

HOT SPOT – Raspberry Pi

BrandMeister to DMR+ Server and Back

This set of instructions is to assist you to configure your hot spot to be able to connect into the ChicagoLand network infrastructure to allow for using the Talk Group (TG) 3555. This TG is used in order to connect to the W4DUX DMR repeater if you are traveling or in a location outside of the repeaters signal range. The base assumption being made is that your current configuration has your PISTAR connecting to the BrandMeister network infrastructure.

First, please ensure you have set up an applicable channel within your radio which has TG 3555 as the contact. Assign the color code (CC) = 1 and the time slot (TS) = 1 to this channel along with the applicable received and transmit frequencies as configured in your hot spot.

Bring up your PISTAR dashboard in your browser on your PC.

In the upper right corner click on **Configuration**. You will now be presented with the Configuration page.

In the upper header of the Configuration page click on **Backup/Restore**. At this time you are going to create a backup of your current configuration. This is intended to simplify being able to return to your BrandMeister configuration any time you desire.

You will now see the Backup/Restore page. The page is essentially two sides: the left hand side is for creating and downloading your PISTAR configuration; and the right hand side is for restoring your stored configuration.

On the left side of the page click on the green arrow which is pointing down. The system will automatically create a zip file and download it to your computer system. The default naming of the file is “Pi-Star_Config_year-month-day.zip” It is highly advised to locate and rename this zip file to include the letters “BM” in order to help identified it as your BrandMeister configuration. A sample naming could be “Pi-Star-Config-callsign-BM_yearmonthday.zip” with the yearmonthday in the form of all numbers (e.g., 20260228).

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Once the backup activities have been completed click on **Configuration** in the upper right of the screen. You will now be returned to the Configuration page.

Scroll down to the section titled **DMR Configuration**.

In the drop down for the **DMR Master** line use the drop down and scroll down until you locate the DMR+_IPSC2 – CLAND option. Click on that option to select it. Now click on the **Apply Changes** button.

Your PISTAR will now stop and restart services. Please allow up to 5 minutes for this to complete.

Once the PISTAR has returned to an operational state click on **Dashboard**. This will bring you to the primary Dashboard where you can see radio transmission activities on your PISTAR. Go to your radio and connect to TG 3555 and make a test call. If everything is configured correctly you will see your transmission activities under both the Gateway Activity and Local RF Activity sections.

At this time click on **Configuration** again and then on **Backup/Restore**. You will now perform the backup steps as previously identified.

It is highly advised to locate and rename this new zip file to include the letters “CL” in order to help identify it as your ChicagoLand configuration. A sample naming could be “Pi-Star-Config-callsign-CL_yearmonthday.zip” with the yearmonthday in the form of all numbers (e.g., 20260228).

If and/or when you desire to change from one configuration to the next you will return to the Backup/Restore page. At this time you will focus on the right side of the screen and click on the Browse button. Locate the zip file of the configuration you wish to use and select that file. You will then click on the green arrow that is pointing up.

CONGRATULATIONS!! You can start bragging on your new skill.