

# A simplified approach to Internet Radio Control

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Since I've begun posting some of these articles, many have written me about their own remote control stations. Everyone's having fun! As you can, see in the articles posted below, the most complicated part is getting the radio control to work remotely. There are many solutions to this including Ham Radio Deluxe, but all necessitate a PC to be at a remote site and in ultimate control of the station. There is now a simple solution.

As posted in "Have Laptop, Will Travel" below, there are 3 basic steps to Internet radio operation:

1. Set up an audio link.
2. Set up rig control locally
3. Set up a data link.

**Step one** is quite simple. I'm a fan of Skype for this because of the audio quality and video capability, but there are many other choices. While this does still require a PC at the remote site, it will no longer be in control of your radio and we'll be able to reboot it remotely if (when) necessary.

**Step two** is also easy. In fact if you're even taking the time to read this article, you've probably already set up local PC radio control. I'm a big fan of HR Deluxe and I use it for all my remote operation, but I don't use its remote control features.

**Step three** used to be the hard part. There are as many solutions to this as there are radios out there, but most involve setting up two computers to work together over long distances. For those of you who have tried this, you know that you can get this to work. But when you're thousands of miles away from your radio, reliability becomes critical.

**So here's the simplification:** Glentek's RTE controller eliminates the remote PC from the station control loop. With the RTE, you plug in one end directly to your radio (without going through a PC) and the other end into your local router (Ethernet jack). Then you can use your EXISTING rig control software from anywhere on your LAN (e.g., HR Deluxe) to control your radio as if you were directly connect through a PC.

For Internet access, you simply forward a port in your router to the RTE's local IP address.

The RTE has output switches that allow you to reboot a remote PC, change antennas, etc. It even detects Internet activity and can automatically turn your station on and off simply by connecting your control software (this can also be an important "fail-safe" feature to avoid lockups when you lose your Internet connection.