



Real-Time Seismic Image Display

<http://www.iris.edu/hq/ssn/schools/realtime>

IRIS Seismographs in Schools Program

Many schools send a new image of their AS-1 helicorder record every 10 minutes to the IRIS Real-Time Seismic Image Display webpage at <http://www.iris.edu/hq/ssn/schools/realtime>. Comparing ones own record to others is a very good way to determine if a given signal is indeed an earthquake, as large events are always recorded by many stations. Variations in the background noise due to microseisms can also be monitored all across the country. And it is a wonderful way to share your seismometer images with the community in which you live.

CREATING YOUR HELICORDER IMAGE

Thanks to Alan Jones – the developer for AmaSeis, a new feature is now available in the AmaSeis software which regularly saves your helicorder image to a PNG (Portable Network Graphics) file on your local computer. This file can then be uploaded to the IRIS website using a free product called “Fling”. But first, let us set up AmaSeis to save your image.

STEP ONE

Be sure that you have downloaded and installed the most recent version of AmaSeis from the website at <http://pods.binghamton.edu/~ajones/AmaSeis.html>.

STEP TWO

Next, run the new version AmaSeis for 2 or 3 minutes. This will update various initialization files necessary for this new feature

STEP THREE

Open the AmaSeis folder. If you took all of the defaults when installing AmaSeis it would be “C:\Amaseis”. Now, with a text editor such as “Notepad” open the AS1.ini file and look for the entries:

```
SaveScreenMinutes=  
SaveScreenPath=
```

Set the SaveScreenMinutes to the number of minutes you want to elapse between saves. A typical setting is 10 minutes. We don’t recommend any less than 5 minutes so as not to overload the IRIS Seismograph in Schools (SIS) server. A typical entry looks like:

```
SaveScreenMinutes=10
```

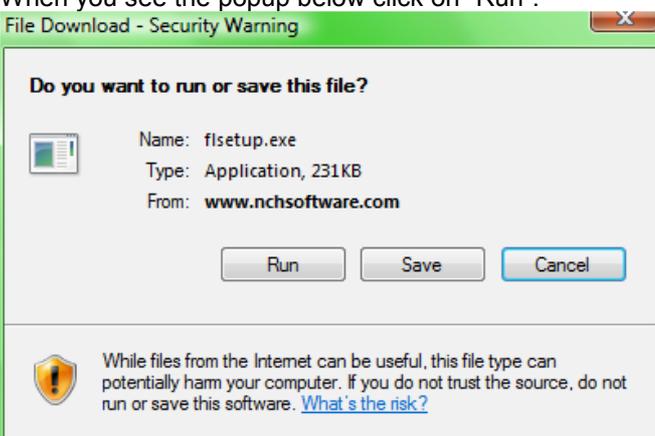
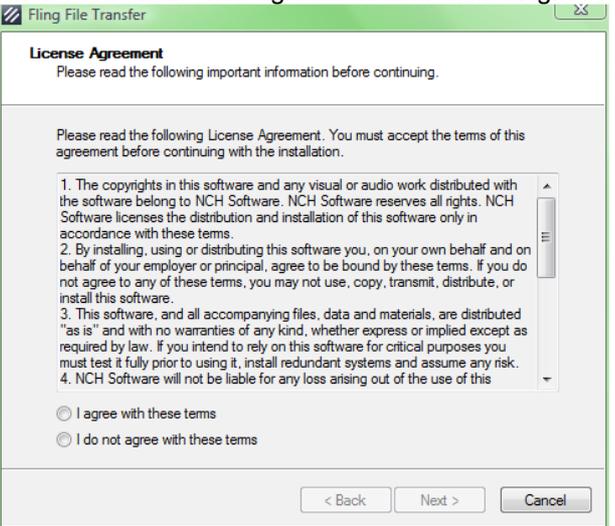
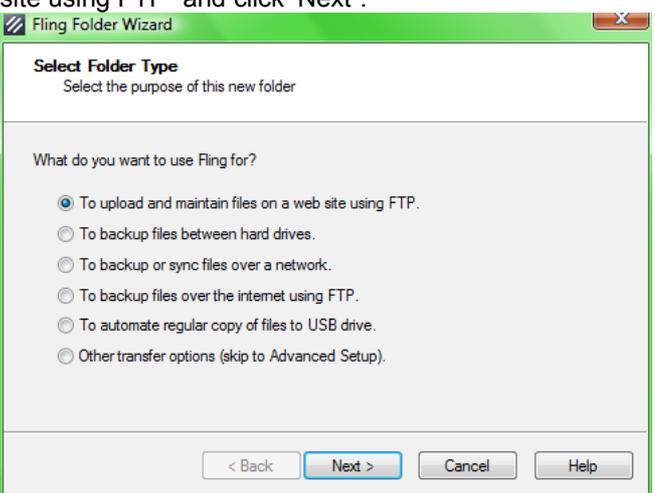
Now, by default an image of the helicorder screen will be saved every 10 minutes in a folder called **SaveScreen** which is located in your AmaSeis folder. (The SaveScreenPath entry is used if you want the save the file someplace other than the SaveScreen folder). The name of the file is created from your station code which is specified in the AS1.ini file. For example, the file created by AmaSeis running on the SBNY station would be called “SBNY.png”.

Now wasn’t that easy!

UPLOADING YOUR HELICORDER IMAGE

The next step is to upload your helicorder image to the IRIS Website. There are a number of FTP (File Transfer Program) programs that can be used to upload the image to a web site. You must use one that will automatically upload whenever a new helicorder image file is created or, at least, upload on a regular basis.

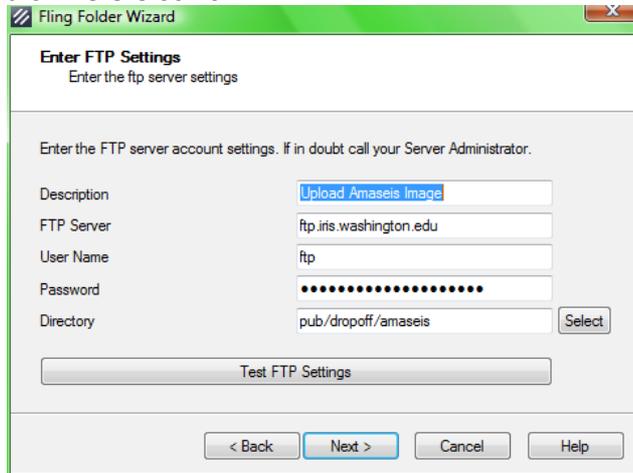
One program which we have found to be very convenient is **Fling File Transfer**. Below is a step by step procedure to download, install and set up this software.

<p>STEP 1</p> <p>Go to the website at: http://www.nchsoftware.com/ftp/index.html. When you see this image, click on "Download Now".</p> 	<p>STEP 2</p> <p>When you see the popup below click on "Run".</p> 
<p>STEP 3</p> <p>Then read the license agreement and click "I Agree".</p> 	<p>STEP 4</p> <p>Select the option "To upload and maintain files on a web site using FTP" and click 'Next'.</p> 

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STEP 5

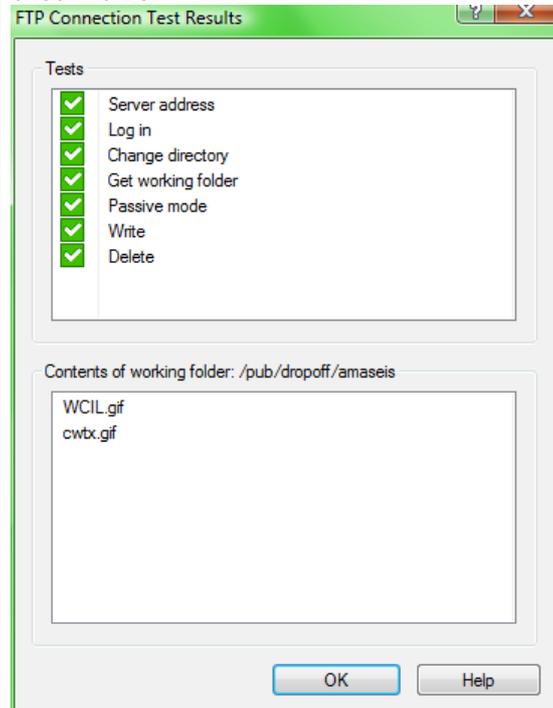
Next you will be asked to enter the FTP settings for the IRIS SIS server.



Enter a description of your choice. Here we used "Upload AmaSeis Image".
FTP Server: ftp.iris.washington.edu
User Name: ftp
Password: Use your email address
Directory: pub/dropoff/amaseis

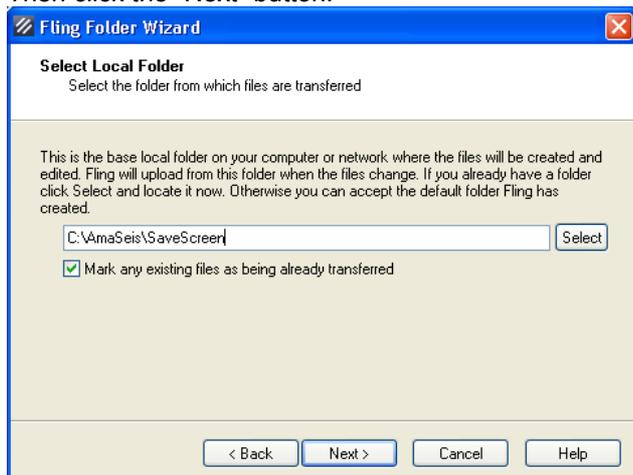
STEP 6

Next click the "Test FTP Settings". This will actually ftp to the IRIS server, change to the directory that you specified, and send back a list of the files it found. Here we see that the stations "WCIL" and "CWTX" have uploaded their files. Click "OK" if you see all green checkmarks.



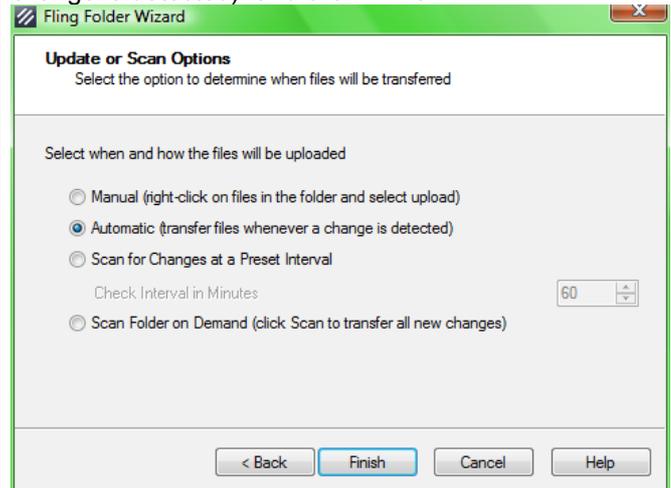
STEP 7

In the next window, click the "Select" button and select the local folder where the PNG file is located. If you used all defaults it will be C:\AmaSeis\SaveScreen. Then click the "Next" button.



STEP 8

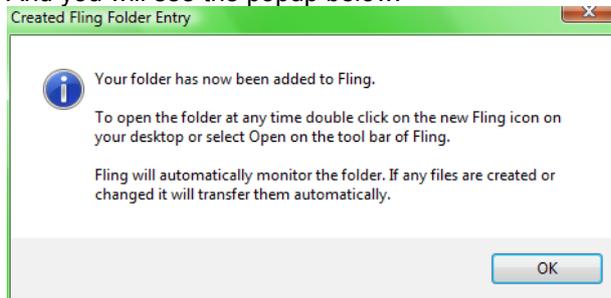
Select the option "Automatic (transfer files whenever a change is detected)" and click "Finish".



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STEP 9

And you will see the popup below:



STEP 10

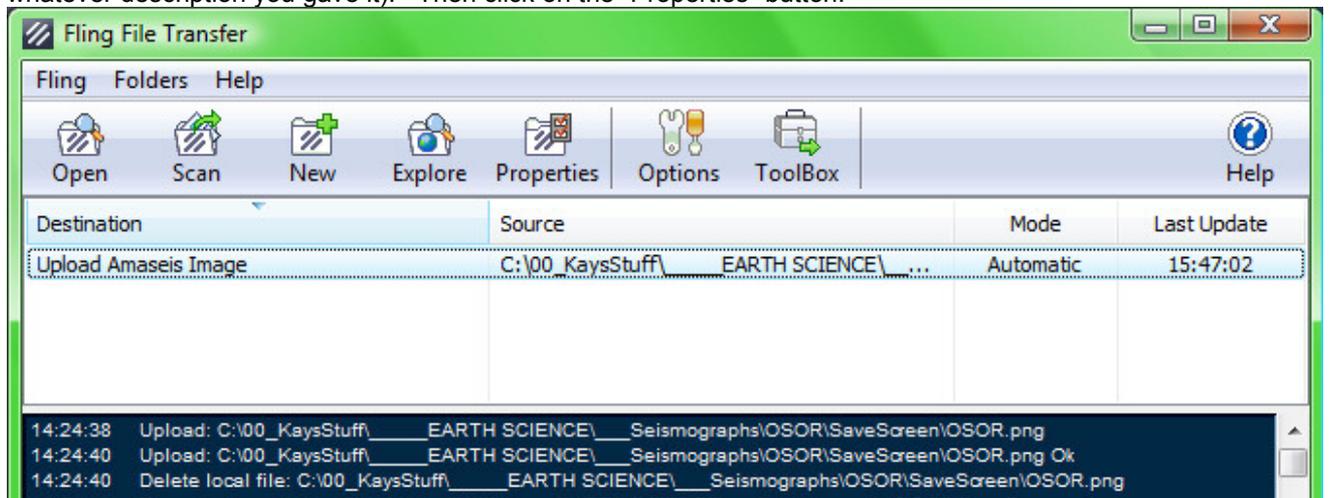
Run AmaSeis long enough to create the “png” file. On the bottom right of your task bar (in the tray area) you will see an icon for “Fling” as show by the red arrow below.



Click on the Fling icon.

STEP 11

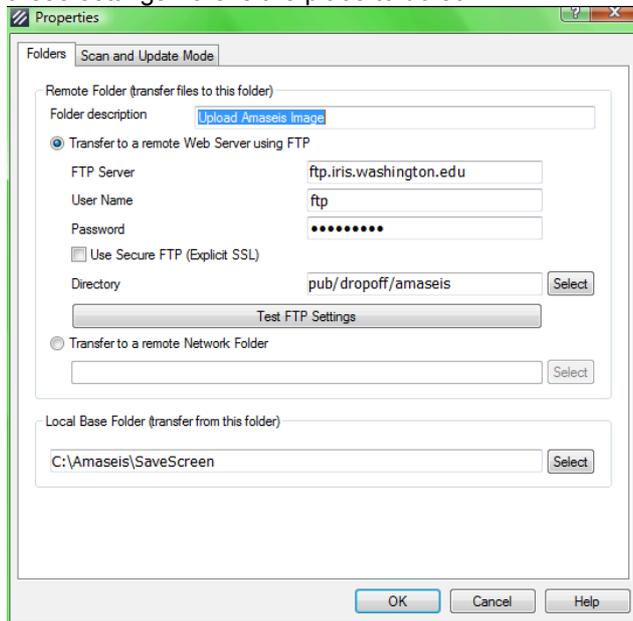
The Fling manager looks like the window below. You will see various options on the menu bar on the top. In the middle you will see a list of tasks available (only one has been created so far which is “Upload AmaSeis Image”). And, you will see a log file at the bottom of the window. Click on the task called “Upload AmaSeis Image” (or whatever description you gave it). Then click on the “Properties” button.



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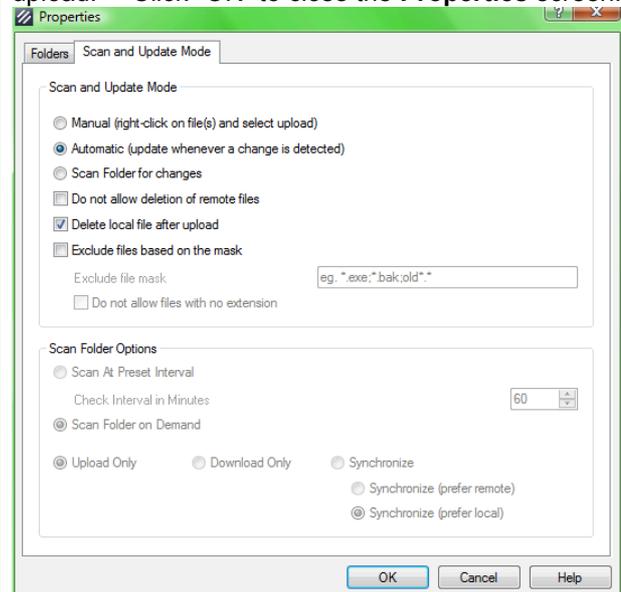
STEP 12

In the Properties window you will see the settings that you provided for your task. If you ever need to change these settings here is the place to do so.



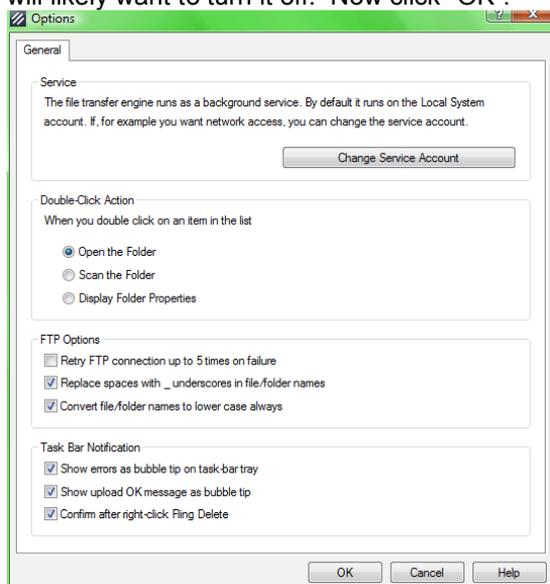
STEP 13

Next, click on the "Scan and Update Mode" tab. Click the "Automatic (update whenever a change is detected)" and check the "Delete local file after upload."* Click "OK" to close the **Properties** screen.



STEP 14

Now open the **Options** screen. Toward the bottom check "Show errors as bubble tip on task-bar tray" and "Show upload OK message as bubble tip". The second item will give you a small pop-up at the lower-right of the screen on each upload. This is very reassuring when getting started but will be annoying after awhile and you will likely want to turn it off. Now click "OK".



STEP 15

Close the main Fling manager window by selecting Fling → Exit (Close to Tray). This doesn't stop the process of uploading your helicorder display. It just minimizes Fling to the Tray portion of your taskbar.

Every time you restart your computer Fling will automatically continue to look in your *Amaseis/SaveScreen* folder to see if there is a new or modified png file.

* You don't have to check the "the "Delete local file after upload" box since Fling will still upload when a change is detected (such as a new version of the png being created). However, by having it deleted, it will give you assurance that it has been uploaded.

<p>STEP 16</p> <p>To check if SnagIt is working, just look for your png file on this webpage: http://www.iris.edu/pub/dropoff/amaseis/</p> <p>It will be there briefly before it's transferred to: http://www.iris.edu/amaseis/schools/as1imgs/ABCD.png where ABCD is your Station Code.</p>	<p>STEP 17</p> <p>Then your Helicorder image should appear on the IRIS Real time Seismic Images web page at: http://www.iris.edu/hq/ssn/schools/realtime</p> <p>Remember that you must register your station in order for IRIS to display your seismograph image at http://www.iris.edu/hq/ssn/schools/register</p>
<p>STEP 18</p> <p>If you have already registered your station, you must be sure to tell IRIS where they can find your seismograph image. First, go to the "Update School Info" web page at http://www.iris.edu/hq/ssn/schools/login</p> <p>Scroll to the bottom where it says "Real time Image URL". Enter the location of your image which is http://www.iris.edu/amaseis/schools/as1imgs/ABCD.png where ABCD is your Station Code.</p>	<p>STEP 19</p> <p>Congratulations! Your station is now one of the many schools displaying their helicorder images on the IRIS Real Time Images web page!</p> <p>If you have problems, contact IRIS at sishelp@iris.edu</p>