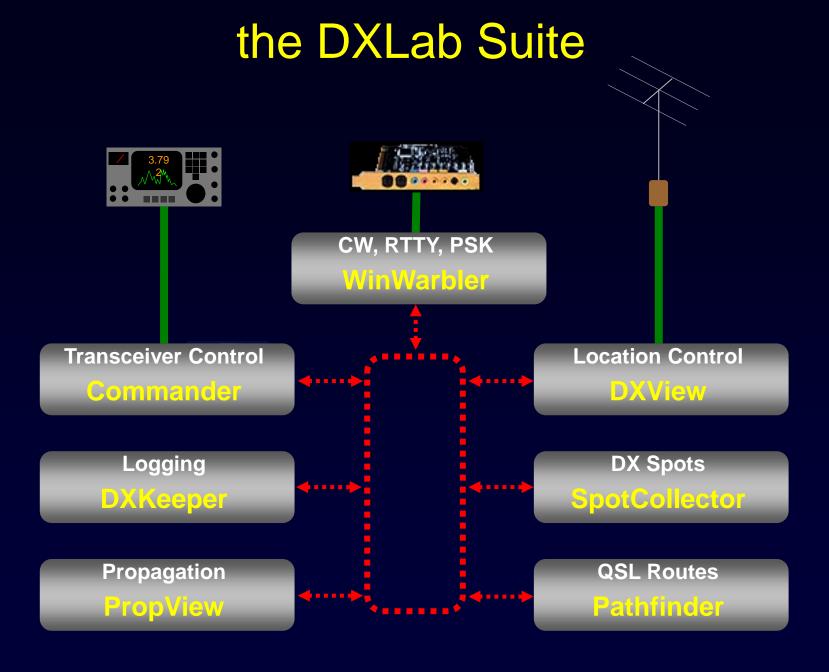
when run simultaneously sense each other's presence and

Inter-operate automatically

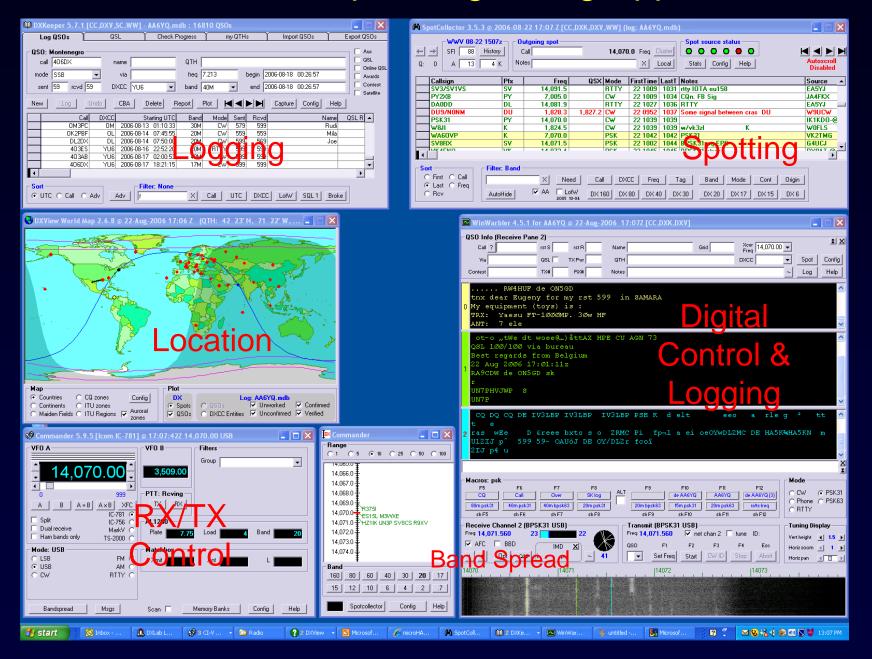
Better DXing Through Software



Support for Digital Modes CW, RTTY, PSK WinWarbler **WinWarbler Location Control DX Atlas** Transceiver Control •••• **DXView** Commander **Google Earth** Logging **DX Spots SpotSpy DXKeeper SpotCollector Propagation QSL** Routes **PropView Pathfinder CW Skimmer FLDigi DM780 JT-Alert MultiPSK MixW MMSSTV**

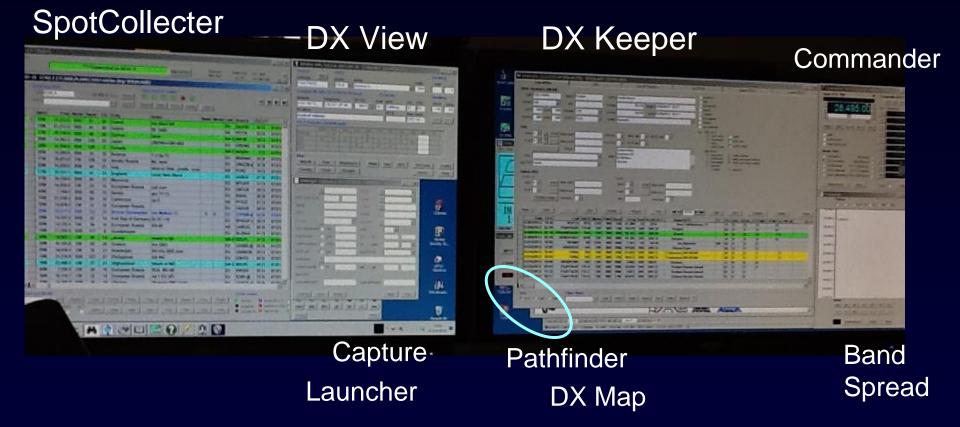


Result- Suite of Interoperating DXing Applications



Dual Monitor Display

My solution a Pair of 24" monitors



 Applications 'stacked' (right monitor)



LoTW eQSL Clublog

We have seen how DXLAB is organized,

Now how do we use it?

DXLab:

Down load DX "Launcher" dxlabsuite.com/

Getting Started with DXLab

Documentation

Articles and Presentations

Availability Announcements

Bridges, Gateways, and Extenders



Distribution Sites

DXLab Reflector



Before installing your first DXLab application, install the Launcher

The DXLab Launcher automates the installation of new DXLab applications and the upgrading of already-installed DXLab applications. If you're an aspiring DXLab user who has not installed any DXLab applications on your PC, or if you're a long-time DXLab user who has never installed the Launcher, then installing the Launcher will make it easy to install new DXLab applications and keep them up to date as upgrades are released. Clicking the Install Launcher button below will download and install the DXLab Launcher on your PC. Step-by-step guides to installing the Launcher are available in HTML for browsing and in PDF for printing.

Do not click the Install Launcher button if the Launcher is already installed on your PC. If you're not sure, here's how to check.

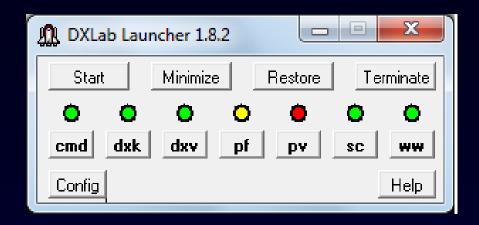
If your PC is running Vista or Windows 7, login to the account named Administrator before clicking the Install Launcher button below.





For Help: <dxlab@yahoogroups.com>

Single Point of Control: DXLab Launcher



Performs

- Installation
- Upgrade
- Startup
- Shutdown

Do down load all Modules <u>via the Launcher</u>. They will all be located in a DXLAB directory.

It is recommended to NOT locate DXLab in the 'Program' Directory because of permission issues

This is a Windows Application

Single Point of Control





- May be Auto Starting on PC Boot
- Or Manual open (from icon on desktop)
- Individual Function Selection
- Status indicators
 - Green Open
 - Yellow Minimized
 - Red Closed

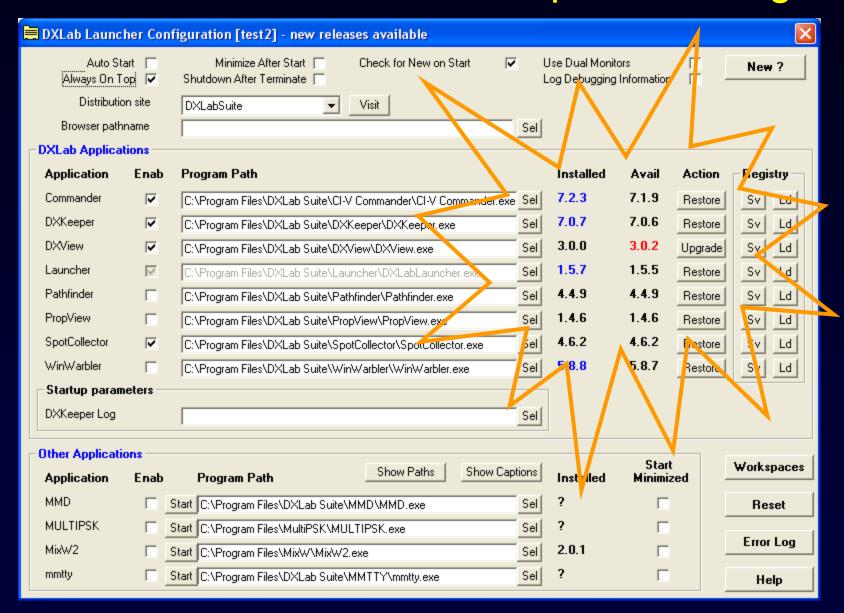
Automated Installation and Updates: Programs



A reason to do manual module selection

Choosing to upgrade at this stage is recommended

Automated Installation and Updates: Programs



DXKeeper is Feature Rich

- Logging
- QSLing
- Award Tracking

- Multiple QTHs per log
- Import QSOs from file
- Export QSOs to file

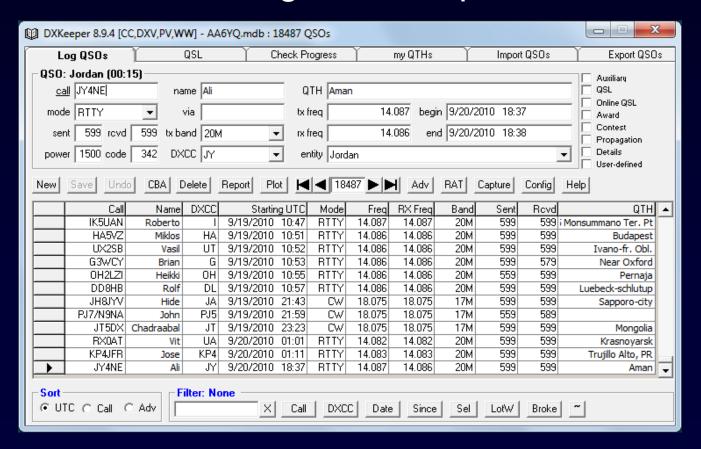


 You can start with just the log display – 'dxk'

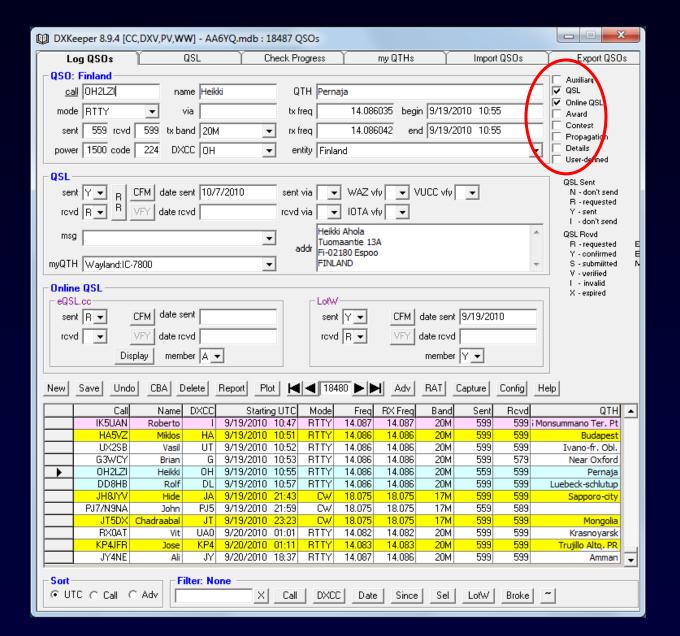
DXKeeper

- Logging
- QSLing
- Award Tracking

- Multiple QTHs per log
- Import QSOs from file
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DXKeeper Main Window: Online QSL Panel



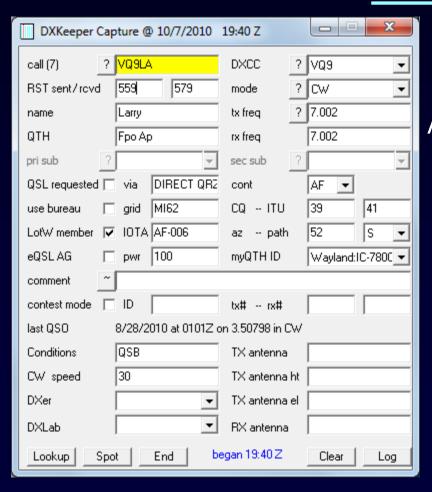
Expanded Information Panels

- QSLing
- Award Tracking
- Color coded info LoTW eQSL Both

DXKeeper Capture Window

To improve the logging process-

Activate the CAPTURE window



Manually Filled
Or
Auto filled from SpotCollector

Resized



DXKeeper Capture Window





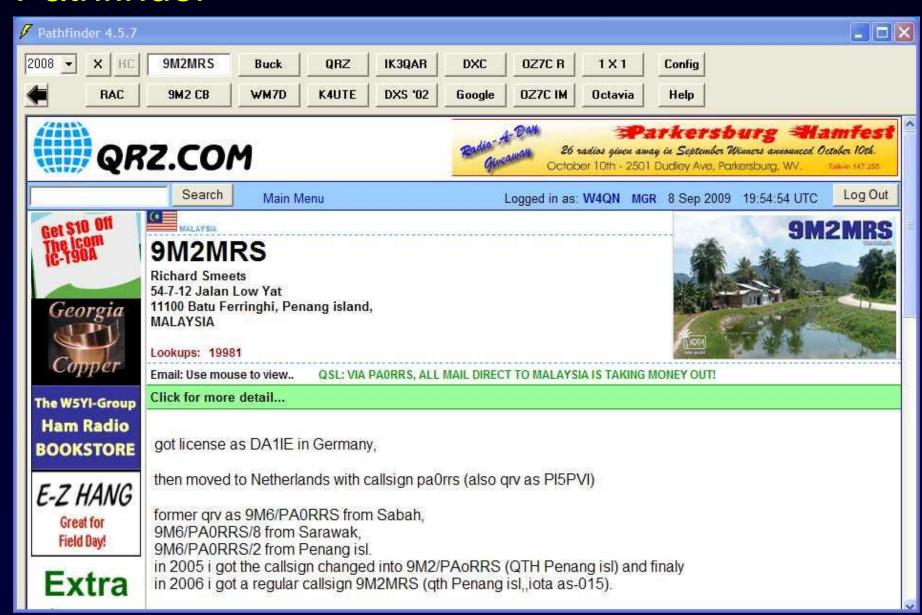
DXKeeper: Logging

- Callbook access
 - The usual sources
 - Radio Amateur's Callbook CDROM
 - Buckmaster HamCall CDROM
 - HamCall.net
 - QRZ local database
 - QRZ.com (free with advertising, or data subscription)
 (preferred with subscription)
 - Update logged QSOs en masse

Pathfinder: QSO Information from the Web

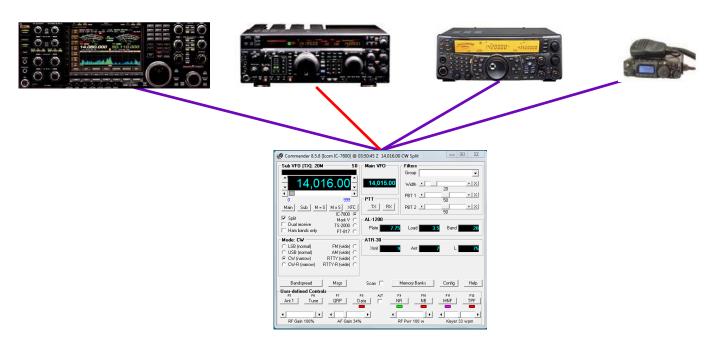
- Sources
 - QRZ.com
 - Country-specific callbooks (~100)
 - QSL sites (~40)
 - DX Summit spot archives
- 12 user-assignable search keys
- Captures callsigns selected via
 - DX Capture
 - DXView
 - DXKeeper
 - WinWarbler
 - SpotCollector

Pathfinder



Commander: Rig Control

Multiple Radio Support

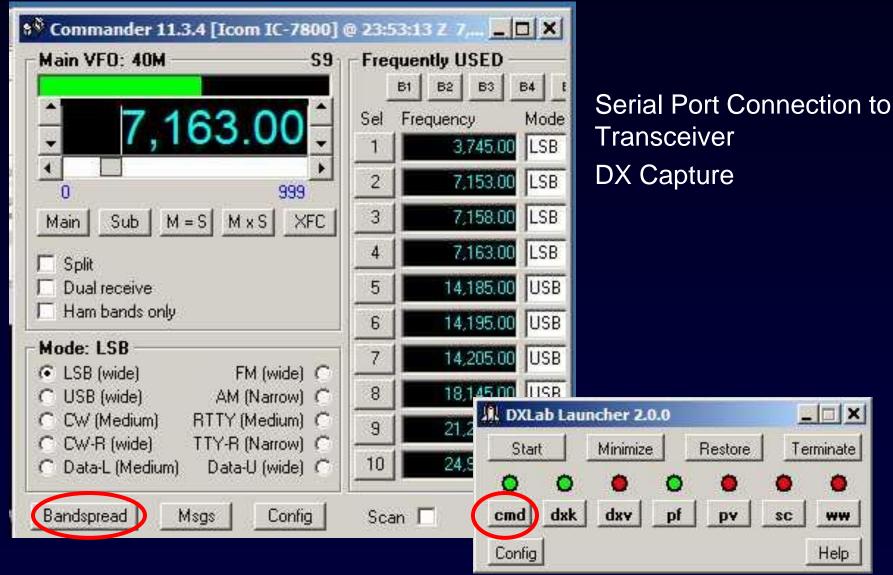


Select one of four *primary* radios

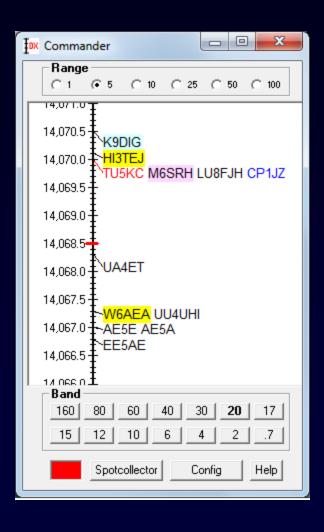
- By button click
- Automatically as a function of frequency

Transceiver Control

Activate COMMANDER – Rig control



SpotCollector: DX on Commander's Bandspread



A mouse click on desired call will QSY transceiver

SpotCollector: DX Spot Database

- Activate SpotCollector- integrates Spot sources
- Double-click Database,
 - QSY the transceiver (split, dual receive, QSX)
 - Rotate the antenna



SpotCollector: DX Spot Database

- Activate SpotCollector- integrates Spots
- Double-click Database,
 - QSY the transceiver (split, dual receive, QSX)
 - Rotate the antenna
 - Populate
 - DXKeeper's Capture window
 - WinWarbler's QSO Info panel
- Announces needed spots via the soundcard



SpotCollector - reports active DX

- Connects to six spot sources
 - Four telnet clusters
 - DX Summit web cluster
 - Local packet cluster via external TNC
- Captures DX spots and places them into a database with one entry for each active DX station
- Highlights and announces "needed" stations
 - DXCC, Challenge, & CQ Marathon
 - WAZ
- Captures WWV spots

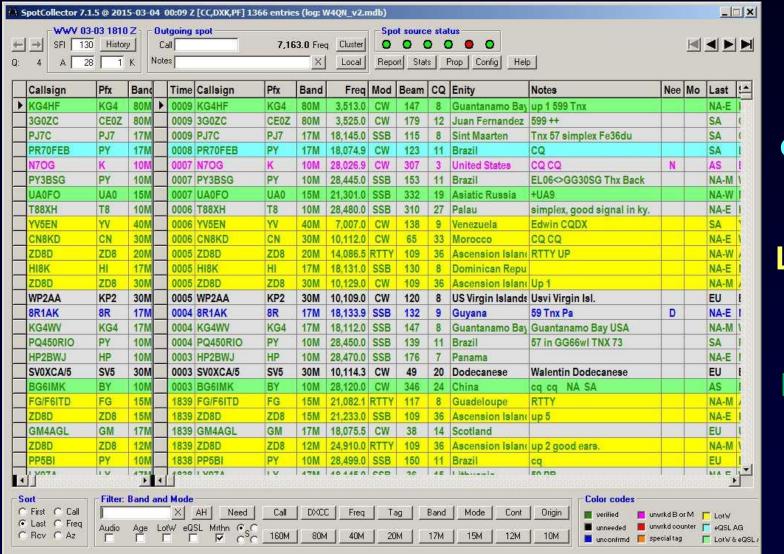
SpotCollector: DX Spot Database

- Discards bogus spots (B0ZO, SL1M, W3LPL, etc.)
- Combines spots of same DX station
- Filters database by

 - Need
 Frequency
 Continent
 - CallsignBandOrigin

- Country
 Mode
 Distance from spotting station
- Colors database entries
 - by Need
 - by LotW participation and date of last upload
 - By eQSL AG membership
 - by Callsign matching
- Plots
 - Spots and QSOs on DXView's world map
 - Spots on Commander's bandspread

SpotCollector: DX Spot Database



eQSL

LoTW

Both

Dbl Click, Call, DX logged







☐ Han

Mode: L

← LSB (wideling)

C USB (wid

C CW (Med

C CW-R (

C Data-

Ban

Jb M = S M x S XFC

FM (wide) C

AM (Narrow) C

RTTY (Medium) C

TTY-R (Narrow) C

Data-U (wide) C

Config

ww

Help

Terminate

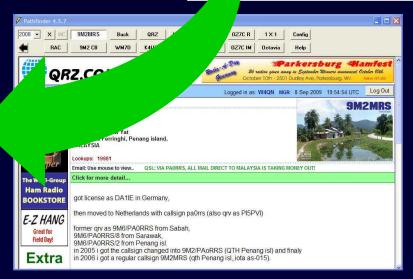
Mode

LSB

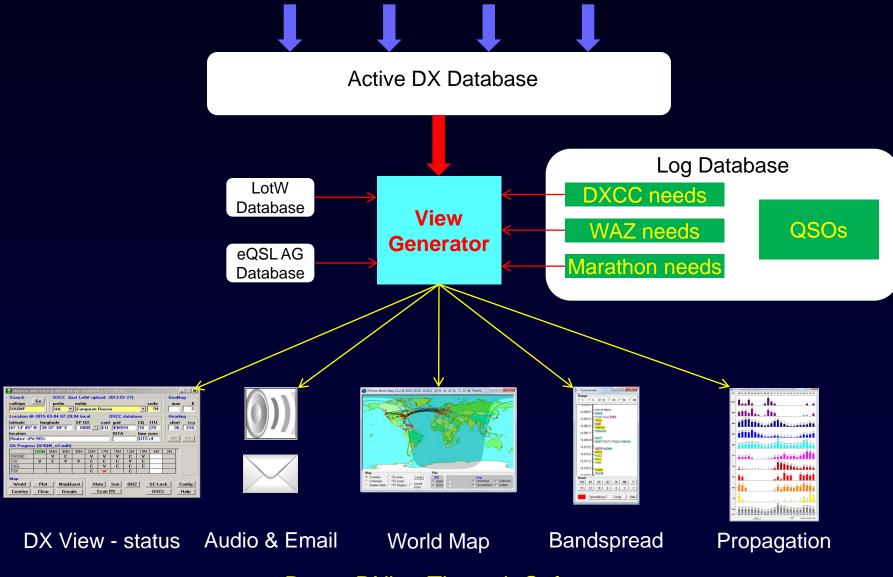
LSB

LSB

USB



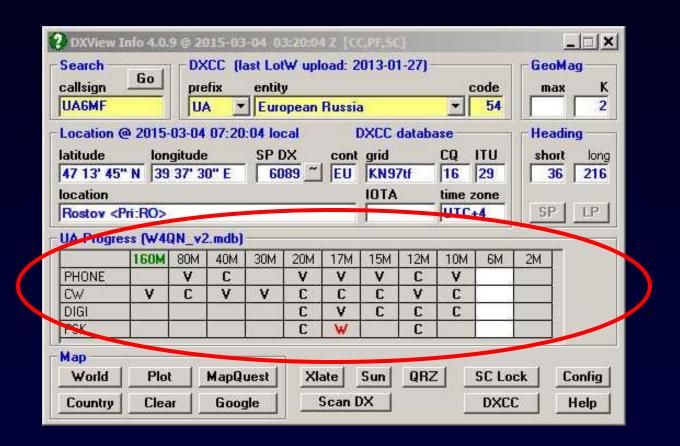
More Features and Enhancements



Better DXing Through Software

DXing with DXLab

DX View - Band/Mode Status at a Glance



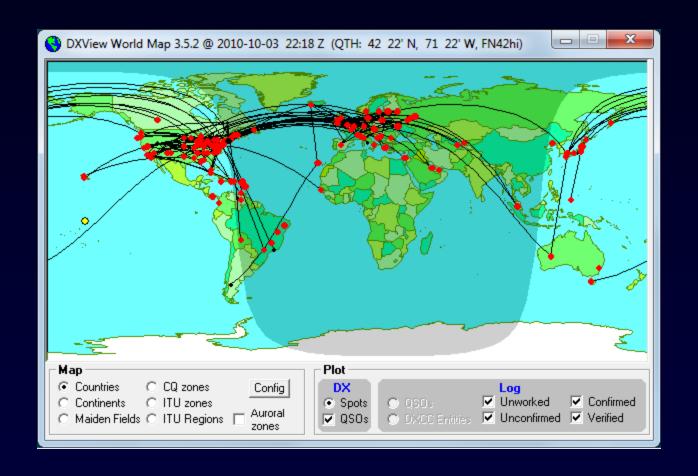
Better DXing Through Software

Audio and Email DX Announcements

Creation of a new Active DX Database Entry for a needed DX station can trigger

- an audio announcement (callsign, "counter", band, mode)
- an outgoing email message (which can initiate a text message)

SpotCollector: Plotted active DX

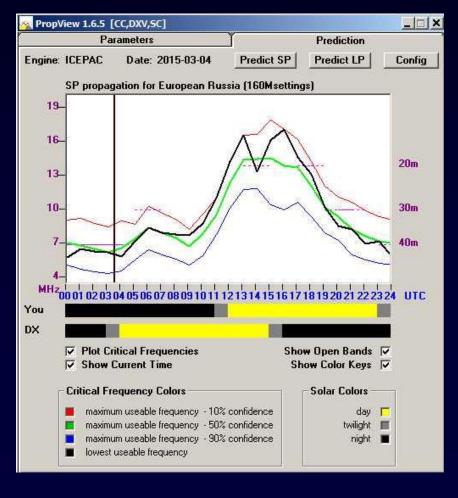


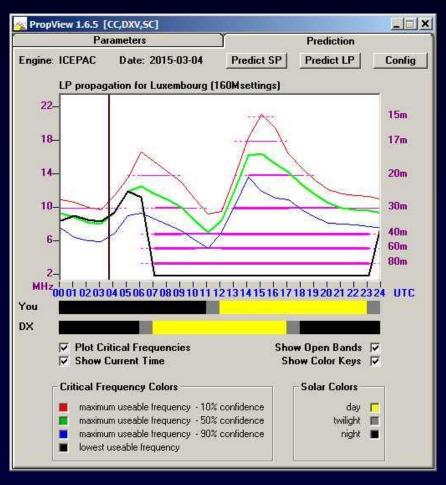
Better DXing Through Software

PropView

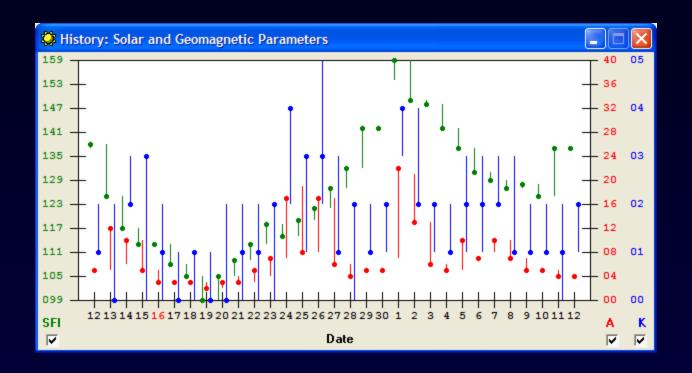
Predicts propagation Monitors propagation

Forecast Short- & Long-path Propagation



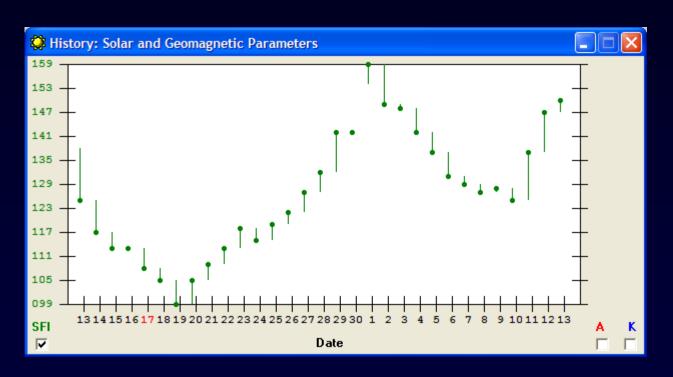


Check the Solar & Geomagnetic Indices

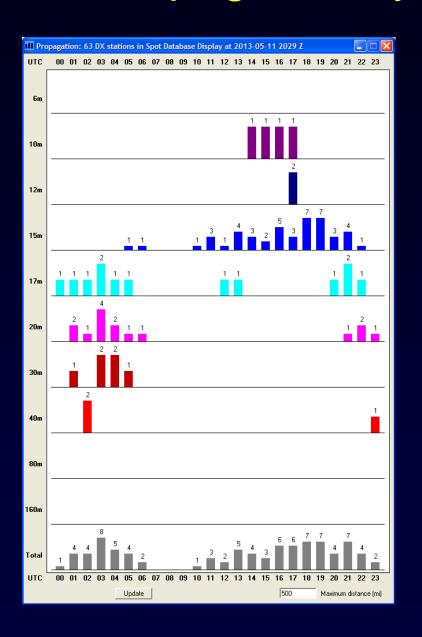


SFI 30 day History...

SFI Looking Good!



Actual Propagation by Band & Time-of-Day



spotted by stations less than 500 miles from your QTH

Clublog does this very well also, and is based on your region at 'ZONE' Level

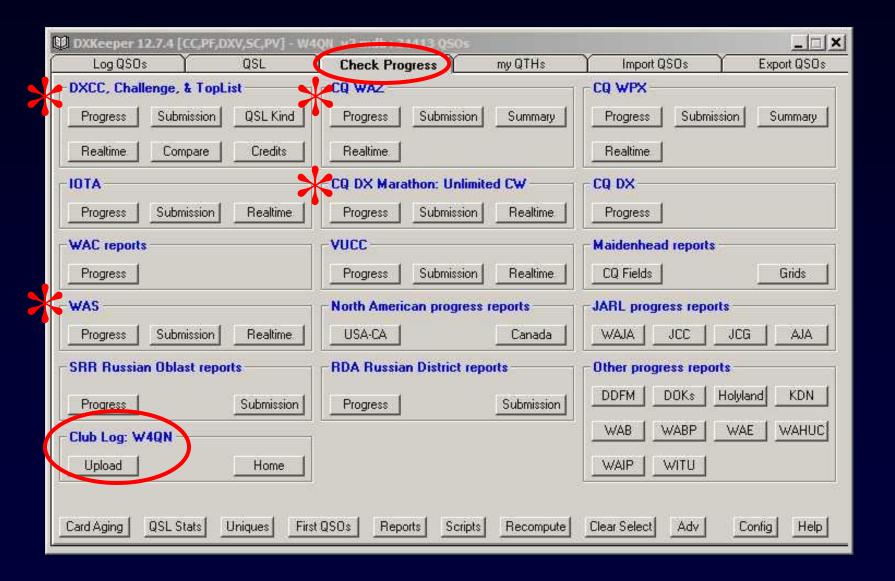
DXKeeper: Award Tracking

- DXCC* & Challenge*
 - generates submission
 - tracks verification
- CQ DX*
- CQ DX Marathon
- CQ Field*
- Gridsquares
- IOTA*
- TOPLIST*
- VUCC*
- Worked All Continents*
- Worked All Europe
- Worked All Prefixes*
- Worked All Zones*

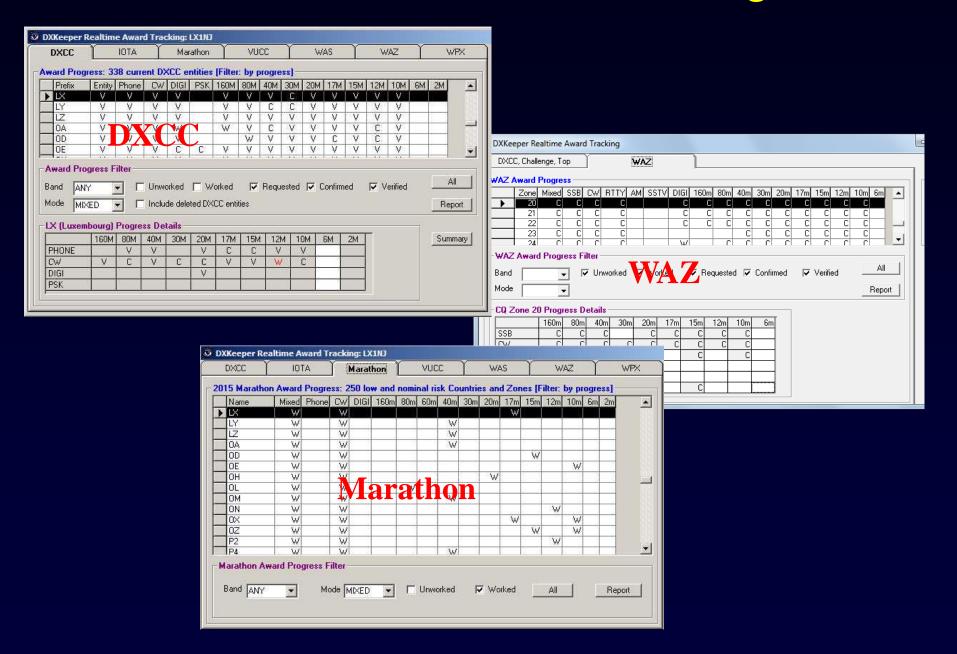
- Worked All British Areas
- Worked All Canadian Provinces
- Worked All French Departments
- Worked All German DOKs
- Worked All Holyland Areas
- Worked All Hungarian Counties
- Worked All Italian Provinces
- Worked All Japanese Cities
- Worked All Japanese Guns
- Worked All Japanese Prefectures
- Worked All Russian Oblasts
- Worked All Russian Districts
- Worked All US States*
- Worked All US Counties*

^{*} identifies needed confirmations

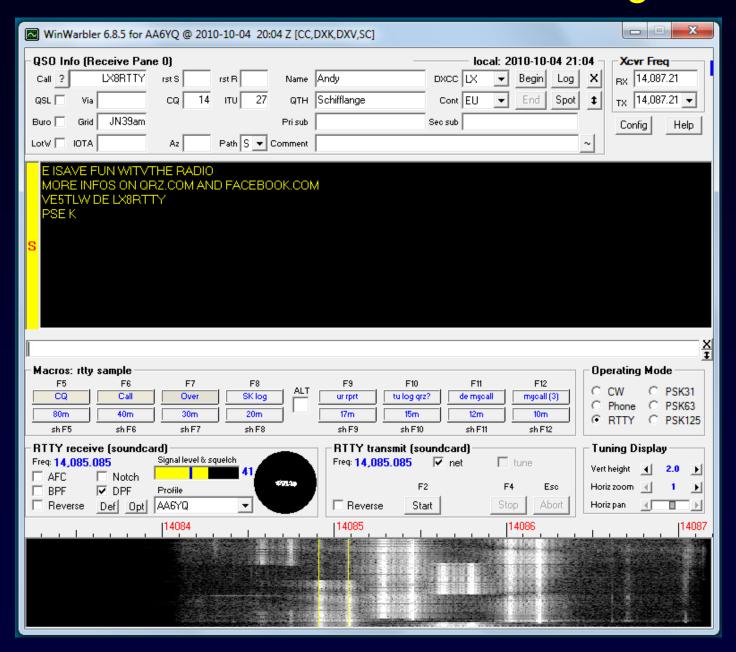
"Real Time Award Tracking



"Real Time Award Tracking



WinWarbler - RTTY and Other Digital Modes



WinWarbler

- CW transmission
 - software-generated
 - WinKey
 - external modem
- Phone voice keyer
- Logging
 - Built-in minilog
 - Automatically logs to DXKeeper if running
- Transceiver control via Commander
 - Logs correct frequencies
 - One-click QSY to optimize tone within transceiver bandwidth
 - RX-TX switching

Another Feature

DXKeeper: QSLing

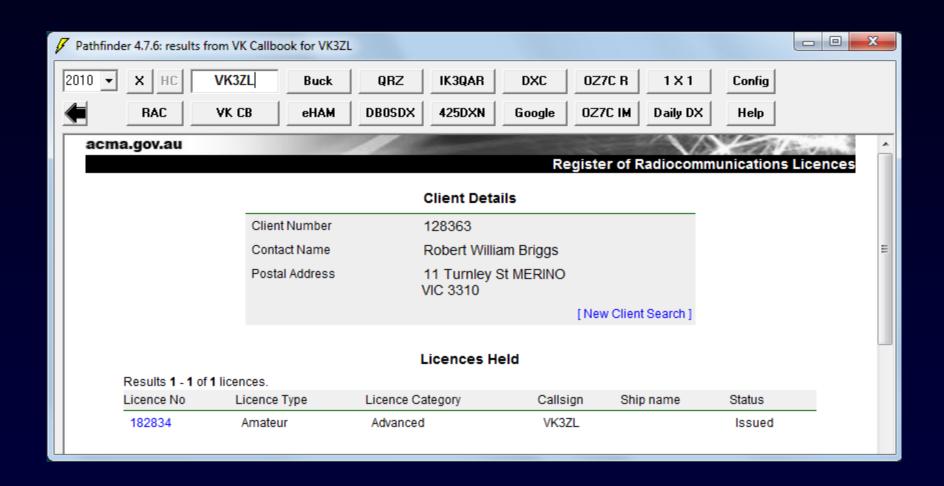
- Generates QSL cards and Labels
- Generates Address labels or prints envelopes
- Support for eQSL.cc and ARRL's LotW
 - One-click upload
 - One-click download and update
 - Independent tracking

DXKeeper: handles the "Paperwork"

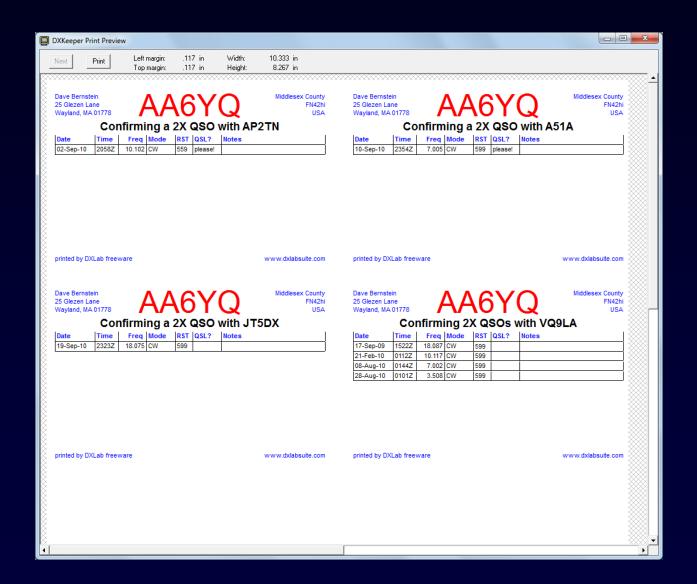
- Finding QSL routes
- Requesting confirmation via QSL cards, LotW, eQSL.cc
- Tracking confirmation requests
- Updating objectives as confirmations are received
- Submitting confirmations for Award Credit

Automate "paperwork" to make more time for DXing

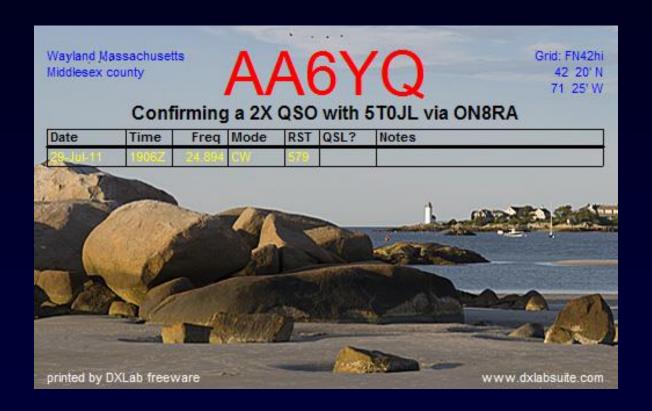
QSL Route Discovery



QSL Card Printing

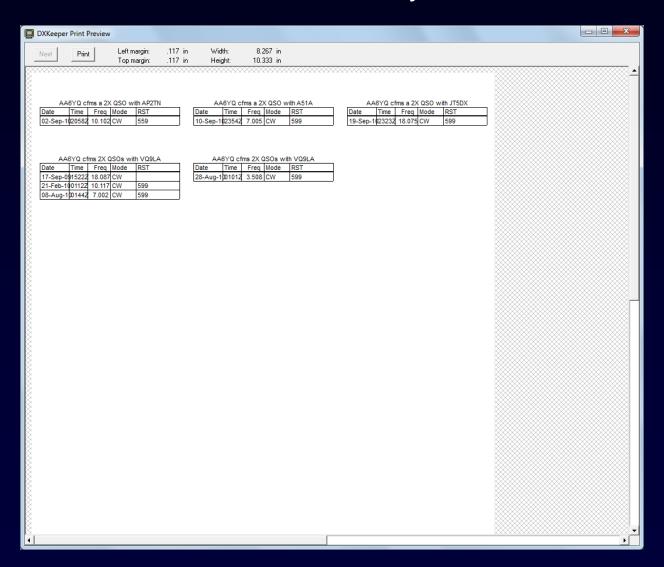


QSL Card Printing



QSL Label Printing

Three column, stock Avery Label stock



QSL Automation

More QSLing Benefits

- Generates QSL cards and Labels
- Generates Address labels or prints envelopes
- Support for eQSL.cc and ARRL's LotW
 - One-click upload
 - One-click download and update
 - Independent tracking
- Automatic upload to Club Log
- Generates files for
 - BV, QSL Maker, QSL Design and Print
 - Online QSL Request Service (OQRS), Global QSL

DXing With DXLab You already have a computer Logging Program

<u>Upgrading Existing Logger With DXLAB</u>

Direct import of many logging programs-

DXBase, Logger 32, Logic, N3FJP, WinLog32, WriteLog, N1MM (realtime xfr)

and

Standard ADIF or Tab-delimited files

DXing With DXLab

DXLab also has the ability to

- 1. download your DXCC Credits from the ARRL web site
- 2. automatically link DXCC Credits and QSOs that exactly match (callsign, entity, band, mode, date)
- 3. manually link DXCC Credits and QSOs that don't exactly match
- 4. generate a "credit-only QSOs" for each unlinked DXCC Credit

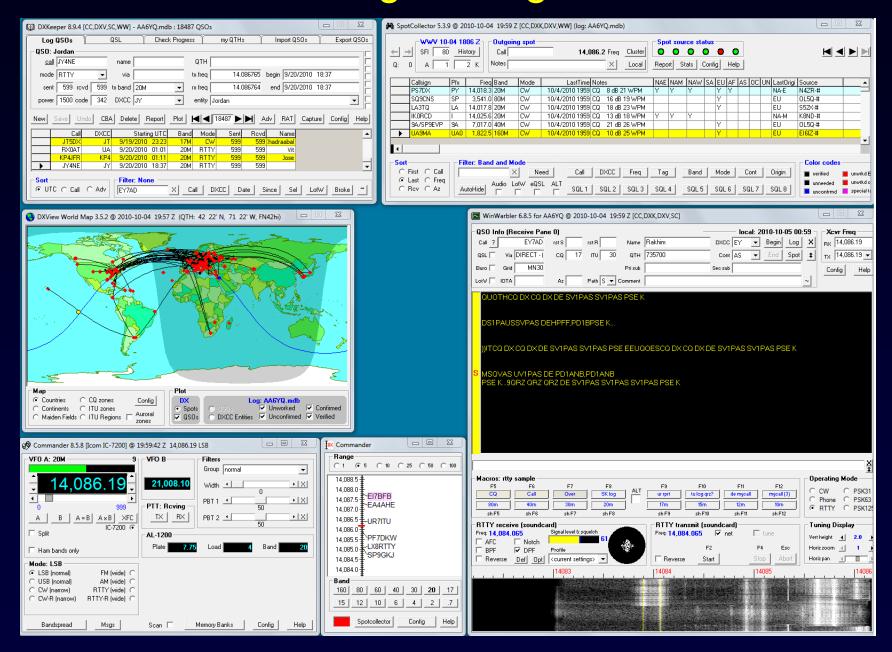
AND ALSO FROM 'CLUBLOG'

Program Support

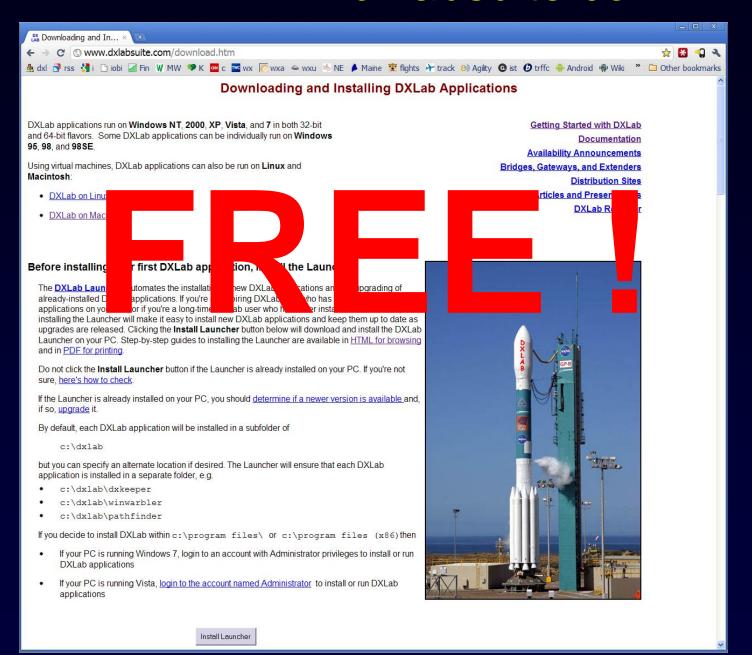
Drivers:

- 1. User-driven iterative development
 - Open Yahoo group with 4000+ participants
 - Defect repairs get highest priority; goal is < 24 hours
 - Public enhancement lists
 - Frequent releases (several per month)
- 2. Easy to Use and Powerful
 - Primarily for DXers
 - Secondarily for casual operators
- 3. Runs on Windows NT, 2000, XP, Vista, 7, 8 and 10
 - and Mac in a virtual machine
 - and Linux in a virtual machine

DXLab: Better DXing Through Software

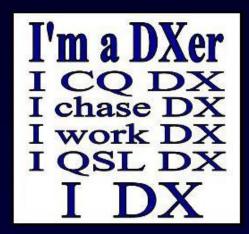


www.dxlabsuite.com





Thanks—



Dave N3BUO