



2013

Aries Wings Radio Quick Installation Guide



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Germany -- Version 1.202

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Aries Radio, quick installation guide

Aries Wings Radio comes with a small installation program. It manages all installation steps internally. It is ensured hereby, that the configuration of DCS World and TeamSpeak is left untouched. The only modifications are an additional Folder in DCS world and an additional entry in EXPORT.LUA.

For TeamSpeak an additional folder is created and a DLL is copied to the 'plugins' folder.

This installation guide is applicable for Aries Radio Version 1.202, July 26th, 2013.

Some prerequisites have to be ensured for the installation:

Prerequisites

DCS World and TeamSpeak must reside in their normal application folders. If DCS World or TeamSpeak locations were modified manually it is likely, that the installation of Aries Radio will fail.

Normal application folders mean, that the applications were installed with their normal installation programs. Even, if you select a special folder with the installation program. The key is, that the registry entries, made by the installation programs, must point to the right application folder.

Abnormal application folders mean, that after a normal installation, the folders were renamed, or moved to a different location, so that the registry entries do not match anymore.

To use one of the radio communication application the following prerequisites must be ensured:

Computer

- Operating System Windows 7, **64 bit**. Windows XP 64 bit may be sufficient, but was not tested.
- Direct X 9.0 installed (comes normally with DCS World)

TeamSpeak

- TeamSpeak , **64 bit** Version >= 3.0.9.2 installed on the same computer.
- TeamSpeak must reside in its standard installation directory.

DCS Applications

- For Aries Airborne Radio, DCS World , **64 bit** Version >= 1.2.3 installed on the same Computer..
- DCS World must reside in its standard installation directory.



Installation

The installation program Setup.exe has to be started in the same folder where the installation package was unzipped.

- **Step 1**
Switch off all antivirus software.
- **Step 2**
Make sure, that no other radio communication software is active in DCS World and TeamSpeak. For DCS World it may be sufficient to disable the 'dofile("...")' entry for that software in \$HOME\Saved Games\DCS\Scripts\Export.lua.
In TeamSpeak, you probably need to uncheck the plugin for that software.
- **Step 3**
Unzip the file 'AriesWingsRadio.zip' into a folder of your choice.
- **Step 4**
Make sure, that TeamSpeak and DCS World are not running for the moment. Otherwise it would not be possible to overwrite DLLs in case of an update.
- **Step 5**
Start the program Setup.exe **with Administrator rights** and follow the instructions given in the installation program.

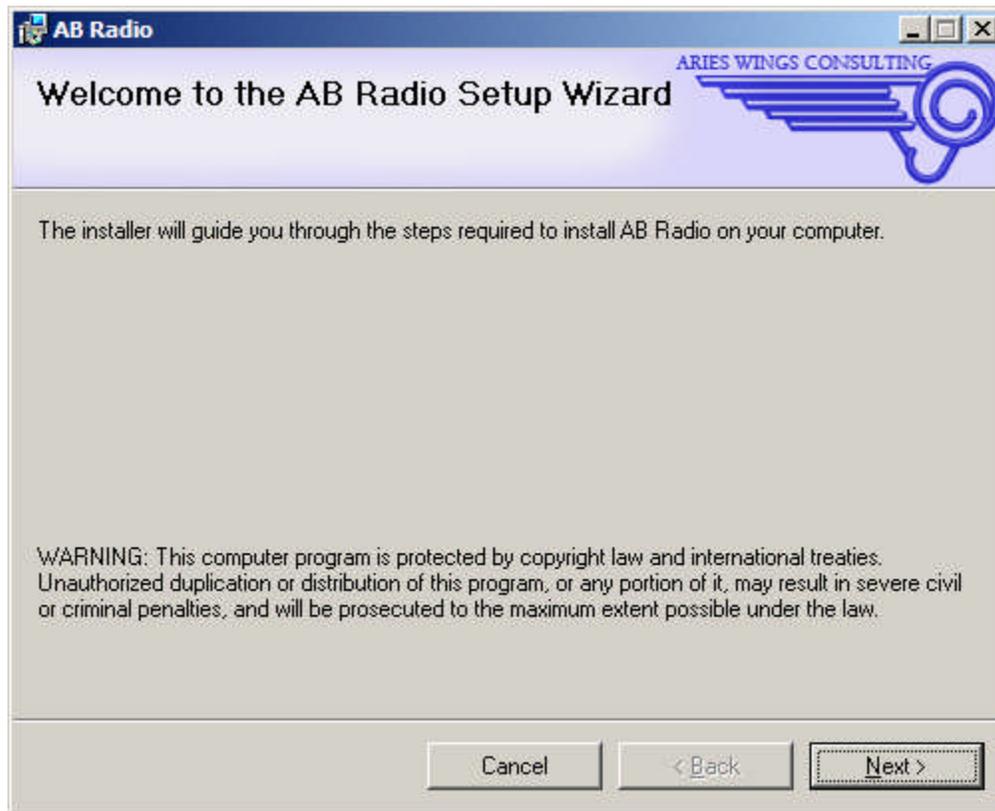


Figure 1 Installation dialog

- **Step6**
One of the dialogs allow to select the Installation folder. If you change this folder, you must select the real DCS World folder. Any other location, outside the DCS Folder, will not work:

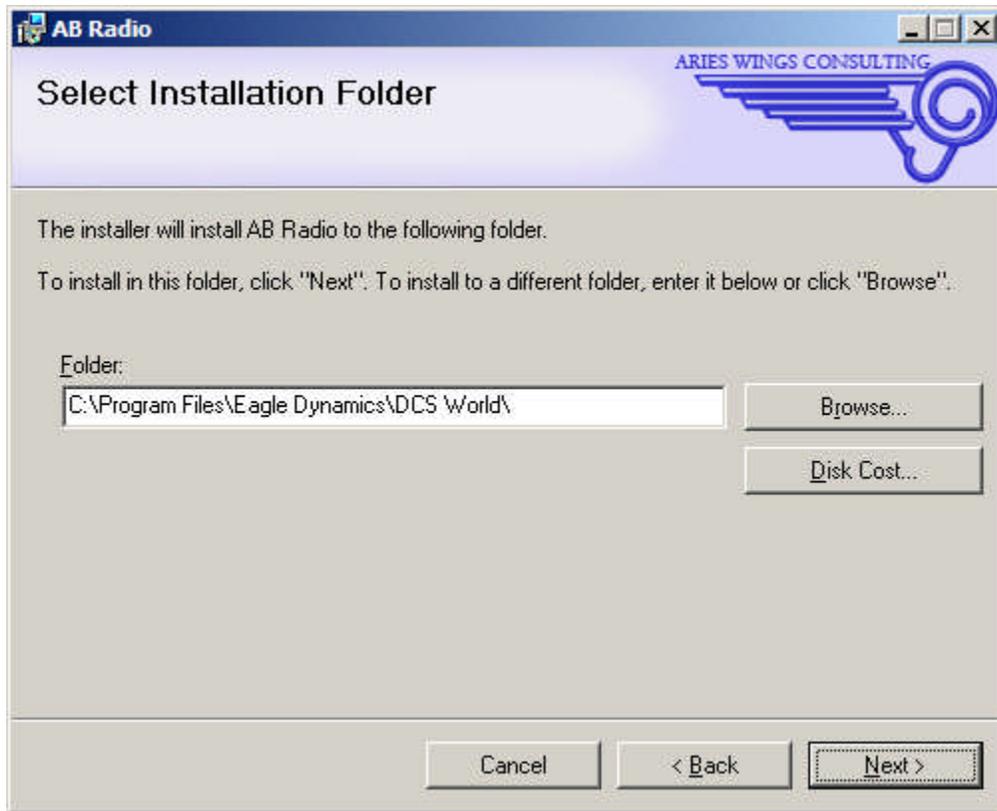


Figure 2 Installation Folder

- **Step 7**

If the installation process is completed you will see completion dialog. Press the 'Close' button:



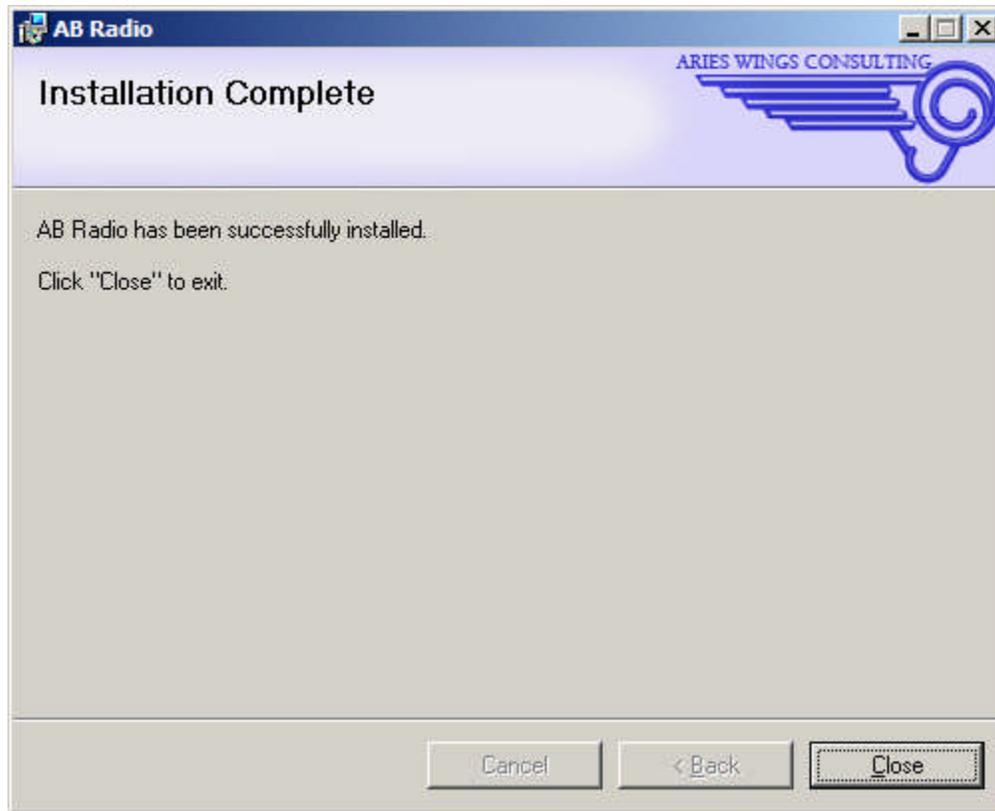


Figure 3 Installation OK

- **Step 8**
Start TeamSpeak3 and activate AriesRadio.DLL in the plugins menu. If other radio communication plugins are active, please deactivate them .

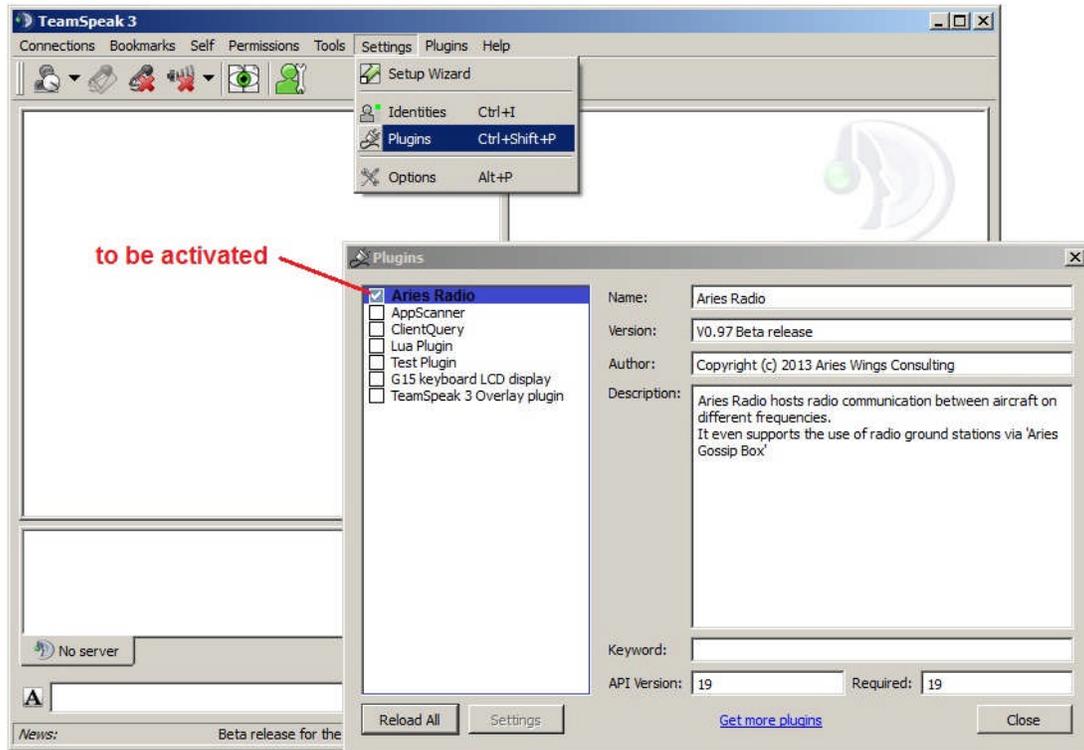


Figure 4 TeamSpeak3

- **Step 9**
Under TeamSpeak3 menu settings\options\capture, make sure, that the 'Push-To-Talk' radio button is activated.
- **Step10**
Before you start DCS World with Aries Radio installed, it is important to **configure the user interface**. You need at least some buttons or keys to select the different radio boxes and to activate the transmitter with a PTT button. For details of the configuration program, see the following chapter 'Configuration'
- **Step 11:**
Start DCS World and change to the 'Options' Screen.
Uncheck 'Full Screen'.
Otherwise the application will crash while starting a mission.

Aries Wings Radio is now ready for use.

Uninstalling Aries Wings Radio

There are two choices to uninstall Aries Radio:

1. Start Setup.exe again. It will notice, that Aries Radio is installed already and offers to repair or uninstall Aries Radio. Select the procedure of your choice.
2. From the Control Panel, open 'Programs and Features'. You will see a list of all installed applications on your computer. Select the line named 'AB Radio'. At the top of the list you will see a menu which offers the Uninstall option.

All changes made by Aries Wings will be reverted. Only files, created after the installation, will not be deleted. These are mainly log files, created during a session.

Configuration

For a proper and easy use of the airborne Radio, you need to configure some Keys and Buttons to control the functions of the radio.

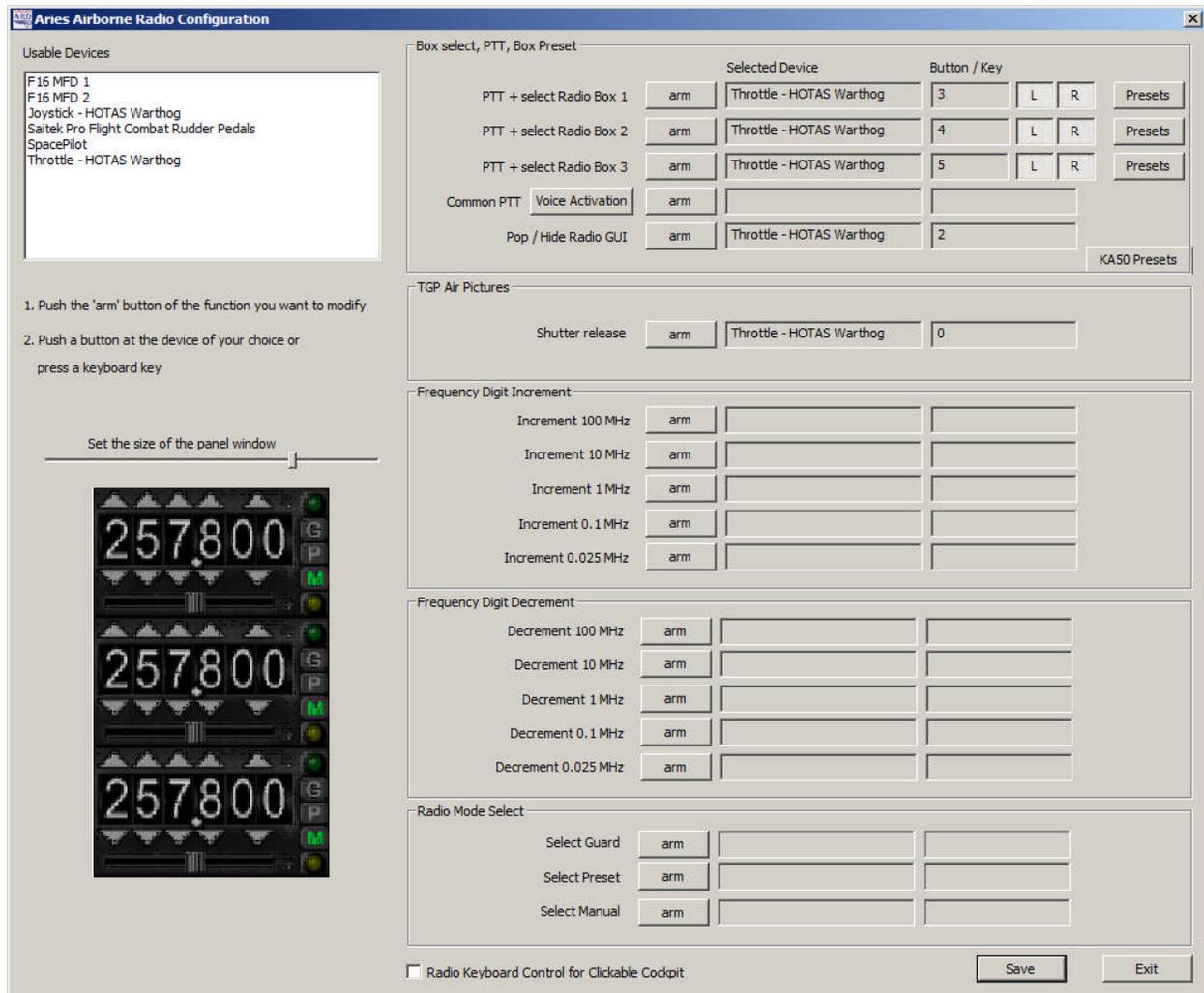


Figure 5 Configurator

Usable Devices

The list box shows all devices connected to your computer, which can be used to control the radio functions. The content is for information only.

Set the size of the panel window

The slider may be used to adjust the size of the panel window, later shown in the simulation. The idea is, that different users have different preferences how the window shall be presented on top of the simulation window. Especially if only one monitor is used, the window could cover important information if it is too large.

Arm Buttons

Each configurable function follows the same input rules.:

- Push the arm button of the function you want to configure. Now the function handler is on listening watch.
- As soon as you push a button on one of the listed devices or a key on the keyboard, the device and the button number will be bound to the function.

Box select, PTT, Box preset

This group configures the Box select, the PTT and the preset channel configuration.

PTT + Box select

During the simulation you can speak only on one single frequency at a time. This means, you must select the radio box before you can speak on it. If you leave 'Common PTT' empty (undefined), these buttons even act as PTT for the selected box.

Left and Right Speaker

Aries Radio offers the possibility to hear the reception of a single radio box either on the left speaker or the right speaker. The default configuration is to hear all boxes on left and right. To change this configuration, you may push or un-push the 'L' or 'R' button right of the 'PTT + Box select' line.

Common PTT

If you got use to have only one common button for PTT you may define the button of your choice here. If this button is defined, the 'PTT + Box select' can be used as select only.

Voice Activation

Some people use voice activation detection (VAD) instead of hard PTT. This button works in conjunction with the configuration of VAD in TeamSpeak. Therefore you get different results if you combine VAD in Aries Radio and TeamSpeak:

TeamSpeak VAD off, Radio VAD off

This is the normal mode. The transmission is initiated with a hard PTT.

TeamSpeak VAD active, Radio VAD off

This mode even needs a hard PTT. The transmission starts as soon as you talk and you hold the hard PTT down.

TeamSpeak VAD active, Radio VAD active

This mode does not need a hard PTT. The transmission starts as soon as you start to talk.

Size of the Radio Panel Window

The example radio panel at the lower left side shows the size of the user interface, seen later during a session. Use the slider to change the size of the window for later use.

Presets

The Preset channels can be configured for vehicles which have no clickable cockpit. The A-10C has a preset function for all radios in the cockpit. The P-51 gets its preset configuration from the mission editor.

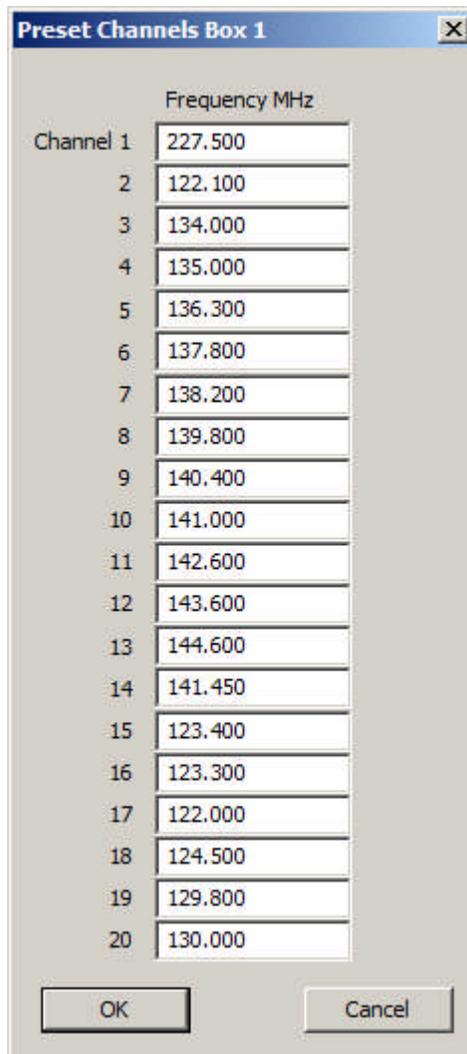


Figure 6 Preset Channel Configuration

KA50 Presets

The KA-50 is a special case. There is no possibility to configure the presets with DCS World. Therefore an additional button is available to configure 10 preset channels for the second VHF radio.

TGP air picture

Here you can configure a button to take air pictures with the help of the TGP. **The function works only if you use exported MFDs.** The details are explained in the user manual.

Radio Keyboard Control

If you use Flaming Cliffs aircraft or Combined Arms vehicles you will notice, that the mouse cursor is not visible anymore. To circumnavigate this situation you can define keys or device buttons to increment or decrement each frequency digit. You even may define buttons to select the Radio Mode like Manual, Preset or Guard.

Attention!

Using the Keyboard to control the Radio may interfere with other key definitions of DCS World. The result could lead into unintentional frequency dialing. Therefore it could be a good idea to disable the keyboard control for A-10C, KA50 and P51. This can be done by unchecking

'Radio Keyboard Control for Clickable Cockpit'

Frequency dialing

Here you can define keys or device buttons to increment or decrement each frequency digit.

Radio Mode Select

Here you may configure buttons or keys to change the mode of a selected radio box. The different modes are explained in the user manual.

Radio Keyboard Control for Clickable Cockpit

Enable or disable the use of defined Radio keyboard keys for A-10C, KA50 and P51. If unchecked, the keys are applicable only with FC3 aircraft or Combined Arms vehicles. This choice is important if some configured keys would interfere with keys used in clickable cockpits.

Installation Errors

If an error occurs during the installation process, you will see a message box telling you, that the installation is aborted. In this case all installation steps done up to now are reverted and a clean system is left.

The main reason for an aborted installation comes from the User Account Management level. It prevents the access to certain folders. To circumnavigate this situation, simply start the Installation program 'as Administrator'.

After the installation

The following errors may occur after the installation:

AriesRadio.dll cannot be loaded in TeamSpeak

- Check for the latest TeamSpeak Client version $\geq 3.0.9.2$
- Make sure, that no other radio plugin is active in teamspeak

DCS World hangs when starting a mission

- Make sure, that 'FULL SCREEN' is deactivated on the DCS World options page.

Airborne Radio shows no frequencies

- In case of flying an A-10C, the radios must be switched on to show the frequencies.

Airborne radio does not transmit

- The software reacts on a hardware PTT internally. So if you work with 'Voice Activation Detection' in TeamSpeak, switch over to 'Push-To-Talk'. It is not necessary to set a hotkey in TeamSpeak.

Aries Gossip Box remains deactivated in the TeamSpeak 'Plugins/Aries Radio' Menu

The Gossip Box is not included in the freeware package of the airborne radio.

Aries Plugin Protocol file not available

The Plugin Protocol menu item is shown in 'Plugins/Aries Radio' menu but the Internet Explorer only shows the normal entry screen of your favorite Internet explorer. The reason could be, that Microsofts Internet explorer was deleted from your windows installation. This error was observed with some clients and is not solved up to now.

Aries Radio should be ready for use now.