

WK10 - Winlink DIY Soundcard Presentation – CHAT

October 1, 2020

- 18:58:35 From Barry Porter: if you want to ask a question in chat, please precede the question with a "Q:" to allow us to easily separate questions in chat from comments
- 19:01:24 From Saroj KM6BQD Arizona, USA: Q - will this be recorded?
- 19:02:16 From Oliver K6OLI (Pasadena, CA): @Saroj: it is being recorded. See the top left of the Zoom screen.
- 19:02:16 From Barry Porter, KB1PA, SM, SFL: yes
- 19:02:24 From KM6WJQ JASON PASADENA CA: YES
- 19:02:34 From Barry Porter, KB1PA, SM, SFL: it will be recorded and emailed to everyone
- 19:03:12 From Dan K7REX Idaho: Yes, this is being recording - I'll send out a link the video for everyone later.
- 19:04:59 From Patrick W0PCD Muscatine, IA: Q - Are the demands for Winlink greater than digital modes like FT8? By that I mean, if you have a soundcard that works fairly well for FT8, should it work as well for WinLink?
- 19:06:11 From Mike xe2/n6kzb Baja CA: YES, no problem.
- 19:06:32 From Barry Porter, KB1PA, SM, SFL: yes, any sound card should work fine in any digital mode. Each program can configure the card differently
- 19:06:46 From Sharky WW1ACE California: I just got my Dra 50 in the mail today!
- 19:06:57 From Patrick W0PCD Muscatine, IA: Thanks.
- 19:08:08 From Mike xe2/n6kzb Baja CA: Reminder... Winmor is going away.
- 19:22:16 From Tom Horne W3TDH MDC SECTION: Will you address the upgrade possibilities of the older signal Link USB units with the narrower transformer audio band?
- 19:33:25 From Don KE7ARH - Bellevue, Washington: Maybe something like this for the opto isolator - if you don't want to mount a chip (\$5.99)? <https://www.amazon.com/NOYITO-4-Channel-Optocoupler-Isolation-Photoelectric/dp/B07GMHLL2M/>
- 19:38:08 From Patrick W0PCD Muscatine, IA: Q- Is the isolation more for the computer's sake than the radio? If you're using an older radio (say Kenwood TS-440S) would you want the isolation?
- 19:39:20 From Tom Horne W3TDH MDC SECTION: Does the existence of a conductive pathway between the Transceiver and the computer raise any additional risk of lightning damage or other static discharge?
- 19:46:42 From Mike K3TEE MD: FYI, just using an external UGreen USB Sound Card which uses C-Media chip (\$16 on Amazon) and using a modified 6-pin mini din cable connecting to 9600 pin output of rig's Data connector, I've have successfully achieved 25K max data rate with Vara. I've also successfully used with other sound modems. I use the TM-V71A and TM-D710G which have separate PC (PTT & CAT) and Data connectors (audio in and out). The standard Kenwood PC cable PG-5G works unmodified for PTT control. Other rigs may need more audio voltage from sound card to work and the PTT needs to be addressed differently where lacking a separate PC connection on rig for PTT.
- 19:47:56 From Mike, N6JGA California: Q How can we get on the mailing list to be notified about these presentations in the future?
- 19:50:11 From ko6th-Greg: Can you just wire the two data pins together, so either speed will work with the same cable?

19:50:21 From Tom Horne W3TDH MDC SECTION: What spec do we need to look for as the specs on the sound fob itself"

19:51:14 From Mike xe2/n6kzb Baja CA: FOLKS use Q In front of your question.

19:52:44 From ko6th-Greg: Q: Can you wire the two pins together, so either speed can work with the same cable? I presume the non-selected speed is muted, no?

19:52:59 From Chris WW2BSA NJ: Q: Please confirm that you can use the 9600 bps pin for 1200 packet on a data radio. Tnx.

19:53:34 From Mike xe2/n6kzb Baja CA: Yes, Scott said you could OM

19:54:24 From ko6th-Greg: Thanks

19:55:38 From ko6th-Greg: Wait, which "OM" were you confirming that with?

19:56:18 From Mike xe2/n6kzb Baja CA: K06TH sir.

19:56:45 From ko6th-Greg: tks

19:57:20 From Thorbjörn SM7YTN Sweden, Malmö: I wish i had whatch this Before i build my soundmodem.

19:59:36 From ko6th-Greg: Note: some rigs (Yaesu FT-847, at least) seem to need the PTT function and the audio input on the same connector. CAT for PTT seems to need substantially more audio at the connector than if PTT is on the 6-pin DIN.

20:04:20 From Mike K3TEE MD: Note: when using Vara, both stations need to be using the same mode of Vara (either Wide or Narrow). If one rig is in Wide mode for 9600 and the other is using Vara Narrow with rig at 1200, Vara will not communicate properly (according to developer Jose)

20:05:21 From Patrick W0PCD Muscatine, IA: Q- Can you provide links to the DRA boards?

20:05:44 From Chris WW2BSA NJ: <https://www.masterscommunications.com/products/radio-adapter/dra/dra30.html>

20:05:50 From W6EDT- Dale Mission Viejo, CA: What about using a Vishay IL300 for galvanic isolation. It appears that it can do 200kHz signal rates with little thermal non-linearity?

20:05:56 From Kevin W3KKC Florida: www.masterscommunications.com

20:06:27 From Bob K. N0YWB IA: A big plus for the Masters Communications DRA series is they have an analog (555 timer) PTT timeout watchdog.

20:07:42 From Bob AK6RM (West Hills): Really clear, comprehensive, & accessible presentation. Especially helpful when addressing the "why's" behind assertions - Thanks very much.

20:08:08 From Don Rolph AB1PH: what are the audio chips your referred to?

20:09:51 From Calvin WB5YYQ TX: How many modes will the DRA boards support?

20:09:56 From Mike K3TEE MD: Testing with a friend who has a new Signalink, putting the internal jumper on 9600 pin and with the simple mod to increase output voltage, he could receive at 22K and transmit at 17K with Vara.

20:13:58 From Kevin W3KKC Florida: The DRA Series will support most digital modes. Complete list of applications is available from the MC website.

20:14:05 From Don KE7ARH - Bellevue, Washington: I liked Ward Silver's book on grounding:
<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Grounding-and-Bonding-for-the-Radio-Amateur>

20:18:06 From Patrick W0PCD Muscatine, IA: Thank you for a great presentation. I learned a lot. 73 everyone. :)

20:19:28 From Peyton KE5ZDZ Houston TX: A very comprehensive talk on a challenging topic. Thanks for your fine presentation.

20:22:34 From Tom Horne W3TDH MDC SECTION: I have a tremor in my hands and cannot do fine soldering. Kevin was kind enough to solder it for me. Thank you!

20:23:53 From Kevin, KD7DFV SC, AZ: C: Kevin did a great job for me in walking me through my assessing and assembly of my two kits I bought.

20:23:58 From Thorbjörn SM7YTN Sweden, Malmö: soldering all them SMD surfes mounted resisters is a pain.

20:25:03 From Thorbjörn SM7YTN Sweden, Malmö: i have a picture of mine if its intresting

20:26:03 From Marty KN6FDP SDG: Thank you for an interesting and clear presentation. Enjoyed it!

20:27:05 From Dan NR6V Northridge, CA.: Great presentation! Thanks so much!

20:29:00 From Don Rolph AB1PH: thanks!

20:29:13 From wI7coo dan CA SJV: Really great presentation & thanks for all you do on the Winlink Groups.

20:29:43 From Thorbjörn SM7YTN Sweden, Malmö: Thank you i liked this one very much.

20:29:58 From Jim KF4RX - Georgia: Thanks you Scott, 73 Jim KF4RX

20:30:17 From Dennis W6DQ & Lisa KF6QNG CA: Thank you for a great presentation. These Zoom sessions are a great learning tool! 73 W6DQ

20:30:27 From Ken K6KT - Lake San Marcos, SDG Section: Thanks very much! 73

20:30:41 From Tom Horne W3TDH MDC SECTION: Kevin Thank you for your help!

20:30:47 From Thorbjörn SM7YTN Sweden, Malmö: 73 SM7YTN

20:31:15 From Mike K3TEE MD: Great presentation!