

DMR TECH NET

BrandMeister

Michigan Nets Channel

Talk Group-31266

Mon 19:30-20:25 ET

Chat with us anytime TGIF TG-31268 DMR Tech Net channel

This Monday night we will **discuss the OpenGD-77 firmware for DMR radios** and the pros and cons of using it. Add your comments and questions as we learn more about the OpenGD-77 firmware.

Join us on **Brandmeister Talk Group 31266 (Michigan Nets)** for the **DMR Tech Net** on **Monday, November 4th** from **7:30 PM ET to 8:25 PM ET**. The net will conclude early to allow time to switch (QSY) talk groups to the **Michigan One DMR Net** (which begins at **8:30 PM ET** on BrandMeister Talk Group 3126).

Every **Monday night** join the **DMR Tech Net** as we make **Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)** easier to understand and fun to use!

Using OpenGD-77 firmware on a DMR radio (like the Radioddity GD-77) has several pros and cons:

Pros:

1. **Expanded Features:** OpenGD-77 offers a range of additional features and configuration options that are not available in the factory firmware.
2. **Customization:** You can customize the radio to a greater extent, including the ability to define multiple talk groups within a single channel.
3. **Improved Performance:** Some users report better performance and reliability with OpenGD-77 compared to the factory firmware.
4. **Community Support:** Being an open-source project, it has a community of users and developers who can offer support and share their experiences.
5. **Hotspot Mode:** OpenGD-77 includes a hotspot mode that allows for higher power transmission compared to some other software-defined radio hotspots.

Cons:

1. **Legal Issues:** The firmware no longer contains the binary sections from the official firmware that provide DMR/AMBE codec functionality due to legal reasons.
2. **Complexity:** The additional features and customization options can make the software more complex to use, especially for beginners.
3. **Compatibility:** There may be compatibility issues with certain repeaters or networks that require specific firmware configurations.
4. **Firmware Updates:** Keeping the firmware up to date can be more challenging, as it requires manual updates and flashing.

OpenGD-77 software brings several new and different features compared to the factory firmware of the GD-77 radio. Here are some of the **key enhancements**:

New Features:

1. **DMR Rx AGC**: Automatic Gain Control for DMR reception, improving audio quality.
2. **Rx Beeps**: Beeps indicating reception of a signal.
3. **Clear Last Heard**: Holding the # key clears the Last Heard screen.
4. **Voice Prompts**: Multiple speeds for voice prompts, ranging from 1.0x to 2.5x normal speech speed.
5. **CC Scan Option**: The CC scan option has been reinstated.
6. **Improved Scanning**: Enhanced DMR scanning functionality.
7. **GPS Position Display**: Improved GPS position display.
8. **Hotspot Mode**: Enhanced hotspot mode for higher power transmission¹.

Additional Features:

- **Customization**: More options for customizing the radio settings and configurations.
- **Community Support**: Access to a community of users and developers for support and shared experiences.
- **Regular Updates**: Frequent updates with new features and improvements.

These features make OpenGD-77 a powerful and flexible option for DMR enthusiasts looking to get the most out of their radios.



Here is **how you can get started with OpenGD-77** for your DMR radio:

1. Download and Install

- **Repository**: Go to the OpenGD-77 GitHub repository and download the latest firmware and CPS (Customer Programming Software) <https://github.com/open-ham/OpenGD77> or <https://www.openg77.com/downloads/>.
- **Install**: Follow the instructions to install the CPS on your computer and flash the firmware onto your radio. This usually involves connecting the radio to your computer via USB and using the CPS to load the new firmware.

2. Configuration

- **CPS Software:** Open the CPS software and configure your radio settings. You can set up channels, talkgroups, and other settings.
- **Hotspot Mode:** If you want to use your radio as a hotspot, you will need to configure this in the CPS.

3. Community and Resources

- **Forums and Groups:** Join online forums and groups where you can ask questions and get support from other OpenGD-77 users.
- **Documentation:** Read through the available documentation to understand all the features and how to use them.

4. Regular Updates

- **Firmware:** Keep an eye on the GitHub repository for updates and new features. Regularly updating your firmware can help you stay on top of new developments and improvements.

5. Practice and Explore

- **Experiment:** Spend some time experimenting with different settings and configurations to find what works best for you.
- **Use Cases:** Try out the various features, such as the Hotspot mode, to see how they can enhance your DMR experience.

Dive in and enjoy exploring the expanded functionality OpenGD-77 can bring to your DMR experience!

Here are the **Michigan DMR nets** we know about.

Saturday:

- 7:00pm **Arrow DMR Net** on **BrandMeister talk group 3126**
- 7:30pm **DMR Trivia Net** on **TGIF talk group 31268**

Sunday:

- 6:30pm **UP (Upper Peninsula) Net** on **BrandMeister talk group 31268**

Monday:

- 7:30pm **DMR Tech Net** on **BrandMeister talk group 31266**
- 8:30pm **Michigan One DMR Net** on **BrandMeister talk group 3126**

Send an email to subscribe@dmrtechnet.net if you want to subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter. To see previous newsletters, check out our website: <https://dmrtechnet.net/>

You can always chat with the **DMR Tech Net team** on **TGIF talk group 31268**, the **DMR Tech Net** channel or **Brandmeister talk group 31266**, the **Michigan Nets** channel



BrandMeister Michigan Talk Groups		TGIF Michigan Talk Groups	
BM Talk Group	BM Channel Name	TGIF Talk Group	TGIF Channel Name
3126	Michigan (10-Minute QSO limit)	318	Michigan
31260	MI WX ARES EmComm	513	Outdoors Michigan
31261	Mi5 Statewide Channel 1	550	Calumet Radio Group
31262	Mi5 Statewide Channel 2	625	XLX625 CQ-Michigan
31263	Mi5 Event Channel 1	989	BAARC / Bay City Michigan
31264	Michigan TAC	1841	CQ-Michigan
31265	Mi5 Event Channel 3	3126	Michigan Statewide
31266	Michigan Nets	3181	Southwest Michigan
31267	West MI Talk Group	6072	Gogebic County Severe WeatherNet
31268	UP (Upper Peninsula) of MI	27906	Yooper Amateur Radio Club KC8NWS
31269	W MI Tech Group	30092	IRLP_0092 and Echolink MICH-EXP 593804
311088	Sault St. Marie TAC	31266	Michigan Nets
		31268	DMR Tech Net
		31665	TGIF
		41992	Southern Michigan - Skywarn
		41997	Northern MI Skywarn
		49855	Michigan D8 Auxcomm
		70777	Who Cares?
		71474	NORTH-MICHIGAN
		99846	East MI Link

The **DMR Tech Net team** is assisting **Dustin N8RMA** with NCS duties on the **Michigan One DMR net**. Here is the list of the upcoming **NCS (Net Control Stations)** for it:

- **Nov 4** **Steve KC8WXM and/or Brad KE8WNV**
- Nov 11 **Dustin N8RMA**
- Nov 18 **Tom N8TJ and/or Rick AD8KN**
- Nov 25 **Bob KB8DQQ**

<https://www.michiganonedmr.net/>

The next **DMR Tech Net TV Zoom** broadcast is **Tuesday, November 19** from **8pm-9pm ET**. Join us as **David Wolf W05H** will be our guest. He will tell us about his role as the “**King of Parts**” at **Radio Shack** along with adding amateur radio products to their product line in the 1990’s. He’ll talk about them (the HTX-100, HTX-202, HTX-242, HTX-404, and other Radio Shack amateur radio products) plus answer your questions!

To join the DMR Tech Net TV Zoom meeting, click the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84447664395?pwd=djZMbFZaWVRkRDRudkRFeWc2WWV4UT09>

Another option is to go to <https://zoom.us/>, then select “**Join**” (in the top right-hand corner), and use the following parameters to connect to the **DMR Tech Net TV Zoom** meeting:

- Meeting ID: **844 4766 4395**
- Passcode: **370040**

To join with **only** your phones’ audio, dial (312) 626-6799 and input the following:

- Meeting ID: **844 4766 4395**
- Passcode: **370040**

To **view previous DMR Tech Net TV shows**, visit our YouTube channel

(<https://www.youtube.com/@DMRtechnetTV>) or website (<https://dmrtechnet.net/dmr-tech-net-tv/>).