



# International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

## Interim Meeting – Vienna Austria

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**Subject:** FT8 power limit

**Committee:** C4

WSJT-X (“Weak Signal Communication, by K1JT”) is a piece of software that implements communication protocols or “modes” designed for making reliable QSOs under extreme weak-signal conditions. The most popular mode is FT8, which is enjoying widespread favour thanks to its sensitivity, its short transmit-receive cycle and - last but not least - its “Fox & Hound” operating feature that enables DXpeditions to make QSOs at very high rates.

On the HF bands, worldwide QSOs are possible with FT8 using power levels of a few watts and compromise antennas. The WSJT-X User Guide clearly states that in most circumstances FT8 does not require high power, and that “under most HF propagation conditions, QRP is the norm”. Nonetheless this recommendation is being largely ignored, much to the detriment of amateurs with modest setups.

**Proposal:** To invite member societies to encourage their members to refrain from using excessive, unnecessary power while operating FT8.

**Financial Implications:** none