

ELECTRONIC LOG EXCHANGE

At its meeting in Vienna 1998 the VHF/UHF/Microwaves Committee has recommended the use of the Electronic Contest Log distribution format for the exchange of log information concerning IARU Region 1 Contests. This recommendation has been endorsed by the IARU R1 EC at its 1998 meeting.

Participants to IARU Region 1 contests can still send their logs in a paper form. When using the digital format, the national VHF-manager is responsible for providing a list like outlined in Section IIIa, item D.

The aim of the common file format is to make contest log programmers able to deliver a standard output file from their programs, to enable contest managers to receive logs via data transfer system (e.g. diskettes, Internet) introduce electronic log processing and ease submission for participants.

The format does not specify when to use it. Generally speaking, the usage is up to the contest manager. Seen from a validation point of view it can be used for checking "big" stations only. From an easy-submission point of view it can be used to ease the submission among contest participants as an alternative to traditional mail. What media to use is not specified, and is up to the contest manager. If Internet is a reliable medium it is a good choice, however, that does not solve yet the legal issue with the responsible operators signature yet required for IARU Region 1 contests.

When a contest manager invites to a contest she/he should state if electronic log submission is possible, in what way (e.g. diskette, INTERNET) and where (managers E-mail address), just like own mailing address. Contest managers must have a validation program to make a complete validation including cross checking etc.

Contest participants can use the electronic data file format to submit their logs to the contest manager in time. To be able to do this, participants must use a contest program capable of generating a REG1TEST file.

The details are given in annex IIIh-a1

Note : Many logging programmes do not yet accept a non-numeric character for the T part of the report. Users shall check this according to the recommendation in section VI

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