EOL/CDS Chat Client Configuration
Instructions

Overview

NCAR/EOL's Computing, Data and Software Facility operates a standard IRC server and there are many IRC chat clients that will work with this server. We have found that xchat is a good multiplatform chat client which offers enhanced features such as logging, timestamps, etc. Since xchat running on a Windows platform has been the most popular method, we have included more detailed instructions for that type of install here. If you need a client for other OSeS, please go to www.xchat.org. There could be slight changes to what you see here due to version number differences, etc. but you should also be able to configure your particular choice of chat client by extracting configuration information presented in this document and entering it appropriately. Please pay particular attention to the chat server name and port number, the chat server password, SSL settings and the conventions for chatroom names and nicknames.

To Download and Install XChat on a Windows machine:

for Mac OS http://sourceforge.net/projects/xchataqua/

1) With the browser of your choice, go to http://www.silverex.org/download/

2) Click to download the latest X-Chat installer

3) Save to PC

4) Open the .exe that was just saved to your PC

5) Use all the defaults by clicking Next and then Install

6) At the end it will ask you to click Next, and then Finish
7) XChat is now installed and needs to be setup

8) It should create an XChat icon on your desktop

To Setup XChat

1) Open XChat

2) The first screen to display is the “XChat: Server List”

3) During field operations, knowing a person's location can often be important. Therefore, we recommend that your Nickname be your first and last name, including the location you are currently chatting from, for example:

    BrandonSlaten-ncar
    SusanStringer-c130
    MikeDaniels-spol
    HarryOchs-ops
    BjornStevens-ucla

4) Check “Skip server list on startup” at the bottom of the screen

5) Click on Add

![XChat: Edit New Network window](image)
6) Type in RDCC, case sensitive, so please use all caps

7) RDCC should now show up in the Networks list

8) Click on Edit

9) Edit the new network server name (it will probably default to “newserver/6667”)

10) Replace ‘newserver/6667” with “rdcc.guest.ucar.edu/6668”

11) Check “Connect to selected server only”

12) Check “Use global user information”
13) Check “Auto connect to this network at startup”

14) Check “Use proxy server”

15) Check the "Use SSL" box

16) Check the "Accept invalid SSL certificate" box

17) You will also need to put in the channels you wish to join. It is best to only use those you will really need.

18) These are the established channels for projects (substitute the actual project name for "PROJECT" – more channels can always be added). Here are some examples:

&PROJECT : The project's general discussion, aircraft and project coordination
&C130Q: C-130 specific discussion (instrumentation issues, etc.)
&Spol: S-Pol specific discussions
&dropsonde : dropsonde coordination
&BAE146: UK BAE-146 specific discussions
&Kingair: UWyo KingAir specific discussions
&G5: Gulfstream G-V specific discussions
&PAM: PAM station discussions
&GAOS: GAOS discussions

e tc.

19) In the “Channels to join:” box, list all of the channels you want to participate in, separated by commas. No matter how many you choose, we recommend that you list “&PROJECT” as the last one so that it will be active on startup.

20) The server password is *******

contact gstoss at ucar.edu
21) Your configuration should look like this (except that &RICO would be the current project's name):

![X-Chat: Edit RDCC]

22) Now click on close

23) You will be back at the “X-Chat: Server list” window, click on connect to join the channels.

24) The following commands will be very useful in the rooms:

   Join a channel:
   `/JOIN <channel-name>`

   Change your nickname:
/NICK <new nickname>

Start a private chat with someone:

/QUERY <nickname>

25) Please click on a tab at the bottom two switch between the different chat channels.

26) You should now be able to chat!

There are many individual preferences to apply, including sound notification of messages, color highlighting and the like. When in doubt, please consult the xchat documentation, or initiate a discussion with another chat participant for further instructions.