DX FT8 Wei Cheng, AG6AQ Experimental Firmware

Wei after receiving his DX FT8 kit began to experiment with opensource DX FT8 firmware.

He kindly added SOTA/POTA and various free text CQ calling capability to DX FT8.

We can't thank enough Wei for his contributions to DX FT8 official release firmware.

Am including Wei's latest experimental firmware here in this directory. Uploading it is like official DX FT8 firmware upload.

I encourage you to try and explore his version of firmware. You will find it most interesting with it's features.

Here is Wei's github for his firmware and his firmware's user elements.

https://github.com/wcheng95/DXFT8_AG6AQ/releases/tag/AlternativeFreq

Here is Wei's firmware notes:

Choose alternative frequencies from SD card using Band +/-

Compared to the official v1.9.4, this firmware has one major difference:

It needs an underscore for CQ EU(e.g. "CQ_EU AG6AQ CM97"), no underscore is required for v1.9.4

and 7 new features:

(1) Two log files to log all received messages and QSO messages for later review

(2) Click the right side, callsigns of successful QSO will be listed for users'

reference, those callsigns will be saved as "QSOCalls.txt" for preloading

(3) An option to SkipGrid and reply with a signal report instead of Grid

(4) If the reply station keeps sending "R-RPT"(or RRR/RR73 if SkipGrid is off), click this message will schedule an additional RR73(or 73 if SkipGrid is off)
Caution: users need to review the .adi file to remove duplicate entries.

(5) Can initiate a CQ even when the band is quiet (may need to sync from a different band first)

(6) Can load FT8 carrier frequencies from SD card (use Band +/-)

(7) When a FreeText is selected, Becn will alternate between CQ and Free Text. To send CQ only, un-select all Free Texts; to send Free Text only, click CQ button next to Rx/Tx"(it will become "Free")

Here is an example to deal with repeating R-RPT in Becn mode, the idea is to quit becn mode and finish it in QSO mode.

[09/05/25 05:21:30][40m] CQ AG6AQ CM97 -3 1659   **<<= In Becn Mode**
[09/05/25 05:23:00][40m] K7YY AG6AQ +00 -5 1656
[09/05/25 05:23:15][40m] AG6AQ K7YY R-17 3 1656
[09/05/25 05:23:30][40m] K7YY AG6AQ RR73 -2 **1865 <<= 1st RR73 Sent**
[09/05/25 05:23:45][40m] AG6AQ K7YY R-17 -4 1653 **<<= change to QSO mode(with SkipGrid Enabled), click this message to schedule 2nd RR73**
[09/05/25 05:24:15][40m] AG6AQ K7YY R-17 -5 1656
[09/05/25 05:24:30][40m] K7YY AG6AQ RR73 -5 **1931 <<= 2nd RR73 Sent (also changed frequency)**
[09/05/25 05:24:45][40m] AG6AQ K7YY 73 1 1653