

Glossary for ARESCOM

A guide to the digital jargon and alphabet soup of Digital Ham Communications.

By Rick Muething KN6KB

AirMail A client (end user) program written by Jim Corenman KE6RK. It supports Pactor (all popular TNCs), Packet (PTC II and Kantronics TNCs), and Telnet connections. Can work as a limited BBS and forward in all FBB and WL2K protocols.

AMTOR AMateur Telatype Over Radio. A basic digital protocol used in the 80s but no longer popular.

ARQ Automatic Retry reQuest. This is a class of protocols where each frame or packet is acknowledged and retried if the acknowledge is negative or missing. Used in Pactor and Clover.

AX.25 The modified X.25 protocol used by Amateur Packet Radio

B2F Protocol The WL2K binary protocol that allows multiple addresses, mixed radio and email addresses and attachments.

Backbone A radio network consisting of linked stations using switches or nodes that allows digital transmission over extended distances.

Backup CMBO This is a redundant CMBO that can automatically assume the CMBO function if the CMBO is down or not connected to the internet.

BBS Bulletin Board System (also called MBO), This is the station that "hosts" the message system.

CMBO Central Server in the WL2K system. The CMBO is the central Hub of the WL2K system that receives and Sends E-mail to the Internet and distributes mail to the PMBOs. The CMBO normally does not include any radio ports.

Digi Short for Digipeater. A simple Radio/TNC device that permits relaying digital AX.25 packets.

FBB A Popular BBS system developed by F6FBB that operates on the DOS, Windows and Linux operating systems.

FBB Protocols These are standard published protocols used by most BBSs for the exchange of messages. They include binary protocols B1F and BF and ASCII protocol F.

MID Message ID. A specific unique code (usually 12 characters) that uniquely identifies each message in a BBS system

MBO Mail Box Operator. This is the station that runs the public mailbox. The most popular versions are FBB and WL2K.

NPMBO Non Participating Mail Box Operators. These are conventional MBOs that forward traffic to the WL2K system.

Packet Switch/Node One of several more sophisticated Digipeaters that can repeat and route AX.25 packet through a Packet network or backbone. Examples are FPAC, ROSE and JNOS.

Paalink A client (user) program by Vic Poor W5SMM and Rick Muething KN6KB. It supports most Packet TNCs (using the AGW Packet Engine) including low cost sound card and Baycom TNCs. It interfaces the users E-mail client (e.g. Outlook Express) to Packet Radio and WL2K or FBB Telnet. Future version will include support for Pactor II and III.

Pactor An ARQ Protocol used for HF digital communications. There are three versions Pactor I, Pactor II and Pactor III.

PMBO Participating Mail Box Operator . These are the MBOs of the WL2K system.

Sysop The Amateur operator of a BBS or MBO.

TCP or TCP/IP A protocol for transmission of information between two ports on the Internet.

Telnet Another protocol for transmission of information between two ports on the Internet.

Telpac A WL2K program which bridges AX.25 Packet to WL2K, FBB or JNOS Telnet ports. Supports most Packet TNCs (using the AGW Packet Engine). Intended to add simple low cost infrastructure to the WL2K network. Future versions will support a HF bridge to WL2K PMBOs using Pactor II or III.

TNC Terminal Node Controller. A basic Radio modem to interface a computer or terminal to AX.25 packet radio. Can now also be done with sound card software.

WL2K Winlink 2000. This is the MBO (Sysop) programs and servers that implement the Winlink 2000 message system. Developed by Vic Poor W5SMM, Hans Kessler N8PGR, Steve Waterman K4CJX, Rick Muething KN6KB.

