

Elecraft K X TALK v3.0

Virtual Radio's

Normally only one program can use a com port at a time so if K X Talk is being used to control your radio then other programs can't communicate with the radio. However there are other programs like ACLOG which would like to send commands to the radio, for example ACLOG can display DX cluster information, that is a list of stations heard on the bands and if you select one of the entries then it would like to send commands to the radio to go to the frequency and mode being used by the station in the list so that you can check whether you can hear that station and maybe make a contact.

To allow this to work K X Talk v3.0 allows a second program such as ACLog to connect to something called a virtual com port and K X Talk will relay the commands to the radio from the virtual com port , creating something called a virtual radio.

It's important to make sure that the program you want to use such as AC Log is working correctly when connected directly to the radio's com port before trying to use the program via K X Talk.

So to do this you need to set up one pair of virtual com ports which means you need to install the program com0com which is included in this package. Please do not try to use a newer version from the internet as we know it has some bugs and may not work. Com0com may ask you to install a version of Net Framework, this version must be installed or Com0com will not work. If you also use IC Talk then you have already installed com0com and do not need to re-install it. You just need to run the bat file setupcom30-31 which is in the IC Talk package rather than the one with FT Talk and the virtual radio will be set up and work with all the talk programs.

If you have just installed com0com then now you have a pair of virtual com ports they just have to be renamed to COM30 and COM31. You can do this by running the file setupcom30-31.bat which is in the K X Talk folder.

If when you run my program K X Talk you get the report virtual radio not found then com0com may not have been correctly installed or the automatic renaming with setupcom30-31 may not have worked and you may need to install com0com again or rename the ports manually. You can find out if com0com is correctly installed by running a program called setup g.exe which should be fully accessible with both NVDA and Narrator, it's important to use setup g and not setup c dot exe and change

the com port names from probably CNCA0 and CNCB0 to COM and the numbers you want to use I suggest 30 and 31 so COM30 and COM31 (Upper case), though you can use any pair of numbers normally not in use on your computer. You can find the program setup g dot exe by going to [c:\Program Files \(x86\)\com0com](c:\Program Files (x86)\com0com).

In the K X Talk config file set the VPORT1 parameter to the second of these port numbers so the parameter would be in this example VPORT1=31.

Now with K X Talk running you can start your second program such as ACLOG and in it's settings menu connect that program to virtual com port 30. The first of the two com ports which have been created. I recommend setting the speed in AC Log to the same speed as used with K X Talk or faster.

Now all of the commands coming from the second program (such as ACLog) on comport 30 will be passed to K X Talk via com port 31 and K X Talk will forward these commands to the radio allowing the second program to set things like frequency and mode etc.

Although K X Talk v3.0 may work together with other programs it has only been tested with AC Log.