



Oakland County Wireless Integrated Network



Oakland County Wireless Integrated Network

User's Guide Fire Operations



Oakland County Wireless Integrated Network

CHAPTER 3

Fire Operations

The purpose of this policy is to provide a standard method for utilization of the Oakland County 800 MHz Trunked Radio System talk groups and provide procedures to be utilized by fire departments participating in the radio system. It is intended that these procedures will apply to both intra-department and inter-department communications.

Adherence to this policy will provide participating fire departments with the following benefits:

- Improved emergency communications through use of additional radio resources and technology for incident communications
- Greatly improved interoperability between departments and other emergency responders
- Improved communications through use of standard terminology
- Communications capability that is scalable from every day routine operations to major multi-agency incidents

It is envisioned these policies will be utilized by any participating fire department operating at an incident where tactical communications are required. NFPA standard 1221 and the National Fire Academy Incident Command System recommend that tactical (unit-to-unit) communications at incidents occur on talk paths other than those utilized for dispatching. This will ensure that dispatch communications do not interfere with tactical communications.

While it is not practical to designate specific countywide uses for every type of incident, it is appropriate to utilize these guidelines in talk group assignment.

3.1 Command Post Operation

- A. Fire departments that consistently utilize the Incident Command System and tactical communications have found that providing a command post to plan and coordinate incident activities is very

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beneficial. Having a second person at the command post to assist the Incident Commander with communications has also proven to be beneficial. This allows the monitoring of the dispatch and tactical/command channels and reduces the possibility of the Incident Commander missing a radio call.

- B. When established, the incident command post should be identified on the radio by the street name or building/business name.
- C. When established, the incident command post should be identified visually by the use of a green flashing light and/or a green flag.
- D. The use of headsets on command post mobile radios also improves communications when several radios are in use. It is recommended that a single earpiece type headset be used to allow the user to communicate with other personnel at the command post.

3.2 Talk Groups

A talk group is defined as an operational group of radio users requiring two-way radio communications. Talk groups have been categorized into three types based upon their utilization

- A. Local department use
- B. Countywide Fire Mutual Aid use
- C. Countywide interagency interoperability use

3.3 Local Fire Agency Talk Groups

Each fire agency participating in the system is assigned a number of talk groups based on the number of personnel in the department.

Tier	Number of Firefighters	Dispatch Talk Group	Tactical Talk Group
1	Less than 30	1	1
2	30 to 75	1	2
3	76 or more	1	4



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A number of fire departments have allocated one or more of their local talk groups to be utilized as a common talk group between two or more departments.

Fire dispatch centers are capable of receiving and transmitting on all talk groups assigned to their respective fire departments.

3.4 Talk Group Assignments

A talk group is defined as an operational group of radio users requiring two-way radio communications. It segregates the system users into specific groups. A talk group can be compared to a channel. There can be up to 16 talk groups in each profile. Talk groups are created and assigned based on the needs of the user. Individual radios may not have every talk group described in the following explanation. Some talk groups are solely assigned to the local agency, some are assigned as shared regional talk groups, and some are assigned as shared countywide talk groups. Radio talk groups on the Oakland County Wireless Integrated Network (OakWIN) have been assigned based on agency size and needs.

Talk groups have been assigned names or abbreviations, which will appear on the radio display. The talk group identification is limited to seven characters, including spaces. A space is indicated with an underscore(_). Each talk group is prefixed with letters identifying the agency name, the region, or indicating a countywide (CW) talk group. For instructional purposes, the letters XX will be used in the definitions below to indicate the letters used for the agency name. In real application, the XX will be replaced with the agency's actual letter code. A list of agency codes is included in this User's Guide and can be found in Section 5.8(E) of this Chapter.

An alphabetized list of talk groups in the system is included in Chapter 16 of this User's Guide.

3.5 Open Sky Profiles

A profile is a set of talk groups that are organized to meet the operational needs of the mobile and portable radio users. Each profile can have as



many as 16 talk groups. It may be easier to understand during this transition to think of a profile as a “bank of channels/talk groups.”

3.6 Home Profile

The home profile has the users most commonly used talk groups. The home profile also has the MABAS dispatch talk group. There are also all dispatch, and emergency talk groups in the home profile. This is to facilitate ease of changing to those talk groups that will be used most frequently.

3.7 Global Scanning Profile

The Global Scanning Profile, though populated with talk groups, will not appear in the profile menu of the radio. However, talk groups in the global profile will be available to the user in the P1-P2 and scan menus in the radio. The intent of this profile is to add up to 16 additional talk groups which can be scanned at a lower priority and does not enable the user to directly access them. Each agency's Radio Network Administrator will select which talk groups should be in this profile. The operations of this feature will be explained later in this chapter.

3.8 MABAS Fire Mutual Aid Incident Talk Groups and Profiles

MABAS mutual aid talk groups are based on the .Oakland MABAS division mutual aid agreement. MABAS – the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System- is a statewide fire mutual aid system that may be used for day to day operations and is scalable to large intrastate and interstate emergencies.

All Public Safety Answering Points (dispatch centers) in Oakland County are capable of receiving and transmitting on all of the MABAS talk groups.

MABAS_D – MABAS Dispatch- This talkgroup is used to request and dispatch box and multiple alarms involving multiple fire departments within Oakland County.

The MABAS mutual aid talk groups are organized into four (4) incident profiles. Each profile contains command, tactical, and support talk groups. The MABAS division dispatch center (OCD) automatically assigns an available incident profile to the department requesting the



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multiple alarm or upon request of a department requesting additional communications resources.

All fire units in the county have all six incident profiles to allow interoperability between MABAS and OAKWAY units.

OAKWAY Fire Mutual Aid Incident Talk Groups and Profiles

OAKWAY mutual aid talk groups are based on the Oakway mutual aid agreement.

All Public Safety Answering Points (dispatch centers) in Oakland County are capable of receiving and transmitting on all of the OAKWAY talk groups.

OAK_D – OAKWAY Dispatch- This talkgroup is used to request and dispatch box and multiple alarms involving OAKWAY fire departments.

The OAKWAY mutual aid talk groups are organized into two (2) incident profiles. Each profile contains command, tactical, and support talk groups. The OAKWAY coordination center automatically assigns an available incident profile to the department requesting the multiple alarm or upon request of a department requesting additional communications resources.

All fire units in the county have all six incident profiles to allow interoperability between MABAS and OAKWAY units.

3.9 Countywide Fire Operations Profile (CW_OPS)

This profile contains:

3.9.1 Countywide Fire Talk Groups

CW_FD1 through CW_FD4

These talk groups are to be used for incidents that require communication between fire departments that cannot be accomplished with the regional mutual aid talk groups. These talk groups are available to all police and fire users.

3.9.2 Countywide EMS Talk Groups

CW_EMSC through CW_EMS4



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These talk groups are to be used for EMS incident communications. These talk groups are available to all police, fire, and EMS users.

3.9.3 Countywide Police Talk Groups

CW_POL1 through CW_POL4

These talk groups are to be used for police incidents that require multiple agency involvement. These talk groups are available to all police and fire users.

All Public Safety Answering Points (dispatch centers) in Oakland County are capable of receiving and transmitting on all of the countywide talk groups.

3.10 Special Events Profile (EVENT)

This profile contains countywide talk groups EV_1 through EV_13. These talk groups will be used for special pre-planned events such as Dream Cruise, local festivals, etc. that require using a dedicated talk group for interoperability. These talk groups should be reserved in advance by utilizing the *Event Talk Group Request Form* located in Chapter 7 of this User's Guide.

3.11 Fire Special Operations and Training Profile (TEC_TRN)

This profile contains special operations and training talk groups

3.11.1 Countywide Hazmat Talk Groups

HM_OCS Oakland County Hazmat Team South
HM_OC1 Oakland County Hazmat Team-North
HM_OC2 Oakland County Hazmat Team- North

These talk groups are used for intra and inter team communications between the county hazardous materials teams.

3.11.2 Countywide Technical Rescue Talk Groups

TER_OPN North Team
TER_OPS South Team



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These talk groups are used for intra and inter team communications between the two county technical rescue teams.

3.9.4 Incident Management Team talkgroups

OC_IMT1

OC_IMT2

These talk groups are for intra-team communications involving the Incident Management Team (IMT)

Fire Training Talk Groups

FD_TRN1

FD_TRN2

FD_TRN3

FD_TRN4

FD_TRN5

FD_TRN6

These talk groups are for intradepartmental or interdepartmental training that does not involve firefighters entering atmospheres that are potentially dangerous such as live fires. The assignment of these talk groups is coordinated by the Oakland County Dispatch Center.

3.13 Interoperability Profiles (INTEROP)

1. Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS)
 - a. This is the radio system on which the Michigan State Police and numerous other local police and fire departments operate. The MPSCS has established eight talk groups that provide connection between the OakWIN system and the MPSCS. Three of these talk groups (63P911-Police; 63F911-Fire; and 63OAKH-EMS) are permanently patched between the MPSCS and OakWIN.
 - b. The remaining five talk groups 63MPSC1, 63MPSC2, 63MPSC43 63MPSC4, and 63MPSC5 must be patched as needed by the MSP dispatch in Detroit, or the Livingston County PSAP through a telephone call, LEIN message, or radio call on one of the permanent



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patched talk groups (63P911, 63F911, or 63OAKH). These talk groups are to be used when there is a need for interoperability with other MPSCS users. Events such as mutual aid responses, Presidential/Dignitary Protection, Dream Cruise, or large events that need MSP interoperability would utilize these talk groups. 63MPSC1, 63MPSC2, 63MPSC3, 63MPSC4, and 63MPSC5 will appear in all Oakland County OakWIN PSAPs, MSP Detroit Dispatch, and Livingston County Dispatch but not in individual MPSCS radios. These talk groups may be patched to the appropriate OakWIN talk group by any Oakland County PSAP and to an appropriate MPSCS talk group by the MSP or Livingston County dispatch center. To contact MSP when you are outside Oakland County, use the ICALL channel in the conventional mode.

2. City of Southfield

- a. The Southfield PSAP will monitor the OakWIN “ALLDISP” and SFLD1 talk groups. The Southfield PSAP may be contacted in the same manner as any other Oakland County PSAPs using this talk group. The Southfield PSAP may patch any Southfield conventional channel to the SFLD1 talk group to provide interoperability.

3. City of Warren

- a. The OakWIN talk group WARN1 may be used to contact the Warren PSAP, which will monitor this talk group. Oakland County PSAPs immediately adjacent to Warren (i.e., Hazel Park, Madison Heights, and Troy) should also monitor this talk group. This talk group will also appear in all of the Warren police and fire radios for unit-to-unit interoperability without the need for dispatch to initiate a patch (in the Warren radios this talk group will be called “OAK”).
- b. The OakWIN talk group WARN2 is a secondary talk group for interoperability with Warren. This talk group



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will not be monitored by the Warren PSAP and will not appear in the Warren field units. For Warren to activate this talk group, an Oakland County user or PSAP must contact the Warren PSAP; the Warren PSAP will then “patch” this talk group to an appropriate Warren talk group for the event.

4. Livingston County

a. Interoperability with Livingston County law enforcement, fire, and EMS units may be accomplished in several ways.

i. One or two OakWIN units may switch to an available 63MPSC interop talk group and contact the Livingston County PSAP, who will in turn patch the 63MPSC talk group (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5) to the appropriate Livingston County talk group.

ii. For larger tactical operations, an Oakland County PSAP may patch an OakWIN talk group to one of the 63 MPSC interop talk groups and the Livingston County PSAP may patch their talk group to the same 63MPSP interop talk group.

5. All Public Safety Answering Points (dispatch centers) in Oakland County are capable of receiving and transmitting on all of the interop talk groups.

3.2 Conventional (ECP) Mode – Nationwide Interoperability Channels

- A. This is a separate mode of operation from the Open Sky trunking mode. The conventional channels in this mode operate in an analog mode to provide interoperability between different radios systems users and are available to all 700 and 800 MHz public safety radios regardless of trunking technology.
- B. These channels may be used in two ways:



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1. If there is a temporary or permanent repeater available, radios may utilize the repeater channel to extend range between units.
2. If there are no temporary or permanent repeaters available or if the units are out of range of the repeaters, the DIRECT or D channel may be used. The direct mode only operates over a limited area where radios typically have line of sight.
3. The Michigan State Police regional dispatch centers monitor the I-CALL channel in System 1 in the ECP mode of the OakWIN radio. This calling channel may be utilized for emergency communications in any areas served by 700 or 800 MHz trunked radio systems.
4. This mode contains the following systems (zones) :
 - a. System 1 - Currently not assigned
 - b. System 2 - Higher 700 MHz mutual aid/interoperability direct (D) and repeater channels
 - c. System 3 - Lower 700 MHz mutual aid/interoperability direct (D) and repeater channels
 - d. System 4 - ITAC conventional 800 MHz mutual aid repeater and direct (D) channels (The use of these channels will eventually be discontinued due to nationwide rebanding)
 - e. System 5 – 8-TAC conventional 800 MHz repeater and direct (D) channels (These channels are replacing the ITAC channels as part of the rebanding process)
 - f. System 6 - D-TAC conventional 700 MHz tactical channels. These channels are reserved for unit to unit direct communication as range allows. The last four (4) channels in this system are the I-TAC direct channels.



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	"7-TAC 2"	"7-TAC 1"	"I-TAC"	"8-TAC"	"D-TAC"
CH.	Alias	Alias	Alias	Alias	Alias
1	7TRVL70D	7CALL50D	I-CALL	8CALL90	7FTAC1D
2	7TAC75D	7TAC55D	I-CALL D	8CALL90D	7FTAC2D
3	7TAC76D	7TAC56D	I-TAC 1	8TAC91	7FTAC3D
4	7MOB79D	7MOB59D	I-TAC 1D	8TAC91D	7GTAC4D
5	7LAW81D	7LAW61D	I-TAC 2	8TAC92	7GTAC5D
6	7LAW82D	7LAW62D	I-TAC 2D	8TAC92D	7LTAC6D
7	7FIRE83D	7FIRE63D	I-TAC 3	8TAC93	7LTAC7D
8	7FIRE84D	7FIRE64D	I-TAC 3D	8TAC93D	7LTAC8D
9	7MED86D	7MED65D	I-TAC 4	8TAC94	7MTAC9D
10	7MED87D	7MED66D	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	7NTAC10D
11	7TRVL70	7CALL50	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	7NTAC11D
12	7TAC75	7TAC55	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	7NTAC12D
13	7MOB79	7MOB59	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	I-TAC 1D
14	7LAW81	7LAW61	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	I-TAC 2D
15	7FIRE83	7FIRE63	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	I-TAC 3D
16	7MED86	7MED65	I-TAC 4D	8TAC94D	I-TAC 4D

3.3 Talk Group Template

The following template is representative of the talk group plans for Tier 1, 2, and 3 agencies. XX indicates talk groups specific to the home agency and "BB" and "ZZ" indicate talk groups belonging to other agencies.



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Sample Fire Template

(Profiles 1-6)

	PROFILES					
TG	HOME	INCID_1	INCID_2	INCID_3	INCID_4	OKWY_1
1	XXF_FD1	XX_FD1	XX_FD1	XX_FD1	XX_FD1	XXF_FD1
2	XXF_FD2	XX_FD2	XX_FD2	XX_FD2	XX_FD2	XXF_FD2
3	XXF_FD3	XX_FD3	XX_FD3	XX_FD3	XX_FD3	XXF_FD3
4	XXF_FD4	FD_CMD 1	FD_CMD 2	FD_CMD 3	FD_CMD 4	OK_CMD1
5	XXF_FD5	MABAS11	MABAS21	MABAS31	MABAS41	OAKWY11
6	MABAS_D	MABAS12	MABAS22	MABAS32	MABAS42	OAKWY12
7	OAK_D	MABAS13	MABAS23	MABAS33	MABAS43	OAKWY13
8	XXF_PD1	MABAS14	MABAS24	MABAS34	MABAS44	OAKWY14
9	YYF_FD1	STAGE_1	STAGE_2	STAGE_3	STAGE_4	OAKSTG1
10	ZZF_FD1	CWF_FD1	CWF_FD2	CWF_FD3	CWF_FD4	CW_FD1
11		CW_EMS1	CW_EMS2	CW_EMS3	CW_EMS4	CW_EMS1
12		CW_POL1	CW_POL2	CW_POL3	CW_POL4	CW_POL1
13		FILL_1	FILL_2	FILL_3	FILL_4	OAKFIL1
14		MABAS_D	MABAS_D	MABAS_D	MABAS_D	OAK_D
15	ALLDISP	ALL_DISP	ALL_DISP	ALL_DISP	ALL_DISP	ALLDISP
16	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG

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(Profiles 7-12)

	PROFILES					
TG	OKWY_2	CW_OPS	TEC_TRN	EVENT	INTROP	HOSP
1	XXF_FD1	XXF_FD1	XXF_FD1	XXF_FD1	XXF_FD1	XXF_FD1
2	XXF_FD2	CW_FD1	HM_OAKW	EV_1	63F911	HOSP A
3	XXF_FD3	CW_FD2	HM_OC1	EV_2	63OAKH	HOSP B
4	OK_CMD2	CW_FD3	HM_OC2	EV_3	63MPSC1	HOSP C
5	OAKWY21	CW_FD4	TER_OPN	EV_4	63MPSC2	HOSP D
6	OAKWY22	CW_EMSC	TER_OPS	EV_5	63MPSC3	HOSP E
7	OAKWY23	CW_EMS1	OC_IMT1	EV_6	63MPSC4	HOSP F
8	OAKWY24	CW_EMS2	OC_IMT2	EV_7	63MPSC5	HOSP G
9	OAKSTG2	CW_EMS3	FD_TRN1	EV_8	SFLD1	HOSP H
10	CW_FD2	CW_EMS4	FD_TRN2	EV_9	WARN1	HOSP I
11	CW_EMS2	CW_POL1	FD_TRN3	EV_10	WARN2	
12	CW_POL2	CW_POL2	FD_TRN4	EV_11		
13	OAKFIL2	CW_POL3	FD_TRN5	EV_12		
14	OAK_D	CW_POL4	FD_TRN6	EV_13		
15	ALLDISP	ALLDISP	ALLDISP	ALLDISP	ALLDISP	ALLDISP
16	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG	XXF_EMG

3.4 Communications Procedures

A standardized method of communicating with units and between departments will ensure effective communications. Agencies are encouraged to practice these methods so use will become natural. Called-party-first, or receiver-from-sender, shall be the standard method for establishing contact with another unit.

Sometimes a fire department will have the same apparatus numbering as another department such as an Engine 1. To avoid confusion at incidents, a standard format using the department's name, apparatus type, and apparatus number shall be used to designate apparatus/unit identification; e.g., West Bloomfield Medic 1, Troy Ladder 3, or Birmingham Engine 11.

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A. Communicating *Within* Home Agency

Regular communication on home talk groups may follow the abbreviated protocol method of identifying units and agencies.

1. A fire unit calling home dispatch center:
"Radio from Engine 21"
"Waterford from Chief 152"

B. When users are communicating with users from another agency they shall utilize the agency name they are calling and their agency name. The calling unit should include the talk group they are using when contacting another PSAP.

1. A fire unit from one agency calling another agency:
"Madison Heights Dispatch from Troy Fire 803 on ALLDISP"
"Troy Dispatch from Madison Heights Rescue 71 on ALLDISP"
2. One agency communicating with another agency:
"Madison Heights Dispatch from Troy Dispatch on ALLDISP"
"Hazel Park Dispatch from Oak Park Dispatch on ALLDISP"
3. A fire unit from one agency calling a fire unit from another agency:
"Independence Chief 1 from Groveland Engine 2 on STAGE_1"



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3.5 Standard Unit Identification

In order to standardize communications and prevent confusion when fire units from multiple agencies interoperate at incidents and on the radio system, the Oakland County Fire Chief's Association developed the following standardize terminology.

A. Apparatus

TYPE	IDENTIFIER	PRIMARY ATTRIBUTES
Ambulance	A	State licensed ambulance (capable of patient transport)
Engine	E	Primary use is to carry personnel and equipment to extinguish fires
Rescue	R	Primary use is to carry personnel and equipment to perform technical rescue (NFPA definition)
Ladder	L	Provides an elevated fire stream and assists with upper floor rescue and/or ventilation
Tanker	T	Primary use is to transport large quantity of water (usually greater than 1,000 gallons)
Brush	B	Primary use is to fight wildland/brush fires
Specialty	S	Used for any other special purpose such as haz-mat, etc.
Utility	U	Any other type of vehicle

B. Portable Radios

Portable radios will be prefixed with the apparatus or individual designation. Multiple portable radios assigned to apparatus will be designated A, B, C, D, etc.

Example: NVF_E1A – Novi FD Engine 1 portable

C. Command and Staff Personnel

Staff and command personnel and vehicles will use current call signs/designations.

Example: WHF_CH1 – White Lake FD Chief 1

D. Fire Stations

Fire station control stations will be identified as XXF_STA# where XX is the department identifier and # is the station number.

Example: RHF_STA2 – Rochester Hills Fire Station 2

F. Participating Agencies



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Each fire agency participating in the radio system will use an agency specific three character ID for the beginning of the system alias for each radio on the system. The following table outlines the agency codes, primary mutual group, and tier:

AGENCY	ID	PRIMARY MUTUAL AID GROUP	TIER
Addison Township	ADF	MABAS3201	1
Auburn Hills	AHF	MABAS3201	2
Birmingham	BIF	OAKWAY	2
Bloomfield Township	BTF	OAKWAY	3
Brandon Township	BRF	MABAS3201	2
Clawson	CLF	MABAS3201	1
Commerce Township	COF	MABAS3201	2
Farmington Hills	FHF	MABAS3201	3
Ferndale	FEF	OAKWAY	2
Franklin / Bingham	FVF	MABAS3201	2
Groveland Township	GVF	MABAS3201	2
Hazel Park	HPF	OAKWAY	1
Highland Township	HTF	MABAS3201	2
Holly	HVF	MABAS3201	1
Independence Township	INF	MABAS3201	2
Lyon Township	LYF	MABAS3201	1
Madison Heights	MHF	OAKWAY	2
Milford	MIF	MABAS3201	2
North Oakland Fire Authority	NOF	MABAS3201	2
Novi	NVF	MABAS3201	3
Oakland Township	OAF	MABAS3201	2
Oxford Township	OXF	MABAS3201	2
Pontiac	POF	OAKWAY	3
Rochester	RCF	MABAS3201	2
Rochester Hills	RHF	MABAS3201	3
Royal Oak	ROF	OAKWAY	2
South Lyon	SLF	MABAS3201	1
Springfield Township	SPF	MABAS3201	2
Troy	TRF	MABAS3201	3
Walled Lake	WLF	MABAS3201	1
Waterford	WAF	OAKWAY	3
West Bloomfield	WBF	OAKWAY	3
White Lake	WHF	MABAS3201	2
Wixom	WIF	MABAS3201	1

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Examples:

ALIAS	VOICE CALL SIGN	EMS CAPABILITY
FHF_E1	Farmington Hills Engine One	
FHF_E1A	Farmington Hills Engine One Portable	
FHF_A1	Farmington Hills Medic One	Alpha/Bravo
FHF_100	Farmington Hills Fire Chief	
TRF_E11A	Troy Engine One One Portable A	
BIF_A20A	Birmingham Medic Twenty Portable	Alpha/Bravo
BIF_STA2	Birmingham Fire Station Two	

3.6 Clear Speech

All emergency incident communications shall use clear speech. The use of “10” codes or other message codes is not recommended.

3.7 Alerting On-Call Personnel

Fire departments that require on-call personnel alerting will continue to utilize their existing alert system whether VHF or UHF. The capability exists for patches between conventional (VHF, UHF) channels and talk groups. These patches may be operator controlled (dynamic) or hardwired to operate at all times. When a patch is enabled by either method, transmissions originating on an 800 MHz system talk group will be simultaneously broadcast on the conventional VHF or UHF channel.

3.8 Emergency Signaling Operation in Fire Radios

The 800 MHz radio system provides for an emergency signal to be broadcast when a firefighter is in trouble. This portion will describe the Emergency Signaling Operation in Fire Radios.

3.8.1 Emergency Activation Button

1. The emergency activation button is active in fire mobile and portable radios.
2. An emergency alert is initiated by pressing the emergency button for a minimum of ½ second. In order to process and



display emergency activations, each agency is provided with an “emergency talk group.” This talk group is in position 16 of all profiles and is identified as “XXF_EMG.”

3. Both fire mobile and portable radios will receive emergency activation signals from radios within their agency. Emergencies are not activated across agencies when different agencies are operating on the same talk group.

3.8.1.1 Triggered Emergency Signal

- A. When an emergency button is activated in a fire radio in any profile, the triggering radio will do the following:

1. Automatically switch to the XXF_EMG talk group (Agencies using VTAC mobile repeaters in XCOV-TG mode must send emergency alerts on the selected talk group)
2. Send the emergency signal to the dispatch center and all other portable and mobile radios in the agency
3. Sound three long beeps in the triggering radio speaker
4. Transmit on the XXF_EMG talk group with an open microphone for approximately 20 seconds

Any other operating mobile and portable radios from the same agency will receive three long beeps and the display will indicate “EMERGENCY.” Any radio that immediately switches to the XXF_EMG talk group can monitor the open microphone of the triggering radio and can communicate with the declaring user.

The dispatch center may transmit to the triggering radio during the 20-second open microphone period and the triggering radio will receive the transmission. After the 20 second open microphone period, the triggering radio will remain in the XXF_EMG talk group until the emergency activation is cleared.

- B. Clearing Emergency Signal



The emergency activation may only be cleared by the agency dispatch center or by the triggering radio by pressing the lower side option button and the emergency button on the radio or the speaker microphone.

C. Dispatch Response

1. The following procedure shall be followed when a fire emergency activation is received in the dispatch center:
 - a. Attempt to contact the triggering radio and determine if there is an actual emergency condition.
 - b. If any incidents are in progress, contact the incident commander, advise that an emergency has been activated, and provide the unit identification of the triggering radio and any information received over the open microphone.
2. If the fire department does not have an active incident:
 - a. Based on the open microphone transmission, attempt to determine if the user is under duress or any other emergency is present. If an emergency is present, coordinate the appropriate emergency response.
 - b. If the emergency signal appears accidental, attempt to contact the user by radio or other methods. If unable to contact the user, contact the appropriate Fire Department duty officer.
 - c. Clear the emergency after identifying the activating radio identification.

3.9 Scanning and Scanning Menus

- A. Traditional conventional radio systems permitted radio users and the general public to easily monitor radio transmissions on multiple channels. Public safety personnel have become accustomed to monitoring channels used by neighboring departments for coordination purposes.



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- B. In the OakWIN system, *Scanning* is defined as listening to other talk groups within the user's selected and global profiles. Scanning should not be used for mission critical communications and should be used with caution.
- C. In addition to the profiles defined previously, each radio has a global profile which may contain up to 16 additional talk groups that may be scanned. The primary dispatch talk groups of the agencies surrounding communities may be placed into the global profile. While the global profile is available for scanning, the user may not access the talk groups in the global profile for transmitting.
- D. During scanning, users must remember that they will only monitor transmissions from talk groups that are active on that user's tower unless the talk groups are selected as P1 and P2. The talk groups designated as P1 and P2 will be routed to the user's tower but will be delivered at a lower priority and should never be used for critical information.
- E. Scanning Modes
 - 1. Lockout Menu
 - a. Users can scan the profile they have selected and the GLOBAL profile. Users can LOCKOUT those talk groups they do not wish to scan by going to the LOCKOUT menu and deselecting those talk groups.
 - 2. P1 and P2 Menu
 - a. A user may select two Primary Scan talk groups (P1, P2) from either the selected profile or the GLOBAL profile. By switching to the P1 and P2 menu of the radio, a user can select two talk groups that will be routed to their tower with a lower priority. Talk groups selected as P1 and P2 have a higher scan priority than the other scanned channels.



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3.10 Key Secure Systems

Devices such as Knox Box Key secure units in fire apparatus may not function properly when connected to digital radio systems. It is suggested that existing key secure systems utilize conventional VHF or UHF radios for access or consider master tracking systems currently available.