

Trusted QSL V2.8.2 Release Notes

This version of Trusted QSL (TQSL) has new features as well as corrections for defects found since TQSL 2.8 was released.

Updates since TQSL 2.8

This release includes an update to the most recent TQSL configuration file.

TQSL 2.8.1 repaired two serious defects in TQSL 2.8. First, it corrects an issue where some QSOs would not be signed when an ADIF file contained a mismatched gridsquare. Second, the checking of the content of MY_COUNTRY was removed as this is a human-readable string and not expected to conform to a strict enumeration.

TQSL 2.8.2 can be installed to upgrade any older version of TQSL.

For the Mac platform, TQSL now uses a package file (.pkg) for installing TQSL. This is hopefully easier to use as it is a familiar way to install software for most Mac users. Mac users may have previously installed TQSL into “/Applications/tqsl.app” versus the “/Applications/TrustedQSL/tqsl.app” folder (which is the proper location based on Apple guidance.) If you have installed TQSL into /Applications/tqsl.app, you should delete this by dragging that file to the trash. If you don’t do that, TQSL will repeatedly offer to upgrade.

The “tqsl-legacy” packages run on 32-bit Intel and PowerPC processors and require Mac OS 10.5 or later. The non-legacy packages for the Mac require Mac OS 10.10 or later and support 64-bit Intel and Apple Silicon processors.

On all three supported platforms (Windows, MacOS, and Linux), installing TQSL 2.8.1 will replace older versions of Trusted QSL while preserving your Callsign Certificates, Station Locations, and preferences. On Windows, simply run the TQSL 2.8.1 installer, which will automatically uninstall older versions of TQSL (and, if installed, TQSLCert). On Mac OS X, open the package (.pkg) file to install TQSL into your Applications folder. If you have previously installed TQSL into some other folder, you may need to delete that folder to allow the new version to operate properly.

For Linux systems, I recommend using the copy on Flathub: <https://flathub.org/apps/org.arrl.trustedqsl> - That is a portable Linux package that will run on many 64-bit Linux systems (x86_64 and ARM64). If you need to build from source, unpack the tar file and read the INSTALL file for directions. You will need development libraries for zlib, curl, openssl, sqlite3, wxWidgets, and expat.

TQSL 2.8.1 has been “localized” to allow use in the native language of non-English speakers. This could not have been done without the help of the volunteers who have contributed translations for TQSL. Thanks to the following for their assistance:

Catalan: Xavier, EA3W

Chinese (Simplified): SZE-To, VR2UPU

Chinese (Traditional): Caros, BH4TXN

Finnish: Juhani, OH8MXL

French: Laurent BEUGNET, F6GOX

Hindi: Manmohan, VU3YBH

German: Andreas, DF4WC
Italian: Salvatore, I4FYV
Japanese: Akihiro, JL3OXR
Portuguese: Nuno, CT2IRY
Russian: Vic, US5WE
Spanish: Jordi, EA3GCV
Swedish: Roger, SM0LTV
Turkish: Ojuzhan, TA2NC

The following list describes the major changes in the v2.8 release of Trusted QSL.

TQSL changes

Defects Corrected:

[2.8.2]

Remove the use of “%m” in error messages. This is a Linux extension that is not supported on Windows (it inserts the system error message related to a system problem, such as “permission denied”).

Restore the handing of the “-o” command line argument, which was supposed to be used to specify what file to use to write to when signing a log. This has been ignored since TQSL 2.5.2 and nobody noticed.

Correct a defect that was causing MY_GRID SQUARE values in an ADIF file to be ignored when updating the station location data.

Allow two-character VUCC grids. These are likely to be invalid for award purposes, but ADIF allows this.

Add missing export values for the Windows DLL file. Thanks to Jordi, EA3GCV for reporting this.

Ignore VUCC grid checking for DXCC entity “None”.

[2.8.1]

Correct handing of ADIF files with gridsquares provided for the operator’s station for cases where the Station Location grid was not the same length as the ADIF MY_GRID SQUARE tag. This defect caused those QSOs to be ignored and not signed.

Remove checking of MY_COUNTRY as its not intended to be a rigidly defined field. Users had values which were abbreviated, using entity codes, etc. TQSL only uses that field if it matches an Entity name precisely. MY_DXCC is preferred for specifying entity numbers.

Major feature Additions:

[2.8.2]

Minor updates throughout TQSL to clean up memory consumption. Prior versions of TQSL could crash with out-of-memory errors when managing callsign certificates.

Update the TQSL log signing processing so that the log being signed is staged to a disk file. Past versions of TQSL would stage the signed log in memory, leading to the potential for memory exhaustion and crashes.

Add a "Default signing callsign" for QSL managers that allows stations managing dozens of callsigns to quickly sign new callsign requests using their primary callsign.

Minor Updates:

[2.8.2]

Handle missing VUCC grid data by ignoring gridsquare checks. The grid data file has been converted to XML and is version numbered, allowing a local edit to the file to override the default version.

Change the DXCC prefix database to XML and version number it, allowing a local prefix upgrade.

When reporting "Station Location could not be found" errors, include the name of the expected Station Location in the error message (tnx AA6YQ).

Correct the VUCC grid data for Newfoundland and Labrador – the ADIF abbreviation of "NL" is encoded as "NF" for Logbook purposes, but this was not being properly translated to the ADIF equivalent.

Add VK2 as a valid prefix for Lord Howe Island portable operations.

[2.8.1]

Correct the Russian translation files.

Correct a small number of VUCC grid entries in the vuccgrids.dat file, as well as adding a version number header to that file.

Fix a compiler warning reported for some Linux distributions.

Reinstalling TQSL 2.8.x

Downgrading to TQSL 2.8.1 can be seamlessly performed by uninstalling TQSL 2.8.2 and reinstalling TQSL 2.8.1.