



SUBJECT	Electronic logsheet for ATV contests		
Society	UBA	Country:	Belgium
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1. Introduction

Currently, there is no official electronic format to submit entries for ATV contests. This is probably due to the lack of interest by contest log programs to implement the very specific features required for ATV contests.

2. Background

The official REG1TEST format, as used by conventional VHF/UHF/microwave contests lacks lots of the required features for an ATV contest, and extending the REG1TEST format itself will still not be enough due to the absence of specific contest logging software.

On the other hand, several local ATV contest groups have started using Excel spreadsheets for logging, like BATC or VERON. In practice, most competitors do submit logs in some electronic format (XLS, DOC ...) but the evaluation of logs is still requiring copy/pasting the QSO's from one format to another.

3. Key points and proposal

Requirements for an electronic format:

The electronic format should comply with the IARU region 1 ATV contest rules as set in chapter 4.8 of the current IARU region 1 VHF handbook, as well as the requirements for organising such contests described in chapter 4.2 of the VHF handbook.

It should be easy to use by the operators and the contest managers and should be usable by a wide community of users, using either Microsoft Excel or alternative programs, including open source software.

The electronic worksheet should provide to the contesters most facilities that are normally provided by contest log programs, both during the contest (calculating headings and distance) as well as after the contest (creating summary sheet with ODX, total QSO's per band, multipliers ...)

The electronic worksheet should enable the contest managers and organisers to easily perform cross-checks and compiling the final scores.

The worksheet should be easily maintainable for any change in contest rules.

The worksheet should also be usable for sub-regional ATV contests.

Although BATC, VERON, UBA and other societies use similar worksheets, we would like to propose a worksheet that fits closer to the IARU Region 1 ATV contest. This worksheet is attached to the proposal.

4. Recommendation

We recommend using the attached worksheet as electronic log sheet to submit ATV contest logs.

The attached worksheet has so far been tested under following spreadsheets:

- Microsoft Excel 97, 2000, 2002 and later
- Open Office 2.3 (Windows, OS-X, OpenBSD and Linux)
- IBM Lotus Symphony (Windows & Linux)

If the community can validate the spreadsheet or migrate it to other software, then it will be supported as well.