

Hello to all

I suppose that the majority of radio amateurs now use a Computerized Logbook.

I used LOGGER 32 for years, then I switched to Ham Radio de luxe which is a very nice programme but which has been paying for some time now.

I have tried the latest version of HRD for 30 days and then you receive an email saying that if you want to continue using it you need a registration key. The price is 99,95 dollar which is not nothing.

Anyway I tried this version, but it doesn't do everything, good question, it's still installed on my PC but I don't use it much.

We are currently ringing in Covid 19 period and I did an overview of the various computerised logbook programmes available on the internet and I came across a very nice log programme called Swisslog, which is complete.

This programme does everything, I mean everything, I wanted to know more about it. I've watched a lot of videos are on YouTubes.

Here is the history of this full program:

INTRODUCTION

The story of Swisslog began in 1986, when Walter was working for a very large IT company. One day, at lunchtime, he was browsing through the company's news bulletins and he detected a message posted by another radio amateur who was looking for someone to write a LOG programme. This interested him and so he met Ernst, EA8BGN (now HB9RXQ) and they discussed the project. Ernst created the first specification of the programme and also found its name.

The first version of SWISSLOG for DOS was published in 1987 and many fans still use this version today. After the first release, he continued to improve the DOS version for a few years by adding functions requested by users. At the same time, as the power of PCs increased considerably, he was finally convinced that a LOG programme with acceptable performance could be developed for Windows. While continuing to improve the DOS version, he started to develop a Windows version. During the development process, Walter learned a lot and had to start over 3 times; it took him 4 years before the Windows version was ready for release in 1997. SWISSLOG continued to improve with each new version, but keeping the original concept which tried to give the program enough flexibility to allow radio amateurs to adapt it to their individual needs. Now you can define and characterise just about any data in your log - you can display your log sorted by callsign, date, band, mode or any other criteria of your choice, view statistics to track the progress of your DXCC or your locator square balance, create and print custom reports, prepare diploma forms and their submissions, print QSL card labels, and control many other convenient functions. This flexibility of course adds complexity to the program, which is true for many other complex programs such as word processing and spreadsheets. Typically, these programs have many advanced features that the average user may not understand and will almost never need.

Nevertheless, the student can use the programme in a basic way to his or her maximum advantage. This is also true for SWISSLOG for Windows - using the programme in default mode is

quite easy and when you are familiar with the basic functions, you can explore the advanced functions that are available. Fortunately there will always be a group of "expert users" and we hope they will share their secrets with everyone by providing "Tips and Tricks" in the forum of the SWISSLOG website.

As many of you know, in June 2006, just before the release of version 6 of Swisslog for Windows, Walter was hit by a car while riding his bike. After a few weeks in a deep coma, he finally woke up and over the last few years he has recovered well from his injuries. He can now lead a normal life but this accident had a strange and important side effect: he lost all his computer and programming skills. After a few years without regaining his programming skills he decided to leave Swisslog free for everyone to use. All the people in the Swisslog team were looking for a programmer to continue his creation without much success.

However, Christian Aymon, HB9DBC, a professional programmer and friend of Walter and Pascal, HB9IIB, was able to save a copy of Walter's computer and created a virtual machine to at least retrieve the source code and tools to develop Swisslog. They were able to release a few versions correcting some important problems such as the new access to QRZ.com. They kept Swisslog alive and usable. But it is a very difficult task to develop Swisslog and even for professional programmers it would take a long time to simply understand how Walter programmed this huge software of about one million lines of code. Christian didn't have that much time and for personal and professional reasons he had to leave the Swisslog team.

I have been involved with the Swisslog team since 1990, first translating Swisslog into Spanish and later as a distributor in Spain and providing support to all users who needed it. Two years ago I created a patch updater to keep Swisslog up to date. I focused especially on the country table (maintained by Hardy, DL5SBA, who recently passed away), and I updated the statistics file and a few other files, so that Swisslog could be usable and up to date. But about a year ago, I decided to get the source code of Swisslog and at least try to learn some Delphi language with the sole intention of correcting future minor problems. I asked Walter for permission and he granted me all the rights to do whatever I could to continue developing Swisslog. Christian sent me a copy of Walter's virtual machine and gave me valuable information to compile and create the main program. I have the source code for version 6 but it is full of compilation errors and Walter can't help me solve them. So I concentrated on version 5 which is stable and still powerful.

Swisslog is still one of the best and most powerful LOG programmes in the world today. I will try to keep Swisslog alive as best I can, trying to solve future problems, administering the Swisslog forum and website and providing support for all. Walter and this excellent programme deserve it!

73 from Jordi Quintero, EA3GCV

After the history, here are some explanations:

First thing, I've watched several videos to know a little more about what is very interesting, this program is made by European amateur radio here are the callsigns of its Oms creator of Swisslog: HB9BJS - EA3GCV - F6DKQ - DJ9BX - DF1SD - EI4KF, it is currently EA3GCV which is also amateur radio and programmer who took over the torch of the SWISSLOG programming.

In short, I wanted to know more about it, so I downloaded the swisslog program, I would like to point out that this program is completely free of charge, which doesn't spoil anything.

After downloading it is advisable to deactivate your anti-virus for 5 to 10 minutes the time necessary to make the installation, then you make a right click on the swisslog program and install it in administrator mode, once the program is installed, you reactivate your anti-virus, it took me 5 minutes it's very fast.

The programme is also available in a number of other languages, including English, French and German.

You can download it at <https://www.swisslogforwindows.com/>.

Once it is installed, you will have the swisslog logo on your desktop, click on it and the program will open and ask you to enter your contact details (QRA Locator), code, address, etc.,,,,,,,
Once you have done this it will install the updates etc

When you have done all this there is a small logo in the top title bar (adding QSO) You click on it and a window will open, in the top bar also there is a help tab, you click on it and a dialogue box will open explaining everything you can do with this program,

Updating of all Diplomas

E.g.: List of members of the following clubs: 30MDG, BDM, Club Log, CWOPS, DIG, DMC, EA QRP, EPC, FISTS, FOC, HSC, EHSC, VHSC, Lynx DX Group, MF, NDG, SKCC, TEN TEN, URE.

Diploma references: ARLHS, BCA, DCE, DCI, DEE, DEFE, DERESP, DFCE, DMVE, ILLW, IOTA (only Windows Vista or higher), SOTA, WCA, WFF.

- Users of : LOTW and eQSL AG. Control

and interface of all types of Transceivers

Interface Rotor

Interface Digital mode.

Interface CW interface etc.

It's incredible, this Swisslog Ham Radio Programme offers you a lot more possibilities than HRD.

I am busy studying it, this program is simply fantastic, it is full of possibilities that is why if you download it, I advise you to read the doc, for my part I installed it on several PC, Impeccable.

If you need any advice, you can send an email to Jordi, he will answer you and he is also extremely kind.

If you do CW or possibly SSB or digital modes, I strongly advise you to use this Swisslog programme which will give you complete satisfaction.

I would not know how to explain everything, as it offers you a lot of possibilities

73 of ON4LDL & ON5CFT.