Information Bulletin
Using an analog (Non-D-Star) radio and PK-232 TNC with D-RATS.

If you have a Packet radio station with a TNC you're pretty much ready to go with D-RATS. All you need to do is place your TNC in KISS mode and add a new port to D-RATS.

Configuring the TNC/MCP

For this example I'll use my AEA Timewave PK-232/PSK TNC/MCP. With your Packet terminal program place the PK-232 in KISS mode by entering the KISS ON command. Exit your Packet terminal program, you're finished.

Configuring D-RATS

In D-RATS go to PREFERENCES > RADIO to enter D-RATS config then click on ADD to add a new port definition for your analog/radio TNC combination. It will ask you for name, Port type, port number, and baud rate. Below is how I filled in the information for my new port:

Name: PK-232 (Can be anything you want here.)

Type: TNC   (Must be TNC.)

Port: COM1   (Computer port where the radio/TNC is connected.)

Baud: 9600

When finished filling in information in the Add a Port window make sure you click on ADD again to save the new port definition and make sure you enable the new port. Your new port should be in the list of ports in the D-RATS Config window and there should be a green check mark in the box under ENABLE. You're finished.

Exit D-RATS then start it again. On startup make sure you see no connection errors. If there are no connection errors on your new port definition, you're ready to use your analog radio and PK-232 TNC with D-RATS.

Most D-RATS users keep several ports enabled for the ratflector, RF, or other devices. When you want to transmit on your analog radio make sure to SELECT the port name for your analog radio/TNC combination.

When you want to stop running D-RATS and run something else with the PK-232, exit D-RATS then start your packet terminal program and hit three CTRL-C in rapid succession, wait about a half second and the PK-232 will return to Terminal mode. This procedure may vary from TNC to TNC.
73
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Kirk