

Communications

Revised 3/10/09

This plan shall mesh in all aspects with the Regional ESF 4 Plan, and especially the Regional ESF 2 Plan. This plan shall mesh in all aspects with the Statewide Fire-Rescue Disaster Plan.

Communications Personnel

Scene Communications Officer shall be appointed by Command.

Said individual shall coordinate the use of all radio frequencies by fireground personnel.

A Dedicated Dispatcher shall be assigned to the incident by the responsible dispatch center

Said individual shall handle only the incident

Other Dispatchers shall handle all other ongoing and routine dispatching business

A Communications Manager shall be assigned by the responsible dispatch center

Said individual shall monitor operations within the dispatch center.

He/she shall coordinate with the Scene Communications Officer to assure the efficient use of communications channels.

The Dedicated Dispatcher and Communications Manager may be located at/near the scene in a mobile communications vehicle, or at a nearby fire station.

Frequency Assignments

Dispatch channels shall be used only for tones and directions: no operations shall be conducted on the Dispatch channel

A dedicated command channel shall be used for "command-to-dispatch" communications

Each major sector shall be assigned a separate radio channel for sector use.

Command shall use a separate tactical frequency for all "sector-to-command" and "sector-to-sector" communications

Command shall have TWO radios - one for communicating with subordinate sector officers, and one for communicating to Dispatch

Sector officers shall have TWO radios – one for communicating with subordinate officers, and one for communicating to Command (or Operations) and other sector officers

Personnel with two radios should have an aide to assist in managing their communications

Available frequencies: Expected use

Dispatch: toning of units, guiding units to scene

Command: Incident command to Dispatch

Tactical frequencies: major operational sectors

Coordination: dispatch-to-dispatch, coordinators

Cellular phones: detailed and/or confidential information

Radio Discipline

Per NIMS, plain language shall be used.

Respect "urgent" and "mayday" messages

Keep all radio traffic to an absolute minimum; don't add to the confusion

COUNTY: Available Radio Channels/Frequencies

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DESIGNATION	FREQUENCY	USE
DISPATCH		
Bethlehem	33.70	
LCD	155.1075	Tones; initial scene
New Milford	155.8725	
Plymouth	453.7375	
Thomaston	45.64	
Torrington	154.145	Tones, most scenes
Washington	158.775	
Watertown	33.60	
Winsted	150.7750/158.8575	Tones, most scenes
Woodbury	155.1375	
Inter-county		Dispatch back-up
COMMAND		
LCD Command 3	155.1225	Command to Dispatch
I-Call/I-Tac		Interagency Command
C-Med 7		Medical Control
TACTICAL		
LCD Scene 4/7/10	155.8125	
LCD Scene 5/8/11	155.8275	
LCD Scene 6/9/12	155.0075	
Air-tac		Ground to helicopter
Fire Police		Traffic control
Bethlehem Ops	33.88	
Bethlehem FG	33.62	
Goshen Operations	156.045	
East Hartland Operations	160.095	
East Hartland Townwide	153.995	
Torrington		
Harwinton Westside	154.400	
Kent Operations	152.435	
Bantam Operations	152.420	
Morris Operations	155.105	
Gaylordsville	154.2575	
New Hartford		
New Milford Operations	154.3475	
Norfolk Operations	153.83	
Roxbury Operations	153.98	
Sharon Operations	151.3175	
Thomaston Operations	46.34	
Torrington Operations	153.83	
Torrington Tactical	154.28	
Warren Operations	154.98	
Watertown Operations	154.0325	
Winsted FG 1	159.9	
Winsted FG 2	154.28	
Winsted RIT	154.205	
Winsted Haz-mat	153.74	

Woodbury Fireground	33.78	
TACTICAL (continued)		
Woodbury simulcast	159.1875	
STOCS 1	154.4525/458.4625/855.9875	Interagency tactical
STOCS 2	158.7375/458.7125/855.7125	Interagency tactical
STOCS 3	159.4725/458.8625/858.4625	Interagency tactical
STOCS 4	158.7375/458.7125/860.2375	Interagency tactical
STOCS 5	159.4725/458.8625/856.2625	Interagency tactical
Regional haz-mat		Haz-mat Branch (future)
C-Med 1		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 2		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 3		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 4		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 5		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 6		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 8		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 9		Ambulance-to-Hospital
C-Med 10		Ambulance-to-Hospital
COORDINATION		
Hartford Intercity		Dispatch-to-dispatch
Waterbury Intercity	154.295	
Statewide Fire	46.16	Statewide Coordinators
Region V		Regional EOC to Town EOC
Fiber Optics		(future system PSAP-to-PSAP)
MISCELLANEOUS		
Federal Emergency	700 band	(Future)
Old Countywide	33.70	
DEP Forestry		Brush fire crew
Forestry COMPAC		
Cellular phones		
Internet		

Defined Communications Needs

- 1) Dispatch center – to – dispatch center fire “hot line” (regularly used for familiarity)
- 2) Repeated, mid-range (several miles) tactical channels
- 3) Programming of STOCS channels into all portables
- 4) Training with STOCS and “black boxes”
- 5) Mobile chargers for I-cal/I-tac radios
- 6) More, readily available I-call/I-tac radios