Mounting N3FJP programs on a Linux Mint system:

Our group recently wanted to update to a currently supported operating system on the contesting laptops. For monetary reasons and ease of use they selected the Linux Mint OS, however, our favorite logging programs (N3FJP) are windows based. The following is how we were able to get these programs to work on a Linux Mint system and even get some crude networking.

NOTE: The newest version of Linux Mint on which we were able to get the current N3FJP programs (2019) to work was Linux Mint 18.3 cinnamon. You will note that during the protocol below you will do multiple "sudo apt-get update", however do not do a "sudo apt-get upgrade" (note the difference: Update vs Upgrade) past 18.3 as I have yet to find the libraries and dependencies that support the more recent operating systems.

NOTE: The older VB6 versions of the N3FJP programs seem to run fine on even the newest Linux Mint distribution under the windows emulator "wine" without any special installation. These are still available at : http://n3fjp.com/archivedVB6.html

In these versions, however, it is not as easy to combine, edit and remove duplicates from logs of multiple stations. Hence why the installation of the current N3FJP programs on Linux 18.3.

Protocol:

This protocol worked for us but is given here without any implied warranty, use at your own risk.

Build Log 8/13/2019 on Linux Mint 18.3 OS system

Linux Mint 18.3 is based on Ubuntu 16.04

NOTE NEVER do an upgrade command - programs will currently not run above the 18.3 level*

Statements beginning with "#" are remark statements. These statements may word wrap over several lines.

lines that are not remark statements are to be executed in a terminal window that can be started in Linux mint from the icon on the toolbar.

Install or upgrade to Linux mint 18.3 (note if you currently have Linux Mint 18.3 that has been
upgraded you may have to reinstall the system to get the 18.3 version without the upgrades)
This is available from: https://linuxmint.com/release.php?id=31

How to create a bootable media and how to install Linux mint is given at: https://linuxmintinstallation-guide.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

Note: You can copy the commands below that appear on lines that are not # remark statements and then paste them into a terminal window but to paste use shift-ctrl-v . If you want to copy in a terminal window use shift-ctrl-c

open a terminal window and execute the following commands. A Terminal window can be opened from the toolbar

sudo dpkg --add-architecture i386
wget -nc https://dl.winehq.org/wine-builds/winehq.key
sudo apt-key add winehq.key
sudo apt-add-repository 'deb https://dl.winehq.org/wine-builds/ubuntu/ xenial main'

sudo apt update && sudo apt-get update

sudo apt install --install-recommends winehq-devel

wine –configure

accept default loads of mono etc.

make sure wine menu set to windows 7 emulation # Using browser: download desired State QSO.exe Fieldday.exe and Acloginst.exe programs to # /Downloads folder from # http://www.n3fjp.com/fieldday.html # http://www.n3fjp.com/fieldday.html # http://www.n3fjp.com/aclog.html

cd "\${HOME}/Downloads" wget https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Winetricks/winetricks/master/src/winetricks

chmod +x winetricks

right click on winetricks in folder, left click on properties and click change permissions tab and set to read/write for all and allow to run as pgm.

cd ~/Downloads ./winetricks

Select Default wineprefix# Change settings# select win7 (for window 7 emulation) then okay, cancel, cancel

./winetricks jet40 sudo apt update && sudo apt-get update wine –version

should be 4.13 or later.

./winetricks dotnet40 sudo apt update && sudo apt-get update ls

make sure you can see the N3FJP programs in the /Downloads folder you want to install. # Install the programs desired but do not launch pgm on exit, accept other defaults. Examples:

wine QSOPA.exe wine FIELDDAY.exe wine ACLOGINST.exe

reboot

delete the three desktop icons that end in ".lnk"

Move winetricks from /Downloads to /usr/share/applications Note: for this file you will have to open the applications folder as root by right clicking on the applications folder and selecting open as root from the menu. Also be sure to check that all permissions are read write and it can be executed as a prgm. To do this right click on the winetricks icon then click properties then click the permissions tab.

Open the State-QSO program by double clicking on the icon

enter registration information or start as a trial version to make sure this works for you before purchase.

If the setup window did not automatically appear, open it under the Settings menu

Fill in all appropriate information such as your Call, Country, Continent, etc.

Under Settings menu click Network

Give the computers Name for "this stations name" and for "Server Name"

Check File Share (this will not be used in Linux)

Accept default location for all file locations, set backup options as desired

Open the Field Day program by double clicking on the icon

enter registration information or start as a trial version to make sure this works for you.

If the setup window did not automatically appear, open it under the Settings menu

Fill in all appropriate information such as your Call, Country, Continent, etc.

Under Settings menu click Network

Give the computers Name for "this stations name" and for "Server Name"

Check File Share (this will not be used in Linux)

Accept default location for all file locations, set backup options as desired

Open the ACLOG program by double clicking on the icon

enter registration information or start as a trial version to make sure this works for you.

If the setup window did not automatically appear, open it under the Settings menu

Fill in all appropriate information such as your Call, Country, Continent, etc.

Under Settings menu click Network

Give the computers Name for "this stations name" and for "Server Name"

Check File Share (this will not be used in Linux)

Accept default location for all file locations, set backup options as desired

sudo apt update && sudo apt-get update

Establish a network connection. Left click on the network icon in the tool tray and select your router if visible. If it is hidden click on network settings in this menu then click connect to hidden network.

In the home folder (/home/user id) right click on public folder and click on sharing options and install samba and accept files to be added and install.

Once sharing is installed and after a reboot, right click on public folder in the home folder and again click on the sharing options. click sharing on and click allow others to create and delete files in this folder and click guest access. Next click Modify share and then add the permissions automatically.

In an open folder click on network in the left column

double click on the computer icon of the other computer and double click on the public folder # Connect as anounymous

repeat this for all the other computers that you wish to share data.

Look for where the other computer's public folder now exists on your computer and copy its location. # It should be under /run/user/1000/gvfs/

You can do a file search for it. The folder likely starts with a name like "smb-share:server="
in terminal or through menu start winecfg

winecfg

goto drives tab
add a drive I: for /run/user/1000/gvfs/smb-share:server=..... (as found above)

and add drive O: for /home/your computer name/Public

Do this by adding the drive letter and browsing for the specific folder.

wait after adding the drive letter for lines in the terminal window indicating the system has caught up or you will get an error msg.

Depending on your setup each time you boot you may have to re-establish the connection to the other computer's public folder but not the rest of the commands

you can now use the network to import and export ADIF files. Unfortunately you cannot share files using the windows fileshare or TCP protocols under wine.

What you can do is use the Networking without a Network protocol given above but now instead of importing and exporting files to a USB stick you can Export files to drive O and Import files from drive I.

To do this click either import or export ADIF under the file menu, In the resulting popup windo click on my computer in the left column and then select drive I for import or O as exporting output, as appropriate. It is not as nice as a windows filesharing network but will allow you to update logs using data from other computers.

73, Rob