

Win4Suite can provide speech prompts for most of the controls in the main control program, and depending on the radio, the Frequency Memories display, the CW terminal and the CW Memories display. In addition, the first page of the Tools, Settings Menu can be navigated with voice prompts and the keyboard. In the case of the Elecraft K4, the Radio Menu items are speech enabled. Additional windows will be added in the future.

Prerequisites

- 1) The sound output from Win4Suite will be through the default audio speaker device on your PC. This should be set using the Windows control panel.
- 2) The sound output must be enabled in the Tools Settings menu. (Alt, T, S). When the menu is opened, you can navigate using the TAB key. Pressing Alt S will save the settings and close the page.
- 3) All screen readers should be disabled while using Win4Suite since it has its own optimized speech synthesis which operates correctly for all controls. You may want to use during setup until speech is enabled.
- 4) Dell computers have an annoying utility called MaxAudio which is installed by default with the operating system. This utility only provides audio enhancements which are totally useless in most cases and hogs the audio CPU making Win4Suite slow to a crawl. This needs to be disabled. This can be done by opening the Task manager, Startup and disabling the service from starting with the computer. You will need to reboot your computer.

First Use

The very first time you use the program you will be prompted to enable speech synthesis by Pressing Control S on the keyboard. Wait for the prompt, press control S and you will be taken to the Settings screen focused on the first combobox of the screen.

General Use and Navigation

As much as possible, Win4Suite follows the Windows conventions for navigating by keyboard and selecting items. In general, you will be using the Tab key, the Enter key, the space bar, and the Control and Alt keys.

- **Tab Key:** Moves between buttons and controls starting from the 160m button onward.

- **Enter Key:** Selects the control you are positioned on when using the Tab key. For example, you tab to the 20m button and press Enter to select 20m.
- **Space Bar:** The space bar will toggle any check box that has been selected. If the focus is not on a checkbox it enables transmit.
- **Control Keys:** The control key in conjunction with a letter will allow quick selection of the various functional panes in Win4Suite. It also can select specific functions as will be explained shortly.
- **Alt Keys:** Are used to select menus like the Tools Settings menu (Alt T, S). It is also used for other functions.

Keyboard Shortcuts

Control Keys

Win4Suite has several panes that group together related functions. For example, you have the Band pane, the Mode Pane and so on. These can be selected by using the Control key on your keyboard with the letter of the pane as follows:

Control B: Selects the Band pane. This puts the 160m button in focus. You can then use the tab keys to navigate within this pane. When you find the band you wish to use, press Enter. You can move backwards through the bands with the Shift Tab key. The Band pane is special for Icom radios since it also contains the buttons for the use of Transverters. To toggle between these, use the Alt B to select the Transverters and the Control B to select bands. On the Elecraft K4, there is a dedicated button for transverters.

Control R: Selects the RF pane which has the Antenna, Attenuator, Preamp and so on controls. Pressing the Enter key selects the Function or toggles through several of these options.

Control M: Selects the Mode pane

Control C: Select the CW pane. When the tab reaches the last control, the pane switches to the APF pane. Press Shift Tab to go back to the CW pane. Alternatively, Alt C selects the APF pane on Icom radios. On Yaesu radios, Control W selects CW speed and Control P selects CW pitch.

Control V: Selects the VFO pane. The VFO A frequency is announced and the cursor is on the first digit of the frequency. You can then use the arrow keys to move to another digit which will be announced. You can change the frequency by using the up and down arrows at this point. Pressing the Tab key takes you to the other controls in the frequency pane.

Control Shift V: Selects a VFO A frequency text box. Pressing this key combination will first put focus on the VFO A box. When you press this key combination again, it will pop up a text box that allows you to enter the frequency in kilohertz. Pressing enter will QSY the radio to that frequency.

Control D: Select the voice and Data pane. This pane selects a recorder voice or CW message.

Control X: Selects the Incremental tuning pane.

Control A: Selects the Audio pane which includes the AF Gain, RF Gain and Squelch.

Control T: Selects the Transmit pane which includes RF Power Mic and other related controls.

Control F: Selects the Filter pane.

In addition to the controls that select the panes, there are also the following:

Control I: Provides general information about the status of the radio.

Control Shift L: Reads the S – Meter. Note there is a .NET bug when you are focused on the VFO frequency displays and you press Control L. It does not work. However pressing Control Shift L does work for this function.

Control N: Alternates between Wide and Narrow Noise blanker settings on Yaesu radios.

Control W: This will announce the SWR. However, for this to be meaningful you must actually be transmitting. This can be done by holding a CW key down or going into RTTY mode and pressing transmit and then control W.

Menu Commands

In general, when the Alt key is pressed and released, the top level menus are enabled. Pressing the following keys will select the menu:

F: Selects the file menu. Listen to the prompts for available options. Not all windows are enabled for accessibility.

T: Selects the Tools Menu. Listen to the prompts for available options. Not all windows are enabled for accessibility.

W: Selects the Windows menu. Listen to the prompts for available options. Not all windows are enabled for accessibility.

Control S: Saves settings and exits menus.

Frequency Memories Window (Yaesu and Icom)

The frequency memory screen will open to the first entered frequency. Due to technical issues not yet resolved, this frequency will not be announced until you use the Up and Down arrows to move to another frequency. Pressing Enter will select the memory. Control X will close the screen.

CW Memories screen (Yaesu and Icom)

The CW memory screen will open to the first entered message. Due to technical issues not yet resolved, this message will not be announced until you use the Up and Down arrows to move to another message. Pressing Enter will select the memory. Control X will close the screen. If you click in the text fields you can edit the entry.

Radio Menu Items (Elecraft)

Please press control H to get help when you enter this screen.

CW Terminal (Icom. More to come)

The CW terminal is a little more complex than some of the other screens. It includes settings for various logbooks which have not been enabled for the visually impaired.

When the CW terminal is open, it focuses on the text box that is used to enter text to transmit. You can immediately start using this by typing in your message. When you are ready to send it press Control T. That will start transmitting the text until the message is complete. At that point you can continue to type if you wish or press control T again to stop the transmission.

The terminal also has buttons that can be pressed which will send predefined messages. To access the message editor, press Alt M followed by an E to edit the messages. You then can enter labels for each message and the actual CW messages themselves. When you are done you can tab to the Save button (control s) where you will be prompted for a file name, or if you already have one, the changes will be saved and the screen closed.

After this you can just press enter or space on any message you want to send. This will not be transmitted unless you subsequently press control T to send it and control T again to get out of transmit.

Messages can contain special text codes to perform tasks such as Transmit on, and Transmit off.

Here are the codes:

[TXON] and [TXOFF]. Note how these are enclosed in square brackets. So a typical message can be like this:

[TXON]CQ CQ CQ DE VA2FSQ VA2FSQ[TXOFF]