

UTAH COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY NETWORK

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To All UCAN System Users

From Jake Hunt, UCAN Operations Manager

Radio Template Design

UCAN will need to reprogram many radios in conjunction with the completion of the UCAN/SL County System Merger. Many users have found that in the early template design process they opted to have programmed far too many unneeded talkgroups in their radio. Some agencies have since gone back and eliminated many, but uniformity of the radios and common channel naming is still a big issue. In this reprogramming process it is also our goal to simplify and standardize many zones in all user radios. Over the last few years we have observed the following:

In almost every case where communication has been a problem it has been for one or more of the following reasons.

- Field users and dispatchers are unclear about when and what talkgroups should be used.
- Field users are unable to locate Mutual Aid channels in their radios.
- Field Commanders are assigning incorrect talkgroups that are not conducive for Mutual Aid.
- Dispatchers either don't understand and or they are hesitant to correct the field commanders and properly assign Mutual Aid Talkgroups.
- Users unfamiliar with what resource options are available in poor coverage areas.
- Radio Channels are named differently from agency to agency.
- Users do not understand what the backup/lockdown channels are for, or where they are located in their radios.
- No one can quickly guide the users to a common channel because of the lack of template uniformity.

For these reasons it is the intent of UCAN to reprogram using the template below. By using this standard template design in conjunction with emphasis on a train the trainer effort system wide, we hope to resolve many of the issues users are struggling with. We know that there are various needs and philosophies, but we feel strongly that this type of standardization along with a greater training effort will solve most of the problems.

Whether or not your agencies radios need reprogramming because of the merger, please take opportunity to examine your current template for changes you think need to be made, and factor in the attached template design. Our reprogramming priority has to be those affected by the merger, and as time permits we will accommodate other agency requests. For those agencies affected by the merger we need to set a deadline of October

15th for the additional change you would like to make. If you can provide those changes before that date it would be appreciated.

Talkgroup	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Remainder of Zones Optional
1	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	Ops1	Evnt1	NtRpt1	
2			Ops2	Evnt2	NtRpt2	
3			Ops3	Evnt3	NtRpt3	
4			Ops4	Evnt4	NtRpt4	
5			Ops5	Evnt5	NtRpt5	
6			Ops6	Evnt6	StRpt1	
7			Ops7	Evnt7	StRpt2	
8			Ops 8	Evnt8	StRpt3	
9			Ops9	Evnt9	StRpt4	
10			Ops10	Evnt10	StRpt5	
11			Rgn1	Evnt11	StTA1	
12			Rgn2	Evnt12	StTA2	
13			Rgn3	Evnt13	StTA3	
14			Rgn4	Evnt14	StTA4	
15			Rgn5	Evnt15	StTA5	
16			Rgn6	Evnt16	LOCKDOWN	

This template is designed with the type 2 & 3 MCS/MTS2000 or the XTS and Astro Spectra radios. Type 1 radios will have to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Talk Around (TA) channels will not be named anything other than what they are as listed in Zone 5. There are only five Talk Around channels. Naming them something else just give the perception that they are something else.

In some local areas where conventional channels are being used to fill in coverage we will try to identify the site by the channel name. (Example) NRpt2Bld, would be the National Repeater 2 at Bald Mtn. SRpt2Hrd, would be State Repeater 2 at Herd Mtn.

Suggestions

Agencies with the need for specific talkgroups being easily accessible might consider placing them in the last Zone of the radio.

Law Enforcement should consider placing their Home Region Talkgroup in the either the top or bottom of zone 1 for easy accessibility.

The Lockdown channel or channels can be placed anywhere in the radio, but will be standardized at least in Zone 5 channel 16.

If you have questions please let us know.