

CHANNEL ORGANISER TAP

1 INTRODUCTION

The Channel Organiser TAP is intended to be an integrated replacement for both Channel Manager and Favourites Manager TAPs leaving out features made redundant by MyStuff version 6 and taking advantage of R2-D2's "FastScan" concepts to reduce the range of channels scanned. Some of the less frequently used features of the above TAPs have been omitted, but may be re-instated if there is a demand.

Please note that it is intended for UK use only, and does not support Tv/Radio "OneList" operation. If you attempt to run it on any machine other than TF5800, TF5800t, or TF5810 it will close down after displaying an explanatory message. It may also refuse to run with some of the early versions of Freeview+ firmware, but should be OK with the versions from the Topsy.org.uk site.

2 FUNCTIONS/FEATURES

Channel Organiser has the following functions:

- Channel scan - can be limited to current transmitter channels or groups of channels corresponding to the various aerial groups. Scanning only the current channels avoids the introduction of duplicate channels and minimises the scan time. A Factory Reset is performed, but your system settings are restored immediately afterwards, and timers can be re-instated –see below.
- Channel deletion - allows deletion of unwanted channels (be they duplicates or just channels of no interest). To assist in the deletion of duplicates, a signal quality rating can be displayed.
- Timer regeneration/update – allows timers to be reinstated to the correct channel after scan and/or channel deletion.
- Favourites updates – allows either native or MyStuff favourites to be generated, deleted, updated and/or re-ordered.
- Control file updates for TF5000 Display TAP, eit2mei, rt2mei, and EPG2MEI using a database file which can be separately updated.

The operation of each of these is described in detail below.

3 USE

3.1 Prerequisites

The required files can be downloaded from:

<http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/emjbtaps/ChannelOrganiser/ChannelOrganiser.zip>. TF5810 users should ensure that they have the [Rm] patch installed, and TF5800 users should ensure they have the [Re] patch installed. Without these patches some keys may not generate the required responses. If not running on a TF5800 or 5810, you need a copy of FireBird's "Firmware.dat" in either "/ProgramFiles/" or "ProgramFiles/Settings/" – a copy is included in the zip file, but it is recommended you obtain the latest version from <http://www.topfield.cc/files/Firebird/FireBirdLib.zip>. The "Freeview.dat" file from the zip must be installed in "/ProgramFiles/Settings/" if any of the control file update features are to be used. **DO NOT INSTALL THE "Channel Organiser.ini" FILE – THIS IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY.**

3.2 Running Channel Organiser

Channel Organiser can be installed and run from any convenient directory, but “Auto Start” is not recommended. When required, simply run the TAP and the main menu as described below will appear after an initial "Initialising" message.

The functions of the major keys are indicated on each screen, and these should be adequate to be able to use Channel Organiser. However additional “short cut” keys are listed in the facility descriptions below.

The first time you run Channel Organiser, “Help” screens will be displayed at prior to each stage requiring user input, but on subsequent occasions or on returning to a screen they will only be displayed on request – see below.

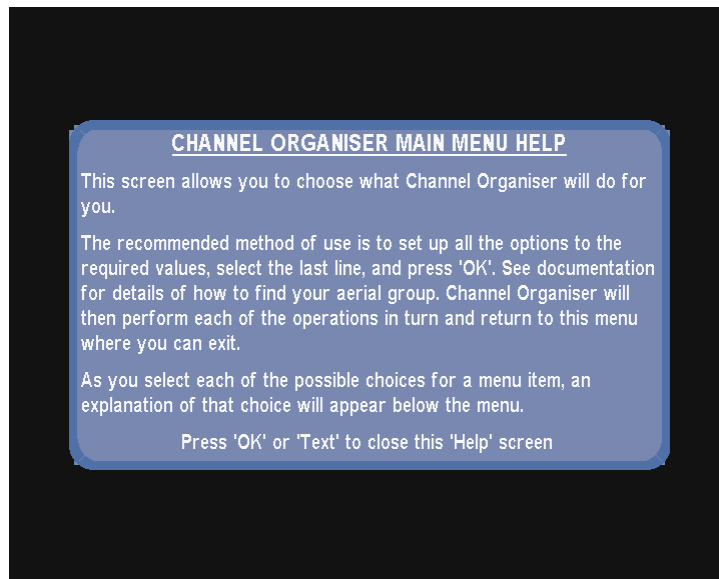
On completion, MyStuff will be prompted to reload its various data files to match the new line-up and favourites choice, but new channel data will not appear in rt2mei data until the latter performs its next update.

A (very verbose) log file is generated and saved as “/ProgramFiles/Logs/ChannelOrganiser Log.txt”.

If you experience problems during or after running Channel Organiser, see section 21.

4 HELP SCREENS

Wherever a user input is required, a “help” screen is available, such as:



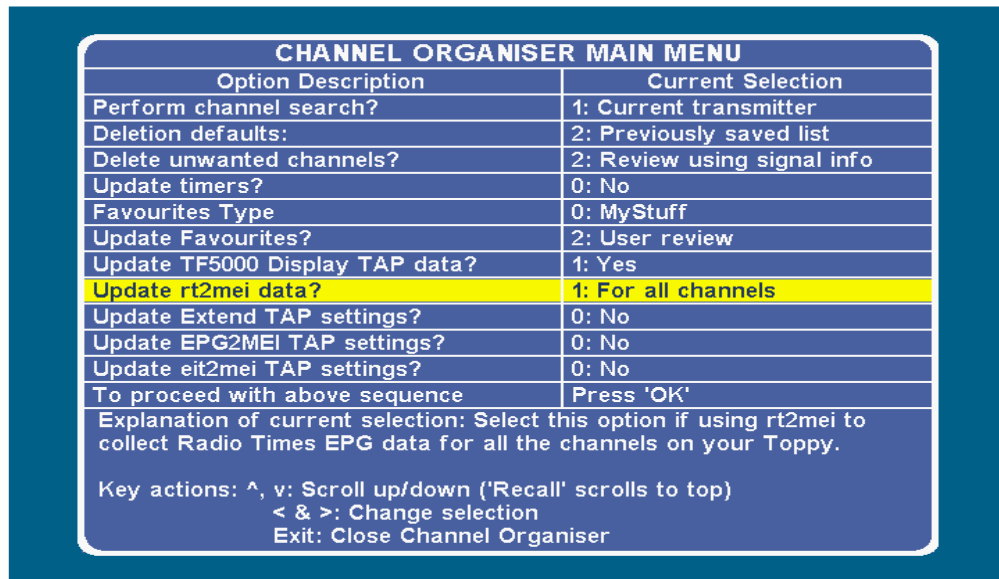
to help you understand what is required. The first time you run Channel Organiser these will appear automatically the first time you use each screen. Subsequently they can be accessed by pressing “Text”. Pressing “OK” , “Exit”, or “Text” again will remove the “Help” info.

5 DUPLICATED/INVALID CHANNEL NAMES & LCNS

Warnings are displayed if invalid or duplicated channels are identified. Where the appropriate one can be identified, they will be pre-marked for deletion at the deletion screen. N.B. Invalid TV channels with LCN ~1000 will appear before the radio channels on the delete screen.

6 MAIN MENU

The main menu allows you to select what features you wish to use, and settings associated with some features thus:

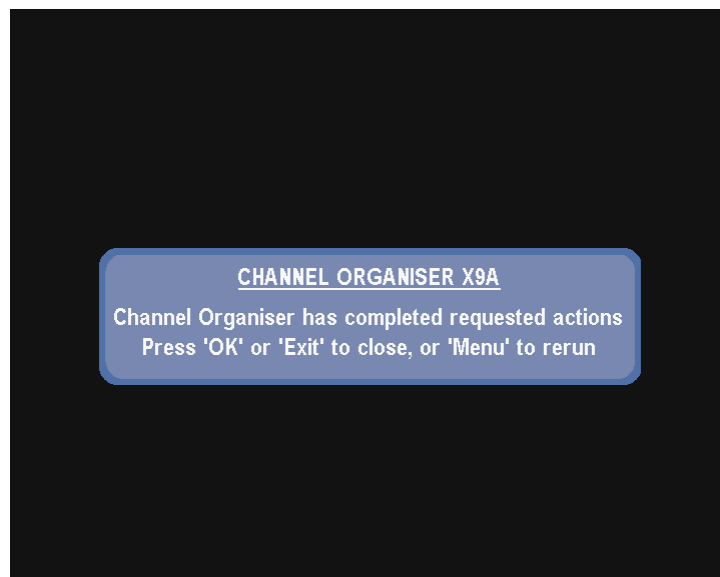


Option Description	Current Selection
Perform channel search?	1: Current transmitter
Deletion defaults:	2: Previously saved list
Delete unwanted channels?	2: Review using signal info
Update timers?	0: No
Favourites Type	0: MyStuff
Update Favourites?	2: User review
Update TF5000 Display TAP data?	1: Yes
Update rt2mei data?	1: For all channels
Update Extend TAP settings?	0: No
Update EPG2MEI TAP settings?	0: No
Update eit2mei TAP settings?	0: No
To proceed with above sequence	Press 'OK'

Explanation of current selection: Select this option if using rt2mei to collect Radio Times EPG data for all the channels on your Topy.

Key actions: ^, v: Scroll up/down ('Recall' scrolls to top)
< & >: Change selection
Exit: Close Channel Organiser

The settings are explained under the individual feature headings below. When you have chosen your settings, go to the last line and press "OK" to work through your selections in sequence. On completion you will be given the choice of exiting or returning to the main menu thus:



If you make attempt to scan or delete channels while recording, or when a recording is due to start within the next 10 minutes, the request will be refused with an explanatory message appearing in the lower section of the window.

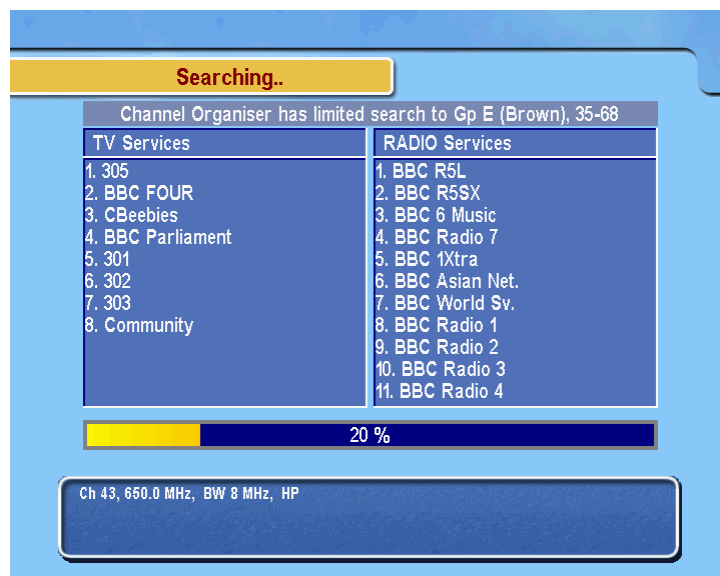
7 CHANNEL SEARCH

The channel search options are “None”, “Current transmitter”, “All UK transmitters”, and a series of channel groups based on standard aerial groups.

The “Current transmitter” option leads to a search on just those transmitter channels currently in use. If you have scanned or delete channels previously using Channel Organiser, the channels used will be those saved (automatically) on completion of the scan and delete activities. Otherwise the channels currently in use are rescanned. This is the preferred option under normal circumstances as it will avoid problems with duplicated channels, and is the quickest. However, this option will not be available if you have lost all your channels and are running Channel Organiser for the first time, or have deleted your “Channel Organiser.ini” file. You will need to pick one of the other options when channels are changed when your analogue channels are switched off.

Your aerial group can be identified using coverage web sites such as “Wolfbane” (<http://www.wolfbane.com/cgi-bin/tvd.exe?>, identified merely as “Gp” in the results table) or DTG (<http://www.dtg.org.uk/industry/>, where the group letter is followed by “H” or “V” to denote the polarisation, which is not relevant here), or may be identifiable via the colour coding on the aerial itself. You can also identify the group if you know the transmitter channel numbers for your area. If you do not know the group, you can always use “All UK transmitters”, but the search will take longer and the risk of duplicated channels is slightly increased.

When the scan is initiated, a Factory Reset is applied after which your system settings are reinstated. Your TV picture may break up for a short time while this occurs. The native scan is then invoked, but the screen is overlaid with a message indicating that Channel Organiser has restricted the search thus:



Channel Organiser will recognise when the search is complete without user intervention, and continue to the next selected activity (if any) or return to the main menu.

N.B.1: If you subsequently do a search channel outside Channel Organiser the same restricted set will be searched until you do a Factory Reset, which will then limit the scan to the UK channels. To revert to the full search you need to first reboot your Toppo, and then do a Factory Reset.

N.B.2: The Channel Organiser search is compatible with the “Hs” patch which will halve the search time for all searches. However, unlike the FastScanGui TAP, it does not temporarily install this patch.

8 CHANNEL DELETION

Two main menu lines control the operation of the channel delete function. The first controls the default deletions which can be none, any new channels, or a previously saved list of deletions. The second gives choice between no deletions, automatic deletion using the defaults, and two user review options which differ only in that one provides a display of signal quality and the other does not.

The “New Channels” option compares the channels when Channel Organiser started with those when entering the deletion screen, and any new channels as a result of an intervening scan will be marked for deletion, but can be unmarked if a review is selected. This will not be effective for an external scan using FastScanGui, for example.

The “Previously Saved List” automatically generates a list and updates it whenever deletions are made. If a scan (internal or external) has occurred since the list was created (as shown by a “deleted” channel re-appearing), the list is re-created to allow for channels being re-instated.

The user review screen looks like:

SELECT CHANNELS FOR DELETION	
LCN - Name	Current Selection
TV 1 - BBC ONE	Retain
TV 2 - BBC TWO	Retain
TV 3 - ITV1	Retain
TV 4 - Channel 4	Retain
TV 5 - FIVE	Retain
TV 6 - ITV2	Retain
TV 7 - BBC THREE	Retain
TV 9 - BBC FOUR	Retain
TV 10 - ITV3	Retain
TV 11 - SKY THREE	Retain
TV 12 - Yesterday	Retain
TV 13 - Channel 4+1	Retain

Key actions: ^, <<, v, >>: Scroll Up/Down ('Recall' scrolls to top)
 White, < or >: Toggle selections
 Slo Mo: Delete all on this Tx Channel
 Exit: Abandon changes & return to main menu
 Ok: Implement deletions & return to main menu

or with the extra information:

SELECT CHANNELS FOR DELETION		
LCN - Name	Current Selection	
TV 1 - BBC ONE	Retain	(Ch 49, Signal **)
TV 2 - BBC TWO	Retain	(Ch 49, Signal **)
TV 3 - ITV1	Retain	(Ch 68, Signal *)
TV 4 - Channel 4	Retain	(Ch 68, Signal *)
TV 5 - FIVE	Retain	(Ch 68, Signal *)
TV 6 - ITV2	Retain	(Ch 68, Signal *)
TV 7 - BBC THREE	Retain	(Ch 49, Signal **)
TV 9 - BBC FOUR	Retain	(Ch 39, Signal ***)
TV 10 - ITV3	Retain	(Ch 48, Signal)
TV 11 - SKY THREE	Retain	(Ch 54, Signal *)
TV 12 - Yesterday	Retain	(Ch 50, Signal)
TV 13 - Channel 4+1	Retain	(Ch 68, Signal *)

Key actions: ^, <<, v, >>: Scroll Up/Down ('Recall' scrolls to top)
 White, < or >: Toggle selections
 Slo Mo: Delete all on this Tx Channel
 Exit: Abandon changes & return to main menu
 Ok: Implement deletions & return to main menu

In the latter case, the display is initially as the former, and is updated over a period of ~20 seconds to include the extra information.

The panel at the bottom indicates the effect of the main keys. In addition:

- TvRadio scrolls to first radio channel
- Keys 0-9 scroll to first LCN in ranges 1-9, 10-19, 20-29, , 90-99
- Info scrolls to first interactive channel (LCN = 300 etc)
- Slow Motion – marks all channels on the same transmitter channel as the selected channel to be deleted – only applicable when signal quality and transmitter channel are displayed

In addition to toggling the selection, the “White” key scrolls down one line to ease rapid deletion of consecutive channels.

If duplicate channels exist, the “OK” line of the key action list is replaced by a warning plus identity of the first offending LCN such as “DUPLICATES NOT ALL MARKED FOR DELETION -1st AT LCN 6”.

The “OK” key will still work, but should be avoided.

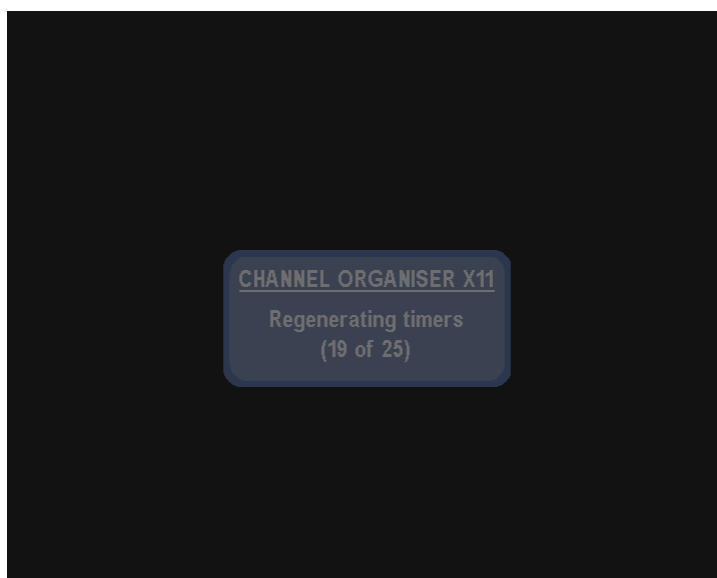
The saved deletion list distinguishes between duplicate deletions and unwanted channel deletions, and thus can be used to allow deletions on subsequent occasions without deleting the wanted versions.

When you press “OK” or “Exit” you will be asked to confirm your selection before proceeding. A delay of ~1 second is applied before confirmation is accepted to avoid problems with accidental key stutter. If you select “OK” you will see confirmation that deletions are taking place, the Channel Organiser screen will close, and the Radio and TV channel lists will briefly appear (needed to update the native EPG screens).

If duplicates are present when you exit this screen, you will be returned to the main menu irrespective of the original settings.

9 TIMER UPDATES

If you select this option, any timers found when Channel Organiser started will be modified as necessary if you have just performed deletions or recreated if you have rescanned. These operations take into account any channel changes that have occurred. While timers are being generated/modified, you will see a progress report such as:



N.B. 1 On Freeview+ firmware, ordinary timers will be saved, but any associated series linking information will be lost.

N.B. 2 If you scan outside Channel Organiser (or similar TAP), you will lose all your timers.

N.B. 3 If you exit Channel Organiser before running this feature, the timers will never be modified/recreated by Channel Organiser though some or all may be recreated by MyStuff CTs etc or other TAP's equivalent features. If you delete channels without rescanning or updating timers, timers may have been transferred to other channels, thus recording the wrong programme and potentially preventing automatic searches from setting timers.

10 FAVOURITES

10.1 General

Two main menu lines control the operation of the Favourites function. The first defines whether Native or MyStuff favourites are to be used, and the second allows you to choose between no update, automatic update allowing for channel changes made as a result of scanning & deletions, and finally user review.

N.B. The native favourite operations are performed on those found when Channel Organiser starts. If you exit Channel Organiser before running this feature in "Native" mode having performed a scan, the favourites will be lost.

Three presentations are available for the user review, with the "Pip Switch" key (bottom left) cycling between them, as follows:

- Contents of one Favourites list at a time.
- Order of entries in one Favourites list at a time.
- Presence of one channel at a time in each list

as detailed below.

As with the Deletions screen, you will need to confirm any "OK" or "Exit" operation.

10.2 Contents of one Favourites List

The presentation in this mode is as follows:

EDITING CONTENTS OF 'All 4s'	
Channel	'X' = Selected
1 - BBC ONE	-
2 - BBC TWO	-
3 - ITV1	-
4 - Channel 4	X
5 - FIVE	-
6 - ITV2	-
7 - BBC THREE	-
9 - BBC FOUR	-
10 - ITV3	-
11 - SKY THREE	-
12 - Yesterday	-
13 - Channel 4+1	X

Key actions: ^, <<, v, >>: Scroll Up, Down ('Recall' scrolls to top)
 White: Toggle currently selected list/channel setting
 PipSw/Rec: Change view/Edit name
 Exit: Abandon changes & return to main menu
 OK: Save changes & return to main menu

In addition to the key actions shown on-screen:

- TvRadio scrolls to first radio channel
- Keys 0-9 scroll to first LCN in ranges 1-9, 10-19, 20-29, , 90-99
- Info scrolls to first interactive channel (LCN = 300 etc)

10.3 Order of Contents of Favourites List

This screen shows the order of the contents of one Favourites list thus:

EDITING DISPLAY ORDER OF 'All 4s'	
Position	Channel
0	Channel 4
1	Channel 4+1
2	More 4
3	Film4
4	E4
5	E4+1

Key actions: ^, v: Scroll Up, Down ('Recall' scrolls to top)
 Green/Yellow: Promote/demote selected channel
 PipSw: Change view
 Exit: Abandon changes & return to main menu
 OK: Save changes & return to main menu

10.4 Presence of One Channel In Each List

This presentation allows the presence of one channel to be checked against all the Favourites Lists thus:

EDITING FAVOURITES CONTAINING 'BBC ONE'	
Favourites List	'X' = In List
All 4s	-
All 5s	-
All BBCs	X
My Favourites	X
All ITVs	-
New List	-
Key actions:	^, v: Scroll Up, Down ('Recall' scrolls to top) White: Toggle currently selected list/channel setting PipSw: Change view Exit: Abandon changes & return to main menu OK: Save changes & return to main menu

In addition to the key actions shown on-screen:

- TvRadio scrolls to first radio channel
- Keys 0-9 scroll to first LCN in ranges 1-9, 10-19, 20-29, , 90-99
- Info scrolls to first interactive channel (LCN = 300 etc)

10.5 Adding/Deleting/Renaming Files

To add a list, go to the first screen above, scroll horizontally to display a pseudo-file called "New List". To make it into a real file edit the name (as below) as required, and the contents inserted as above. **N.B.** You must use a different name, or it will not be saved! Another blank list called "New List" will be created, so multiple new lists can be created in one session.

To edit a list name, in the first screen scroll horizontally to select it, and press "Record" to bring up this screen:

RENAMING FAVOURITES LIST 'New List'	
(Set file name to "" in order to delete it)	
Text To Be Changed (20 char max):	
"New List"	
Key Actions:	
<>	Change selected characters
^,v	Cycle through characters Sp_-,0-9,A-Z,a-z
Red	Add character
White	Delete character
Exit	Abandon changes
Ok	Implement changes

Scrolling to the end will add a space at the end, and spaces can be added anywhere using the "Red" key. "White" deletes the currently selected character, and "Up" cycles through the sequence:

Space, Underscore, 1, 2...8, 9, A, B, ...Y, Z, a, b, ...y, z. Space, Underscore, 1

with “Down” cycling through the same sequence in the opposite direction. Any leading or trailing spaces will be ignored.

To delete a list, edit the name so it becomes "" or all spaces.

10.6 Problems?

If rt2mei users experience problems with “MyFavourites” being changed outside Channel Organiser, check that the “-f” switch is always being invoked when starting rt2mei to prevent rt2mei sending a copy of “MyFavourites” to the Toppo.

11 OTHER TAP ETC. DATA FILES

11.1 General

Channel Organiser allows you to keep ini etc files associated with several other TAPs in line with both your configuration and with changes to the Freeview channel line up. Data on the latter is held in a “Freeview.dat” text file which you can update yourself, or hopefully someone will volunteer to maintain it.

When an LCN is changed in the Freeview data, the LCN on your Toppo will not change until you do a rescan. Channel Organiser takes account of LCN changes (in most circumstances, at least!), so you can use an updated Freeview.dat file to generate the ini etc files that match your toppo when updated ini’s published by the TAP authors will not be valid till you do a rescan.

There are no user interactions while generating these files, but progress reports are displayed to give confidence that all is well.

N.B. You can only regenerate these files when you have removed all duplicate channels from your channel list.

11.2 TF5000 Display TAP

The TF5000 Display TAP “.chn” file defines the abbreviated names to be displayed on the Toppo front panel. It is assumed to live in either “/ProgramFiles/” or “/ProgramFiles/Settings/”. Channel Organiser takes font etc data from the old file, the abbreviated names from the Freeview.dat file, matches the latter to your channel line up, and produces an up-to-date “.chn” file. An entry is made for every channel that is (still) on your Toppo and for which Freeview data is available.

On completion, the TF5000 Display TAP is rebooted to pick up the new information, but only if there is a copy in Auto Start.

11.3 rt2mei – An External Application to Collect Radio Times EPG Data for MyStuff

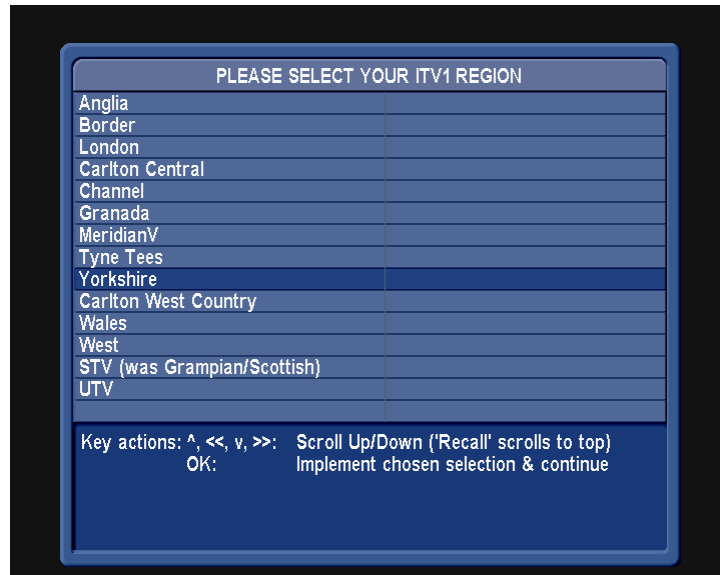
The rt2mei.cfg file defines the channels for which you wish to collect EPG data, and the Radio Times web site code and the Freeview transmission hours for those channels (some channels have different hours for Freeview and for satellite transmissions). The relevant main menu line gives 3 choices for this function:

- rt2mei not used.
- All channels – rt2mei will be instructed to collect data wherever available for all the channels on your Toppo.

- Favourites only – rt2mei will be instructed to collect data only on those channels which appear in one of more of your Favourites.

The last will, in general, reduce the memory required to hold the EPG data and speed up the MyStuff search processes. As the Radio Times site does not include radio data (!!), a “TV Only” option is not needed.

The first time you use Channel Organiser to generate a rt2mei.cfg file you will be prompted to choose the regional variants you wish to use for BBC1, BBC2, ITV1 & ITV1 + 1 with screen such as:



Press “OK” after selecting the relevant region. On subsequent runs, these screens will not appear unless you have chosen one of the “reset region” settings at the main menu).

Channel Organiser generates an “rt2mei.cfg” file to collect data on each relevant channel taking the code and hours from the Freeview.dat file. For consistency with Favourites Manager, Rt2mei.cfg is stored in “/ProgramFiles/Settings/MyStuff/FavLists”.

Using the standard rt2mei files, you will need to transfer the rt2mei.cfg manually to the computer etc running rt2mei. However the Channel Organiser zip file includes 2 modified rt2mei scripts so the file is read directly from your Toppo without needing any manual intervention. These are used as follows:

- “rt2mei.bat” replaces a file of the same name supplied with rt2mei for those that run rt2mei on a Windows PC. **N.B.** If rt2mei is in a subdirectory of \Program Files\ on a Vista PC, this batch file will fail to transfer the configuration file from the Toppo, and your last one will continue to be used. In those circumstances you will need to move rt2mei into another directory.
- “rt2mei_Asus_Slug_LSL_Script” replaces the “rt2mei” file for those running rt2mei on an ASUS, Slug, Link Station Live, etc. I suggest you merely rename it rt2mei. It should be invoked with the “-f” and “-gc” switches (i.e. “/././rt2mei -f -gc”). **N.B.** This is currently based on the 0.63a version of rt2mei, which is not the latest.

It is important that with either PC or ASUS etc, the “-f” switch is used, as otherwise your settings for “MyFavourites” will be sent to the Toppo, overwriting anything you have set up.

When Channel Organiser closes, it checks the “MyStuff.mei” file in “/ProgramFiles/” to determine whether the rescan has led to any LCN changes. If so, the file is updated, which can take a couple of minutes per changed LCN in the unlikely event that the number of digits in the LCN has changed.

11.4 Extend TAP – A TAP to Automatically Extend Overrunning Recordings

The Extend TAP's ini file defines the transmission hours and which channels have relevant EPG data. Channel Organiser generates this data from the Feeview.dat file taking account of differences between it and your LCN list. Other data is taken from the previous Extend.ini, which is assumed to live in "/ProgramFiles/Settings/".

11.5 EPG2MEI & Eit2mei TAPs – TAP to Generate MyStuff EPG Data From The Broadcast EPG Data

The relevant main menu items give 3 choices for these functions:

- Not used.
- All channels – the relevant TAP will be instructed to collect data wherever available for all the channels on your Topy.
- TV channels only – the relevant TAP will be instructed to collect data wherever available for all the TV channels on your Topy.
- Favourites only – the relevant TAP will be instructed to collect data only on those channels which appear in one of more of your Favourites.

The less channels that are included the less memory is required to hold the EPG data and the faster any search processes will be completed.

Other data is taken from the previous ini files, which are assumed to live in "/ProgramFiles/Settings/".

12 INTERACTION WITH OTHER TAPS

Scanning and/or channel deletions may cause some EPG-related TAPs to be confused or even crash when they suddenly find the channel line-up has changed. To this end:

- MyStuff is instructed to reload the relevant files, including Favourites (hence the MS Loading/Searching messages appearing when Channel Organiser closes).
- EPG2MEI is instructed to stop and, provided it is called "EPG2MEI.tap" and can be found in "/ProgramFiles/Auto Start", is restarted.
- EPG Navigator is instructed to stop and, provided it is called "EPGnavigator*.tap" and can be found in "/ProgramFiles/Auto Start", is restarted.

If one of the TAPs fails to stop¹, or if it cannot be found in Auto Start² to allow restart, TF5800s will reboot, and users will be instructed to reboot TF5810s.

- An attempt is made to stop EPG Navigator and, provided it is called "EPGnavigator*.tap" and can be found in "/ProgramFiles/Auto Start" it will be restarted. If not found there under that name, or if it fails to stop, TF5800s will reboot, and users will be instructed to reboot TF5810s. However for the stop function to work it needs to be TSR Commander compatible, and

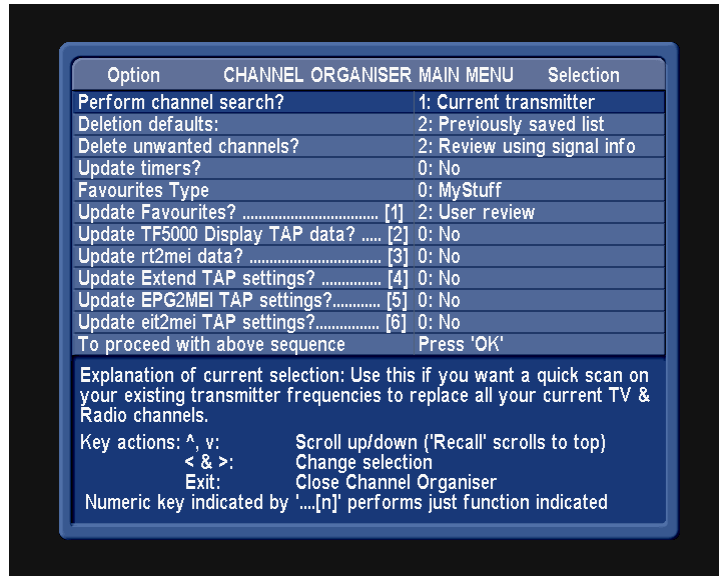
¹ This will occur if a TAP is not TSR Commander compatible. The current version of EPG Navigator @12/9/2009 is not – see <http://forum.topy.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?t=13559> for progress.

² Perhaps because the "XStart" TAP is being used

If you find other examples, please use the feedback link below to report the details.

13 ADVANCED USER MODE

Pressing the “Opt” key allows you to use single numeric keys to invoke Favourites and configuration file updates without having to switch off all the other functions or lose their default settings. The main menu is amended to indicate the functionality of the keys thus:



Pressing “Opt” again switches this mode off. Next time you run Channel Organiser it should start in the mode last used on the previous occasion.

14 SKINS

15 SKINS

The colours used for the display can be changed using a “skin” in “ProgramFiles/Settings/Skins/”. It looks for:

1. “MyInfo.mcf”. If this is not found,
2. “EMJBTaps.mcf”, which allows a common colour scheme to be used for all my TAPs. If this is not found,
3. “CurrentlySelectedSkin.mcf”. This is produced by MyStuff 5.5 onwards when you change skin to anything other than the default, and allows other TAPs to automatically change their skins in line with that in use by MyStuff.

If none of the above are found, a default colour scheme is used which is optimised for CRT TVs.

A copy of a MyStuff skin file can be used, though only the following elements are used:

- "Background=" (text background)
- "TextForeground=" (text)
- "Highlight=" (selected item background)
- "TextHighlightedForeground=" (selected item text)
- "Frame=" (border round windows and dividing lines)
- "Screen=" (area outside window)

and all other entries are ignored. The keywords above should be followed by the red, green & blue values (separated by commas) in the range 0-255 with no spaces or final comma (e.g. 255,0,0 for red, 255,255,0 for yellow etc).

16 KNOWN OUSTANDING ISSUES

1. The TV type after Factory Reset is not restored to its original setting. As UK TVs seem to all accept the default Multi signals, this should not be a problem.
2. Current versions (@12/9/2009) of EPGN Navigator have been reported as overwriting the Channel Organiser delete screen. I have not been able to reproduce this effect

17 HEALTH WARNING

You use this TAP entirely at your own risk, and no guarantee of correct operation is provided! The majority of testing has been done by MyStuff users, so there may be unexpected interactions with other TAPs.

18 FEEDBACK

Please use <http://forum.topsy.org.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?t=15218> to provide feedback, notably of bugs and any additional features you would like.

19 VERSION HISTORY

A1: First general release

A2:

- Logic included to stop & restart EPG Navigator, once it is made TSR Commander-compatible, and to reboot at end if it fails to stop.
- Advanced user mode limited to file editing & publicised for first time.
- No longer shuts down in event of invalid initial channel data - current transmitter scan option not available if transmitter channel data is invalid.
- Recompiled with latest Firebird library

B1:

- Display time extended for error message when Firmware.dat missing
- Will not allow scan or deletions during, or up to 10 minutes before, a recording
- Updates more versions of MyStuff ".mei" files
- Faster, but not so elegant, screens with MyStuff compatible skins
- Can add, rename, and delete Favourite lists
- Automated saving of deletions list

- Ignores apparent duplication of names if called “ADULT Section” to cope with LCNs 92 & 99 introduced in September 2010.

B1.1:

- Ignores additional “ADULT section” headings added in December 2010.
- Fixes bug associated with updating timers after deletions
- Handles LCN’s ≥ 1000 better, marking them for deletion by default.
- Region variants handling for rt2mei generalised to cope with up to 5 channels with regional variants as defined in the “Freeview.dat file.
- Fixes bug associated with selection of automatic deletions
- First deletion default changed to select deletion of illegal LCNs rather than none.

B1.2:

- Improved logging in event of errors in Freeview.dat file
- Bug fix for rebooting TF5000 TAP after “.chn” file update.
- Bug fix for failure to read favourites files when updating rt2mei.cfg file (was OK if edited favourites first).
- Bug fix for problems when using page down facility in Favourites screens.

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21 PROBLEM SOLVING

The following may help those that experience problems:

- Will not search all channels from native menu after running Channel Organiser – reboot your Topsy and do a Factory Reset.
- Will not update ini etc files – check that they are in the right locations as listed in section 11.

APPENDIX 1

MATCHING CHANNELS BEFORE & AFTER SCANS

Determining the relationship between channels before and after a scan is not trivial, since there are at least 4 different identifiers, including:

1. The Topsy channel number, which changes whenever a preceding channels is deleted or added.
2. Logical Channel Number (LCN) – this is occasionally changed as they try to group channels into sets with similar programmes (e.g. shopping channels) but then run out of space of simply change their minds. Unfortunately when changes in LCN are made these are not recognised by the Topsy until the next rescan, so it may continue to report the old version for months.
3. Name – this seems to be subject to occasional changes, often in terms of spaces, capitalisation, etc but sometime quite drastic (e.g. UK History to Yesterday). The Topsy recognises name changes as soon as it is tuned to the relevant Mux.
4. Service ID – seems to be the most stable of the identifiers, but is not easy to use as regional variants of BBC1/BBC2 & ITV1 has different ID's.

In order to carry forward information such as selection as Favourites from one scan to the next, Channel Organiser first looks for Service ID matches, and then name matches. If neither is found, the channels are assumed to be different.

When matching channels on your Topsy to the data in the Freeview.dat file, a check is made to ensure LCN and name match. If the name matches that on another LCN, it is assumed that the Topsy has not been rescanned since an LCN change and the Topsy LCN is used rather than that in the Freeview.dat file.

APPENDIX 2

Freeview.dat File Content/Layout

This currently is intended to store all the information that Channel Organiser needs to know about the current channel configuration, and includes some extra fields that might be of use to other TAPs. It is a simple text file that can be edited with a text editor such as Windows NotePad (Wordpad is not recommended as the lines are long).

The basic channel information consists of one line per channel, containing a series of fields separated by one or more tab characters. Each field consists of a name followed by "=" and the field value with no intervening spaces. The fields used by Channel Organiser are:

- LCN=
- Name=
- RtCode= {Radio Times database code for that channel to be used by rt2mei}
- Type= {TV, Data, Radio}
- HasEpg= {0 or 1}
- FpdName= {TF5000 Display TAP abbreviated name}
- StartTime= {Time of start of transmission as hhmm, set to 0000 if 24 hours}
- EndTime= {Time of end of transmission as hhmm, set to 0000 if 24 hours}

The current version also has:

- Mux= {Mux identifier}

but this is not used by Channel Organiser. The order of these fields on a line is immaterial, but if one is omitted the value from the previous line may get used.

There is a complication in that the Radio Times data code some channels is region-dependent. A different type of data line is therefore allowed which consists of "RRC={LCN No}" followed by a series of up to 20 entries such as "24=Anglia" to indicate that 24 is the Radio Times database code for the Anglia region. Only five such lines are currently permitted, but they can be allocated to any LCN.

APPENDIX 3

CHANNEL ORGANISER FILES

This appendix summarises the files used by Channel Organiser are as follows:

1. "ChannelOrganiser.tap" – the TAP file – can be renamed but must end in ".tap" – can be placed in "?ProgramFiles" or any subdirectory thereof (Auto Start not recommended). Cannot be changed by the user.
2. "Firmware.dat" – must be placed in "/ProgramFiles/" or "/ProgramFiles/Settings" – must not be renamed – see main text for source of updates.
3. "Freeview.dat" – must be placed in "/ProgramFiles/Settings" – is a text file that can be amended by the user – see Appendix 2.

and those generated by Channel Organiser as follows:

1. ChannelOrganiser.ini – in "/ProgramFiles/Settings" – defines menu settings used last time, regional variants, and current transmitter channel numbers – is text file with tightly defined syntax – will be regenerated if deleted. THE VERSION IN THE ZIP IS AN EXAMPLE ONLY, AND SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED.
2. ChannelOrganiser Log.txt - in "/ProgramFiles/Settings" – a text file listing major actions to help diagnose problems – can be ignored otherwise.
3. ChannelOrganiserDeletes.txt - in "/ProgramFiles/Settings" – a text file listing channels to be deleted.