



2015

Aries Wings Radio Quick Installation Guide



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Aries Radio, quick installation guide

Aries Wings Radio comes with a small installation program. It manages all installation steps internally. It is ensured hereby, that the configuration of DCS World and TeamSpeak is left untouched. The only modifications are:

- an additional Folder in DCS world and an additional entry in EXPORT.LUA.
- the new version adds a new node in the registry as:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\AriesWings. If Aries Radio is uninstalled any when, you may delete the AriesWings node with all sub nodes. To inspect the registry, use regedit.exe from the command line (**not regedit32.exe**).
- **Use extreme caution when manipulating the registry. It could harm your operating system!**
- For TeamSpeak, an additional folder is created and a DLL is copied to the 'plugins' folder.

This installation guide is applicable for Aries Radio Version 1.976, Apr 2nd, 2015.

Some prerequisites have to be ensured for the installation:

Prerequisites

To use one of the radio communication application the following prerequisites must be ensured:

Computer

- Operating System Windows 7 or higher, **64 bit**. Windows XP 64 bit may be sufficient, but was not tested.
- Direct X 9.0 installed (comes normally with DCS World)

TeamSpeak

- TeamSpeak , Version 3.0.14 or newer, **64 bit** installed on the same computer. Earlier versions will fail because of an internal TS3 API version number.
- TeamSpeak should reside in its standard installation directory.
- **TeamSpeak must run with Administrator rights.**

DCS Applications

- For Aries Airborne Radio, DCS World , **64 bit** Version 1.2.3 or newer installed on the same Computer..
- DCS World should reside in its standard installation directory.



Before the installation

If you upgrade from an older version:

To maintain your configuration settings, the file `DCS World\AriesWingsAriesAirborneRadio.ini` should be saved. After the installation it can be copied back to its old location.

You must **uninstall the current version** before you install the new one.

If the uninstall fails, use the repair function in the uninstall menu and try the uninstall again.

Windows Installer

The installation program Setup.exe has to be started in the same folder where the installation package was unzipped.

- **Step 1**
Switch off all antivirus software.
- **Step 2**
Make sure, that no other radio communication software is active in DCS World and TeamSpeak. For DCS World it may be sufficient to disable the 'dofile("...")' entry for that software in `$HOME\Saved Games\DCS\Scripts\Export.lua`. In TeamSpeak, you probably need to uncheck the plugin for that software.
- **Step 3**
Unzip the file 'AriesWingsRadio1.9nn.zip' into a folder of your choice.
- **Step 4**
Make sure, that TeamSpeak and DCS World are not running for the moment. Otherwise it would not be possible to overwrite DLLs in case of an update.
- **Step 5**
Start the program Setup.exe **with Administrator rights** and follow the instructions given in the installation program. It is **not sufficient** to login as administrator. You must right click the Setup.exe icon and select 'Run as Administrator'.

Since all applications (DCS, Gossip Box, configurator programs and TeamSpeak) have to be started with administrator rights, you may set the rights permanently for the programs. To set the administrator rights permanently do the following:

Right click the icon of the application



In the dialog select “Properties”:

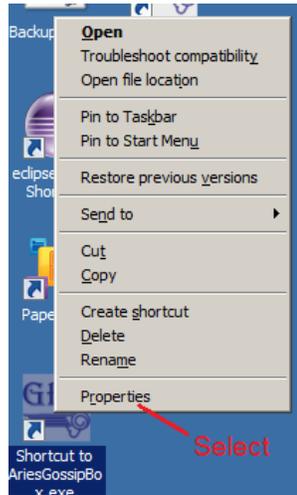


Figure 1 Properties

In the opening dialog select the “Advanced” button:

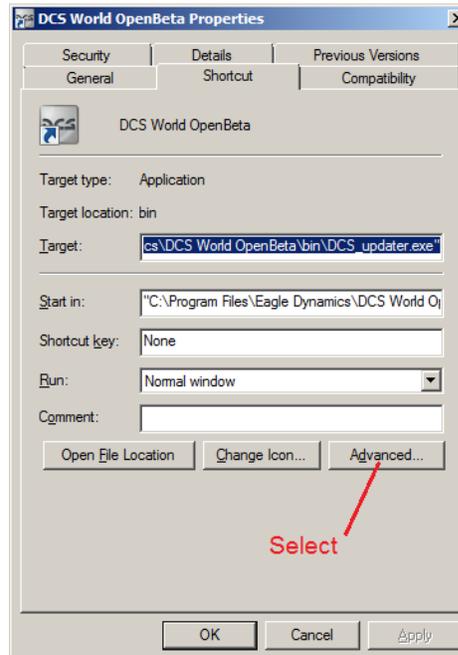


Figure 2 Advanced button

In the new dialog set the check mark for “Run as administrator”:



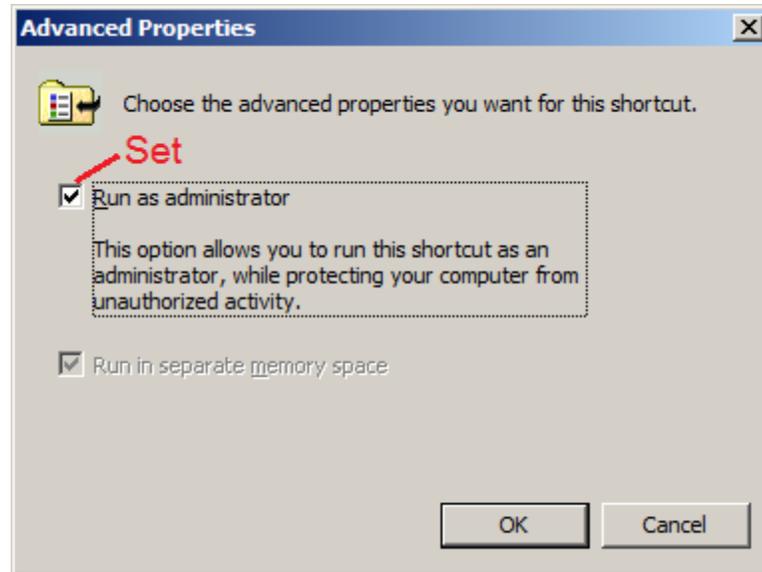


Figure 3 Advanced Properties

Figure 4 Installation dialog

- **Step6**

One of the dialogs allows to select the Installation folder for DCS World, DSC World Open Beta and TeamSpeak. The default locations are taken from a registry search and may not reflect the real installation folders. If one or more default locations do not match your real installation, select the location of your choice with the button to the right of the edit field.

If all locations are OK then place a checkmark for the installation(s) you will do. Be advised , you cannot install the Open Beta version alone. In any case, the DCS World version will be installed too.

The check box for the DCS World installation is set by default. You may select 'DCS World Open Beta installation' and/or 'Gossip Box installation' too. The Gossip Box is a standalone radio box to simulate ATC ground stations.

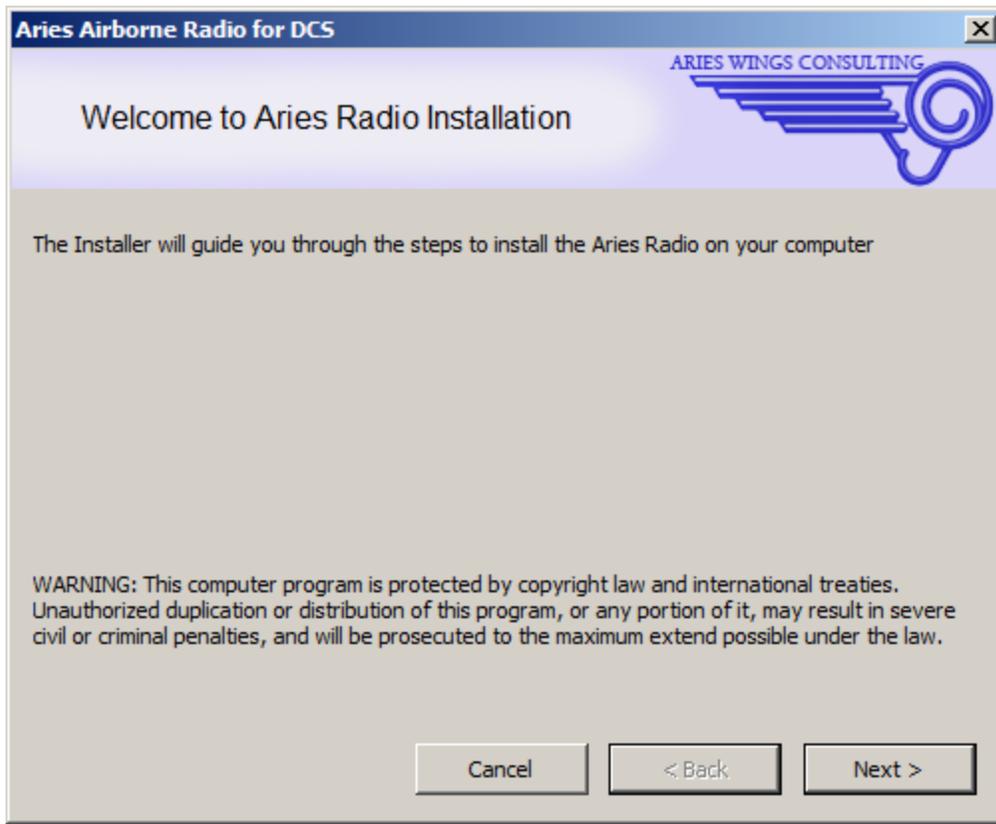


Figure 5 Installation start dialog



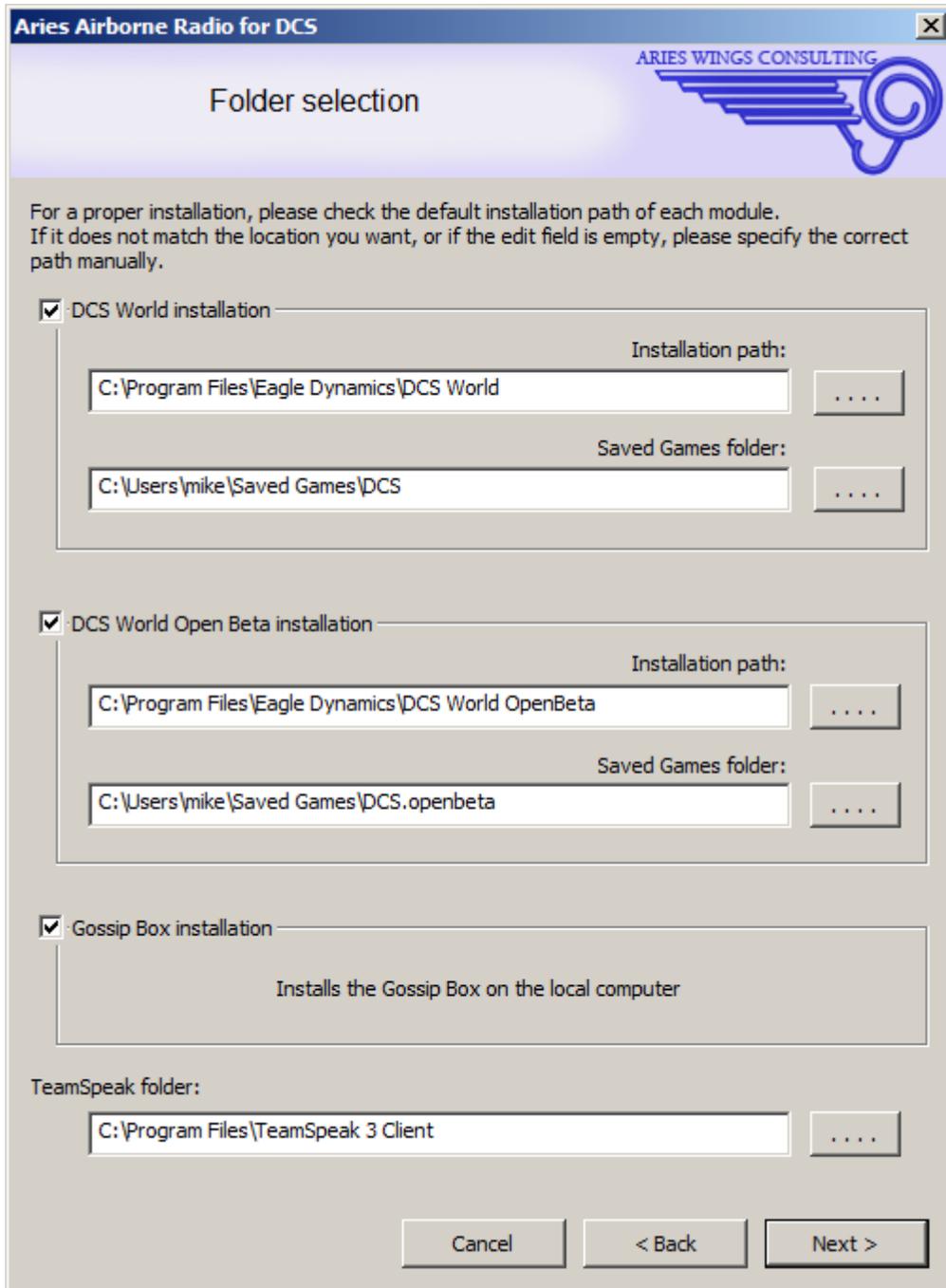


Figure 6 Installation Folder

- **Step 7**

If the installation process is completed you will see the completion dialog. Press the 'Close' button:



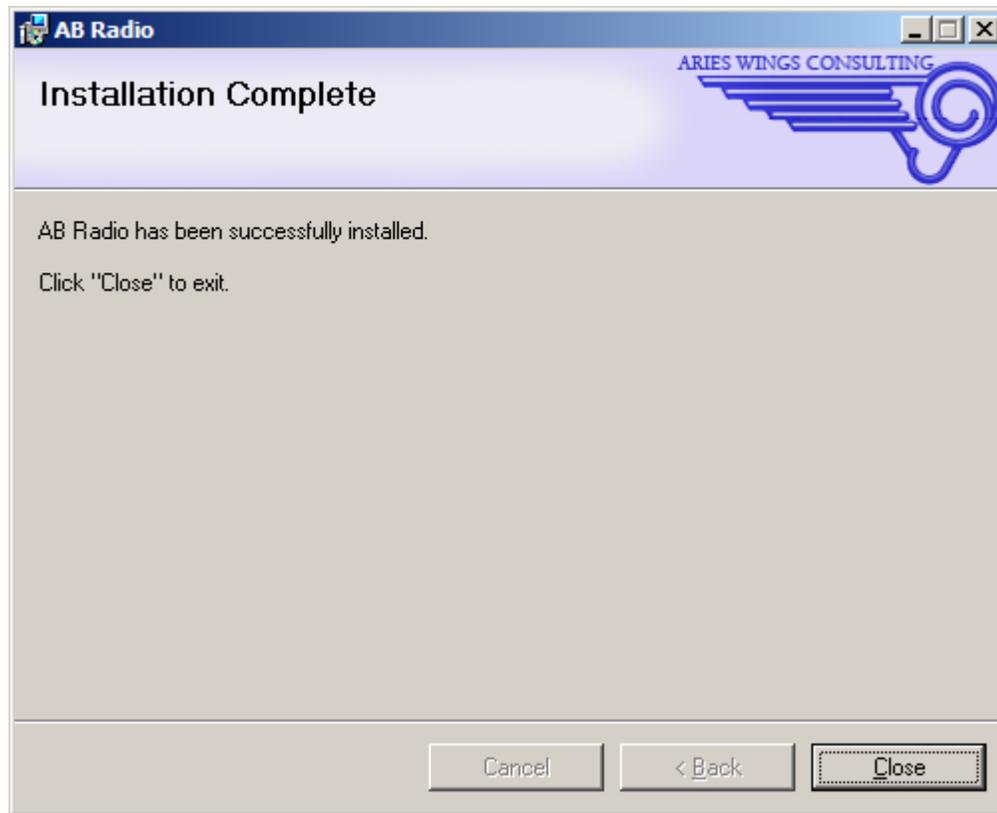


Figure 7 Installation OK

- **Step 8**
Start TeamSpeak3 and activate AriesRadio.DLL in the plugins menu. If other radio communication plugins are active, please deactivate them .



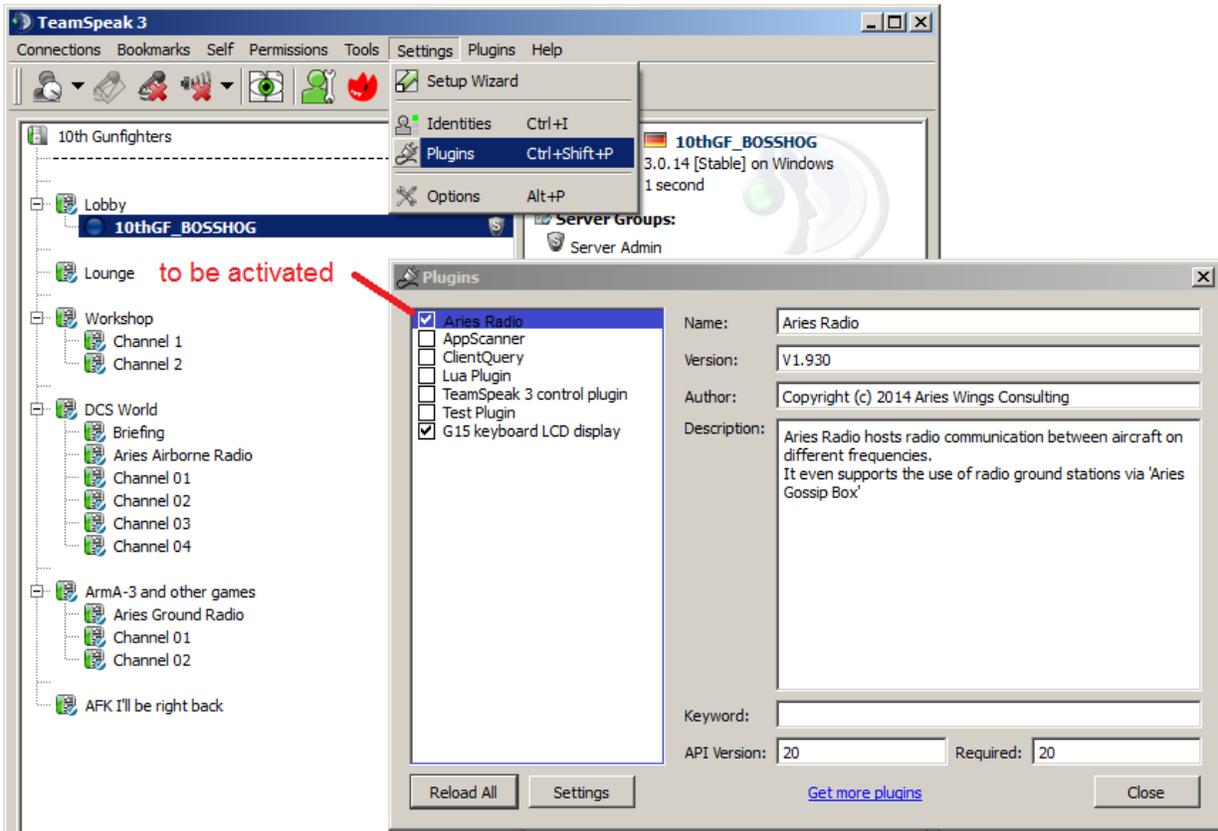


Figure 8 TeamSpeak3

- **Step 9**
Under TeamSpeak3 menu settings\options\capture, make sure, that the 'Push-To-Talk' radio button is activated.
- **Step10**
Before you start DCS World with Aries Radio installed, it is important to **configure the user interface**. You need at least some buttons or keys to select the different radio boxes and to activate the transmitter with a PTT button. For details of the configuration program, see the following chapter 'Configuration'
- **Step 11:**
Start DCS World and change to the 'Options' Screen.
Uncheck 'Full Screen'.
Otherwise you run into troubles to see the Aries Radio Panel.

Aries Wings Radio is now ready for use.



Uninstalling Aries Wings Radio

There are two choices to uninstall Aries Radio:

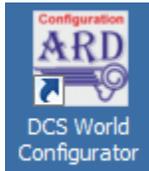
1. Start Setup.exe again. It will notice, that Aries Radio is installed already and offers to repair or uninstall Aries Radio. Select the procedure of your choice.
2. Or, from the Control Panel, open 'Programs and Features'. You will see a list of all installed applications on your computer. Select the line named 'AB Radio'. At the top of the list you will see a menu which offers the Uninstall option.

If the uninstall fails, please use the repair function from the uninstall menu and try the uninstall again after the repair.

All changes made by Aries Wings will be reverted. Only files, created after the installation, will not be deleted. These are mainly log files, created during a session.

Configuration

For a proper and easy use of the airborne Radio, you need to configure some Keys and Buttons to control the functions of the radio. You will find two configurators on the desktop:



This configurator is used for the normal DCS World installation.



This configurator is used for the DCS World Open Beta installation.

Both configurators have the same user interface. The difference is, that one stores the results into the DCS World installation, the other stores the results in DCS World Open Beta.

For all following configuration settings you need to know, that a modifier+button definition is only possible if modifier and button are from the same device. With other words, you cannot define a joystick button as modifier and the functional button from the throttle. The same applies for the keyboard.

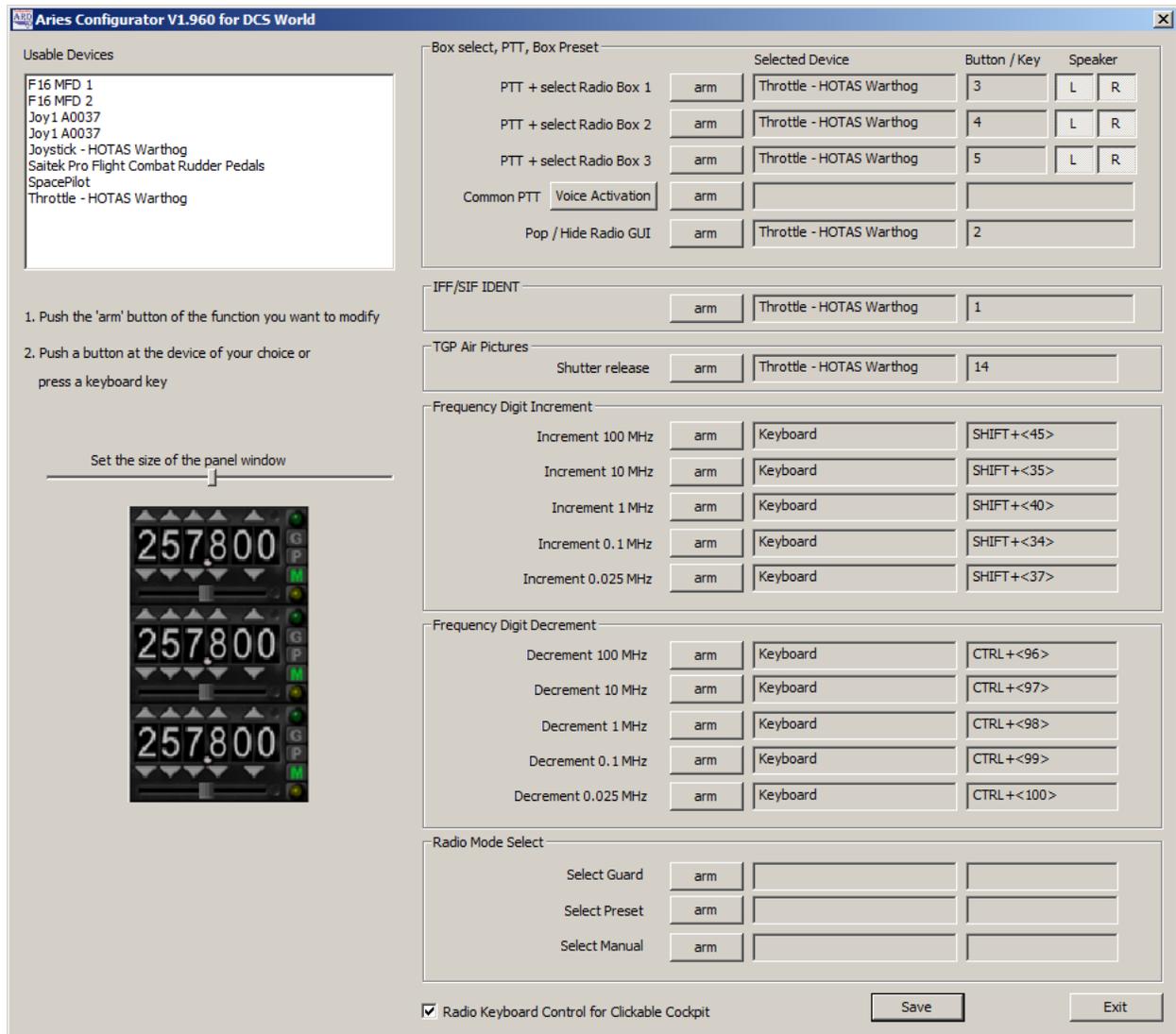


Figure 9 Configurator

Usable Devices

The list box shows all devices connected to your computer, which can be used to control the radio functions. The content is for information only.

Set the size of the panel window

The slider may be used to adjust the size of the panel window, later shown in the simulation. The idea is, that different users have different preferences how the window shall be presented on top of the simulation window. Especially if only one monitor is used, the window could cover important information if it is too large.

Arm Buttons

Each configurable function follows the same input rules.:



- Push the arm button of the function you want to configure. Now the function handler is on listening watch.
- As soon as you push a button on one of the listed devices or a key on the keyboard, the device and the button number will be bound to the function.

Box select, PTT preset

This group configures the Box select, the PTT and the preset channel configuration.

PTT + Box select

During the simulation you can speak only on one single frequency at a time. This means, you must select the radio box before you can speak on it. If you leave 'Common PTT' empty (undefined), these buttons even act as PTT for the selected box.

Left and Right Speaker

Aries Radio offers the possibility to hear the reception of a single radio box either on the left speaker or the right speaker. The default configuration is to hear all boxes on left and right. To change this configuration, you may push or un-push the 'L' or 'R' button right of the 'PTT + Box select' line.

Common PTT

If you got use to have only one common button for PTT you may define the button of your choice here. If this button is defined, the 'PTT + Box select' can be used as select only.

Voice Activation

Some people use voice activation detection (VAD) instead of hard PTT. This button works in conjunction with the configuration of VAD in TeamSpeak. Therefore you get different results if you combine VAD in Aries Radio and TeamSpeak:

TeamSpeak VAD off, Radio VAD off

This is the normal mode. The transmission is initiated with a hard PTT.

TeamSpeak VAD active, Radio VAD off

This mode even needs a hard PTT. The transmission starts as soon as you talk and you hold the hard PTT down.

TeamSpeak VAD active, Radio VAD active

This mode does not need a hard PTT. The transmission starts as soon as you start to talk.

Pop/Hide Radio GUI

If you want to let the radio panel appear and disappear you can select a button herein. This is useful, if you want to have an undisturbed cockpit view. The button is used as toggle button.



IFF/SIF IDENT

This definition is for future use in connection with an Aries Radar application. It will be used as IDENT button from a device of your choice.

TGP Air Picture Shutter release

Select a device button to trigger a screen shot from an MFD. The first push of the button will do the Screen shot, a second push stores the screenshot to a predefined location.

Frequency Digit Increment/Decrement, Radio Mode Select

It is not mandatory to define the keys in this section for normal use. You may leave the definitions undefined.

If you activate a Combined Arms Vehicle, you will notice, that DCS takes over the mouse control completely. It becomes difficult to set a frequency in the radio panel. This configuration is made for such a situation in which it is not suitable or impossible to use the mouse cursor to serve the Aries Radio panel. For each increment and decrement triangle You can define a button or key as mouse click replacement.

To use the defined keys, you must first select a radio box, then use the keys to set the radio.

Radio Keyboard Control for Clickable Cockpit

By default, the above definitions for Frequency Digit Increment/Decrement and Radio Mode Select are only active for Combined Arms vehicles. If you want to use it even for normal clickable cockpits then set a checkmark here. The sense of this selection is, that you may conflict with norm keyboard definitions in DCS, if you fly in a clickable cockpit. If the checkmark is not set, the configuration applies only for Combined Arms.

Size of the Radio Panel Window

The example radio panel at the lower left side shows the size of the user interface, seen later during a session. Use the slider to change the size of the window for later use.

TGP air picture

Here you can configure a button to take air pictures with the help of the TGP. The function works only if you use exported MFDs. The details are explained in the user manual.

Radio Keyboard Control

If you use Flaming Cliffs aircraft or Combined Arms vehicles you will notice, that the mouse cursor is not visible anymore. To circumnavigate this situation you can define keys or device buttons to increment or decrement each frequency digit. You even may define buttons to select the Radio Mode like Manual, Preset or Guard.

Attention!



Using the Keyboard to control the Radio may interfere with other key definitions of DCS World. The result could lead into unintentional frequency dialing. Therefore it could be a good idea to disable the keyboard control for A-10C, KA50 and P51. This can be done by unchecking

'Radio Keyboard Control for Clickable Cockpit'

Frequency dialing

Here you can define keys or device buttons to increment or decrement each frequency digit.

Radio Mode Select

Here you may configure buttons or keys to change the mode of a selected radio box. The different modes are explained in the user manual.

Radio Keyboard Control for Clickable Cockpit

Enable or disable the use of defined Radio keyboard keys for A-10C, KA50 and P51. If unchecked, the keys are applicable only wit FC3 aircraft or Combined Arms vehicles. This choice is important if some configured keys would interfere with keys used in clickable cockpits.

If The configuration was done:

Aries Radio should be ready for use now.

Installation Errors

If an error occurs during the installation process, you will see a message box telling you, that the installation is aborted. In this case all installation steps done up to now are reverted and a clean system is left.

The main reason for an aborted installation comes from the User Account Management level. It prevents the access to certain folders. To circumnavigate this situation, simply start the Installation program 'as Administrator'.

During the installation

If any message box comes up, telling you about troubles, the installation was not completed. In any case, the installation is interrupted. Beside the message boxes you see, you can inspect the installation log: [SetUp.exe location]\AirbornRadioInstaller_log.htm. It contains additional information about the troubles.

Setup was started without administration rights

The installer needs to access the 'Programs' folder, the database for installed software and the registry. For that, administrator rights are essentially necessary. It is not sufficient to login as administrator. Right click the SetUp.exe icon and select 'Run as Administrator'.

DCS World (open beta) path does not exist!

The installer tries to locate the folder of DCS and DCS open beta automatically. If it finds the locations, it will be shown in the Dialog. If the above message comes up then you probably changed the path shown in the dialog to a non existing location or your registry contains a non valid entry for DCS. You should locate the actual installation path and replace the wrong path in the dialog.

A path for DCS World must be specified!

The installer could not locate the DCS installation. Therefore the edit field in the dialog was left blank. This normally points out other troubles with DCS. You can try to input the correct path to DCS.

A path for DCS World (open beta) Saved Games must be specified!

The installer could not locate the DCS saved games path. Therefore the edit field in the dialog was left blank. This normally points out other troubles with DCS. You can try to input the correct path to DCS saved games.

TeamSpeak3 Client path does not exist!

The installer tries to locate the folder of TeamSpeak automatically. If it finds the locations, it will be shown in the Dialog. If the above message comes up then you probably changed the path shown in the dialog to a non existing location or your registry contains a non valid entry for TeamSpeak. You should locate the actual installation path and replace the wrong path in the dialog.

A path for TeamSpeak3 Client must be specified!

The installer could not locate the TeamSpeak installation. Therefore the edit field in the dialog was left blank. This normally points out other troubles with TeamSpeak. You can try to input the correct path to TeamSpeak.

Missing Installation check or TeamSpeak is missing.

Before the Microsoft installer is invoked, it was noticed, that one of the necessary software packages were obviously not present. This can be DCS (DCS Open Beta if check marked) or TeamSpeak.

After the installation

The following errors may occur after the installation:

You do not see the Aries Radio Panel after mission start

This can have two reasons:

- Make sure, that the 'Full Screen' is unchecked in the DCS Options. Full Screen does not allow to control the windows Z-order.
- Check your C:\Users\[your username]\Saved Games\DCS\Scripts\export.lua. There must be an entry:
dofile("./AriesWings/AriesRadio.luac")
at the end of the file. If you see more 'dofile' definitions, make sure, that the aries dofile entry is the first. This error was found especially with TACVIEW installations.

AriesRadio.dll cannot be loaded in TeamSpeak

- Check for the latest TeamSpeak Client version 3.0.14 or newer
- Make sure, that no other radio plugin is active in teamspeak
- TeamSpeak must be the 64 Bit version.

TacView and/or HELIOS does not work any longer

This is mainly caused by a wrong sequence of 'dofile' entries. To solve this error, open export.lua with a text editor. You find export.lua in the folder C:\Users\[Your user name]\Saved Games\DCS\Scripts.

- In case of HELIOS make sure that the entry `dofile("./AriesWings/AriesRadio.luac")` is at the end of the file, as last line.
- If TacView is used and even together with HELIOS, the entries **at the end** of the file should look like this:
`dofile("./AriesWings/AriesRadio.luac")`



```
local Tacviewlfs=require('lfs');  
dofile(Tacviewlfs.writedir()..'Scripts/TacviewExportDCS.lua')
```

Airborne Radio shows no frequencies

- In case of flying an A-10C, the radios must be switched on to show the frequencies.

Airborne radio does not transmit

- The software reacts on a hardware PTT internally. So if you work with 'Voice Activation Detection' in TeamSpeak, switch over to 'Push-To-Talk'. It is not necessary to set a hotkey in TeamSpeak.

Aries Gossip Box remains deactivated in the TeamSpeak 'Plugins/Aries Radio' Menu

The Gossip Box must be installed.

Aries Plugin Protocol file not available

The Plugin Protocol menu item is shown in 'Plugins/Aries Radio' menu but the Internet Explorer only shows the normal entry screen of your favorite Internet explorer . The reason could be, that Microsofts Internet explorer was deleted from your windows installation. This error was observed with some clients and is not solved up to now.

TeamSpeak does not find Export.lua

Ensure, that TeamSpeak is always started with administrator rights.

TeamSpeak reports a Spam attack

You see the following message in the teamSpeak window:

Action not possible due to spam protection. Please wait a view seconds and try again.

Aries radio uses the internal TeamSpeak messaging for commands. Especially during the login situation when a mission starts, a lot of messages have to be sent within a short time. So it can happen, that the spam protection comes up. But this normally happens only if another message burst happened before. There is a way out if it comes up every time:

- Open the TeamSpeak client and right click the server in the tree. It is the top most item in the tree.
- From the menu, select 'Edit Virtual Server'
- From the Tab Control select 'Anti-Flood'
- The mechanism is, that every message sent, increments an internal counter. If the value reaches a defined threshold in a time, all messages are suppressed for a certain time. You can reduce the points per tick (normally 15) or you can set the 'Points needed to block commands' (normally 150) to a higher value. This action should avoid the spam warning.
You probably need the Server Administrator rights for your TeamSpeak Server to access this configuration item.



