How to get a SignaLink working with Winlink

To use Winlink you need a device to interface your computer to your radio. The actual name for that device is a TNC (Terminal Node Controller). A TNC is a piece of hardware that basically works as a "radio modem".

Fast forward to today and you will find many hams already use a rather interesting piece of hardware called a SignaLink. Typically used for digital modes on HF (Like FT8, WSPR or PSK31). The interesting thing is that the SignaLink is not a TNC it is an external sound card. BUT – With a little bit of extra software running on your computer it can turn your SignaLink into a TNC! I think of it as a "Virtual TNC".

I have personally used two different virtual TNC software packages:

- 1. Direwolf
- 2. Soundmodem by UZ7HO

Both work quite well.

I recently found a nice step by step guide for setting up Soundmodem for Winlink. I have attached it here for easy reference.

I hope it helps you get your Winlink system up and running soon.

73's Tom – KB4PIX