



## In This Newsletter

- K4 Extensibility
- Great Products From Other Manufacturers
- K4 Update
- Share Your Pictures
- August Specials

## K4 Extensibility

By Wayne, N6KR

The other day someone asked me whether we might add remote antenna rotator control to the K4 front panel. This is a good time to point out a characteristic that's baked into the K4's user interface: extensibility.

For example, we included a dedicated switch function called REM ANT. (This is the "hold" function of the main ANT switch.) We'll be able to add multiple antenna-related controls to this switch. It might bring up a rotator controller, remote antenna switch controller, even custom switching for complex stations -- right on the K4's screen. You could assign labels to custom functions or name your antennas to improve usability.

Like the K3/K3S, the K4 also has programmable function switches. But it has many more of them. There are four dedicated switches (PF1-PF4) above the RIT/XIT offset control, plus another 14 tap/hold functions accessible by tapping the "Fn" soft switch on the LCD.

Any of these programmable controls can be used as simple shortcuts to often-used menu entries or other functions. We're also planning to include means for setting up switch "macros" (collections of commands) either manually or automatically.

Users of our existing transceivers may already be familiar with manual macro setup. In this case you'd enter a string

of K4 2-letter commands as text.

Automatic macro setup will work differently: first you'll select a programmable control as the target, then record any combination of other controls to it by activating them in the desired order.

For example, suppose you frequently use two different waterfall heights (as a percentage of total panadapter height). You could manually enter the text for a switch macro using the pertinent commands. In the automatic method, you would start macro record, adjust the waterfall to one of the desired values in the usual way, then stop macro record. That Fn or PFn control would now perform the same operation with a single switch activation. This could be repeated to add other custom settings.

Another example is setting up the VFOs and second receiver for DXing. You might start macro record, then tap A>B twice (copying both frequency and mode, etc.), then offset VFO B by 2 kHz, turn on the second RX, and set the passbands for the two receivers to useful starting points. When you terminate macro record, you'll now be able to do all of this with one press.

Taking things a step further, the K4 will allow external computer applications to "curate" their own controls on the K4's LCD. In its simplest form, this would allow an application to send details of one or more custom menu entries to the K4. These menu entries would appear in the K4's own menu, typically in the "APPS" category. The user could then make changes to the external application's settings directly from the K4's screen when it isn't convenient to do it at the computer.

Of course this will also work the other way around. Virtually all K4 functions will be controllable from computer applications capable of sending control commands via USB, RS232, or Ethernet.

## Great Products From Other Manufacturers Featuring *SNS Engineering*



**Rack Mount Panel for Elecraft K3(s) and P3**

SNS Engineering is an electronics design engineering consulting firm that offers mechanical engineering and industrial design with in-house CNC machining capabilities. You can purchase rack mounts for Elecraft products online or you can contact them to discuss your particular requirements and help you design and prototype them. You can contact SNS Engineering at [contact@snsengineering.com](mailto:contact@snsengineering.com) or call them at 831-345-4590.

Check out our list of Great Products From Other Manufacturers [HERE](#).

# News & Updates

## 2019 Trade Show Schedule

Below is a list of trade shows that we'll be attending in 2019. We'll let you know if we add any more shows to our list. If you're attending any of these events, come on by and say hello!

- August 9-10 - Pacific NW DX Convention, Everett, WA.
- Aug 17-18 - Huntsville, Huntsville, AL.
- September 6-8 - HamXposition 2019, Boxborough, MA.
- September 13-14 - W9DXCC, St. Charles, IL.
- September 20-21 - W4DXCC, Pigeon Forge, TN.
- October 18-20 - Pacificon, San Ramon, CA.

## Share your Pictures!



Scott Bastian, AK6Q, with his KX2 on Mt. Crested Butte, CO.

Email pictures of your shack, your Elecraft equipment out in the field, contesting and DXpeditions. We'll even post your videos of Elecraft equipment in action!

### Submission Guidelines

Email pictures and videos to [webmaster@elecraft.com](mailto:webmaster@elecraft.com). Please email pictures and videos of yourself. If there are others in your picture or video, please get their permission to post on our site.

- Use JPG format for photos.
- Video preferred format: MP4, a maximum length of 60 seconds.
- Photos and videos must include a credit: name of the photographer and organizational affiliation (if applicable).
- Photos must each include a unique caption, which includes a description of what is going on in the photo, who is involved, where it was taken. Captions should not be more than two sentences in length.

### The fine print

- Photos/videos must be submitted by the photographer or with permission.
- Photos/videos of children (under 18 yrs) requires parent's permission to post. Written consent is required.
- We have the right to not post pictures or videos.

## K4 Update High-Performance Direct Sampling SDR



We are continuing to take deposits for the K4 - the first shipping group will be filled soon. At this time, we don't have final pricing for the K4 models. We are still gathering material prices from our suppliers; however, the full deposit for the K4 and the K4D will be close to the price of the radios.

### K4 Pre-Order Information Email

We have emailed K4 order verification forms to everyone who placed a K4 order, and we've received most of your responses. Thank You!

**If you have not responded to the email, we are still accepting responses. .**

If you pre-ordered a K4, but did not receive a K4 Pre-Order Verification email, please complete the [K4 Pre-Order Information Form here](#).

**The information that you provide is very important in helping us with our manufacturing plan.**

**Thank you!**

Learn more about [the K4 and pre-order here](#).