FSK/CW Interface Board by W3YY
Installation Instructions

Introduction

The FSK/CW Interface Board is a personal computer-to-transceiver interface that allows your PC to key your transceiver on both FSK RTTY and CW modes. The interface is fully optically isolated and RF filtered to prevent unwanted DC and RF coupling between your PC and transceiver. Installation in some type of shielded case is recommended, but the board is quite immune to RF and in many cases will work in an unshielded case or without any case at all.

A single cable is used to connect your personal computer COM or LPT port to the input of the interface board. Typically two cables connect the output of the board to your transceiver. One is used for FSK/PTT keying and one for CW keying.

Warranty

By installing and using this interface board you agree to accept all responsibility for any resulting damage, injury, or related consequences. The only warranty provided is a refund of your purchase price in the event the interface fails to work during the first 90 days after purchase.

Installation

See the next page for installation instructions.

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The input of your interface board should be connected to a COM or LPT port on your PC with a single cable. See the drawing below for a typical COM port installation. You can also use an LPT port if your software supports it and it provides the same RTTY, PTT, and CW outputs.

The output of your interface board should be connected to the CW keying input and to the FSK RTTY and PTT inputs on your transceiver, as shown above. You will have to determine the exact connection points at the transceiver, as they are dependent on the brand and model of transceiver you are using. In general, the CW input is simple. Use the same input that you would use for a straight key or bug. For RTTY, look for a dedicated RTTY connector that provides a FSK key input, PTT, and a common ground. That's the connector you should use for the FSK and PTT lines.

If the CW key input on your transceiver is a multi-pin connector, e.g., DIN or DB, and you are using a two-wire shielded cable for the CW input, use the wiring diagram shown below.

Shielding the interface cables is recommended but may not be required. If you use shielded cable, the interface board is designed to allow you to configure shielding in any

way you feel best. The shield on the cable to the PC may be allowed to float or be connected to the interface enclosure by connecting the shield to the "In Shield" hole that is connected via a board trace to the adjacent mounting hole. Similarly, you can float or ground the shields on the CW and RTTY cables. I recommend grounding the PC cable shield to the interface enclosure and letting the other shields float, but whatever works for you is fine.

Six ferrite beads are provided with each board. For shipping purposes, they are placed on a wire and attached to one of the board standoffs. Remove the wire holding the beads from the standoff before installation. The ferrite beads are provided for you to place on the incoming wires that you connect to the board, as indicated in the drawings above. The ferrite beads provide additional RF immunity for the board, but their installation is optional.

Good luck and enjoy the FSK/CW Interface Board!