

## Connecting HOTSPOTS to BrandMeister

The **API Key (Application Programming Interface key)** is a must have for openSPOT's and I believe is also required for Pi-Star's. The API key puts a **BrandMeister Manger** function on the **ADMIN** tab of a Pi-Star and a **BrandMeister** finger tab on the right side of the **Status** page for an openSPOT. These **BrandMeister Manager** functions indicate active talkgroups, including time slots, on your hotspot. Additionally, they allow the user to add or delete talkgroups.

### BrandMeister API Key Setup Guide

#### Step 1 — Obtain Your BrandMeister API Key

1. Log in to your **BrandMeister** account.
2. Go to **Profile Settings**.
3. Click the blue **API Key** link.
4. Select **Add API Key**.
5. Enter a name for the key (examples: **Pi2**, **OS2**, etc.).
6. Your API Key will appear — click **COPY**.

Leave the BrandMeister page open while completing the hotspot steps below. When finished, return to the BrandMeister page and click **OK**.

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### Using the API Key with a Raspberry Pi Hotspot

1. Open the **Configuration** menu.
2. Select **EXPERT**.
3. Select **BM API**.
4. Click inside the white box at the top and **paste your API Key**.
5. Click **SAVE** or **Apply Changes**.
6. Open the **ADMIN** tab.

You should now see the **BrandMeister Manager** added.

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### Using the API Key with an openSPOT

1. Open the **Status Page**.
2. Select the **BrandMeister Manager** icon.

3. Click inside the white **API Key** field.
  4. **Paste your API Key.**
  5. Click **Check API Key.**
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## **Result**

Your hotspot should now be connected to the **BrandMeister Manager**, allowing you to manage talkgroups and other functions directly from the dashboard.