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Subject	A quality label for VHF contest programs		
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Background

During the IARU Reg 1 conference in Cavtat 2009, the EDI format was made the standard for exchanging VHF/UHF and microwave contest logs. Although the standard is described in detail in the VHF Manager's handbook, much software does not comply 100% with the EDI standard. This effects the automatic corrections of contest logs.

Current situation

Most of the used software programs are not compliant with the EDI standard, especially in the header. The most common faults are made is the "PBand" and "PSect" items.

As example for PBand:

We found nominations for the 23 cm band (in EDI it has to be "1,3 GHz"): " 23 cm", "1,2 GHz", "1.2 GHz", " 1,3 GHz", " 1.3 GHz", "1296 MHz".

For P Sect you can find for the single operator class: "A", "A6", "mono", "single", "single op",...

There is also a list of programs that support the EDI format in the VHF managers Handbook. This list is not accurate and not all the mentioned programs are 100% compliant with the EDI standard.

Proposal

The IARU R1 is giving a quality label to those programs that support 100% the EDI standard. This quality label is given after an approval from a working group of three VHF contest managers. These managers will look of all the EDI-specifications (as described in the Handbook) are correct. Those programs will be listed in the VHF Manager's handbook. The editors of the program are allowed to mention this quality label on their software and on their publicity.