

How to Install Winlink Express

Winlink Express is the new name for RMS Express.

What is Winlink

You can find an overview of the Winlink system in these videos:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=231&v=1v330_1dezw
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RF0OMNZCEVA>

You can also go to the Winlink website at:

- <http://winlink.org/>

Installation

Signalink

When you plug in the USB Signalink, Windows will create a new sound device. You should go into the control panel and make sure it is not the default sound device. That will prevent Windows from send Windows' sounds through your radio.

Soundmodem

Soundmodem provides a software terminal node controller (TNC). We recommend that you use a Signalink to connect your computer to your radio.

Installation

Go to: <http://uz7.ho.ua/packetradio.htm> and download:

- soundmodem97.zip - note: the version number (97) could be higher if a newer version is out
- user_guide_v045b_EN.pdf - again the version number could be different.

Unzip soundmodem97.zip getting soundmodem.exe. You can place this file anywhere, though you will probably want to put a link to it on your desktop for ease of use.

Setup

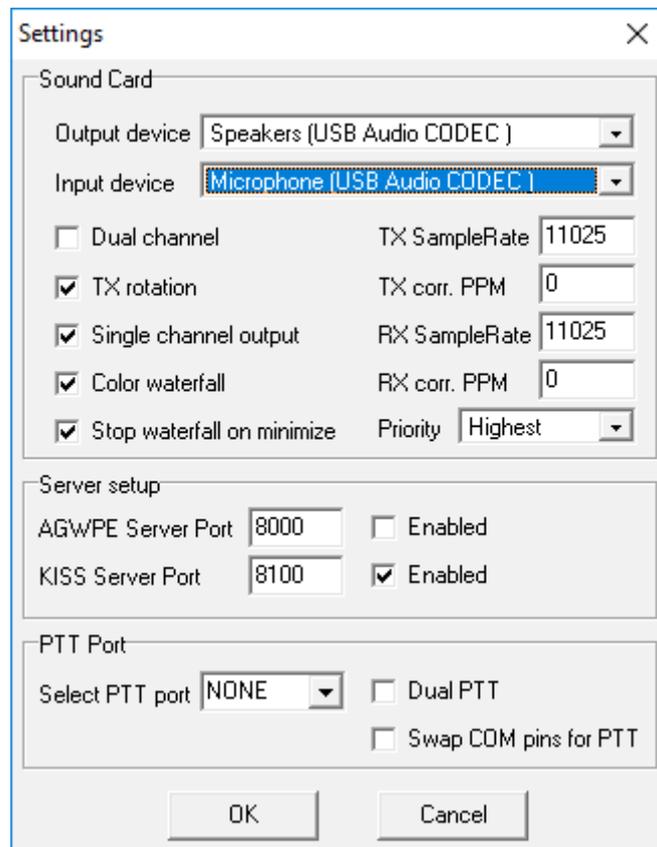
Run the program soundmodem.exe.

You will get a screen that looks like this:

The screenshot shows the 'SoundModem by UZ7HO - Ver 0.97b - [AFSK AX.25 1200bd]' window. The 'Settings' menu is open, and the 'A:' dropdown is set to 'AFSK AX.25 1200bd' with a center frequency of '1700'. The 'DCD threshold' is set to 0, and 'Hold pointers' is unchecked. The main window displays a log of received frames, including headers like '1:Fm KJ4QFY-10 To AI4UR <RR R F R6>' and '1:Fm AI4UR To KJ4QFY-10 <RR R R6>'. Below the log is a table with columns: MyCall, DestCall, Status, Sent pkts, Sent bytes, Rcvd pkts, Rcvd bytes, Rcvd FC, CPS TX, CPS RX, and Direction. At the bottom, a real-time signal monitor shows a frequency spectrum from 1000 to 4000 Hz, with a red diamond marker at 1700 Hz.

Note that the chosen modem should be AFSK AX.25 1200bd and the center frequency should be 1700Hz.

Next chose *Settings* → *Devices* to specify that you want to use the Signalink.

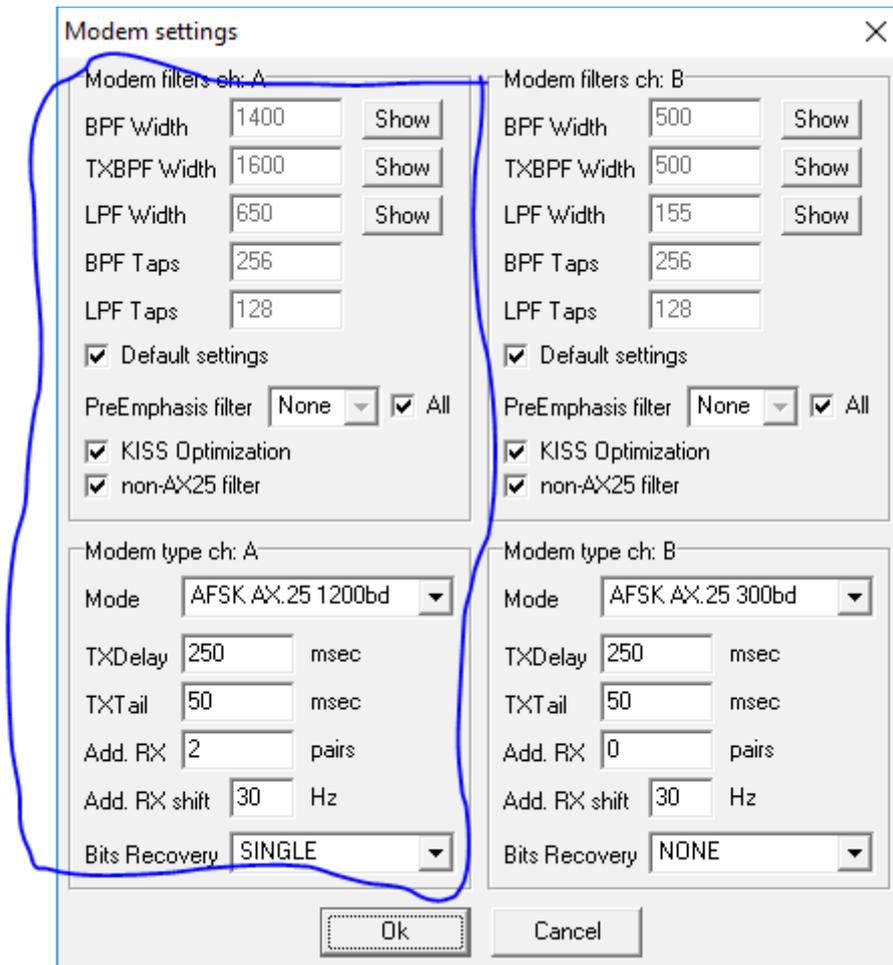


In the Output device and input device drop down box chose your Signalink (hint: it will have USB in the name.)

Set the rest of the fields to match the image

Press OK

Next chose *Settings* → *Modem*.



We will only use channel A.

Set the Mode first it will change all the other values. Then correct any differences between your settings and the illustration.

Press OK.

You are finished setting up soundmodem.

Install Winlink Express

Goto <https://www.winlink.org/WinlinkExpress> and click on “Download Winlink Express”.

Run the file you downloaded by double clicking on the icon in the download bar on your browser.

This will install Winlink Express.

Setup Winlink Express

Start Winlink Express, you will get the following screen.

Winlink Express Properties

Call Signs

My Callsign: My Password:

Callsign suffix (optional): (Used for country code) Show password

Password recovery e-mail:
(Non-Winlink e-mail address where lost password will be sent when requested)

Auxiliary Callsigns and Tactical Addresses

My Grid Square:

Winlink Express registration key:

Path to propagation forecast program:

Service Codes

(Use PUBLIC for ham call signs. Separate multiple service codes by spaces.)
If you change service codes, you must update the list of channels.

Contact Information (Optional)

Name:

Street address 1:

Street address 2:

City:

State/Province:

Country:

Postal code:

Web Site URL (optional):

Phone number:

Non-Winlink e-mail:

Additional information (optional):

Recalculate HF path quality if SFI changes more than:

Keep logs for weeks. Keep deleted messages for days.

Display list of pending incoming messages prior to download

Warn about connections to stations holding messages

Allow diagnostic information to be sent to the Winlink Development Team

Automatically install field-test (beta) versions of Winlink Express

Use Amazon cloud server (AWS) -- beta version

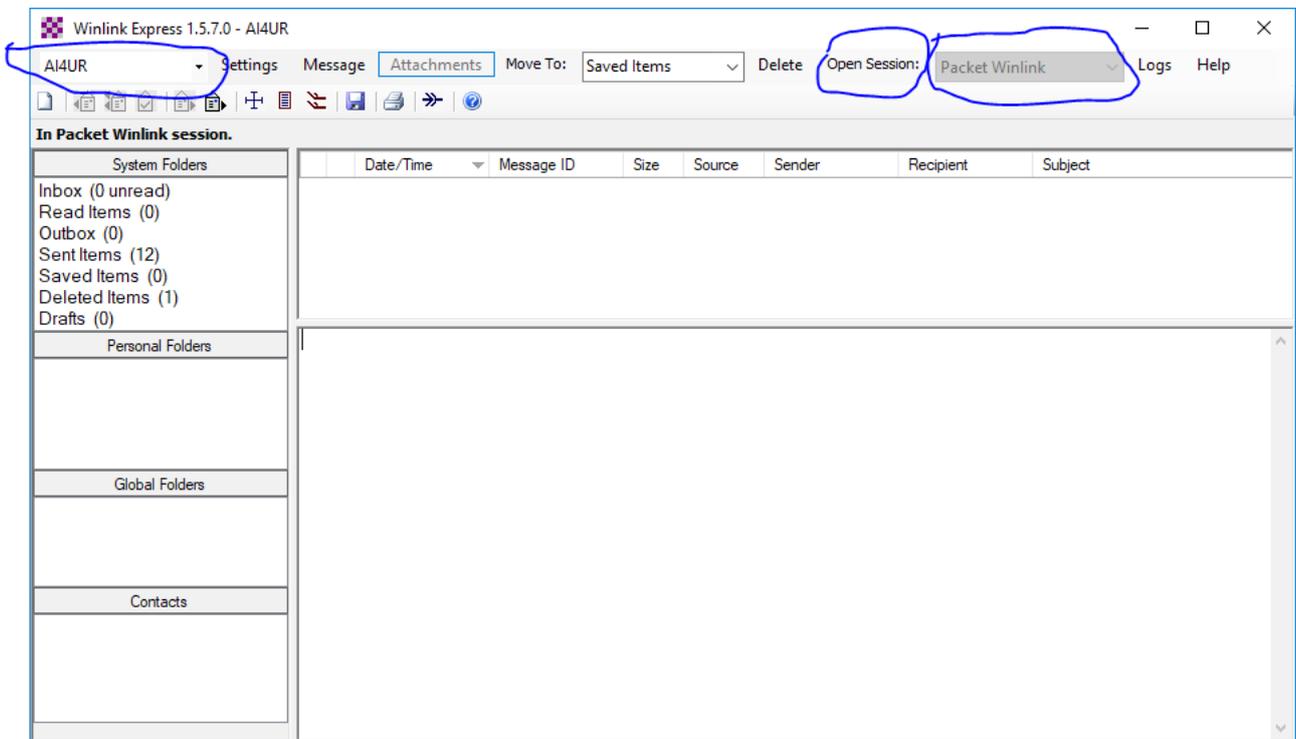
Put in your call sign. If you already have an account put in your password.

If you don't already have an account leave the password blank. Your account will be created the first time you connect with the system. You will be able to get this email the second time you connect. You should then update the password field with the password sent to you.

Your address will be *<your callsign>@winlink.org*

Fill the rest of the fields appropriately.

Press “Update” and you will be taken to the main screen:



You call sign will be in the upper left corner. On the top toward the right is the connection method in a drop down box and a link "Open Session".

You can get back to the previous screen when you need to by clicking "Settings"

Setting up connection methods

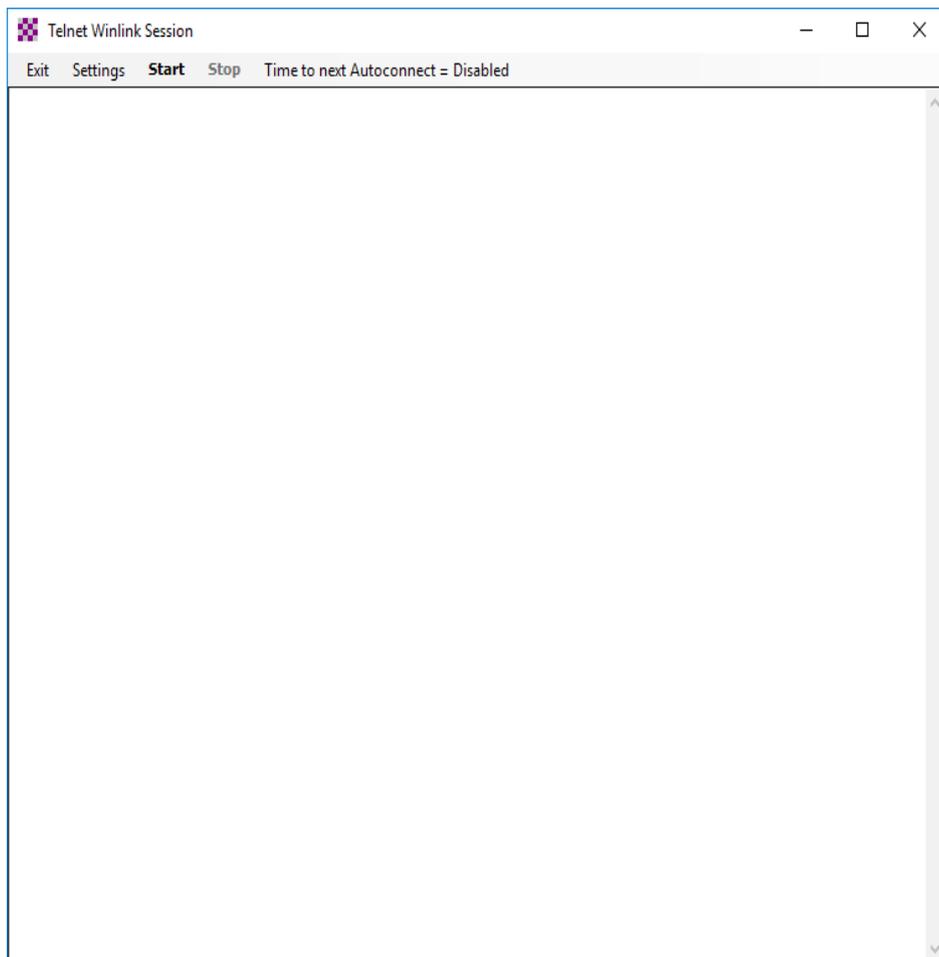
Telnet Session

Let's you send a message through the Winlink System using the Internet only, no radio needed.

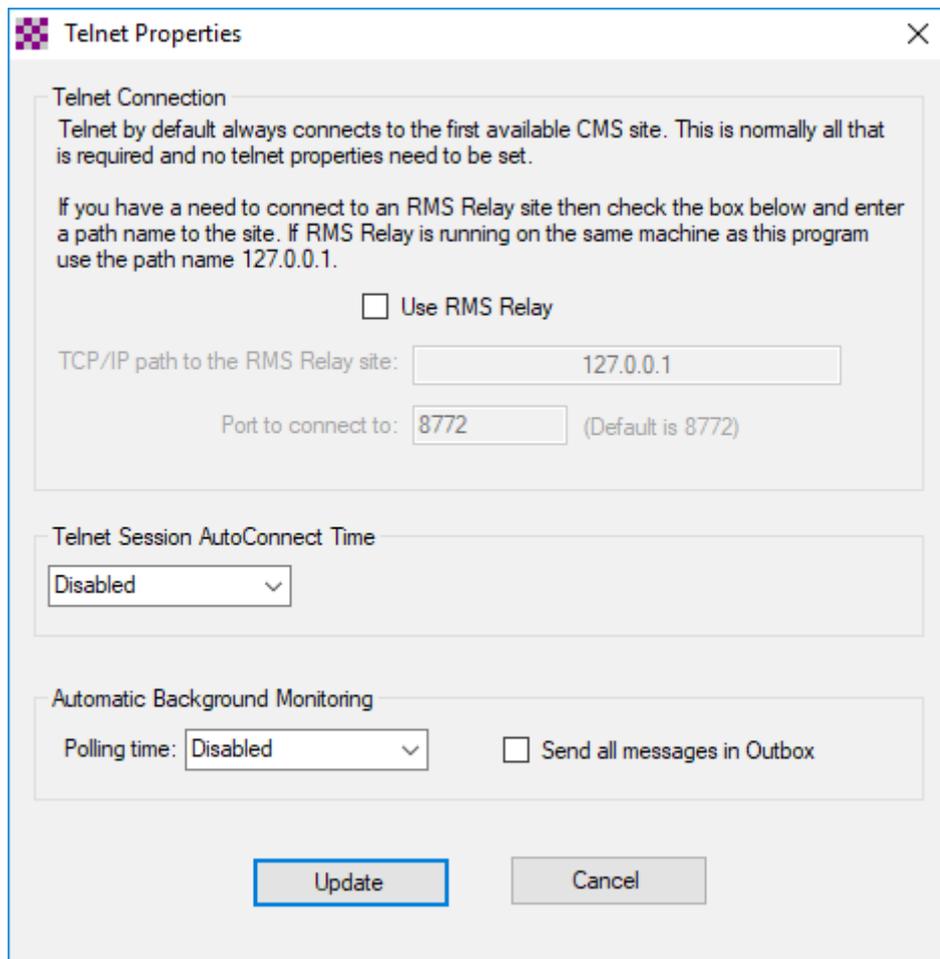
Setup

Choose "Telnet Winlink Session" for your connection method and click "Open Session"

You will get a new window.



Select Settings set yours to match the screen below.



Close this window. Telnet mode setup is now complete, you are now ready to send a message using a Telnet Winlink Session.

Close the Telnet Winlink Session window.

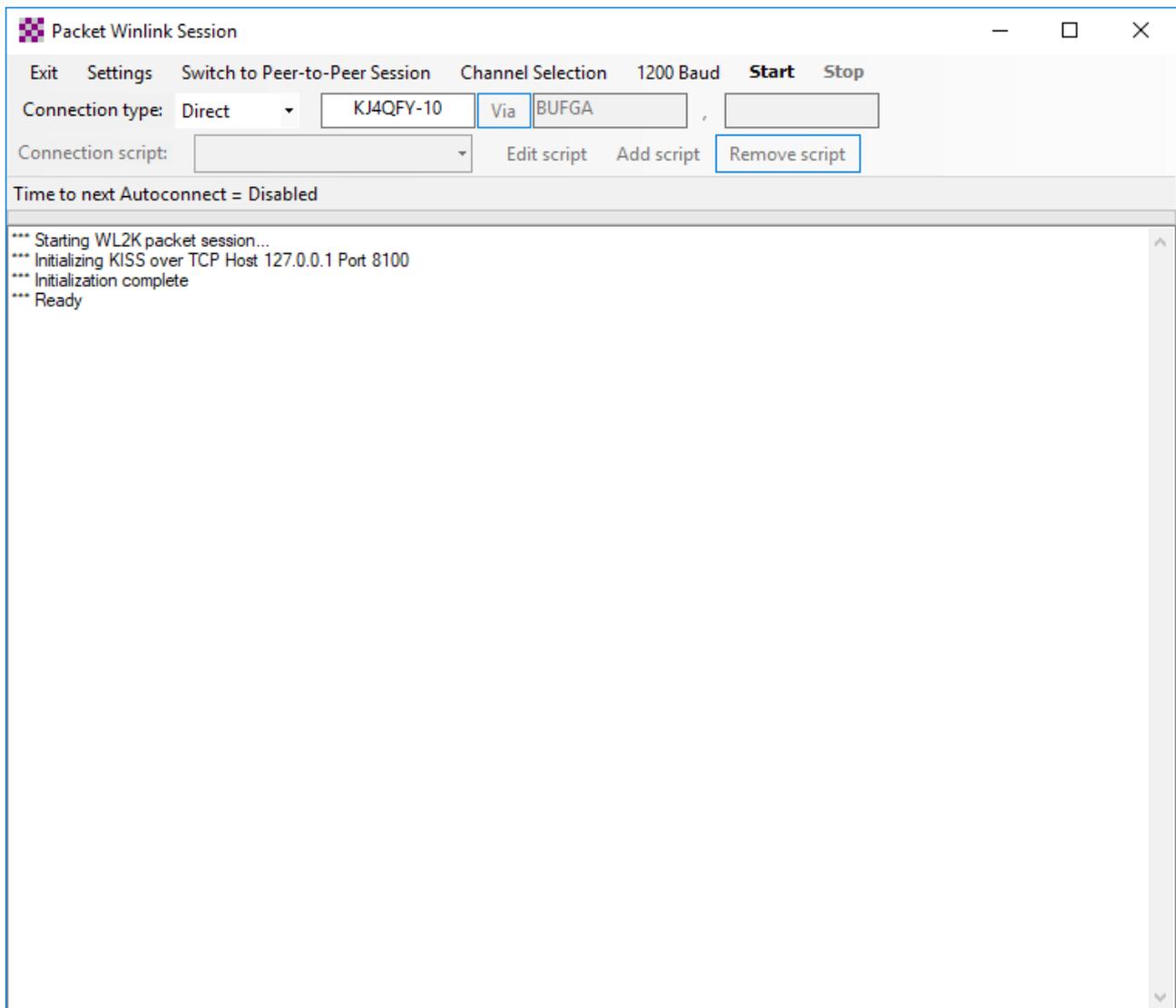
Packet Winlink Session

This will allow you to connect through the radio to the RMS Gateway on top of DeKalb Fire Rescue HQ.

The frequency to use is 145.590 Simplex no PL tone.

Setup

In the connection dropdown, choose "Packet Winlink Session" and then press "Open Session"



The connection type should be: Direct

The station should be KJ4QFY-10

Next press Settings.

Packet Winlink/P2P Setup

TNC Connection

Packet TNC Type: KISS

Packet TNC Model: ACKMODE

Serial Port: TCP

TCP Host/Port: 127.0.0.1 8100

AutoConnect Time: Disabled

TNC Parameters

1200 Baud 9600 Baud

TX Delay (Milliseconds): 400 300

Maximum Packet Length: 128 255

Maximum Frames: 4 7

Frack: 2 2

Persistence: 160 224

Slot time: 30 20

Maximum Retries: 5 5

Disable Xmt Level Adjust Transmit Level: 100 100

Enable IPoll

Update Cancel

Set you settings to match the above.

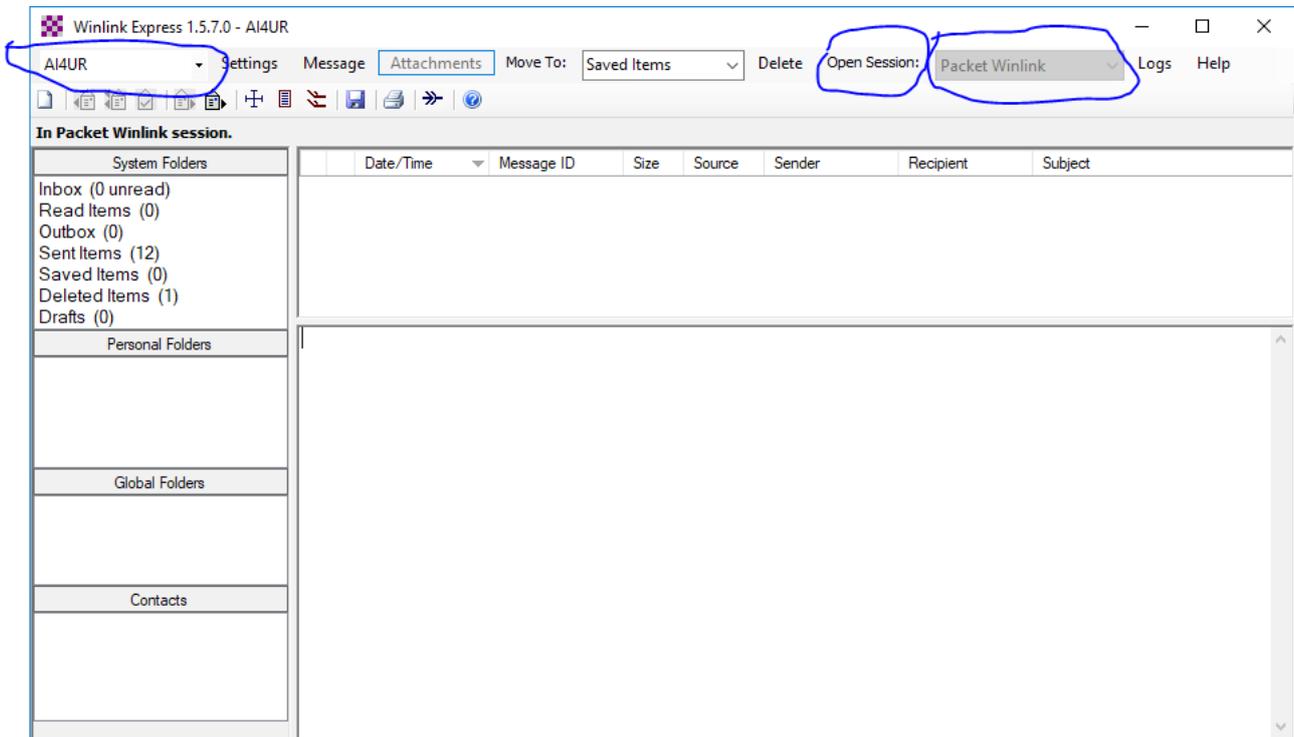
Press Update and then close the Packet Winlink Session window.

You are ready to send mail.

Sending Mail

Create the message

From the main interface:



Press the “Message” menu:

Enter a new message

Close Select Template Attachments **Post to Outbox** Spell Check Save in Drafts

From: AI4UR Send as: Winlink Message Request read receipt Set

To:

Cc:

Subject:

Attach:

Fill out the To:, Subject: & Body of the email.

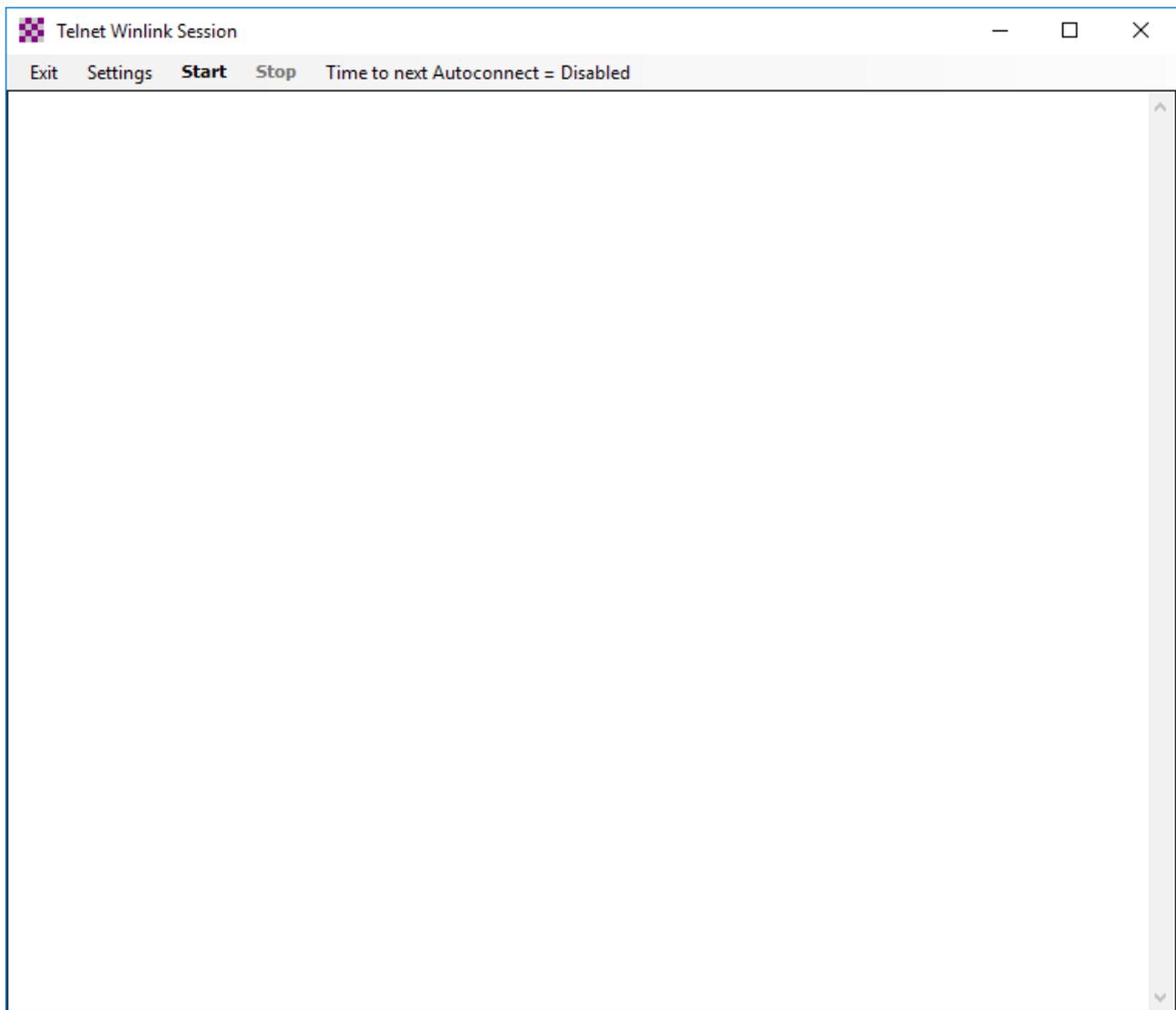
To: can either be a callsign if it is to be delivered within the Winlink system, or can be a regular Internet email address.

When you are done, press “Post to Outbox” to queue the message for delivery.

Send the message

Telnet

On the main interface choose the connection method Telnet Winlink. Press “Open Session”.

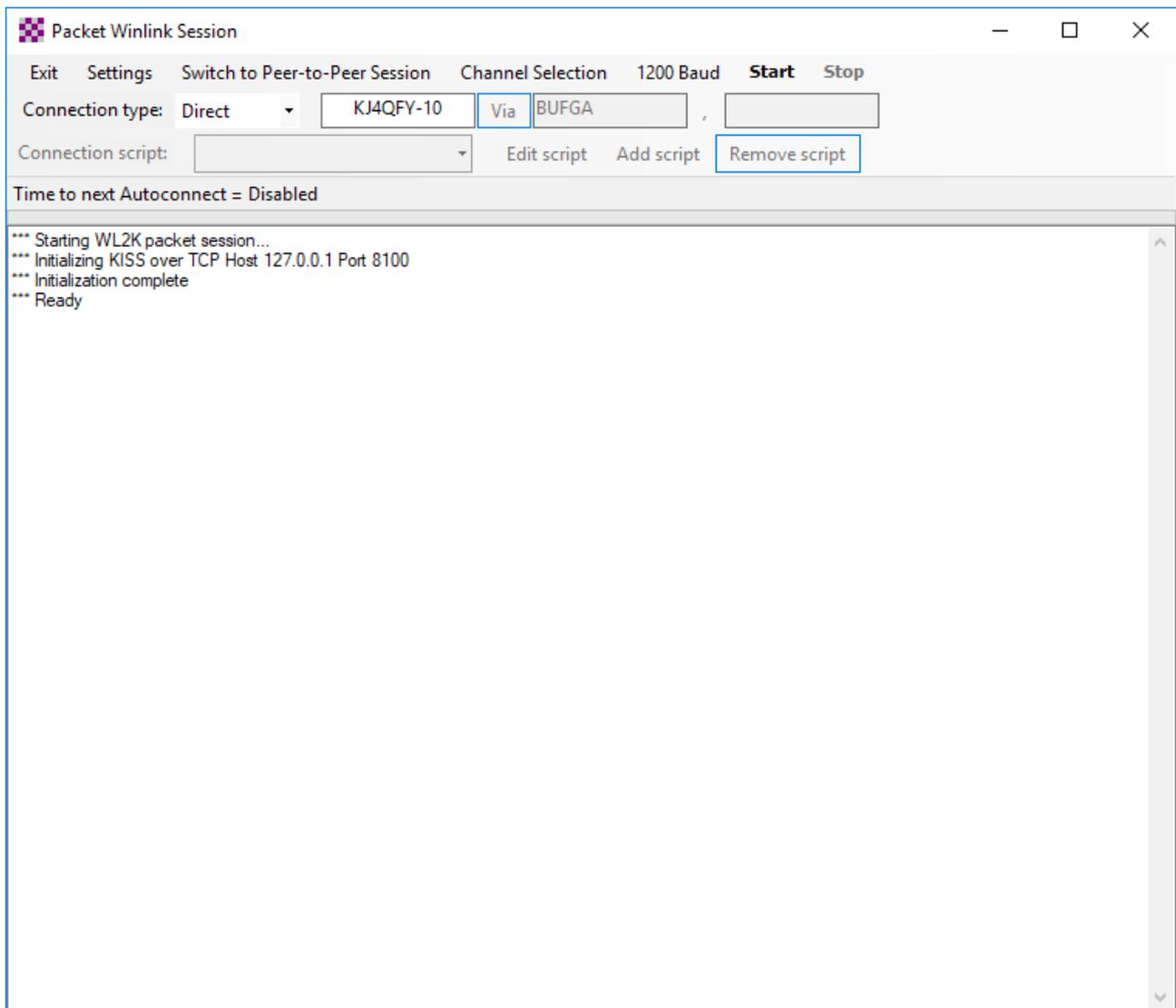


Press "Start"

Packet Winlink

If you are using "Packet Modem" with a Signalink, be sure that soundmodem is already running!

On the main interface select "Packet Winlink" in the dropdown box. Press "Open Session"



You see the initialization messages as above if you are using soundmodem. If you do not get that, check you setup.

Press “Start”