Trusted QSL V2.7.5 Release Notes

This version of Trusted QSL (TQSL) has new features as well as corrections for defects found since TQSL 2.7 was released.

Updates since TQSL 2.7

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

There were no serious defects reported for TQSL 2.7. This release contains several minor updates which have accumulated since 2.7 was released.

TQSL 2.7.5 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 2.7.5 will replace older versions of Trusted QSL while preserving your Callsign Certificates, Station Locations, and preferences. On Windows, simply run the TQSL 2.7.5 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 2.7.5 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:

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The following list describes the major changes in the v2.7.2 release of Trusted QSL.

TQSL changes

Defects Corrected:

[2.7.1]

Allow TQSL to run on Windows XP. Note that this support is beginning to become difficult to maintain. At some point, XP systems will need to be updated to a supported operating system.

Fix for handling of US 1x1 callsigns. TQSL 2.7 would get stuck on the end-date for the operation and not allow the request for the callsign certificate to proceed.

 [2.7.2]

Fix the date range dialog window on Mac so that more than one character of the day/month/year is visible.

Handle locked upload tracking databases properly. When more than one copy of TQSL is running , detect that and provide an error messaging asking to complete other uploads. (Prior to TQSL 2.7, this would cause the uploads database to be corrupted.)

For some errors being triggered when processing an ADIF file before any QSO data was read, TQSL would print a random line number. TQSL now always initializes the line number properly.

If the uploads database is corrupt, TQSL would emit spurious error messages on exit due to the automatic backup operation being performed. This is no longer displayed.

When the uploads database was locked, TQSL would lock up and not proceed when attempting to sign a log. TQSL now handles this and emits a reasonable error message.

Detect and repair the uploads database for cases where an empty file had been created. TQSL now deletes that file and creates a new uploads database rather than aborting signing the log.

When installing a new version of the TQSL configuration file, TQSL could reference memory areas that had been released, leading to crashes. TQSL now releases this memory properly.

[2.7.3]

When processing a callsign certificate request for US-based callsigns, TQSL checks that the callsign is valid in the FCC ULS database (excluding 1x1 calls). This check was being incorrectly applied to portable calls for US operations (example: P5ZZZ/W1 or W2/P5XXX). TQSL no longer checks for the "W1" being in the ULS.

The Callsign Certificate display used to state "Awaiting ARRL action" for pending callsign certificates, including ones that Logbook had rejected. TQSL no longer uses this label.

Correct handling of an empty upload tracking database. If the file exists but has no content, TQSL deletes it and recreates the database.

Allow duplicate QSOs in a single log signing operation. TQSL would emit an error message in that case; the correct action is to report the duplicate and proceed.

[2.7.4]

Further correction of handling of US portable callsigns and FCC Universal Licensing Service (ULS) data. Callsigns with blank fields in the ULS data, or with PO boxes for addresses, would cause TQSL to lock up and not allow submitting callsign certificate requests.

Correct handling of language mapping. Changes to the underlying wxWidgets platform caused some translations to fail.

When editing or creating Station Locations, saving of invalid gridsquares is now rejected. TQSL would allow a user to repeatedly click "next" to bypass the check.

[2.7.5]

Renewing a callsign certificate which had not expired was blocked (the menus were greyed out) unless the certificate had actually expired. TQSL 2.7.5 allows renewal of certificates which have not expired.

When updating QTH details from an ADIF log, certain fields such as US_STATE were not upper-cased as expected by Logbook of the World. This could result in credit for more than 50 US States on LoTW. TQSL 2.7.5 now properly uppercases those fields.

Major feature Additions:

[2.7.2]

Major changes to support VoiceOver on Mac for vision-impaired hams. This work is incomplete but allows the critical operations (station local and callsign certificate handling) to be performed with keyboard navigation.

[2.7.3]

Detect cases where the user's computer clock is set incorrectly. Rather than generating a meaningless "cannot load authority certificate" error, TQSL now tells the user if their clock is set far into the past or into the future.

Attempts to load expired and replaced callsign certificates now display a better explanation of the issue and provide a URL for downloading a current set of the user's callsign certificates.

[2.7.4]

TQSL now has a database of valid gridsquares indexed by DXCC entity and primary subdivision (state, province, etc.) allowing detection of invalid gridsquares in station locations.

When upload of a Callsign Certificate request fails, TQSL now allows the user to save that for a later upload.

Handle network outages more graciously. Don't repeatedly try to connect to Logbook when it's down, as this could cause startup to take many minutes for some circumstances. TQSL now detects the errors and stops trying.

Minor Updates:

[2.7.2]

On Windows, detect when TQSL's main window is off screen and move it back into view. This can happen when monitors are disconnected or added, and causes a lot of support calls to the LoTW helpdesk.

Add a preference on Mac systems to allow callsign certificates to be saved as .P12 files that can be imported into the keychain on Mac. The keychain supports only obsolete cryptographic algorithms, and TQSL allows the operator to choose to use these weak algorithms when saving a P12 file. The default is to use modern algorithms; non Mac systems will not present this preference setting.

TQSL would generate error messages when identical QSOs appear in an ADIF log. It now handles duplicate QSOs properly.

[2.7.3]

Change "some QSOs suppressed" wording for log uploads to "some QSOs not processed". Clarify the messages being sent to logging programs to make it more clear when QSOs aren't being uploaded. For example, when a logging program asks TQSL to generate an error when previously uploaded QSOs are detected, TQSL would state "cancelled by user" when the user never took such action.

Add the Mac Keyring compatibility preference to all versions of TQSL. (See the 2.7.2 release note for what this is for.)

Pre-load a set of authority certificates into the TQSL certificate store to allow certificates that were bundled with the wrong authorities to be accepted.

[2.7.4]

Allow renewal of Callsign Certificates that expired within the last 90 days.

Warn users with US base callsigns and portable modifiers that reciprocity agreements such as CEPT require US callsign holders to be US citizens.

Suppress "wxGTK-WARNING" messages on Linux systems.

Allow an empty location name on the command line to indicate to TQSL that the log submitted for signing has valid station location data (ADIF MY_xxx fields) and that no station location should be used.

Reinstalling TQSL 2.7.3

Downgrading to TQSL 2.7.4 can be seamlessly performed by uninstalling TQSL 2.7.5 and reinstalling TQSL 2.7.4.