Packet Radio Overview

Cupertino Citizen Corp

2 October 2014 (Revised)
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Outpost Packet Message Manager

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

What is Outpost?

- A Windows-based packet messaging client that hides the complexity of the packet world

- Supports ARES/RACES teams meet the needs of their local served agencies to pass digital message traffic

- Automates and manages all message handling between you and the BBS

- Lets you read, delete, create, reply to, or forward messages back to the BBS

- SCCo Packet Installer is available from County web site
  http://www.scc-ares-races.org/packet.html

- General purpose version is available from Outpost web site
  http://www.outpostpm.org/

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Why Outpost?

- **Leverages the existing packet hardware, network, and BBS infrastructure**
  - Uses your existing TNC and packet radio equipment
  - Compatible with many existing BBSs and TNC PBBSs
  - Only your packet client (end-user program) changes
- **Hides the complexity of the packet operating environment**
  - Similar look and feel to contemporary email programs
  - Shorter learning curve for packet operations
  - Allows users to… "*focus on the message, not the medium*"
- **Implements most local emergency management policies for digital communications**

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Feature highlights

- **Message support**
  - Private, NTS, and Bulletin messages
  - Text formatting in a free-form message window
  - NTS Message Maker with an ARL message wizard
  - On-line report builder
- **Send/Receive Session (connection) control**
  - Serial, AGWPE, and Telnet interfacing with over 20 PBBS and BBSs
  - Controls connecting, sending messages to and retrieving messages from the BBS
- **Configurations and Setups**
  - BBS, TNC, and Interface configurations
  - message type and retrieval options
  - supports 3 ways for automatically initiating send/receive sessions

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Message support

- Familiar email-app look & feel
- Separate folders for message storage
- Clear message identification (unread=**BOLD**, urgent=**Red**)
- Formal message workflow
- BBS and interface setups
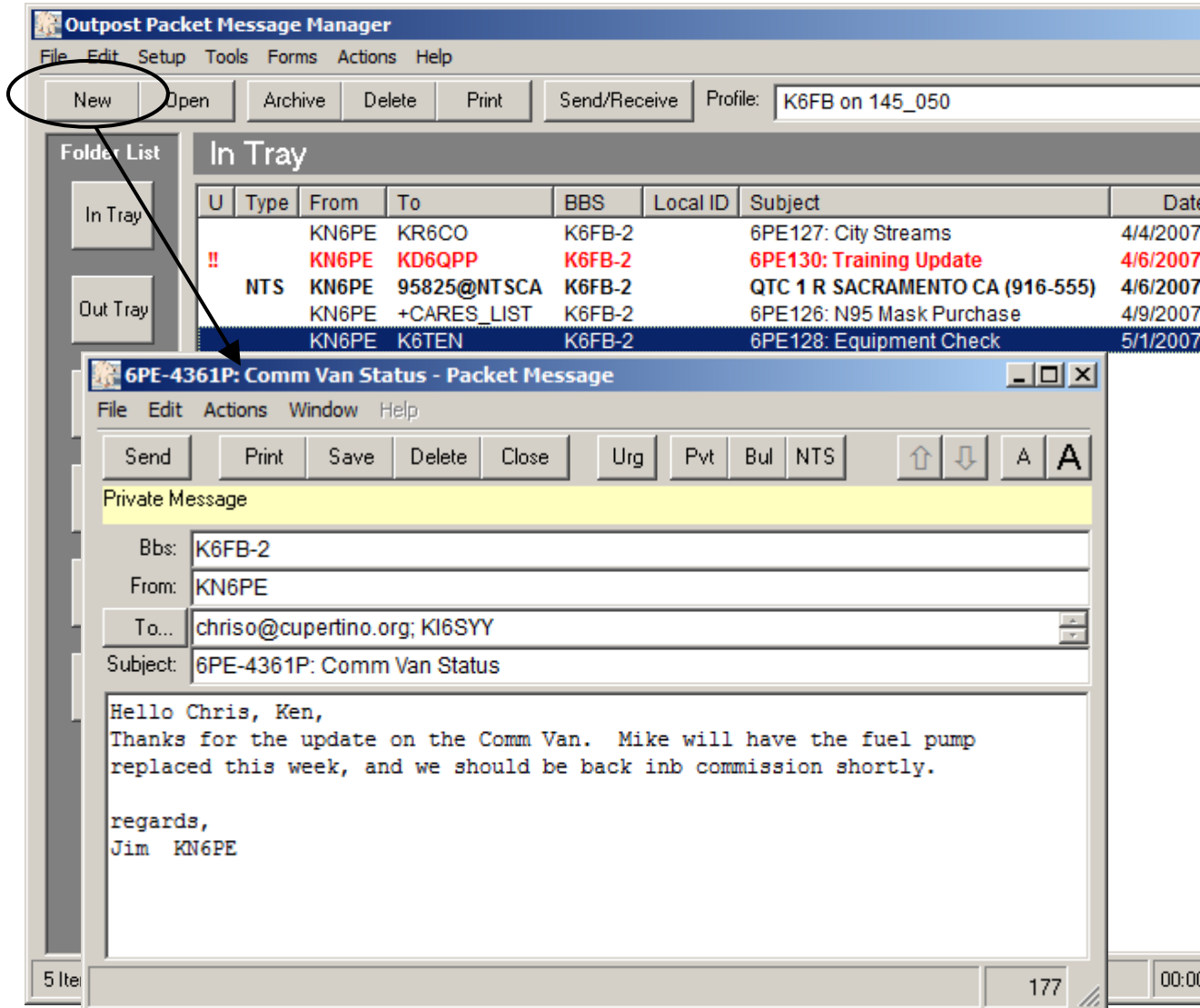- Additional settings control how Outpost behaves
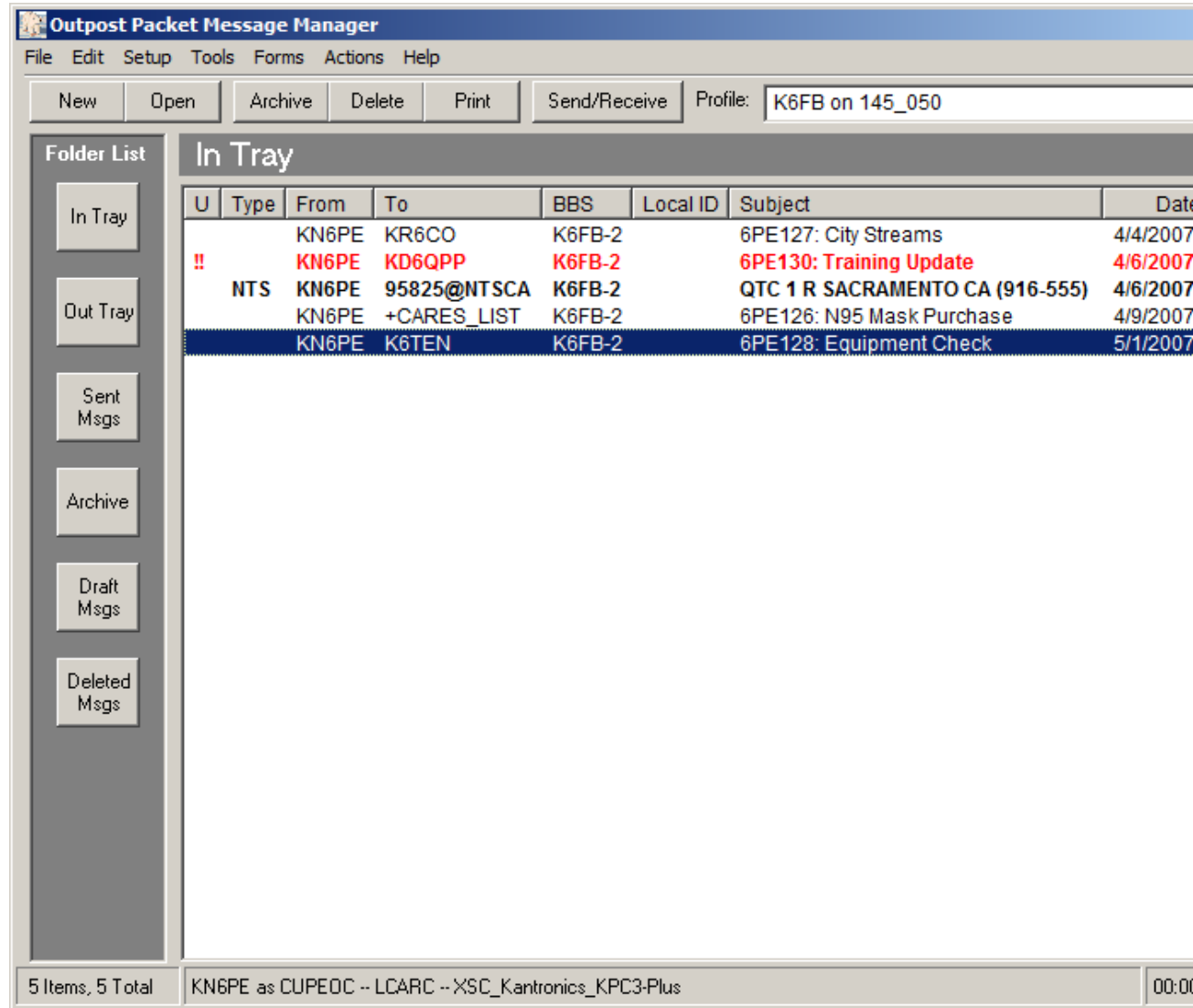
Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Creating Messages

- Supports Private, Bulletin, and NTS message types

- Message formatting before sending

- Set messages to **Urg**ent

- Request delivery or read receipts

- Different ways for originating messages:

  - Freeform
  - Ics213mm
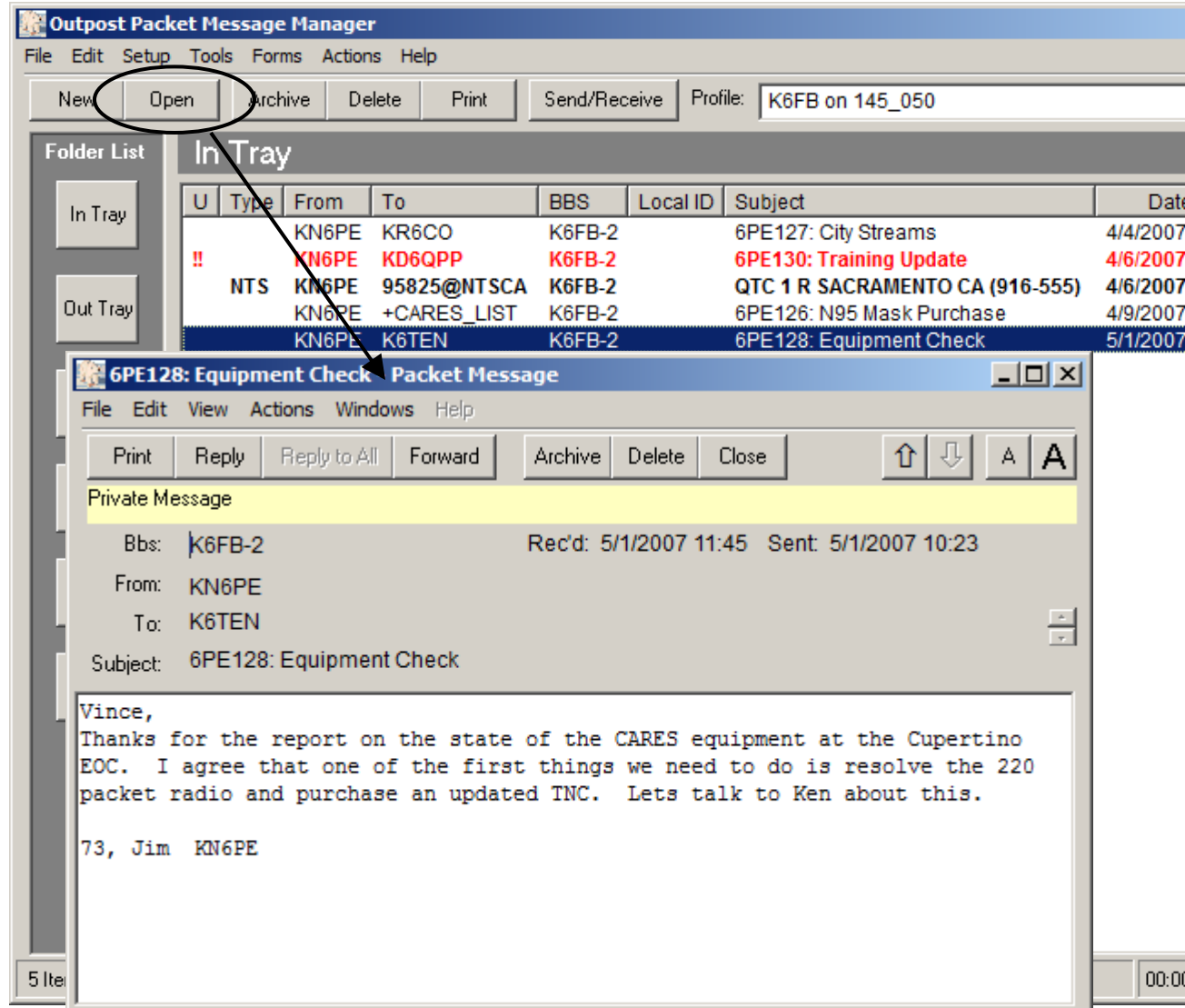 - NTS Message Maker
  - PacFORMS
  - On-line reports

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Viewing messages

- Supports viewing, printing, deleting or saving a message to a local file

- Reply and Forward message formatting

Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Managing Setups

- Sets up a TNC or I/O device, includes

    - Serial / Comm Port
    - AGWPE (for KISS devices)
    - Telnet

- Sets up a BBS definition

- Sets up the station identification.
  This section also enters telnet and Winlink account and password data.

- Sets up address book entries

- Manages Profiles – specific configurations of settings

- Runs the PC Time Check Program
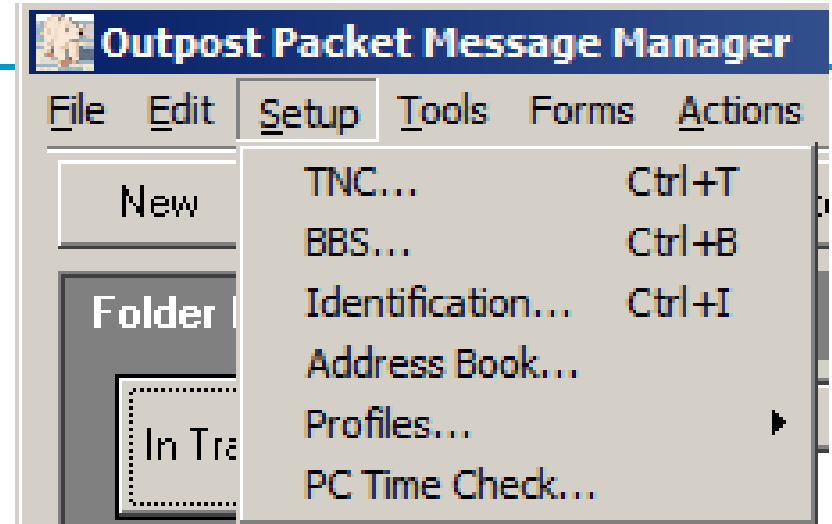
Overview
Outpost Packet Message Manager

Program controls

- Controls the flow of Send/Receive Sessions

- Sets how messages are created and handled

- Set various data fields to automatically populate on-line reports and messages

- Set up default directory names

- Various log settings

- Outpost Scripting

- Form sizing controls

- Separate Interactive Packet Windows for…

  - Ipserial.exe – Serial TNCs

  - Ipagwpe.exe – AGWPE
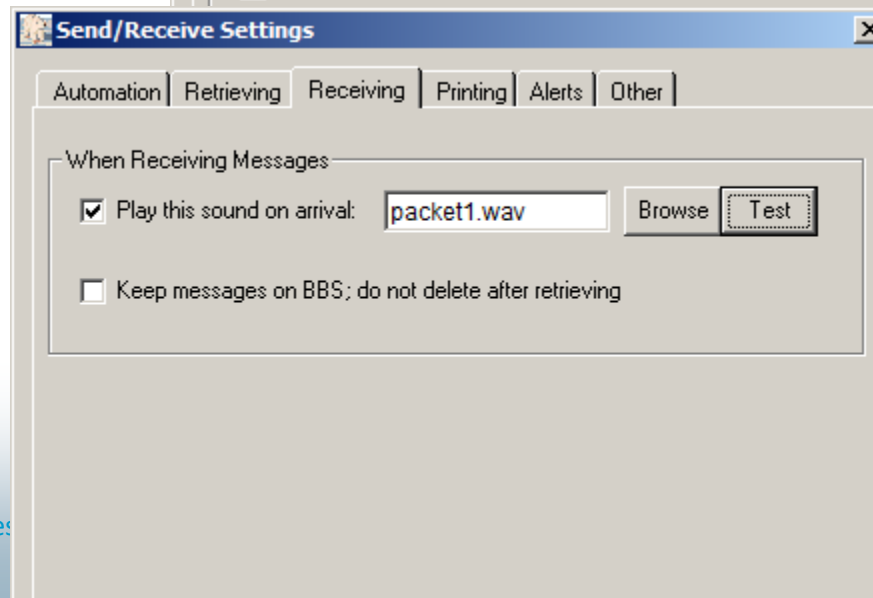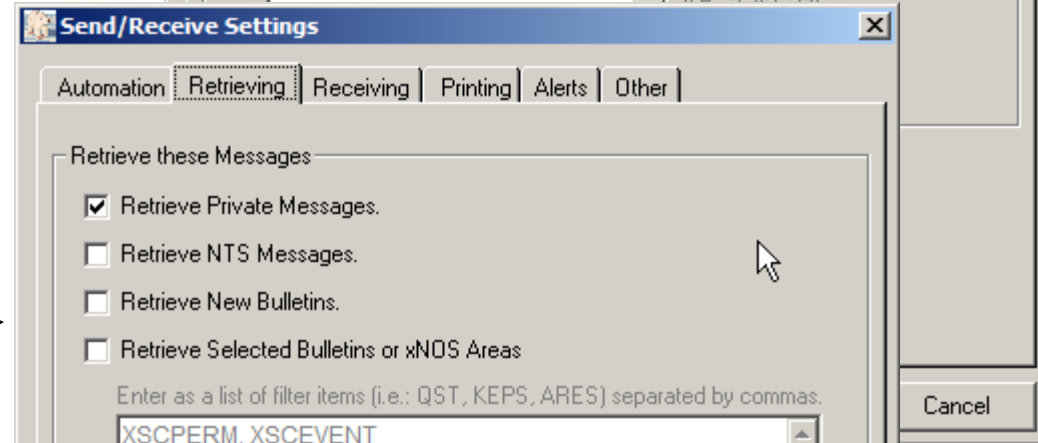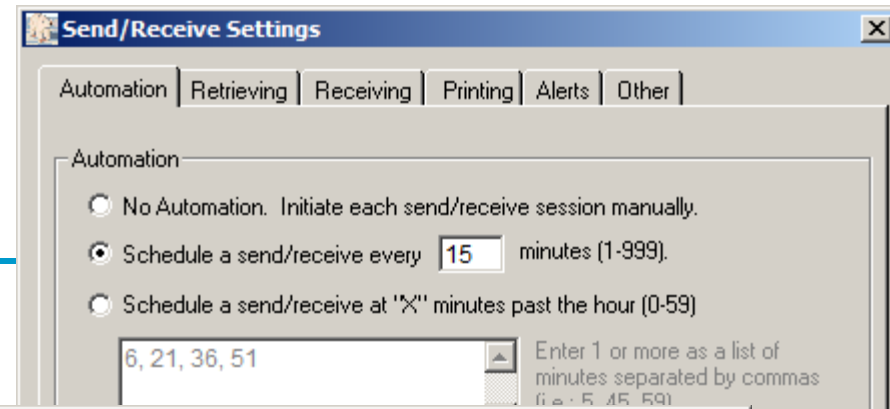
  - Iptelnet.exe – Telnet
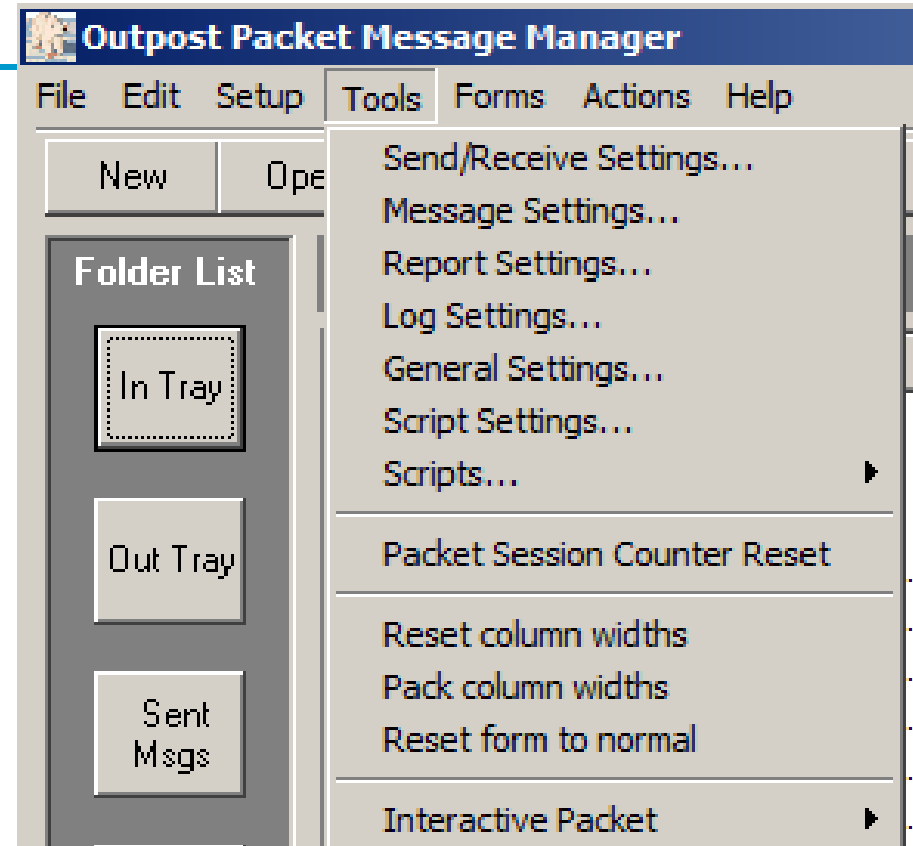
Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Send/Receive Settings

- Selects different ways to automate the message send/retrieve sessions

- Select which message types are to be retrieved

- What to do when receiving messages

- Additional controls to manage printing, Alerts, and program settings

Overview
Outpost Packet Message Manager

Message Settings

- Settings for new messages, includes
  - Default destinations
  - Auto message numbering
  - Add a Signature

- Handling Message Numbering

- Set defaults for message receipts

- Other Setting for deleting messages and setting up for PacFORMS & Ics213mm
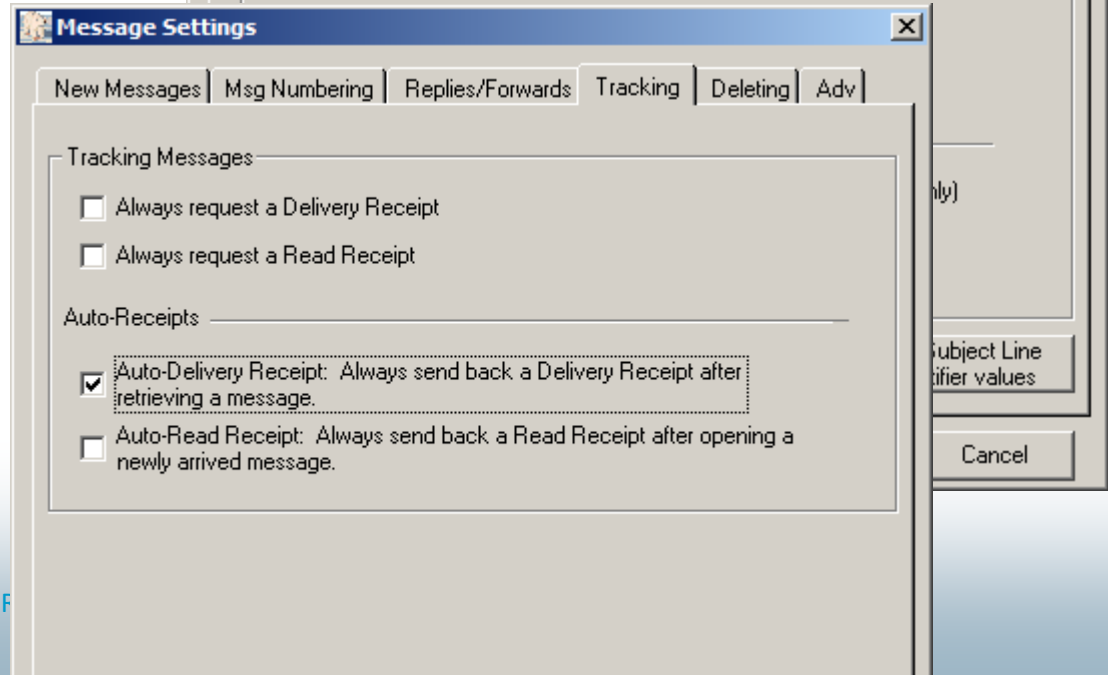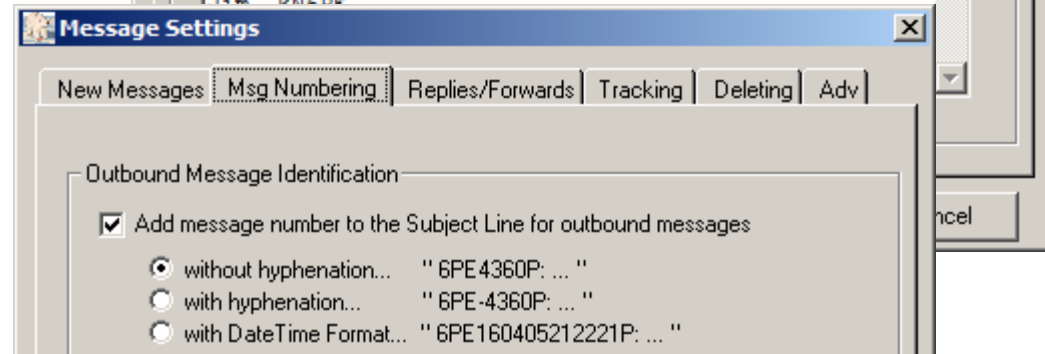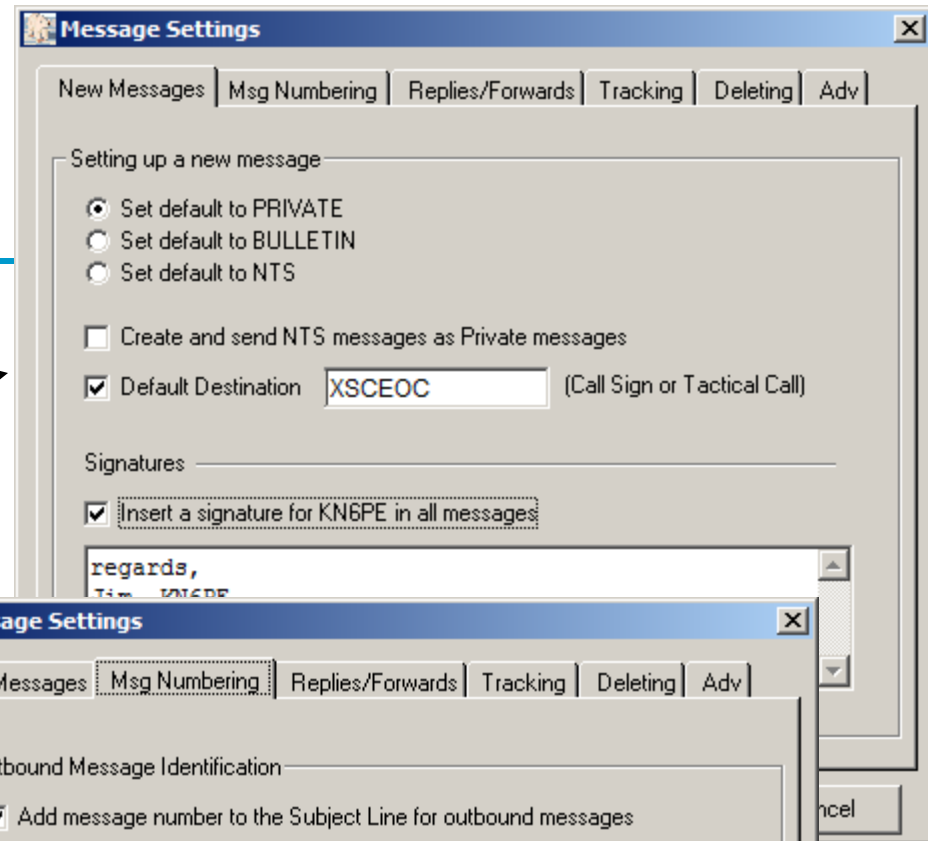
Overview

Outpost Packet Message Manager

Reports and Forms

- Produces an ICS309 Communications Log

- Launches and populates specific fields in SCC RACES PacFORMS (this list varies depending on the install version).

- Supports a generic ICS213 message form

Outpost Packet Message Manager

File   Edit   Setup   Tools   Forms   Actions   Help

New   Open

ICS 309 Communications Log

XSC ICS-213 Message Form
XSC EOC Logistics Request
XSC City Scan/Flash Report
XSC City Mutual Aid Request

MHOC Beds Status Form
MHOC Medical Facility Status
MHOC Resource Request

Generic ICS-213 Message Form

Folder List

In Tray

Out Tray
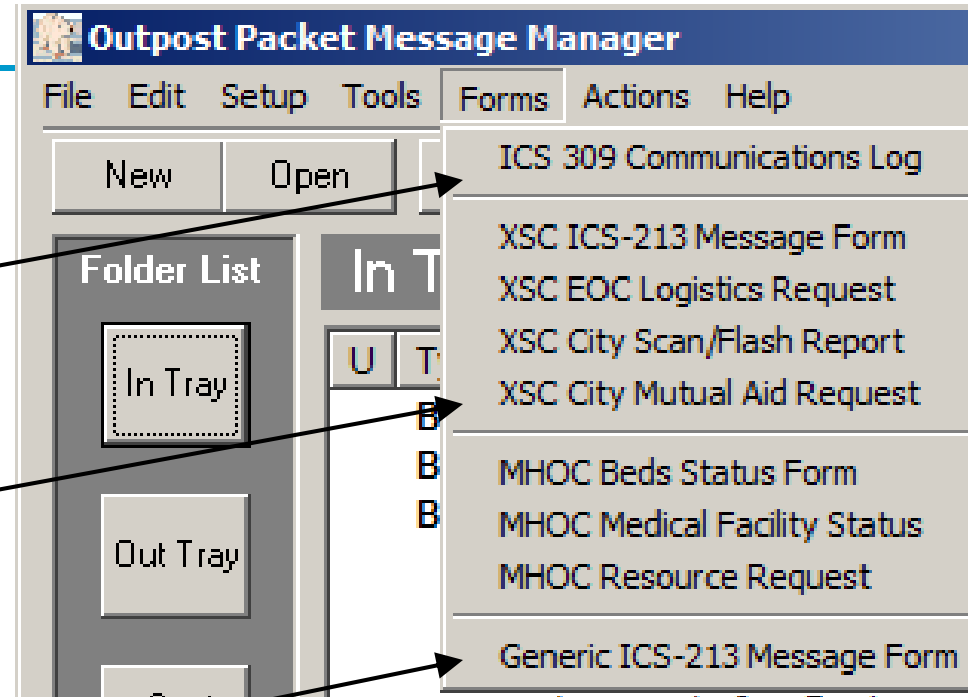
Packet in Cupertino

How are we deploying packet?

1. Operate in the EOC for EOC-to-County message handling

2. Operate at the ARKs for ARK-to-City EOC message handling

3. Leverage the County's Packet infrastructure (BBSs)

4. Continue to align to the state's message hierarchy protocol

5. Continue to define the message requirements and develop message templates for ARK-to-EOC (structured) message handling.

Aligning Packet in California

Logical information flow…

State OES…

Three state regions…

Counties…

Local Level towns and cities

FEMA

CA State OES

Coastal Region   Inland Region   Southern Region

Op Area/SCC   **. . .**   Op Area/SMC   Op Area/Napa

CBL   CUP   **. . .**   LGT   MTV   SJC
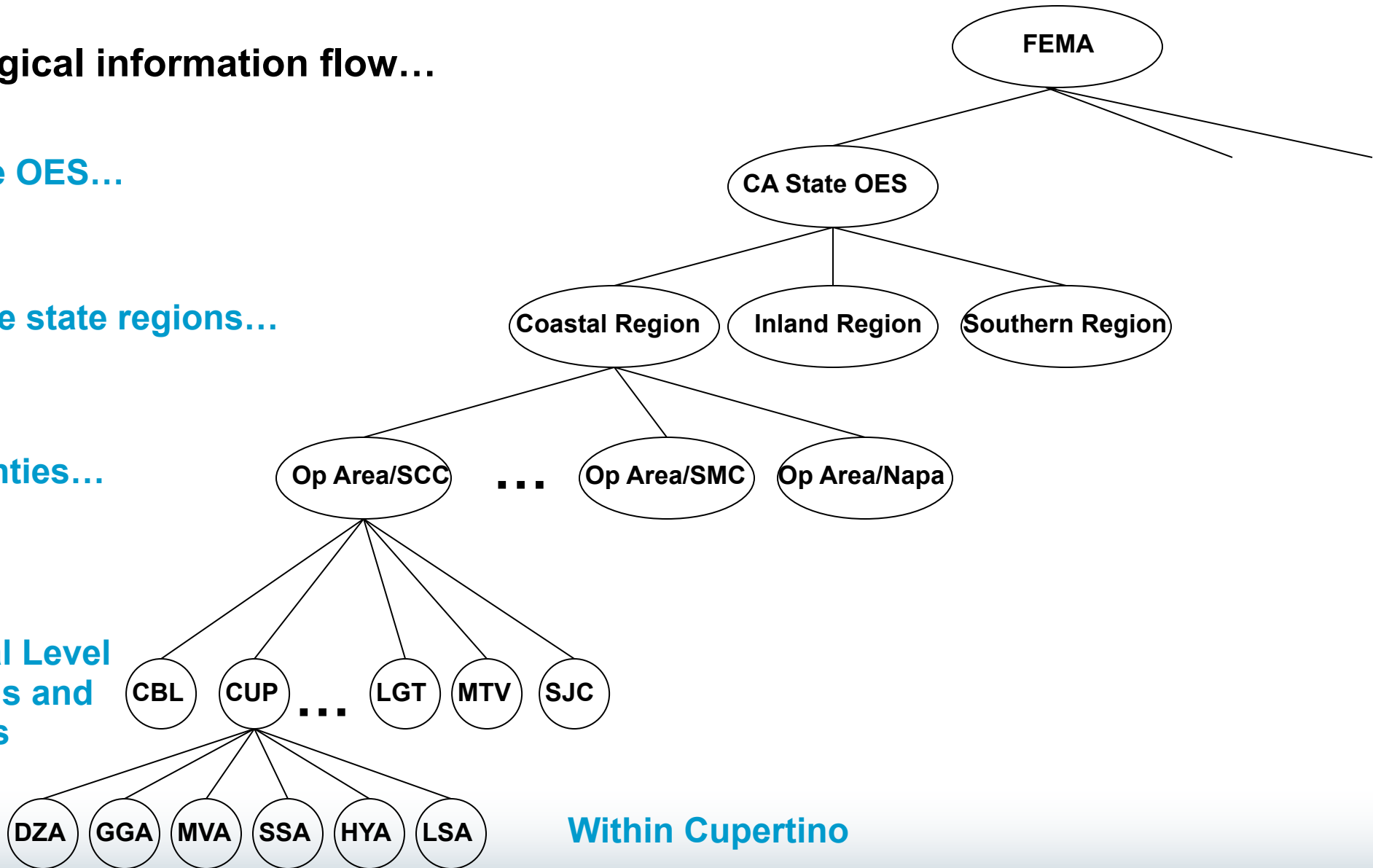
DZA   GGA   MVA   SSA   HYA   LSA   **Within Cupertino**

Addressing a message

The message we want to send from the ARK to the City's Ops Chief

From: Seven Springs Ops
To: Cupertino Ops
Subj: Ark Staffing Summary

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Signed,
Dave Miller Ops Chief

Addressing a message

We want to "embed" our message below into a packet message with additional addressing information
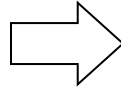
➡️
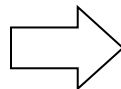
BBS: W1XSC-1
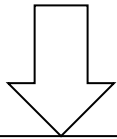**From:** CUPSSA
To: CUPEOC
Subj: SSA134: Ark Staffing Summary

From: Seven Springs Ops
To: Cupertino Ops
Subj: Ark Staffing Summary

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Signed,
Dave Miller Ops Chief

From: Seven Springs Ops
To: Cupertino Ops
Subj: Ark Staffing Summary

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Signed,
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Cupertino Packet Addresses
Tactical Calls

Arks
- CUPDZA   DeAnza College Ark
- CUPGGA   Garden Gate Ark
- CUPHYA   Hyde Middle School Ark
- CUPLSA   Larsen School Ark

- CUPMVA   Monta Vista Ark
- CUPSSA   Seven Springs Ark
- CUPSCA   Stevens Canyon Ark
- CUPMBA   Montebello Ridge Ark

Public Safety
- CUPCSO   County Sheriffs station, west side
- XSCF71   Cupertino Fire
- XSCF72   Seven Springs Fire
- XSCF77   Monta Vista Fire

Services
- CUPMED   Cupertino Medical Center
- CUPSAN   Cupertino Sanitary District
- SJWEOC   San Jose Water in Cupertino

City Facilities
- CUPBBF   Blackberry Farm (OES)
- CUPCRE   Creekside Park
- CUPCCY   Cupertino Corp Yard
- **CUPEOC   Cupertino EOC**
- CUPJOL   Jollyman Park
- CUPMEM   Memorial Park
- CUPOPS   Field Operations
- CUPPOR   Portal Park
- CUPQLN   Quinlan Center Shelter
- CUPWVS   West Valley Service Center

SPARE Addresses
- CUP001
- CUP002
  :
- CUP009

Addressing in Cupertino

Anatomy of a message
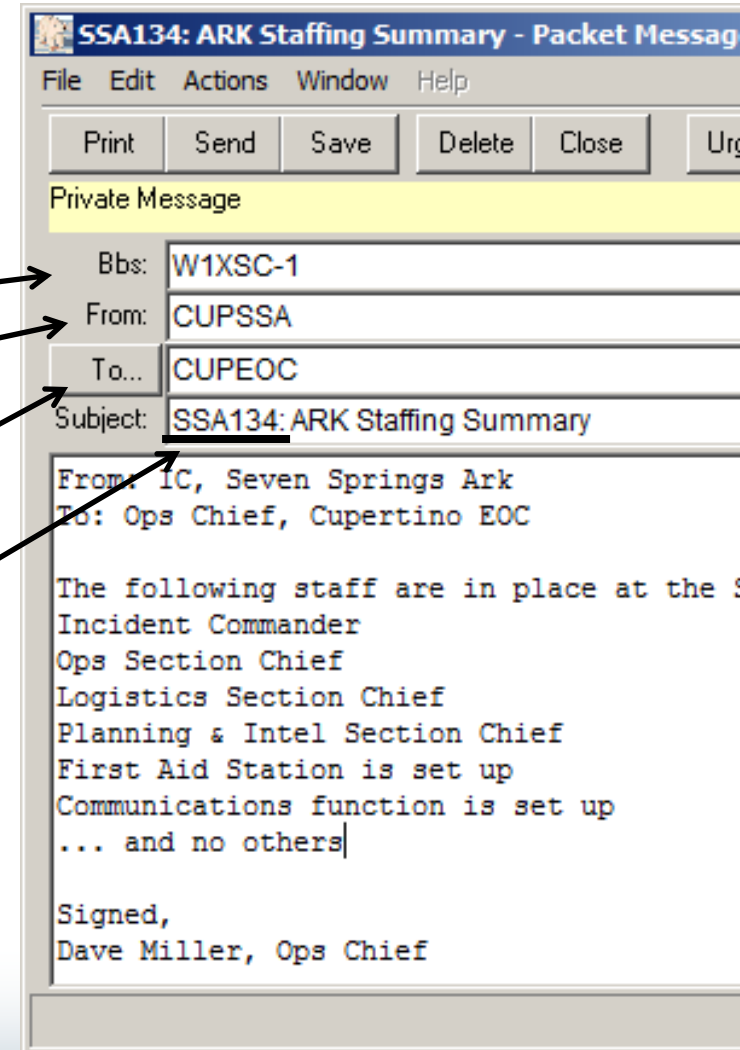
1. Packet Address header

The packet header gets the message to the correct Packet Station

BBS: the "Store and Forward" mail drop where this message will be sent. **Automatically filled in**

From: Tactical Call of your packet station.
        Automatically filled in.

To: Defaults to the destination station set up in Outpost. This can be changed.

Subject: The Message ID is **automatically added** to the subject line.

SSA134: ARK Staffing Summary - Packet Message

File   Edit   Actions   Window   Help

Print   Send   Save   Delete   Close   Urg

Private Message

Bbs: W1XSC-1
From: CUPSSA
To...   CUPEOC
Subject: SSA134: ARK Staffing Summary

From: IC, Seven Springs Ark
To: Ops Chief, Cupertino EOC

The following staff are in place at the S
Incident Commander
Ops Section Chief
Logistics Section Chief
Planning & Intel Section Chief
First Aid Station is set up
Communications function is set up
... and no others

Signed,
Dave Miller, Ops Chief

Anatomy of a message

2. Recipient Address and Message

Once the message gets to the destination Packet Station, address the message to the right person.

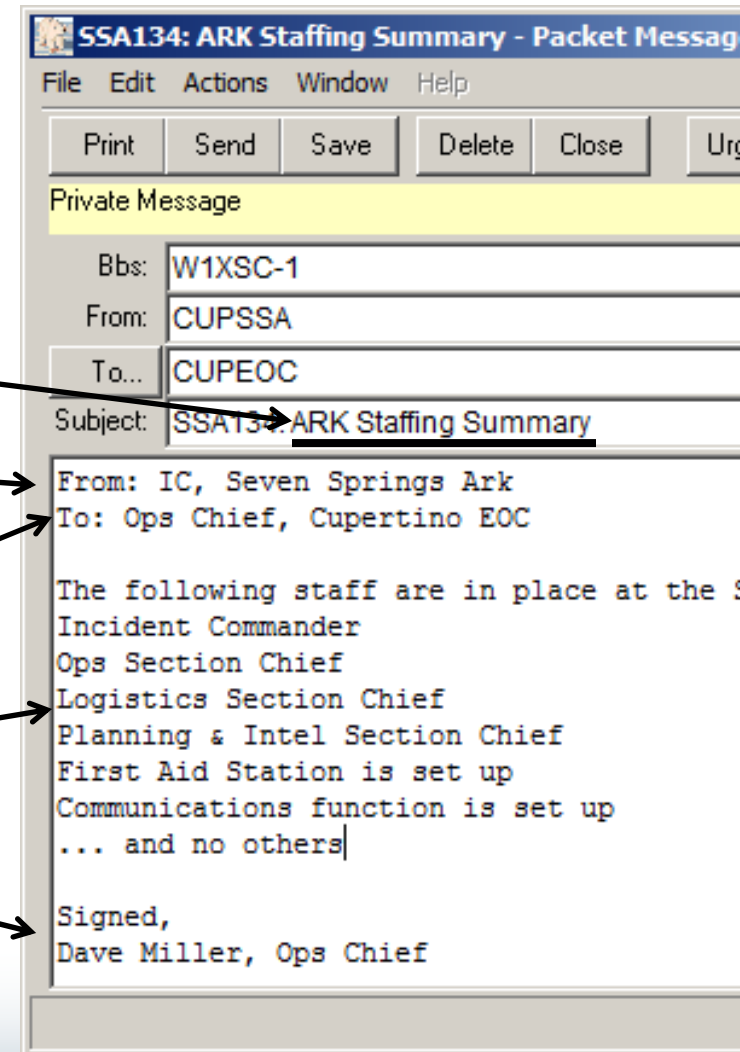**Subject** – Fill in the rest of the subject line

Message Body
From: Who is this message from? ICS position or function

To: Exactly to whom do you want this message to go?   ICS position or function

The Message: Will in the details of the message.

Signature: Put who the message is from

```
SSA134: ARK Staffing Summary - Packet Message
File   Edit   Actions   Window   Help

Print    Send    Save    Delete    Close    Ur

Private Message

Bbs:   W1XSC-1
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Packet Radio Users Guide

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05.2014
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Cupertino ARES/RACES

Hands on exercise

Thank you

Any Questions?