

USER MANUAL — COMPLETE EDITION

◆ QSO Logger Pro

The next-generation amateur radio contact logger

CAT control, FT8/WSJT-X integration, QSL/eQSL management, advanced statistics, ADIF/CSV/JJSON export, Contest mode... Everything an operator needs, brought together in one modern application.

◆ CAT Control

◆ FT8 / WSJT-X

✉ eQSL

▲ Statistics

■ ADIF / CSV

⦿ Contest Mode

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01 ★ Overview

QSO Logger Pro is a desktop application designed by an amateur radio enthusiast, for amateur radio enthusiasts. It brings together in a single interface everything needed to manage day-to-day traffic: fast contact entry, direct transceiver control, FT8/FT4 integration with WSJT-X, QSL/eQSL card management, advanced statistics, and ADIF/CSV export.

BEST PRACTICE

Use QSO Logger Pro as your primary logbook: all your activations, contests, and eQSL exchanges can be centralized there.

★ Why QSO Logger Pro?

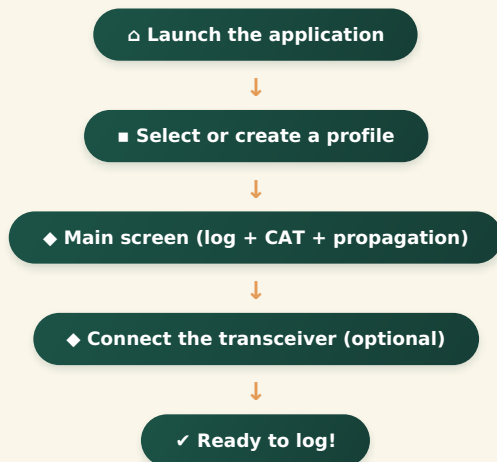
Strength	Description	Tip
◆ Native CAT	Direct transceiver control (frequency, mode, live S-meter)	Check the COM port before connecting
◆ FT8 / FT4	Automatic logging via WSJT-X (UDP)	Enable WSJT-X tracking before starting a session
✉ Integrated eQSL	Attach an eQSL image to each contact	Sort your eQSLs by callsign to find them quickly
▲ Statistics	DXCC, distance records, live solar indices	Enter your locator to enable distance calculation
■ 100% portable	ADIF / CSV / JSON export at any time	Save your log file regularly
Free	Developed and maintained by the community	The software will remain free — no paid features

TIP

The interface is 100% customizable: themes, display density, and zoom can all be adjusted in the ♦ Customization chapter.

02 Installation & Startup

QSO Logger Pro launches like any other Windows application. Here is the typical first-startup flow.



BEFORE YOU START

- ☐ Transceiver plugged in and powered on
- ☐ CAT cable (USB/serial) connected to the computer
- ☐ COM port identified (Windows Device Manager)
- ☐ Antenna connected and tuned
- ☐ Correct system time (UTC calculated automatically)
- ☐ An operator profile created (callsign + name)

■ Profile Management

On first launch, a welcome window offers to select an existing profile or create a new one (callsign + name). Each profile keeps its own callsign and Maidenhead locator, used for distance calculations in the statistics.

RECOMMENDATION

If several operators share the same station (club, family), create one profile per callsign: each log then stays distinct and consistent.

03 ♦ CAT Control

CAT control lets QSO Logger Pro communicate directly with your transceiver: real-time frequency and mode reading, S-meter display, and much more.

♦ Compatible Transceivers

Brand / Model	Protocol	Status
Yaesu FT-710 AESS	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FT-991 / FT-991A	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FTDX-10	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FTDX-101D / 101MP	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FTDX-3000	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FTDX-1200	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FT-950 / FT-2000	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported
Yaesu FT-891	Yaesu CAT (ASCII)	✓ Supported

CAT CONNECTION STEPS

- ☐ Open the left side panel (≡ icon)
- ☐ Select the transceiver model from the list
- ☐ Choose the serial port (or leave on "Auto")
- ☐ Check the recommended speed (baud rate) for your model
- ☐ Click "Connect"
- ☐ Verify the status changes from "Offline" to "Online"

WARNING

Only one piece of software can use the CAT port at a time. Close WSJT-X or any other control software before connecting QSO Logger Pro, or use CAT port sharing if available.

▲ S-Meter & Display

The analog S-meter is available in several visual styles, selectable in settings: Morse, LED, Constellation, or Liquid Gauge.

? WHY ISN'T CAT WORKING?

Cause: The serial port is already in use by another program, or the wrong port/speed is selected.

Solution: Close other software using the COM port, check the speed (baud rate) in the transceiver manual, then reconnect from the CAT panel.

Tip: If failures persist on Windows, unplug/replug the USB cable to force port reassignment.

04 ♦ FT8 / WSJT-X Configuration

QSO Logger Pro connects to WSJT-X over the local network (UDP) to automatically log every FT8/FT4 contact made, with frequency and mode synchronized live.

WSJT-X CONFIGURATION

- ☐ Reduce transmit power before switching to digital mode
- ☐ Launch WSJT-X and select your transceiver in its settings
- ☐ Go to WSJT-X → Settings → Reporting
- ☐ Enable and configure UDP port 2237
- ☐ In QSO Logger Pro, turn on the "♦ WSJT-X: ON" switch
- ☐ Confirm a confirmation message appears on the first auto-logged QSO

IMPORTANT

A warning screen recalls the procedure and the need to reduce transmit power in digital mode (FT8/FT4). Digital modes require a clean signal: do not exceed 25 to 50% of the power normally used in phone.

WSJT-X Setting	Recommended Value
UDP Reporting Port	2237
Mode	FT8 or FT4
Power	Reduced (25-50%)
Split Operation	"None" recommended (avoids shifting the transmit VFO)

TIP

For non-standard callsigns (CB/11 m band), use an adapted community variant of WSJT-X (WSJT-CB). Automatic sequencing (Auto Seq) can fail if both stations use non-standard callsigns at the same time — disable it if needed.

05 ♦ QSO Log

The heart of the application: a fast entry bar and a complete history, editable at any time.



🔧 Entry Fields

Field	Description
Callsign	Callsign of the contacted station (automatic capitalization)
Operator	Name or callsign of the operator at the keyboard (hidden in digital mode)
Locator	Maidenhead grid (visible in digital mode, useful for distances)
Date / UTC Time	Automatic timestamp or manual entry
Frequency / Mode	Automatic CAT tracking or manual entry
RST sent / received	Exchanged readability report
Notes	Free-form remarks about the contact

BEST PRACTICE

Enable "Auto UTC" and "Auto CAT": date, time, frequency, and mode fill in automatically, which reduces entry errors.

○ History & Search

The history can be sorted by column (callsign, country, date, frequency, mode...) and filtered via the search bar. Multiple selection allows several contacts to be deleted in one click.

TROUBLESHOOTING

A contact entered incorrectly? Click the 🐞 icon in the "Actions" column to open the dedicated edit form and correct any field.

06 Contest Mode

A dedicated mode for contests, adding the fields needed to count exchanges (sent / received number).

Function	Description	Tip
Automatic Tx No.	Sequential counter that increments with each QSO	The counter persists between sessions
Rx No.	Number received from the contacted station	Always verify before validating
Dedicated columns	Shown in the history only if data exists	Makes exporting to contest software easier
Smart hiding	Fields hidden in digital / AM / FM mode	Prevents entry errors outside phone/CW

RECOMMENDATION

Enable Contest Mode before the contest begins so the Tx No. counter starts at 001.

07 QSL & eQSL

Track the precise status of your QSL and eQSL cards, contact by contact.

Function	Description
QSL Tx / Rx tracking	Independent checkbox for QSL sent and QSL received
"QSL pending" table	Dedicated view with numeric indicators and filters
eQSL image import	Attach an image to a contact, with preview
Progress bars	Visualize the rate of QSLs sent/received

HANDLING A RECEIVED EQSL

- ☐ Open the corresponding contact in the history
- ☐ Click "☐ Import an eQSL"
- ☐ Select the image received by email or downloaded
- ☐ Check "QSL Rx" once the image is attached

INFORMATION

eQSL cards can be sent via an external service (e.g. rcqsl.com); QSO Logger Pro handles tracking and filing, not the sending itself.

08 ▲ Statistics & Propagation

Real-time indicators to track your activity and propagation conditions.

Indicator	Description
Total QSOs	Total number of contacts logged
DXCC	Number of different countries worked
DX Record	Longest distance, calculated from your locator
SFI / K-index / X-Ray	Live solar indices
Band strip	Opening status by band (160 m → 2 m, including 11 m CB)
Dual clock	Local time and UTC displayed simultaneously

TIP

Click directly on a band tile in the propagation strip to set the transceiver to that band, without going through the menu.

Record your QSOs live (receive audio + microphone) to replay or archive them.

SETTING UP AUDIO RECORDING

- ☐ Open Settings (⚙)
- ☐ Select the "Receive" input (line connected to the radio)
- ☐ Select the "Microphone" input
- ☐ Test each input with the "⚙ Test this input" button
- ☐ Verify the level meter moves when speaking / making noise

WARNING

Check local regulations before broadcasting or publishing a recording containing another operator's voice without their consent.

Each recording can be named manually when saved, then found, played back, or deleted from the "🎵 Recordings" library.

The ADIF format, an industry standard, allows you to exchange your data with other software and services (eQSL, LoTW, clubs...).

Format	Use	Tip
.adi (ADIF)	Native log backup format	Compatible with almost all radio software
.json	Alternative structured backup	Useful for automated processing or backups
.adi (quick export)	One-click ADIF export	Ideal for quickly sending to a club or contest
.csv (quick export)	One-click spreadsheet export	Handy for analyzing your log in Excel/LibreOffice

IMPORTING AN EXISTING LOG

- ☐ "↓ Import" menu
- ☐ Select a .adi/.adif or .csv file (format detected automatically)
- ☐ Check the number of contacts imported
- ☐ Duplicates are automatically detected and skipped

IMPORTANT

Save your log file regularly (■ Save) and keep an external copy (USB drive, cloud). A lost log cannot be reconstructed.

11 ✨ Customization & Macros

The interface adapts to your visual preferences and your way of working.

Theme	Mood
Ivory Petrol	Default theme, sober and professional
Kraft Vintage	Retro postcard / QSL mood
Sand & Azure	Light palette, blue tones
Soft Lavender	Soft palette, purple tones
Honey & Amber	Warm palette, golden tones
Fresh Mint	Cool palette, green tones

AVAILABLE DISPLAY SETTINGS

- ☐ "Comfort" or "Compact" density
- ☐ Adjustable global zoom (– / + buttons)
- ☐ Collapsible panels: CAT/statistics, propagation, macros
- ☐ S-meter style: Morse, LED, Constellation, Liquid Gauge

⚙️ VFO / CAT Macros

The macro bar lets you quickly switch between VFO A/B, swap A↔B, enable Split, or trigger custom messages/frequencies.

12 Settings

Setting	Location	Description
Callsign & locator	⚙ Settings → My radio profile	Used for identification and distance calculations
Audio inputs	⚙ Settings → Audio inputs	Microphone / receive line selection for recording
CAT port & speed	Left side panel	Serial link configuration with the transceiver
Visual theme	Top bar	Change color palette in one click
Updates	Automatic	Check and download offered at startup

13 Troubleshooting

? THE APPLICATION DOESN'T DETECT MY TRANSCEIVER

Cause: The USB-serial driver isn't installed, or another program is already using the port.

Solution: Install the manufacturer driver (e.g. FTDI/CP210x), close other CAT software, then relaunch QSO Logger Pro.

? WSJT-X DOESN'T LOG ANYTHING AUTOMATICALLY

Cause: The reporting UDP port isn't configured, or WSJT-X tracking isn't enabled in QSO Logger Pro.

Solution: Check port 2237 in WSJT-X → Settings → Reporting, then enable "◆ WSJT-X: ON" in the side panel.

? EQSLs AREN'T DISPLAYING

Cause: The image wasn't properly attached to the contact, or the file format isn't supported.

Solution: Re-import the image from the contact's record (JPG/PNG formats recommended).

? THE CONTEST COUNTER ISN'T INCREMENTING

Cause: Contest Mode isn't enabled, or the active radio mode (digital/AM/FM) is deliberately hiding the field.

Solution: Enable "► Contest Mode" and check that you're in USB/LSB/CW.

QUICK TROUBLESHOOTING

In case of a general application freeze: close and relaunch the software, check that the log file isn't open in another program, then reconnect CAT.

**TIP**

Use Contest Mode even outside official contests to precisely count exchanges during a special activation.

TIP

Always fill in your Maidenhead locator: this is what enables automatic calculation of your DX distance record.

RECOMMENDATION

Export your log to CSV once a month to keep a usable record in a spreadsheet, in addition to the ADIF backup.

BEST PRACTICE

Before a long FT8 session, first test a QSO in phone to validate your CAT connection, then switch to digital mode.

15 Common Errors

Error	Likely Cause	Solution
COM port not found	Cable unplugged or driver missing	Check the cable and reinstall the USB-serial driver
Frequency frozen on screen	CAT sync lost	Disconnect/reconnect CAT from the side panel
Duplicate QSO after import	File already partially imported	Duplicates are normally filtered automatically; check the date/time of the contacts
eQSL missing after reinstall	Image folder not backed up	Always include the eQSL folder in your backups
Tx/Rx numbers missing on export	Contest Mode disabled during entry	Enable Contest Mode before logging contest contacts

Term	Definition
CAT	Computer Aided Transceiver — protocol for computer control of the transceiver
ADIF	Amateur Data Interchange Format — standard format for exchanging amateur radio logs
QSL	Card confirming a radio contact
eQSL	Electronic (image) version of the QSL card
DXCC	List of entities/countries recognized for DX operating
VFO	Variable Frequency Oscillator (A or B)
Split	Mode where transmit and receive use two different frequencies
Locator (Maidenhead)	Geographic location code used in amateur radio
RST	Signal Report (Readability / Strength / Tone)
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time, the standard time reference in radio
SFI	Solar Flux Index — solar activity index linked to propagation

17 ? General FAQ

? IS QSO LOGGER PRO REALLY FREE?

Cause: The software is developed and maintained by an amateur radio enthusiast for the community.

Solution: Yes, it is free and will remain so. No feature is locked behind a payment.

? CAN I USE SEVERAL PROFILES ON THE SAME COMPUTER?

Cause: Each operator can have their own callsign, locator, and log.

Solution: Yes, create one profile per operator from the welcome screen.

? IS MY DATA SENT OVER THE INTERNET?

Cause: A version check is performed at startup.

Solution: Only the callsign and version number are transmitted for update tracking; the contact log stays local on your computer.

? HOW DO I MIGRATE MY OLD LOG TO QSO LOGGER PRO?

Cause: Most radio software exports to ADIF or CSV.

Solution: Export your old log to .adi or .csv, then use "↓ Import" in QSO Logger Pro.