ECHOLINK

EchoLink is software which allows Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using voice-over-IP (VoIP) technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between radios, from computer to radio, or from computer to computer, and can be operated by amateurs with an entry level license class. The program runs on Microsoft™ Windows® 95 or above. It is offered as freeware and may be downloaded. EchoLink is a full-featured software package with many important and useful features.

There are 3 different types of EchoLink stations:
1. A P.C. user – someone who is logged onto the server from his or her home computer.
2. A link or repeater – a computer that is hooked to a radio.
3. A conference server – a computer hooked to the server and handles more that one station at a time.

Entering Node Numbers: Enter the 4 or 5 digit node number. If the specified node is not among the stations currently logged on, EchoLink will say "NOT FOUND". After it says "connected" wait a few seconds before transmitting; there might be a QSO in progress. Also, when you un-key to give it back to the other station there is a delay (this is the time it takes for the other station to finish hearing the last few words of your QSO). Every now and then the internet becomes overloaded and it takes longer and may even drop some of words. Not all stations sound alike; some are, loud, weak, too much bass, too much treble, and so on. And one other thing, YOU are a representative of this community, so try to be a good one! There are many foreign stations on EchoLink; some can speak fluent English and some cannot, and not all stations have a understanding of southern slang. The bottom line is, be polite; if you can't understand them then say so, and speak slowly.

To make a call via radio, dial these DTMF codes:
Enter a 4 or 5 digit node number to connect to the desired node.
00 Random Node connection: Selects an available node (of any type) at random.
01 Random Link connection: Selects an available link or repeater (-L or -R) at random.
02 Random Conference connection: Selects an available conference server at random.
03 Random User connection: Selects an available single-user station at random.
08 Status: Announces the callsign of each station currently connected.
09 Reconnect: Reconnects to the station that most recently disconnected.
*   Play Info: Plays a brief ID message.
#   Disconnect: Disconnects from the station that is currently connected.
Node 9999: Test server which will record your sound and play it back.

Miscellaneous
All calls are checked by the server and sysops.
All Countries that the U.S. is currently at war with or not on friendly terms are barred from the system. The system will time out if you get too long winded. Also, please give the system time to respond, and do not hang up a random connection because you do not want to talk to whomever you connected to. If an Emergency or a Disaster should occur the responding agencies may want to use the EchoLink system to pass traffic. At any time they need to use a repeater or EchoLink they have top priority.

For more information on EchoLink go to: http://www.echolink.org

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