

Subject: [PropNET-Online] What PropNET *is*

PropNET is the name of the project that is truly a "next generation" communication technology.

PropNetPSK is the software that we use.

The PropNET project is designed to be a two-way communication network. PropNET stations both TX and RX, exchanging information over-the-air.

PropNET is an ad hoc network.

PropNET uses the Internet to report the two-way RF communication that it is both
(1) fully successful and
(2) partially successful.

PropNetPSK user-stations are capable of *not* transmitting, if they perceive the frequency to be in use -- just as if a human operator were listening and controlling things.

Is it an "Automatically Controlled Digital Station", "Unattended Beacon", "Broadcaster", "Attended Beacon", etc?

That depends on how YOU use the software. Consider that even a Yaesu FT-1000mp is an illegal transceiver if the USER decides to use it in an illegal way.

When I am active (I'm on vacation so I'm not on the air right now), I operate as an Automatically Controlled Digital Station. I have read the rules concerning ACDS operation and abide by them.

Do you? I don't know. Only YOU do. :)

If you don't know, then there is nothing wrong with taking a conservative approach. Operate as a beacon, but understand that doing so requires attended operation if you are on the 30 meter band (as Steve mentioned in the QST column).

For the record, for YEARS, I've been made privy to correspondences sent by others to Riley Hollingsworth about PropNET. To date, none has resulted with any communications from the FCC saying that PropNET is illegal in any way.

The [totally unnecessary] conflict that you are seeing elsewhere (and occasionally showing up here through a couple of well meaning folk) is based on individuals who have little/no desire to experience the very experimental nature that made Amateur Radio great in its early days -- because they don't understand that such greatness is still occurring.

Kind regards,
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