



Configuration and use of LoTW in EasyLog

What is LoTW?

LoTW (Log Of The World) is a service run by the ARRL that aims to use the Internet to speed up the exchange of QSO confirmations without waiting for traditional paper QSL cards to arrive.

The service is particularly useful for those pursuing diplomas and in particular the DXCC diploma administered by ARRL itself. ARRL considers LoTW electronic confirmations valid for all purposes so thanks in part to the great success and popularity of LoTW with radio amateurs around the world it is now possible to obtain confirmation of new countries almost in real time.

The LoTW system is secure because the identity of members is verified by the ARRL itself so it is necessary at registration to send photocopies of a personal ID and amateur radio license. Once registered by the ARRL you will receive the credentials to access the LoTW site (Username and Password) and you will be able to request an electronic certificate that will be used to "sign" the Logs in ADIF format of your confirmations that you will upload to the LoTW site. Electronic signing is done using the TQSL program, which can be downloaded from the LoTW site.

Creation of a new LoTW account

To create an account on LoTW read the following document:
https://lotw.arrl.org/lotw-help_devel_en/getting-started/

Manual management of LoTW

While the manual system is fairly simple, it is a bit cumbersome, especially if one is not very familiar with the computer tool and the concepts of certificates, electronic signatures, uploads, and downloads. In fact, the user will have to create an ADIF file of their QSOs, sign it with TQSL, and upload it. To check for new confirmations he will have to connect to the site periodically, log in, and download the new confirmations in an ADIF format file that will then be imported and processed by EasyLog.

Automatic management of LoTw

EasyLog's automatic LoTW management makes the process super easy; you will only need to configure the system in a few simple steps and EasyLog will take care of uploading new QSOs as they are recorded in the Log and downloading new confirmations.

EasyLog will automatically detect new QSOs to be uploaded to LoTW, sign them using your certificate and upload them to the LoTW site. At the same time it will check the LoTW site for new confirmations. If new confirmations are present it will process them by updating the Log and DXCC situation automatically. A window will be displayed for any new confirmations downloaded and their status (NewOne, Band NewOne, or whether they are simply new confirmations of already confirmed countries)

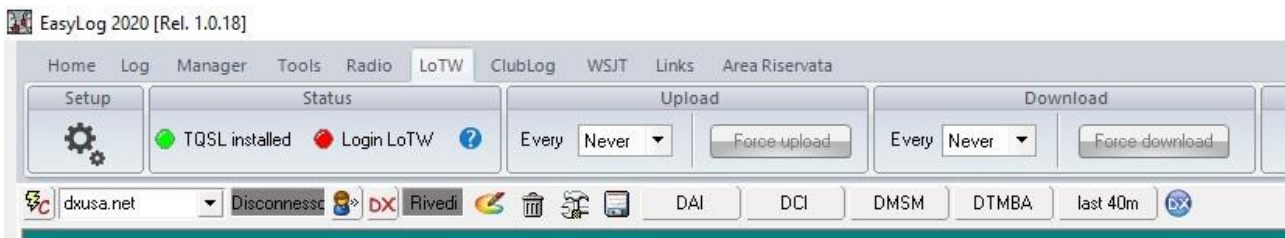
Prerequisites for the use of LoTW

- You must have an updated version of TQSL on your PC, with a valid and active certificate - Important! If you are using a version of TQSL previous than 2.3 you must update it to the latest available or it will not work with EasyLog!
- The PC must have an Internet connection and be able to surf the internet
- You must have your LoTW site login credentials tried and working

Configuring of LoTW in EasyLog

The PC must be connected to the internet, and EasyLog properly configured.

Select from the EasyLog menu the LoTW item the menu will show the commands related to LoTW:



Important: The Led (TQSL installed) should be green. This means that the ARRL software (TQSL) is installed and configured correctly, TQSL should also always be updated to the latest release.

Pressing the "cogwheel" (Setup) button that is on the left side of the screen will show the following window.

LoTW Account

Username:

Password:

Call:

Station location:

TQSL Password:

Ok Annulla

The required data have the following meaning:

Username: this is the username you use to access the LOTW site

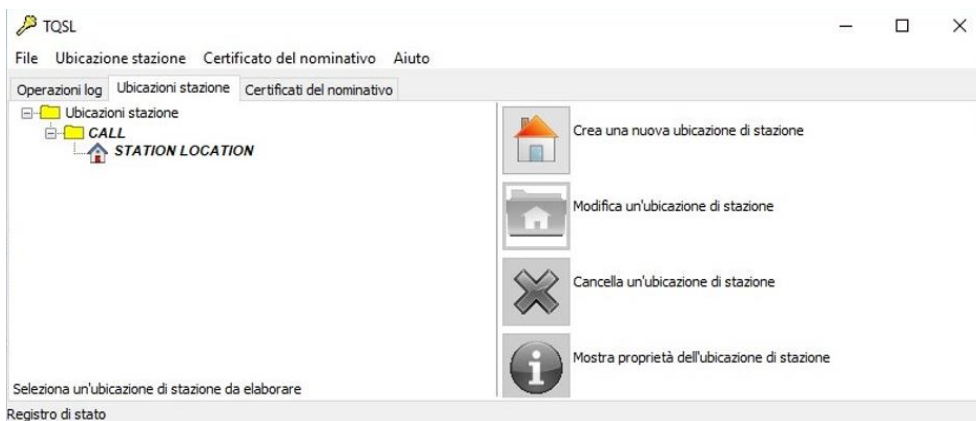
Password: this is the password you use to access the LOTW site

Call: see following image

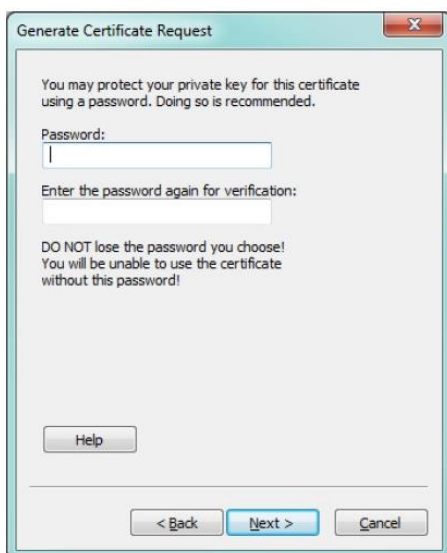
Station location: see next image

TQSL Password: see below

The contents of **Call** and **Station location** are as shown in TQSL, selecting Station location.



TQSL password: when installing and configuring TQSL, you will see this screen in one of several steps. The password can also be omitted, but if you have entered it then this is the password that must be entered in EasyLog



If all the data entered is correct, clicking the Ok button will turn the LoTW Login LED green to indicate successful login

Configuring Upload and Download Times

Upload you can configure the frequency of automatic upload of new QSOs to LoTW by acting on the drop-down list in the Upload panel. You can specify a time interval from 5 minutes to 60 minutes. EasyLog with the specified frequency will go and analyze any QSOs in QSL buffer to upload them to the LoTW site (only QSOs that have the LOTWs field different from 'Y'). If a QSO has the field LoTWS='Y' it means that it has already been uploaded to LoTW, if for any reason you need to re-upload that QSO it will simply put the LOTWs field to 'N' or leave it blank. If you select from the drop-down list **Never** the automatic timed upload will be disabled. In this case you will be able to do the **upload** manually by pressing the Force Upload button.

Download: as with upload, the Download panel allows via a drop-down list to select the download interval, i.e. the time between each request for download new confirmations, if there are no new confirmations an information window will show Downloaded 0 records, otherwise it will show the number of new confirmations and their Newone, bandwidth, mode status... As with upload, selecting Never will disable the time-based confirmation check. It will always be possible at any time to check for new confirmations by pressing the Force download button

Chronology

It is possible to view the history of uploads and downloads made and their details at any time by acting on the Chronology panel button

Important

A detailed diagnostic system will allow you to consult the details of each download, (especially useful in case of an error to identify its causes). The details are obtained by clicking on the Details link that appears in the information window at the top right of the screen.

Access problems

From time to time it may happen that the download fails due to timeout or that the upload shows an error while uploading to the LoTW server of QSOs. This can happen in cases of particular traffic on the LoTW site especially at the end of contests. It also sometimes happens that the site is unreachable due to failures or maintenance. In all these cases the automated system will try again at the next cycle.

LoTW: confirmations and credits

The LoTW site upon receipt of the ADIF file sent by EasyLog (upload) cross-references our QSOs with the QSOs of all Logs uploaded by other users. As of today (June 2021) there are 148,000 registered users, with over 1 billion QSOs in the LoTW databases.

QSO cross-check create confirmations (QSLs) in electronic (paperless) form. The EasyLog download process processes the QSLs present in the ADIF file created on purpose by the LoTW site. These confirmations will be visible in the awards window (DXCC) as a small **L** following the callsign confirmed for a particular reference.

Paper QSLs sent to the ARRL for accreditation, or sent to a DXCC check-point, are handled by a different section of the LoTW site. Credited QSLs, in this release of EasyLog must be downloaded manually, using the LoTW web interface. An ADIF file will be created and downloaded, which EasyLog will process to compile the credits, and to display them in the DXCC awards window.

IMPORTANT

The status of a QSO is worked until confirmed via paper QSL (in which case you will need to indicate to EasyLog for that QSO that the QSL was received), or confirmed electronically with LoTW.

LoTW confirmation is recognized in the same way as confirmation with paper QSL. The difference is that no details of the QSO need to be sent to LoTW. The QSO after upload to LoTW is cross-referenced and if the other station has done the same, uploading its Log, the QSO is confirmed.

To request credit for a QSO, and get a diploma, it is necessary to either send the paper QSL cards to the ARRL or to the Check-Point, and wait for them to appear in the dedicated section of the LoTW site. To request credit for QSOs uploaded via the ADIF file (prepared automatically by EasyLog) you must make payment to the ARRL, as described on their site.

Download DXCC credits for paper QSLs

FOREWORD

To access paper QSL credits for DXCC, you must be registered on the ARRL's LoTW site. It is also essential to have applied for and obtained a DXCC diploma in any mode/band. Otherwise, do not proceed further in reading this document, as you will not be able to download anything.

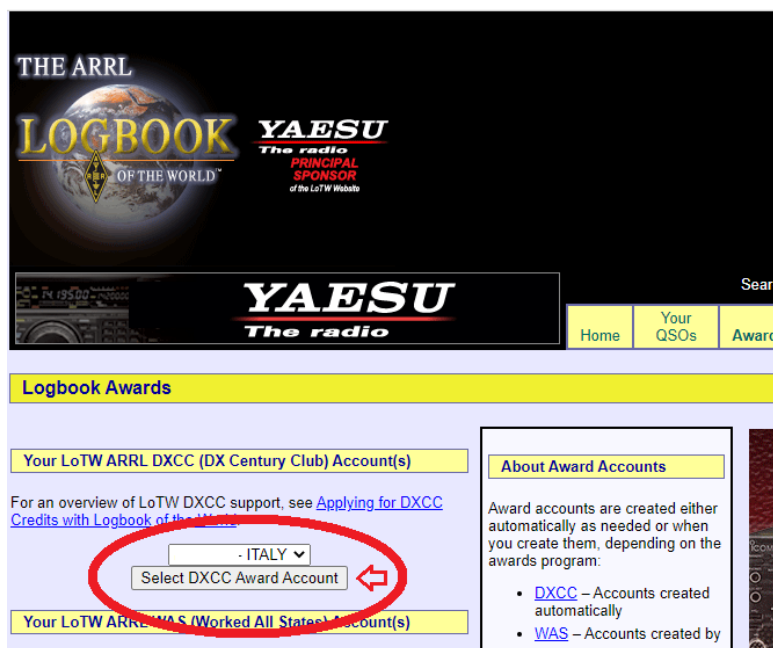
PROCEDURE

Follow the various steps carefully to download the ADIF file that EasyLog will process to show the credits.

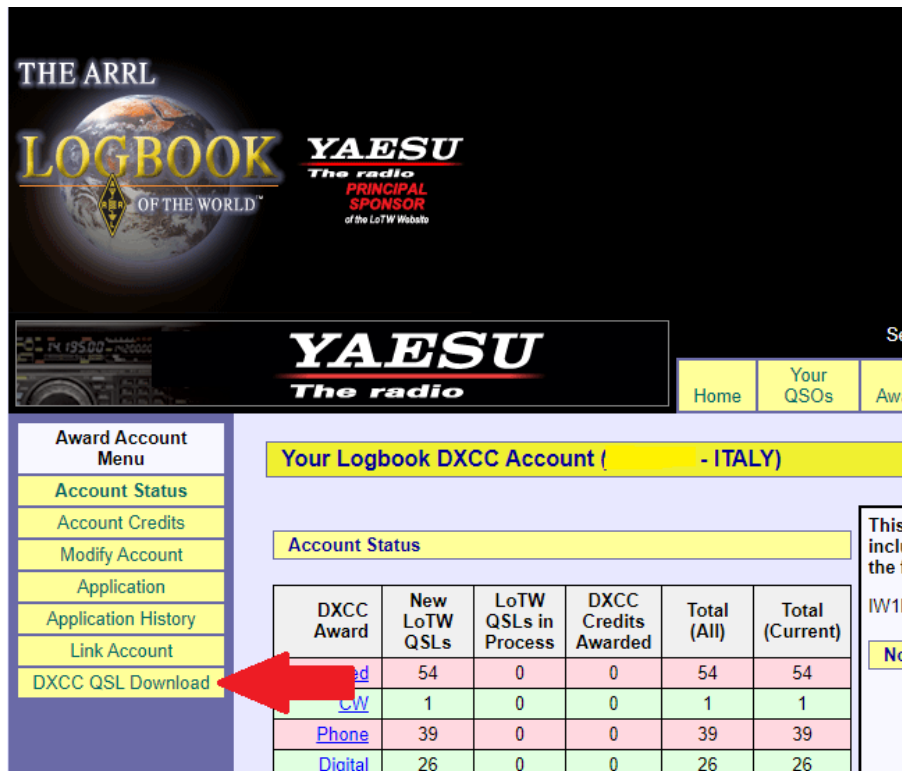
- 1) enter the ARRL's LoTW portal, at the following address: **lotwr.arrl.org**
- 2) click on the AWARDS menu



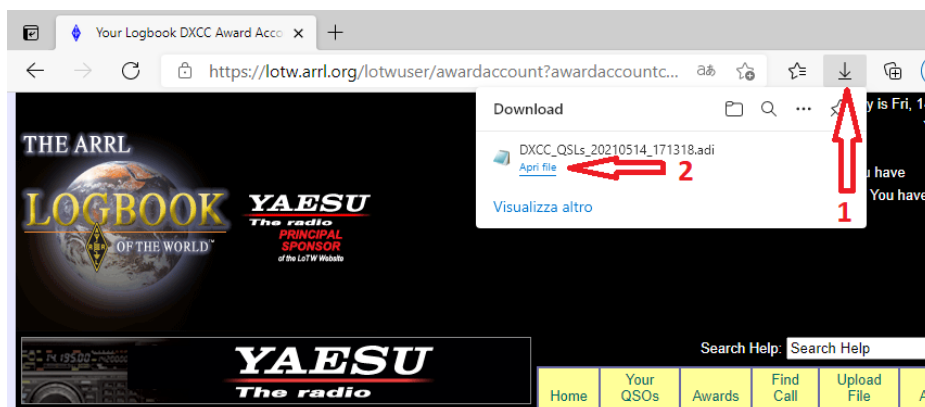
- 3) then select the DXCC awards by pressing the "Select DXCC Award Account" button



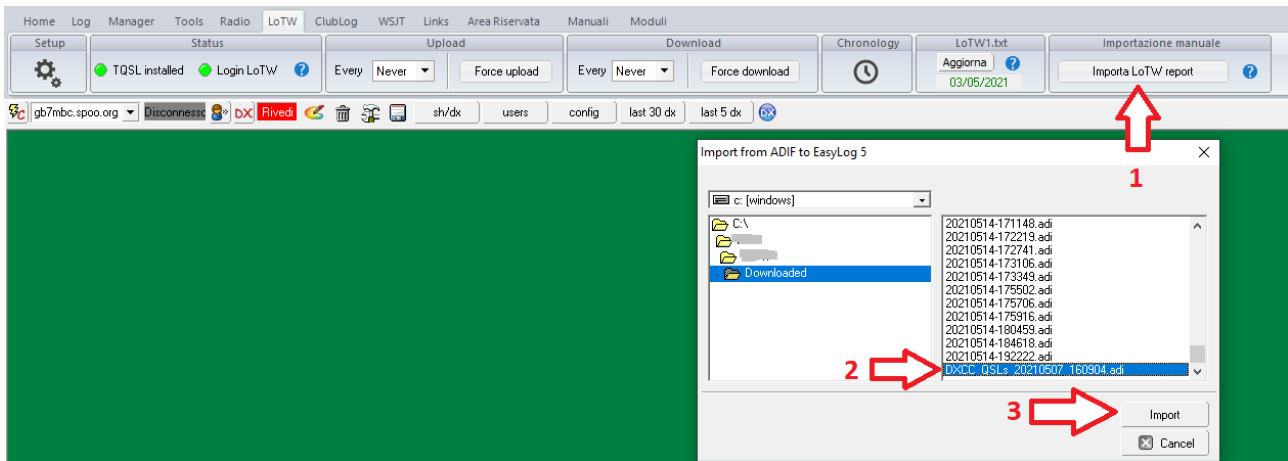
4) will appear on the left side of the page, a menu, click on "DXCC QSL Download"



5) the browser starts the download and the duration of the download depends on several factors, e.g., the load of simultaneous requests on the LoTW site, the number of files in process on the LoTW site, the number of uploads present in the LoTW queue.



6) at some point, (anywhere from a few minutes, up to several tens of minutes), the ADIF file will be downloaded to the local disk directory of the PC. Typically, this directory is named DOWNLOAD.



7) from EasyLog, select the "LoTW" menu (at the top of the main window), then click on the "Import LoTW report" button (see Figure 9)

8) then select the ADIF file you just downloaded.

9) wait for EasyLog to process the ADIF file.

10) the DXCC will be compiled and for credited country DXCC references, a rosette will appear.

CAUTION:

The ADIF file downloaded with this procedure contains ONLY confirmations (which have become accreditations) of paper QSLs. This means that if you have never submitted an application (paper QSL credit request, or sent QSLs to a DXCC check point) the QSL file will be blank.

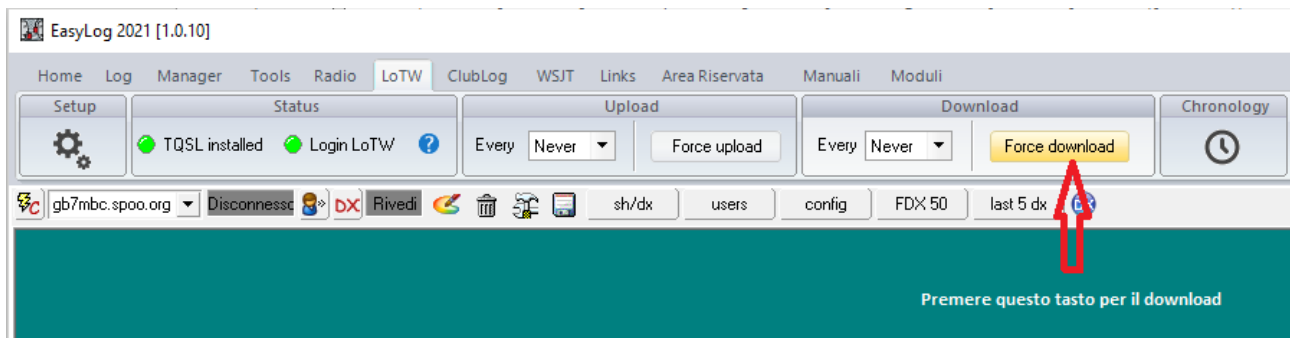
Download confirmed QSO for DXCC LoTW

To access confirmed QSOs for DXCC, you must be registered on the ARRL's LoTW site.

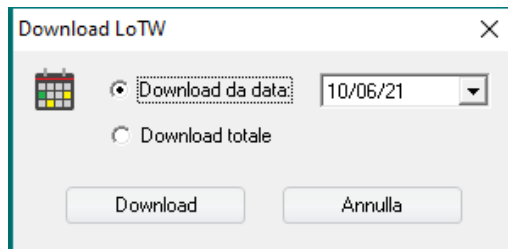
PROCEDURE

Follow the next steps carefully to download the ADIF file that EasyLog will process to show the credits.

- 1) select the LoTW menu.
- 2) press the Force download button.



- 3) the following window will appear



- 4) select the date from which start the download

ATTENTION

EasyLog keeps the date and time of the last download. If multiple downloads are made, the date is adjusted to the last confirmation on the LoTW site.

- 5) Selecting Total Download will download all confirmations on the LoTW site.

WARNING. The download time for large Logs, can become particularly long (up to a few hours).

When the download is complete, EasyLog will recompile the DXCC award and display the confirmed (and/or credited via LoTW) countries.

Sending QSOs automatically to the LoTW



In the LOTW section, you can set to automatically send QSOs to LOTW or send them manually.

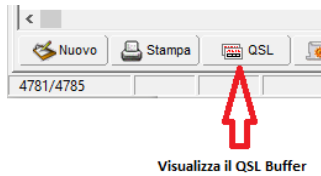
By default, the setting is Upload Never (never send to LoTW)



The drop-down list in the Upload section can be used to set a time interval for each upload.

How to send QSOs to LoTW

QSOs to be sent to LoTW must be copied into the QSL Buffer. The QSL Buffer is a data table that houses QSOs to be sent to LoTW or to be print as QSLs in paper form. This table is the heart of the QSL Section window.



To open the QSL Section, press the QSL button.

Sezione QSL

Buffer Storico

Indice: Date ADIF > eQSL ADIF > LoTW Font + Font -

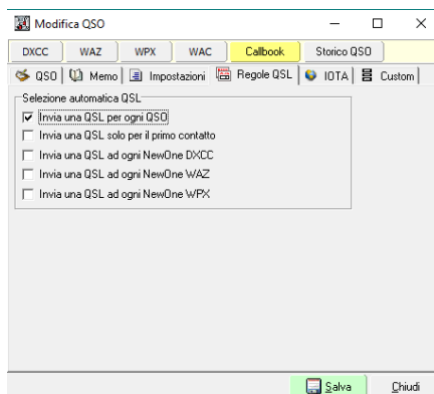
	Data	Ora	Banda	Modo	Nominativo	RSTs	RSTr	Manager	Note	QSL	LoTW	LoTWs	SAT
Copia i QSO ultime 24h	03/06/2021	05:12	30m	FT8	DF0GDX	+05	-04			Pse	Y	Y	
Copia i QSO ultimi 7g	03/06/2021	05:32	30m	FT8	WBESH	-20	-24			Pse	Y	Y	
Copia i QSO ultimi 30g	03/06/2021	05:34	30m	FT8	ZL1CVD	-15	-14			Pse	Y	Y	
Reset campo LoTWs	03/06/2021	05:37	30m	FT8	SP8FY	-10	-20			Pse	Y	Y	
Copia i QSO non spediti a LoTW	03/06/2021	05:43	30m	FT8	KP4MAQ	-19	-17			Pse		Y	
	03/06/2021	07:00	30m	FT8	E73DN	-01	-03			Pse		Y	
Copia da campo note	03/06/2021	17:50	30m	FT8	DL8YBL	-05	-05			Pse		Y	
Copia country DXCC	03/06/2021	17:51	30m	FT8	SP0DZ	-06	-18			Pse	Y	Y	
	04/06/2021	19:45	15m	FT8	CT4RC	-06	-11			Pse		Y	
	04/06/2021	19:54	12m	FT8	Y09HP	+03	+01			Pse	Y	Y	
	04/06/2021	20:15	30m	FT8	E79D	-04	-20	E7E		Pse		Y	
	04/06/2021	20:33	30m	FT8	RN9N	-07	-02			Pse	Y	Y	
	04/06/2021	20:35	30m	FT8	PA0PIW	-18	-13			Pse	Y	Y	
	04/06/2021	20:39	30m	FT8	G3UAS	-08	-11			Pse	Y	Y	

Elimina Svuota Cerca Storico Copia con condizione Chiudi

QSO: 141

IMPORTANT

The setting (by default) is **Send one QSL per QSO**. The setting can be found on the QSL Rules tab in the QSO edit/add window.



If activated as in the figure, each new QSO is automatically copied to the QSL Buffer table.

Manual selection of QSOs to be sent to LoTW

- select the QSOs to send according to the condition of your choice (see below for some examples and tips)
- export to ADIF file (via the "ADIF > LoTW" button in the QSL section) and upload manually using the LoTW site

NOTE

If the QSL Section already contains QSOs, empty the table, using the colored buttons on the left, you can one-click copy QSOs from the Log. Copy the last 24h QSOs, last 7 days QSOs or last 30 days QSOs.

Using the Copy with Condition button, more customized copies can be made. Such as, for example, a date range.

The screenshot shows the 'Sezione QSL' window. At the top, there are window controls and a title bar. Below the title bar, there are tabs for 'Buffer' and 'Storico'. A search bar contains 'ADIF > eQSL' and 'ADIF > LoTW'. There are also font size controls 'Font +' and 'Font -'. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with several buttons: 'Copia i QSO ultime 24h', 'Copia i QSO ultimi 7g', 'Copia i QSO ultimi 30g', 'Reset campo LoTW's', 'Copia i QSO non spediti a LoTW', 'Copia da campo note', and 'Copia country DXCC'. The main area is a table with columns: Data, Ora, Banda, Modo, Nominativo, RSTs, RSTr, Manager, Note, QSL, LoTWr, LoTWs, SAT. The table contains 14 rows of QSO data. At the bottom, there is a toolbar with buttons: 'Elimina', 'Svuota', 'Cerca', 'Storico', 'Copia con condizione', and 'Chiudi'. Below the toolbar, it says 'QSO: 141'.

Data	Ora	Banda	Modo	Nominativo	RSTs	RSTr	Manager	Note	QSL	LoTWr	LoTWs	SAT
03/06/2021	05:12	30m	FT8	DF0GDX	+05	-04			Pse	Y	Y	
03/06/2021	05:32	30m	FT8	WBESH	-20	-24			Pse		Y	
03/06/2021	05:34	30m	FT8	ZL1CVD	-15	-14			Pse	Y	Y	
03/06/2021	05:37	30m	FT8	SP6EY	-10	-20			Pse	Y	Y	
03/06/2021	05:43	30m	FT8	KP4MAQ	-19	-17			Pse		Y	
03/06/2021	07:00	30m	FT8	E73DN	-01	-03			Pse		Y	
03/06/2021	17:50	30m	FT8	DL8YBL	-05	-05			Pse		Y	
03/06/2021	17:51	30m	FT8	SP0DZ	-06	-18			Pse	Y	Y	
04/06/2021	19:45	15m	FT8	CT4RC	-06	-11			Pse		Y	
04/06/2021	19:54	12m	FT8	YO9HP	+03	+01			Pse	Y	Y	
04/06/2021	20:15	30m	FT8	E79D	-04	-20	ET7E		Pse		Y	
04/06/2021	20:33	30m	FT8	RN9N	-07	-02			Pse		Y	
04/06/2021	20:35	30m	FT8	PA0PIW	-18	-13			Pse	Y	Y	
04/06/2021	20:39	30m	FT8	G3UAS	-08	-11			Pse	Y	Y	

When the search will end, the QSOs shown can be sent to the LoTW pressing the **Force Upload** button in the LoTW menu.

How to resend QSOs to the LoTW

You can always copy one QSO at a time into the QSL Buffer, using the single QSO manual copy button (Ctrl+B).