CommStat Ver 1.0

CommStat Help Topics

Scope of JS8Forms & Commstat

The idea was to create a JS8Call add on software tool that supports a 100% decentralized group communication platform (JS8Call) to allow instantaneous ad hoc networks over the air to be created in real time based on nothing more than a group name. The forms, the mapping, the marquees broadcast and flash broadcasts are essentially just features that add value to the network .

The name CommStat was an afterthought, it was originally called JS8Forms but the functionality evolved to something more. CommStat is just a short version of "Communicating Status".

The scope for JS8Forms / CommStat was to simply add some form capability to JS8Call by creating a form for users to use to send a status update (STATREP) and a way to automatically decode the form data on the other end. So end to end forms could be used much like FLDigi or Winlink. Grid / Internet down capability has been first and foremost in developing ComStat, once you have loaded the mapping for the first time while connected to the internet, it will operate without internet and still provide full functionality.

As many projects do, JS8Forms suffered from "scope creep" where I and other team members kept coming up with additional features and concepts. This is where CommStat comes in, we went from forms to aggregating incoming data into useful tables and creating methods of redundancy, mapping and more. This essentially led to the final scope which is a much higher level than where it started.

The concepts and software were a collaboration of several members of different groups :
*   AMRRON (American Radio Redoubt Operators Network) https://amrron.com/
*   PrepperNet   https://preppernet.com/
*   MPURN (Michigan Patriot Unified Radio Network) https://mpurn.wordpress.com/
*   The author Dan Hurd W5DMH

Commstat Support

CommStat is supported the same way it was built, by a community.

The CommStat Support Community is located at :
https://groups.io/g/CommStat/

Please do a search for your issue or question before posting in the group, often there have been others before you with the same question and or issue.

CommStat is still in its infancy and may continue to evolve, however CommStat does not like the internet so as it evolves and new updates are released, the new updates will simply be announced on the CommStat Support Group.

JS8 Email

- JS8 EMail
  - Currently JS8 EMail simply formats and transmits an email message via JS8Call that is processed by APRSIS when it is gated into the APRS system. This is somewhat unreliable as a gating enabled JS8Call station must hear your message and gate it for you.
  - Possible future state : CommStat will gate the message for you directly to the internet without using APRS, however this gating will have to be done by another member in your group that is running the CommStat software.
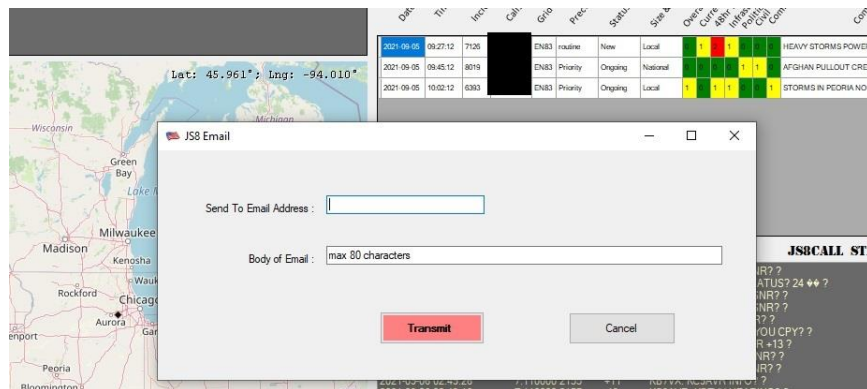
Time Callsign JS8Call MSG Type   APRS Email Server   Email Address   Email Body   JS8Call FEC & End Char

09:45:37 - (2150) - W5DMH: @APRSIS CMD :EMAIL-2 :SOMEBODY@SOMEWHERE.COM HERE IS THE CONTENTS OF THE EMAIL BODY {03} ZBR ◊
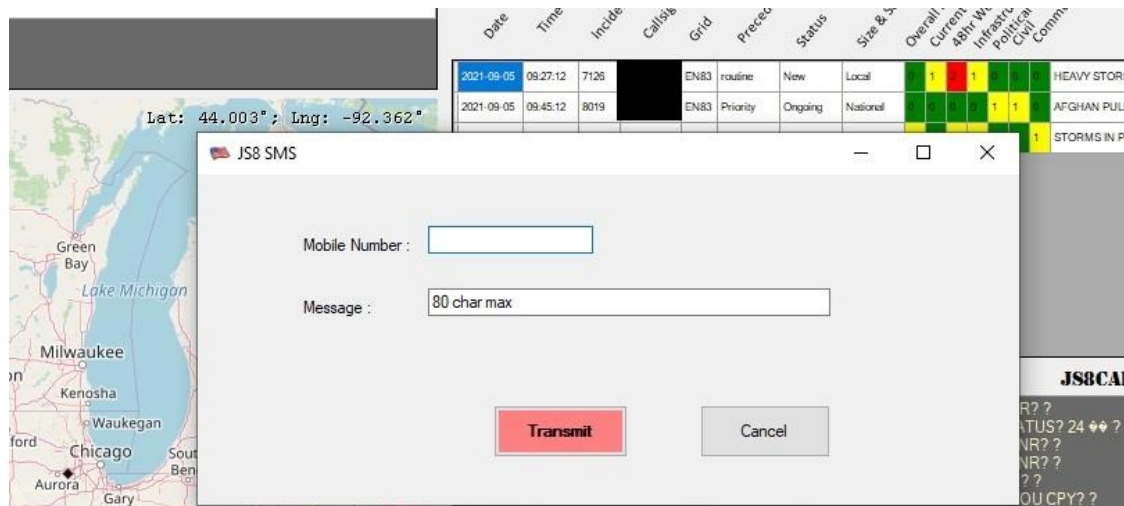
                JS8Call Offset   CommStat Type Identifier

JS8 SMS

- JS8 SMS
  - Currently JS8 EMail simply formats and transmits an SMS message via JS8Call that is processed by APRSIS when it is gated into the APRS system. This is somewhat unreliable as a gating enabled JS8Call station must hear your message and gate it for you. For your station to gate messages you will need to turn on the reporting function in JS8Call

Time   JS8Call OffSet   Callsign   JS8Call MSG Type   Cell Number   Text Message   CommStat Identifier   JS8Call FEC End Character

10:22:48 - (2151) - W5DMH: @APRSIS CMD :SMSGTE :@321-123-9819 TESTING TEXT MESSAGE CAPABILITY{04} TPL ◊

STATREP

- CommStat STATREP
  - The form below can be populated and it will automatically generate a unique incident code and apply your callsign and grid to the report. This is transmitted as a string with numeric characters representing each of the selections in the form.
  - On the receiving end, the STATREP is reported in the STATREP window with colors representing the numbers received for each of the STATREP selections.

CommStat_StatRep_V1.6

(Use to report general conditions at a specified location or region based on personal or reliable sources. This form is not to report and "Event/Situation".

1. To: *(Recipient)*	2. From: *(Sender)*	3. Message Priority:
4. StatRep ID:		5. My Grid:
6. My Status:	7. Commercial Power:	8. Public Water:
9. Medical:	10. Over Air Comms:	11. Travel Conditions:
12. Internet:	13. Fuel:	14. Food:
15. Criminal Activity:	16. Civil:	17. Political:
18. Brief "Necessary" clarifying remarks:		

End of Report

Revised 20210914 PRW

Incoming STATREP

- CommStat STATREP
  - This is transmitted as a string with numeric characters representing each of the selections in the form.
  - On the receiving end, the STATREP is reported in the STATREP window with colors representing the numbers received for each of the STATREP selections.
  - The receive functions are on a 60 second refresh cycle so updates are not necessarily instantaneous

A typical string looks like this with callsign, group, grid, precedence, incident id number, sitrep status codes, message and message type identifier

JS8Call Offset

CommStat message type identifier

KD81B3: @GROUP ,EN83,1,8019,3333333333333,AFGHAN PULLOUT CREATES A DESTABILIZED TALIBAN GOV,{&%} ?

Incoming StatReps   JS8Call Status :

Date Time UTC	Callsign	Grid	Priority	Status	Power	Water	Medical	Comms	Travel	Internet	Fuel	Food	Crime	Civil	Political	Remarks
2021-09-17 02:04:27	N4SOI/	FM06	Routine													TEST TEST TEST
2021-09-16 22:50:23	W5DMH	EN83	Priority													*EXERCISE* SENT WITH PRIORTY THIS TIME

Priority column numeric designations are :

1 =Routine
2 = Priority
3 = Immediate
4 = Flash

All other numeric designations are as follows :

1 = Green
2 = Yellow
3 = Red

STATREP Ackknowledgement

- CommStat STATREP Ack
  - The form below will automatically list the incoming (and your outbound) StatReps
  - By double clicking on any callsign it will be added to the "Text to transmitted" box
  - This allows for an NCS to send multiple acks in a single message to the group after requesting StatReps from the group
  - The NCS could send a Bulletin request for STATREP's and then wait 15 min for incoming SR's and then send the Ack for the SR's received

Incoming Data

INCOMING JS8CALL DATA			**JS8CALL API STATUS :**	🟢
2021-08-18 10:09:18	7.078000 1046	+10	K3CLR: @ALLCALL CQ K3CLR: @ALLCALL CQ CQ CQ FM18 ?	
2021-08-18 10:04:13	7.078000 1046	-04	VK3YV: WE4SEL HEARTBEAT SNR -04 ?	
2021-08-18 10:02:58	7.078000 550	-15	KU1UYG/BHR: @HB HEARTBEAT	
2021-08-18 10:02:58	7.078000 1046	-10	KU1U: @HB HEARTBEAT ?	
2021-08-18 10:01:28	7.078000 1046	+03	VE4SS: KC1ETT HEARTBEAT SNR -17 ?	
2021-08-18 09:59:28	7.078000 1046	-08	VK3YV: VK2LI HEARTBEAT SNR -12 ?	
2021-08-18 09:56:55	7.078000 1046	-20	VK2XOR: @HB HEARTBEAT ?	
2021-08-18 09:54:59	7.078000 1046	-21	OO6VIH: 5E8R S HEARING? 6 ?	
2021-08-18 09:53:55	7.078000 1046	-15	KD6XU: @HB HEARTBEAT ?	
2021-08-18 09:53:42	7.078000 1046	+07	WS3H: N0GQ HEARTBEAT SNR +00 ?	
2021-08-18 09:46:42	7.078000 1046	-17	W8APP: @HB HEARTBEAT ?	
2021-08-18 09:42:58	7.078000 1046	-17	N0GQ: @HB HEARTBEAT ?	
2021-08-18 09:41:13	7.078000 1046	-03	VK3YV: DV2SXB HEARTBEAT SNR -15 ?	
2021-08-18 09:35:13	7.078000 1046	-10	VK4XJB: DV2SXB HEARTBEAT SNR -08 ?	
2021-08-18 09:35:13	7.078000 1046	-17	VK2YMI: VK2XOR HEARTBEAT SNR -09 ?	
2021-08-18 09:35:13	7.078000 1046	-03	VK3YV: VK2XOR HEARTBEAT SNR +16 ?	
2021-08-18 09:32:42	7.078000 1046	-07	VE4WSC: KD6XU HEARTBEAT SNR -19 ?	
2021-08-18 09:32:42	7.078000 1046	-04	VE4SS: KD6XU HEARTBEAT SNR -14 ?	

- INCOMING REPORT
  - This table automatically populates with received Directed Messages, these messages are all directed messages even though they may not be directed to you or your group. This is updated once a minute and maintains the last 1000 lines from the JS8Call DIRECTED.TXT FILE.

NET Check In

- NET Check In
  - This feature allows you to check in to a group NET and the NCS running CommStat automatically records your check in and adds your callsign to a group ACK sent after the check in time window . The expectation is that the NCS can receive multiple check ins at the same time (overlapping freq notwithstanding) for the first 10 min of the NET, then the NCS can send a group ACK out to the members that have checked in.
  - You can choose to add traffic to the check in or leave it with the NOTRFC message
  - Note : You cannot check into your own station
  - Note : Multiple check ins from the same callsign will simply update the timestamp of a single record.

Time   JS8Call OffSet Callsign   Group   Traffic   CommStat Identifier End Character

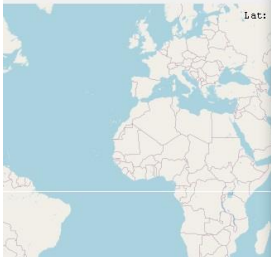10:44:33 - (2151) - W5DMH: @YOURGR ,NOTRFC,{~%} ◊

Member List

- Member List
  - CommStat uses the DIRECTED.TXT file generated by JS8Call and will take group members callsigns, grids and last time heard from that list and add them to the members list so you can quickly see who the members are.
  - Members are only listed if they are using the @GroupName in JS8Call

NET Roster
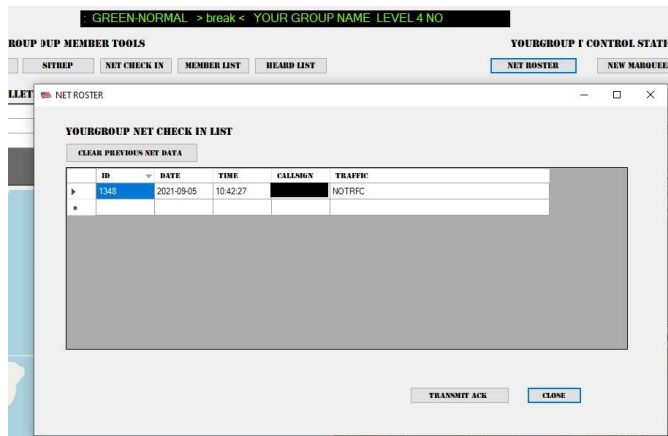
- NET Roster
  - This feature will capture NET Check ins for adding to a NET report but more importantly it will include a "Group Ack" button, so during a NET for the first 10 min the NCS can listen to multiple incoming signals and not worry about missing any while sending acks….at the 15 min mark the NCS can send a "Group Ack" that has a list of the callsigns that checked in.
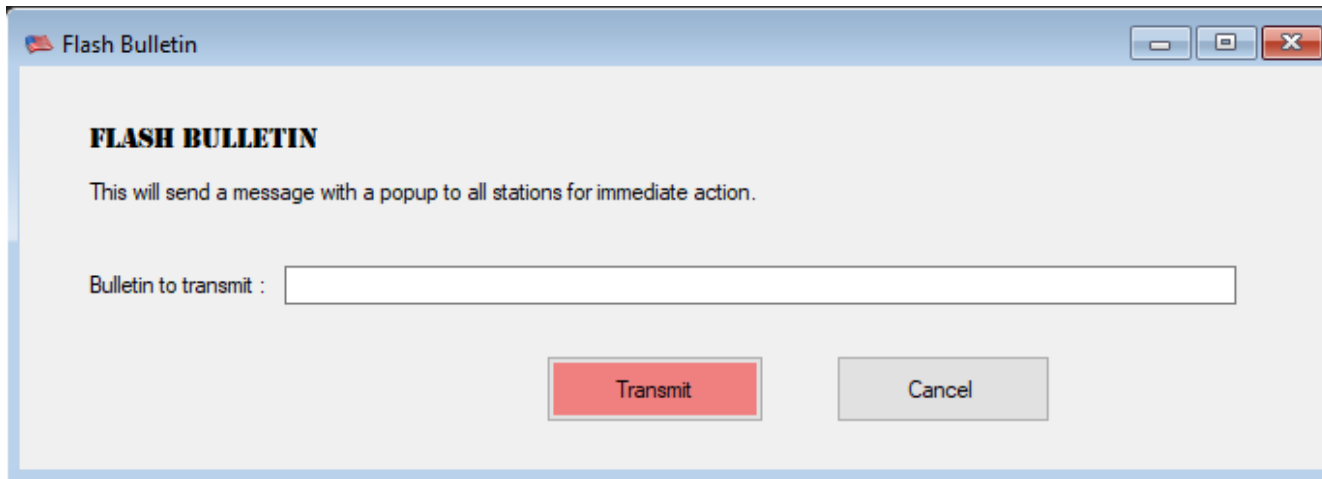
Marquee
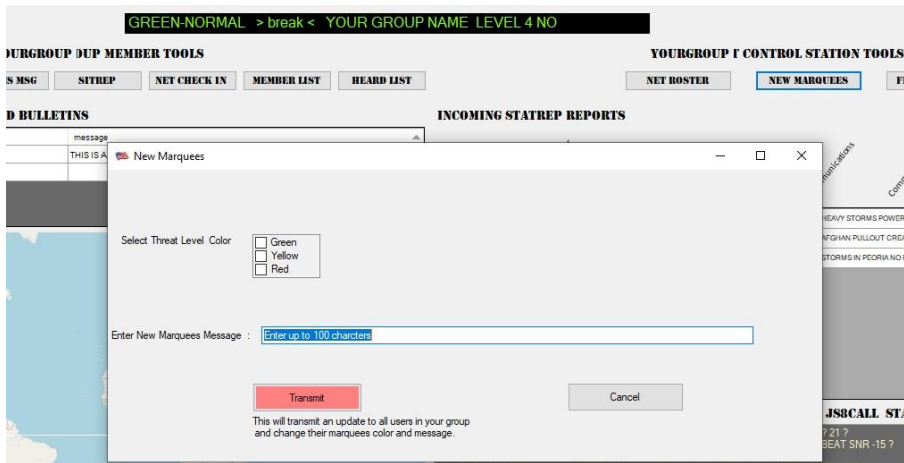
- **New Marquee**
  - This feature will allow NCS stations to transmit a new message and color for the top of the CommStat scrolling marquees.
  - Any group station that hears the message will automatically update the color and message of their marquee.

Time	JS8Call Offset	Callsign	Group	CommStatID	Color	Message	CommStat Identifier	End Character

10:50:03 - (2151) - W5DMH: @YOURGR ,8612,0, NO IMMEDIATE THREATS,{*%} ◊

Numeric designations are as follows :   1 = Green
                                         2 = Yellow
                                         3 = Red

Flash Bulletin

- Flash Bulletin
  - This will allow an NCS Station to send a flash bulletin to all group stations that will cause a popup to stay popped up until the user closes it.
  - Possible future state : include a capability to request any bulletin from any group station. You would "QUERY BULLETINS" from any station and the software at the other station would send the last 3 bulletin numbers and your software would tell you that you are missing one and you could request the bulletin number from the other station.

Time JS8Call Offset Callsign Group JS8Call Type ID CommStat ID   Message   CommStat Identifier   JS8Call FEC   End Character

10:56:03 - (2151) - W5DMH: @GROUP MSG ,6226,*EXERCISE* THIS IS JUST A BULLETIN TEST,{^%} A3L ◊

Mapping
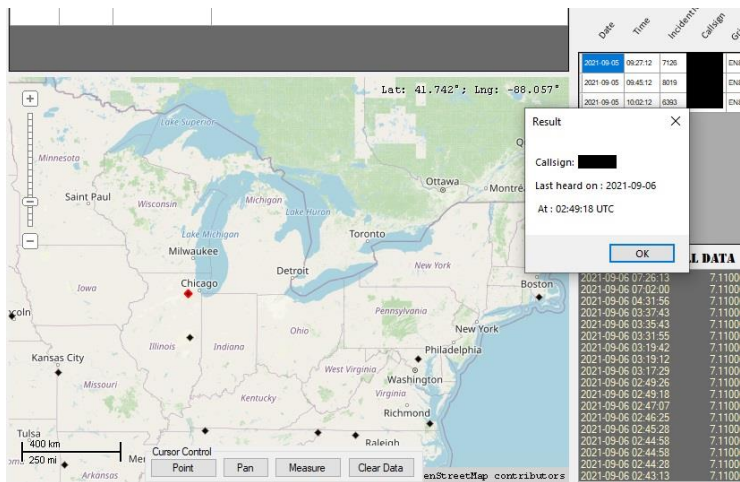
- Mapping
  - The map will auto populate with group members that have been heard using any type of directed transmission.
  - Mapping is not limited to members, this is so you can see stations you might want to relay through.
  - Mapping does work offline but you need to use it online for the tiles to be downloaded. Then you will have some mapping functionality when using it offline.