

## FLDIGI & FLMSG setup instructions

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In order to utilize CSV files you will need Microsoft Excel or a similar application installed. I recommend LibreOffice if Excel is not already installed on your computer. LibreOffice and free open source software.

LibreOffice Download: <https://www.libreoffice.org/download/download/>

In order to run Fldigi you need to download and install the following programs.

Fldigi: <http://www.w1hkj.com/files/fldigi/>

Flmsg: <http://www.w1hkj.com/files/flmsg/>

**Once the programs are installed open FLDIGI and make the following changes.**

- a. If this is the first time you are opening FLDIGI a “FLDIGI configuration wizard” will appear. Please fill in the following information.
  - i. Operator Information – Fill in your Callsign, name, QTH, etc. and click “Next”
  - ii. Click the “Devices” tab. Select “PortAudio” and choose your Capture and Playback devices. This is typically your internal microphone and speakers. If you are using a Signalink select USB audio device.
  - iii. For Transceiver Control the default settings are fine. Click “Next”
  - iv. For Tabular data Sources the default settings are fine. Click “Finish”
- b. From the “Op Mode” pull down menu select “MT63” then select “MT63-2000L”.
- c. Click the “SQL” button in the lower right corner of the screen so it is yellow.
- d. From the Configure pull down menu select “Operating” and then “Active Modem”.
  - i. Select the MT-63 Tab.
  - ii. Uncheck “Allow manual tuning” (During an emergency you do not need to manually tune. Everyone should be running MT63-2000L with a center frequency of 1500.)

- iii. Select the “Misc” tab at the top and then select the “NBEMS” tab.
  1. Under NBEMS data file interface select “Enable” and “Open Message folder”.
  2. Under “Reception of flmsg files” both “Open with flmsg” and “Open in browser” should be checked. You should also make sure “Transfer direct to executing flmsg” is checked.
  3. Ensure the box next to “flmsg:” contains the current path to the FLMSG application. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** This will need to be changed each time you upgrade to the latest version of FLMSG. The current path is: **C:\Program Files (x86)\flmsg-4.0.5\flmsg.exe**
  4. Under the Sweet Spot tab change “RTTY” and “PSK et al” to 1500 and select “Always start new modems at these frequencies”.
  5. Click on the “WX” tab and enter “KPIT” for the METAR station ID code.
- iv. Select the “ID” tab at the top and select the “RslD” tab.
  1. Adjust the slider on the bottom left of the screen for the RXiD squelch to 1 seconds.
- v. Click “Save” and then click “Close”. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Be sure to click save each time you make a change to the configuration. If you do not hit save your changes will be lost whenever you exit out of FLDIGI.

**2. You are now ready to configure Flmsg. Open Flmsg and make the following changes.**

- a. The first time you open Flmsg it will ask you to select the Default User Interface. Always select “**Communicator / Expert**”
- b. Next the config window will open.
  - i. Enter your callsign, name, city, etc.
  - ii. Click on the Files tab.
    1. Select “Open folder when exporting”
    2. Uncheck “Serial #”
  - iii. Click on the ARQ tab.
    1. Uncheck “Enable ID/RxID” (Again this is for manual tuning. During an emergency you do not need to manual tune.)
    2. Select “Open Browser”
  - iv. Click the “X” to close the config window.

- c. Change mode to MT63-2KL.
  - d. Close Flmsg to save changes.
  - e. Re-open Flmsg to load your new settings.
- 3. Create a Weather Report Macro**
- a. Find an empty macro button.
  - b. Right Click on the empty macro button
  - c. Enter the Macro Text "<TX><WX><RX>"
  - d. Enter the Macro Button Label of "WX Report"
  - e. Click Apply
  - f. Click Close
  - g. Click the "WX Report" button to transmit the current weather report.
- 4. Online Training videos:**
- a. A 30 minute video by W4BGH (2014): <https://youtu.be/bN2QPZZkn4>
  - b. NBEMS – Fldigi Set Up & Configuration for New Users by K4REF (2017):  
<https://youtu.be/FKZapCXJdAw>
  - c. Flmsg Configuration & Operations by K4REF (2017):  
[https://youtu.be/r\\_hP\\_Nddu2A](https://youtu.be/r_hP_Nddu2A)

**Misc Setup Notes:**

- d. There are two ways to couple your computer with your radio. In this example we used acoustical coupling which is free. You can also purchase a Signal Link or RIGblaster to connect your radio directly to the computer.
- e. You may need to adjust your microphone levels if you are seeing a lot of yellow on your waterfall.
- f. If you get random characters on the screen for no reason at all make sure the SQL button in the lower right corner of the screen is yellow and adjust your squelch to a 1/8 to 1/4 of an inch up the scale.
- g. If you are having issues where you are receiving MT63 and you see input levels in the waterfall quickly drop this can be an anti-echo/DSP issue. Many of the newer computers have this built in for Voice over IP (VoIP) applications. To correct this you will need to go into the control panel and locate the application and disable it.