

# Activity Logger

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## *User's Guide*

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### Introduction

The **FMSuite Activity Logger** (called AL in the rest of this guide) is a free plugin designed for use within the SDR Sharp software application. It records scanner activity created by the Frequency Manager + Scanner plugin, when it is scanning frequencies in a Group.

### System Requirements

Basically, if you can run SDR Sharp and the Frequency Manager + Scanner from the Frequency Manager Suite, you can use the Activity Logger.

- **Operating Systems:** Windows 7, Windows 8.x, and Windows 10. The binaries are compiled for a 32-bit environment for the broadest compatibility but run equally well in an x64 environment.
- **Processor:** 1-gigahertz processor or faster; **2 or more cores is recommended**. Hyper-threading/multi-threading should be enabled for the best performance. **NOTE:** SDR# and my plugins are multi-threaded applications, which means they perform multiple tasks simultaneously. The more threads your processor supports, the better SDR# and FMSuite will run.
- **Memory:** 1 gigabyte or more total in the computer.
- **Hard Disk:** The software requires about 20KB.
- **SDR Sharp:** Revision 1812 or newer.
- **Frequency Manager + Scanner** from the Frequency Manager Suite.

### Important Note

SDR# is a hobby project created by other people and I am not involved in it. I have no control over changes made to SDR#. I am completely at their mercy as to how their changes affect AL. They are under no obligation to inform me of changes; I won't know if their changes will break my plugins until the plugins are run with the new version of SDR# and you tell me there is a problem. As a result, there will be a period after they make a breaking change in which my plugins may not work. Please be assured I will make any necessary changes, and release updates, as soon as practical after SDR# is changed and I have identified the issue.

## Using the Activity Logger

The AL listens for activity from the scanner portion of the Frequency Manager + Scanner plugin. When the scanner finishes listening to a frequency, the following data are written to the file. Each row in the log represents one start time + end time + frequency event.

- Reception Start (date and time)
- Reception End (date and time)
- Frequency (in Hertz)
- Center (in Hertz)
- Description (from the Frequency Manager database if present)
- Notes (from the Frequency Manager database if present)
- Protocol (from the Frequency Manager database if present)
- Service (from the Frequency Manager database if present)
- Callsign (from the Frequency Manager database if present)
- Shift Enabled
- Shift
- Filter Type
- Filter Bandwidth
- Squelch Enabled
- Squelch
- CW Shift
- Timeout Seconds (setting from the scanner)
- Minimum Signal Strength (setting from the scanner)
- Actual Signal Strength
- Exit Reason (Timeout, Watchdog, etc.)

The logs are written in CSV format with double-quotes around text fields to have the highest level of compatibility with other applications.

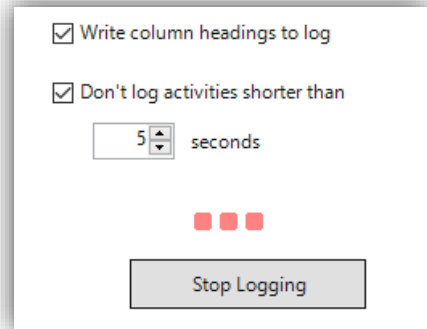
## The Activity Logger Panel

### *Write Column Headings to Log*

Depending on your ultimate use of the log file you may or may not require that column headings be present in line 1 of the file. Put a check mark here to cause column headings to be written to the file.

### *Don't log activities shorter than X seconds*

Depending on how you scan, you might get very short, possibly empty, transmissions. Using this setting will prevent those from being logged. Normally this value is set to less than the "Seconds wait for more transmission" value in the Scanner.

A screenshot of a software panel titled "Activity Logger". It contains two checked checkboxes: "Write column headings to log" and "Don't log activities shorter than". Below the second checkbox is a numeric input field with the value "5" and a "seconds" label. At the bottom of the panel, there are three red squares and a button labeled "Stop Logging".

### *Activity Indicator*

This row of 3 red blocks appears after the logging is started and the first activity record is received from the scanner. It is animated and will display until logging is stopped.

### *Auto Start Logging*

When clicked, the button watches for activity records from the Frequency Manager + Scanner plugin. After the first record is received the Activity Indicator appears and logging is started; and the button caption changes to "Stop Logging". You may turn off Auto Start and logging by simply clicking the button again. Note that logging any activity is not a priority action; as a result, it may be several seconds before the first record is recorded.

## Log Files

File generated by the plugin are in an FMSuite subfolder named "FMSuite.Activity.Logs". The full path to this folder is <SDR# folder>\Plugins\FMSuite\net5.0-windows\FMSuite.Activity.Logs. Files are named for the year, month, and day that they were created. For example, "2021-09-27.csv" contains logs written on September 27, 2021. Log entries, when received from the scanner, are automatically appended to the existing log file for that day.

If a logging session should run past local midnight, a new log file named for the new date will be created in the same folder.

## Known Issues

None.

## Notices

- "SDR Sharp", "SDR#", and the SDR# software are Copyright © Youssef TOUIL 2012-2021.
- "FreqMgr", "Frequency Manager + Scanner", "Frequency Manager Suite" and software distributed with the Frequency Manager Suite are Copyright © 2013-2021 Jeff Knapp.