

CFD COMMUNICATIONS

GENERAL

- Members assigned portable radios are responsible for their proper storage, status of batteries and their functionality.
- Maximum effectiveness in a radio system is achieved by courteous, responsible use of broadcast time by all parties using the system. A good impression of our service is fostered by our professional manner on the air. All communications should be clear, impersonal and steady. Each transmission should be as brief and accurate as possible.
- Emergency broadcasts always take precedence over non-emergency traffic.
- Short transmissions should be combined and executed all at one time.
- Personal type transmissions, humor and horse play are not permitted.
- The radio system should be used only for the transmission of messages to carry out the Department's official operations
- All Fire Department Units shall announce "Wheels Rolling" when dispatched from quarters. **THIS INCLUDES CHIEF OFFICERS**
- A procedural word (sometimes called pro-word) is a word used to imply a special meaning plain language generally clogs up the air waves. Examples of **PRO-WORDS** which simplify message transmissions:

PRO-WORD

MEANING

AFFIRMATIVE

YES, YOU ARE CORRECT.

CORRECTION

WHAT I HAVE SAID IS INCORRECT, I SHOULD HAVE SAID.....

DISREGARD

THIS TRANSMISSION IS INCORRECT, IGNORE IT.

OKAY

YOUR LAST TRANSMISSION HAS BEEN RECEIVED AND UNDERSTOOD.

SAY AGAIN

REPEAT YOUR LAST MESSAGE.

NEGATIVE

NO.

KEY ITEMS - FIRE STATION HOUSE ALERT PROCEDURES

- The Fire Dispatch Center will dispatch alarms via the 800 MHz Radio. All station radios **must be set to the House Alert Talk-group** to receive notification of alarms.
- All alarms will be preceded by an alert tone and then announced with units responding, type of alarm, location and incident and all other pertinent information.
- The Station Alert system is designed to broadcast through the station house P. A. system **the Volume Control on the PA system must not be tampered with.**
- During times of high volume, alarms may still be transmitted by the red phone.

KEY ITEMS – PORTABLE RADIO PROCEDURES

- Portable Radios shall be properly stored in Radio Pocket on Turnout Coat
- Portable Radios **OFF** when stored
- Portable Radios **ON** at **ALL** other times
- All portable radios assigned to a company will be assigned to individual members on a daily basis by the O.I.C
- These members will be held responsible for care and security of radios
- Life Safety Details - All portables will be switched to Channel #7
- Hand held Channel #15 is not received by FAO and has limited range(approx. 1 mile)

KEY ITEMS - INSPECTIONS

- Inspections - Companies on inspections where multiple radios will be in use shall switch to the channel designated by the person in charge of the inspection
- Unit or units designated as monitor, shall monitor dispatch Channel #16
- They shall be responsible for relaying any dispatch transmissions to the unit or units as necessary
- The inspection I.C. will designate the unit or units that will be monitoring.

KEY ITEMS – EMERGENCY FIREFIGHTER

(Daryl, Mayday protocols have been rewritten in RIT SOP)

- **May Day** - Used when a firefighter is trapped or missing
 - Should be repeated to Dispatch Center (3) three times on Channel 16 after receipt from unit or individual declaring "May Day"
- **CODE RED** - Used when a firefighter is or is about to be involved in an altercation or situation that could be threatening
 - FDC will respond with company signature only and follow FDC Sop's
- **EMERGENCY BUTTON ACTIVATION-** Any activation not found to be accidental by a member shall be considered as a "May Day"

- **ABANDON BUILDING SIGNAL - VIA 800 MHz RADIO** - When a building or situation becomes untenable, the I.C, shall announce “**ABANDON BUILDING**” on his assigned channel (3) three times
 - Switch to “**DISPATCH**” Channel #16 and inform the FDC to enable the abandon building signal
 - All hands shall immediately leave the building and report to the apparatus or to a position designated by the Incident Commander
 - Officers will conduct a P.A.R. to assure all hands are present.

KEY ITEMS – AIRPORT EMERGENCIES

- The Commanding Officer of the First Due Fire Company and the Chief responding to Aircraft Emergencies at Hopkins Airport will monitor “Airport Fire” in zone two (2) channel three (3) on their 800 MHz portable radio
- All other members will remain on their regular assigned tactical channel unless ordered to change by the Incident Commander

KEY ITEMS – RADIO REPORT

- **SIZE UP REPORT** – includes but is not limited to a Unit signature, description of incident, building size and height, construction, occupancy, stage of fire, location of fire and exposures
- **PROGRESS REPORT** - unit signature, update initial size-up report, and progress every 20 minutes thereafter
- **BENCHMARK REPORTS** - Primary Search Completed, Under Control, etc

KEY ITEMS – I/CAD & MOBILE DIGITAL COMPUTER (MDC)

- The unit commander will log the entire crew onto the unit with the proper unit ID, apparatus code and corresponding portable radio identification numbers. **For accountability purposes unit commanders must log on their entire crew prior to 0900 hours each day.**
- Unit commanders are to continually insure that the correct unit operational status is displayed at the bottom center of the screen at all times.
- The MDC shall remain open at all times. Closing the unit’s screen will automatically shut down the system.
- Upon receipt of an emergency alarm from fire dispatch the MDC will automatically sound an audible alarm.

- Unit commanders are directed to enroute themselves utilizing the <ENROUTE> button on their MDC screens or the function key (F2) located on the top row of their key board once their unit is responding to the incident location and then **announce over their apparatus radio “Wheels rolling”**.
- If additional information becomes available to fire dispatch during the unit’s response to the incident location the MDC will sound an audible bell alerting the unit commander that this information is available by clicking on the <READ ME> in the icon bar at the top of the screen or the (F9) function key located on the top row of their key board. Unit commanders are responsible for reading all updates sent out for their current assignment. The responding incident commander shall acknowledge receipt of the update by radio.
- Unit commanders are directed to indicate that they have arrived at the incident location by clicking on the <ON SCENE> button on the top menu toolbar or the function key (F3) located on the top row of their key board and then **announce over their apparatus radio that they are on scene with any size-up if applicable**.
- Upon returning in service from an incident where a single unit responded unit commanders are directed to click on the <IN SERVICE> button at the top of the screen or the function key (F6) located on the top row of their key board. An incident disposition screen will automatically open prompting the user for a disposition code. Unit commanders can either scroll down the drop down list for the correct code or enter the code directly from the keyboard. The MDC will not allow the unit to change its status until a disposition code has been entered. **Once this is complete the unit commander will notify fire dispatch of their change in status along with the incident disposition by apparatus radio**.
- Upon returning in service from an incident where multiple units responded fire dispatch will change the status of all responding units and input the incident disposition code when they return in service. **Units are to notify fire dispatch by radio of their change in status**.

- CFD units are directed to indicate that they are enroute to a medical care facility by selecting the <TRANSPORT> button at the top of the screen or the <F4> key on the keyboard. Upon arriving at the medical care facility the transporting unit is to change their status by selecting the <ARRIVE> button on the screen or the <F5> key on the keyboard.
- Unit commanders are advised to delete past messages that have been read from the message dialogue box in the lower right hand corner of the MDC screen. Allowing past messages to backlog in the dialogue box detrimentally affects the ability of the MDT to receive new emergency response information and other incoming messages.
- Unit commanders are directed to update the personnel logged onto their apparatus, as well as the radio ID's assigned, as their company members change during their shift for whatever reason.
- In the event that a unit is required to change over into another apparatus for whatever reason unit commanders shall insure that the MDC unit in their original apparatus is switched over into their new apparatus along with the rest of their equipment. During normal business hours unit commanders can contact the B.O.C. at Ext. 6379 to have their MDC switched out prior to returning in service or have a B.O.C. page sent out by dispatch. The B.E.A.M. unit, the P.M.O. officer, and the E.55th Garage all have access keys to switch out the MDC units outside of normal business hours. **Unit commanders must be sure to log onto to the MDC unit using the correct apparatus code of their current apparatus when changing over instead of their normally assigned apparatus code.**
- **How to Start/Log In Mobile Unit**
 - Slide power button on the front right side of unit to the right and hold for two seconds then release
 - At “Welcome to Windows Screen” simultaneously press the key combination of <Ctrl>, <Alt>, to open the log on screen
 - Enter “firecad” in the User name field and “firecad” in the Password field and press “enter”. Both entries must be in lowercase letters.
 - Wait until the message “RSI V-Track is now connected” message displays in the lower right hand corner of the screen and then double click on the “CFD IMobile” icon on the desktop
 - If you are signing onto the unit for the first time during your current shift click the “SIGN ON” button

- In the ID field enter your payroll number without any leading zeroes. In the password field enter the first initial of your first name and your entire last name in all capital letters with no space in between. Ex. John Doe would be “JDOE”. Below the officers ID enter the payroll number for each individual riding on the apparatus that day. To the right enter the corresponding radio identification numbers being used by the company members. They are the six digit numbers found on the back of the portable radios beginning with “733...”.
 - Midway down the screen in the “Unit” box enter the company ID number. Ex. Rescue Squad 1 = RS1, Ladder 1 = L01, Engine 24 = E24.
 - In the “Vehicle” box enter the apparatus vehicle code that is currently assigned.
 - Click on the “OK” button. You should hear a ringing bell from the mobile unit and the home I-Mobile screen should appear
 - In the lower right hand corner message box a “UNIT DATA” message should appear. You can click on the message to verify the department members that have been logged onto the unit.
- **How to Restart Mobile Unit**
 - Click on the “Start” button in the lower left hand corner of the screen.
 - Click on the red “Shut Down” button.
 - From the drop down window select “Restart” and click “OK”.
 - Continue from Step #2 under “How to Start Mobile Unit”.
- **Common Error Messages**
 - **Message:** *Password for user “JDoe” is invalid*
 - **Fix:** Your password is your first initial and last name in capital letters with no spaces in between. When you see this message the system has just given you your password. Be sure that you have the <CAPS LOCK> on and the <NUM LOCK> off. Indicator lights for both are located on the keyboard. In rare occurrences your password may have been corrupted on the servers and has to be reset by the ISS division. Contact the BOC by phone if the above fix is not effective.
 - **Message:** *Transmission Failure – Reason: Unknown Error or any error message concerning transmission failure.*
 - **Fix:** Simultaneously hit the <Alt> and <F4> keys to close the I-Mobile program. Double click on the I-Mobile icon on the desktop to restart the software. If the error code appears again then follow the procedure for restarting the unit.
- **Message:** *Unable to log user JDoe into unit; user logged in on XXX*

- **Fix:** The member that you are trying to log in is logged in on another unit. The only way to log off of a unit is to have another user log in over you. Contact unit listed in error message and request that officer log in his/her current crew.
- Frequently Asked Questions
 - **My screens have been moved around. How do I get the screen back to the original configuration?**
 - From the home screen click on “View” on the upper left menu bar. From the drop down menu select “Restore Defaults”.
 - **How do I use Unit History to view my unit’s incident information for events responded to during the previous day?**
 - The MDC unit can retrieve run information for the previous 24-hour time period from the time when the request is made. When you click on “UNIT HISTORY” an input box will appear requesting a start time. If you delete the text within the box and leave it empty while you click “Start” the MDC will retrieve run information for the last 24 hours. If you input a specific time the unit will retrieve run information starting at that time going forward.
 - **Is there any way that I can see what the response status (Dispatched, enroute, on scene) of the other companies responding to the same incident as my unit is?**
 - Yes, on the screen that showed you your original run information scroll down until you see the other units that are responding with you listed. Click on the “REFRESH” button or the <F9> key and the MDT will download the updated response status of all units assigned to the current incident and display them on the screen.

KEY ITEMS – 800 MHz Radio System Backup Plan

- A **Type 1** radio system failure is one where only the console radios at the FDC fail to operate properly. All mobile and handheld radios remain operational.
- A Type 1 failure situation can be identified by the words “SITE TRUNKING” being displayed on mobile/handheld displays.
- In the event of a Type 1 failure, members should follow the following procedures
 - Communications **WITH** the FDC by shall be by normal methods
 - Communications **BY** the FDC to division units will be handheld radios
 - Unit Commanders shall confirm radio functionality **IMMEDIATELY** prior to entering hazardous atmospheres or situations

- A **Type 2** radio system failure is one where ALL components of the system lose their functionality, including the console, mobile and handheld radios
- Channel 15 will be the only channel in operation during a **Type 2** failure
- Channel 15 will only operate in approximately a one mile radius
- Members can identify a total system failure by receiving the “OUT OF RANGE” audible alert (loud honking sound) on every channel except for Channel 15
- Emergency Notification/Firefighter Down button on the handheld radio WILL NOT FUNCTION in a Type 1 or 2 failure
- In the event of a Type 2 failure, members should follow the following procedures
 - BC’s shall contact FDC by means of MARC’s Radio for further instructions
 - BC’s shall assure that their radio’s are tuned to **Zone 20 – Channel 1**
 - Zone 20 – Channel 1 reads Zone 20 –FD18-027 on the display
 - Newly issued Nextel Direct Phones shall be used as secondary communication

BASIC SETUP AND OPERATION OF MOBEX REPEATER SYSTEM

RADIO ID CALL NO# - 734999

SERIAL NO# - 494AUQ0253

SETUP OF MOBEX REPEATER SYSTEM

(NOTE PLACEMENT OF ALL PARTS BEFORE SETUP. RETURN TO SAME POSITION WHEN DISASSEMBLING)

1. CONNECT POWER CORD (**PART D**) TO MOBEX CASE "D" PLUG.

2. ASSEMBLE MAGNETIC ANTENNA LABELED '**BASE 2**'

(**SEE DRAWING**)

3. CONNECT 1ST - 50' EXTENSION CABLE TO '**BASE 1 PLUG**' OUTLET ON OUTER CASE.

4. CONNECT MAGNETIC ANTENNA LABELED '**BASE 1**' TO OTHER END OF 1ST 50' EXTENSION CABLE.

('**BASE 1**' ANTENNA PREASSEMBLED)

• **THIS IS THE MOBILE ANTENNA THAT GOES INSIDE BUILDING**

5. CONNECT 2ND - 50' EXTENSION CABLE TO '**BASE 2 PLUG**' OUTLET ON OUTER CASE.

6. CONNECT MAGNETIC ANTENNA LABELED '**BASE 2**' TO OTHER END OF 50' EXTENSION CABLE.

• **THIS IS THE '**VR**' ANTENNA THAT GOES OUTSIDE BUILDING**

7. PLUG SYSTEM INTO 110V OUTLET.

8. TURN ON RADIO (SWITCH LOCATED ON BOTTOM RIGHT OF RADIO)
9. SELECT TACTICAL CHANNEL.
10. INSTRUCT COMPANIES WORKING INSIDE OF STRUCTURE TO OPERATE ON THE MOBEX CHANNEL 10.

MOBEX REPEATER SYSTEM PARTS LIST

MOBEX ROLLING CASE (I UNIT TO CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING)

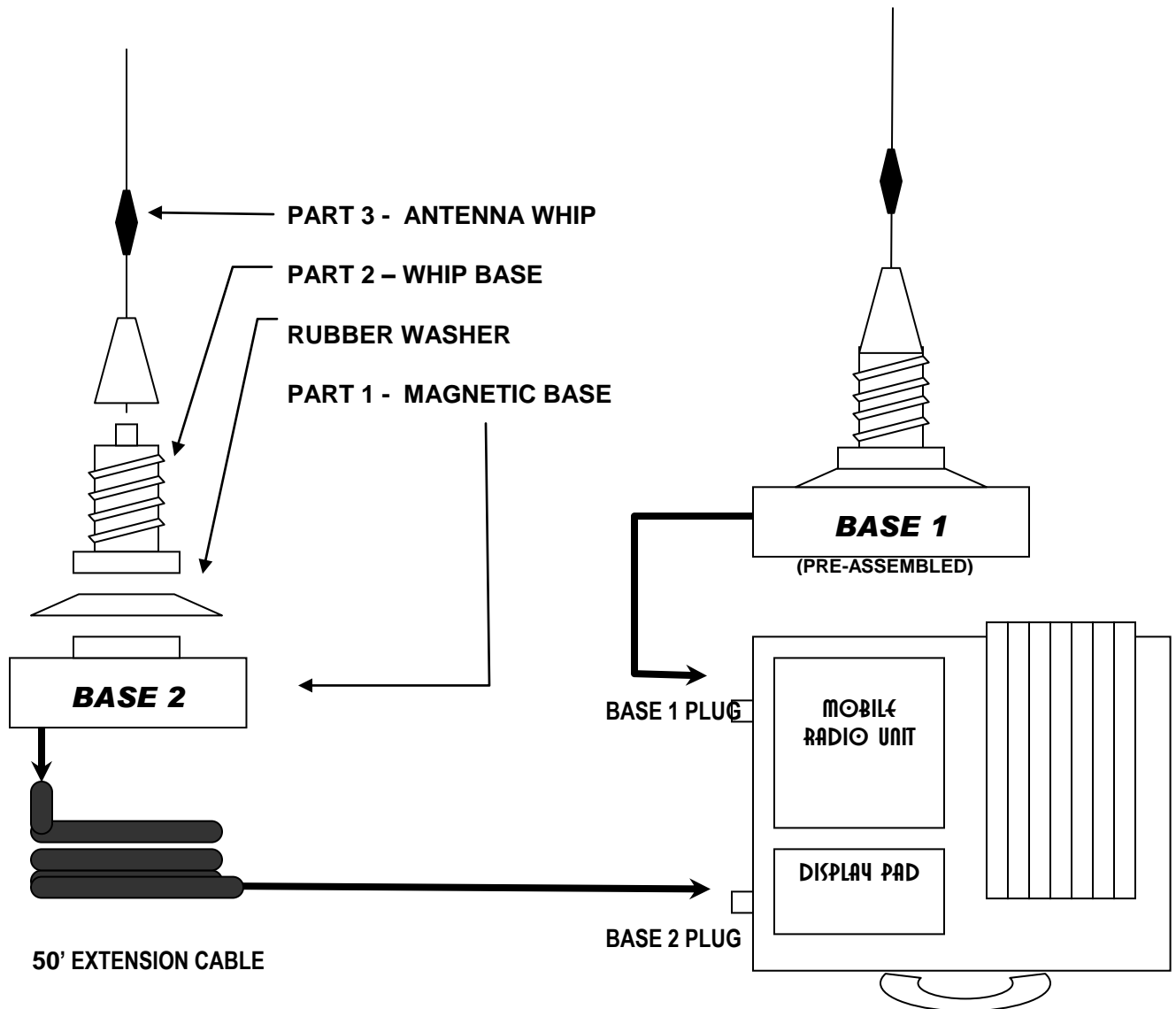
- 1 - MOBILE RADIO
 - 1 - DISPLAY PAD
 - 1 - PREASSEMBLED 'BASE 1' MAGNETIC ANTENNA MOUNT
 - 1 - SCREW ON ANTENNA WHIP
 - 1 - SCREW ON ANTENNA WHIP BASE
 - 1 - MAGNETIC MOUNT ANTENNA BASE (LABELED BASE 2)
 - 1 - POWER CORD (LABELED PART 'D')
- 1 - 25' EXTENSION POWER CORD
(SEPARATE FROM MOBEX ROLLING CASE)

ANTENNA ASSEMBLY AND CONNECTION DIAGRAM

SEE PARTS LIST BEFORE ASSEMBLING

1. PLACE RUBBER WASHER ON TOP OF BASE (PART 1 OF 3)

2. SCREW PART 2 OF 3 ONTO BASE
3. SCREW PART 3 OF 3 ON TOP TO COMPLETE ASSEMBLY



THE COMPLETED ANTENNA ASSEMBLY MAY THEN BE CONNECTED TO CORRESPONDING '**BASE PLUG**'. THIS CAN BE DONE DIRECTLY OR WITH THE 50 FT **EXTENSION CABLE*** PROVIDED.

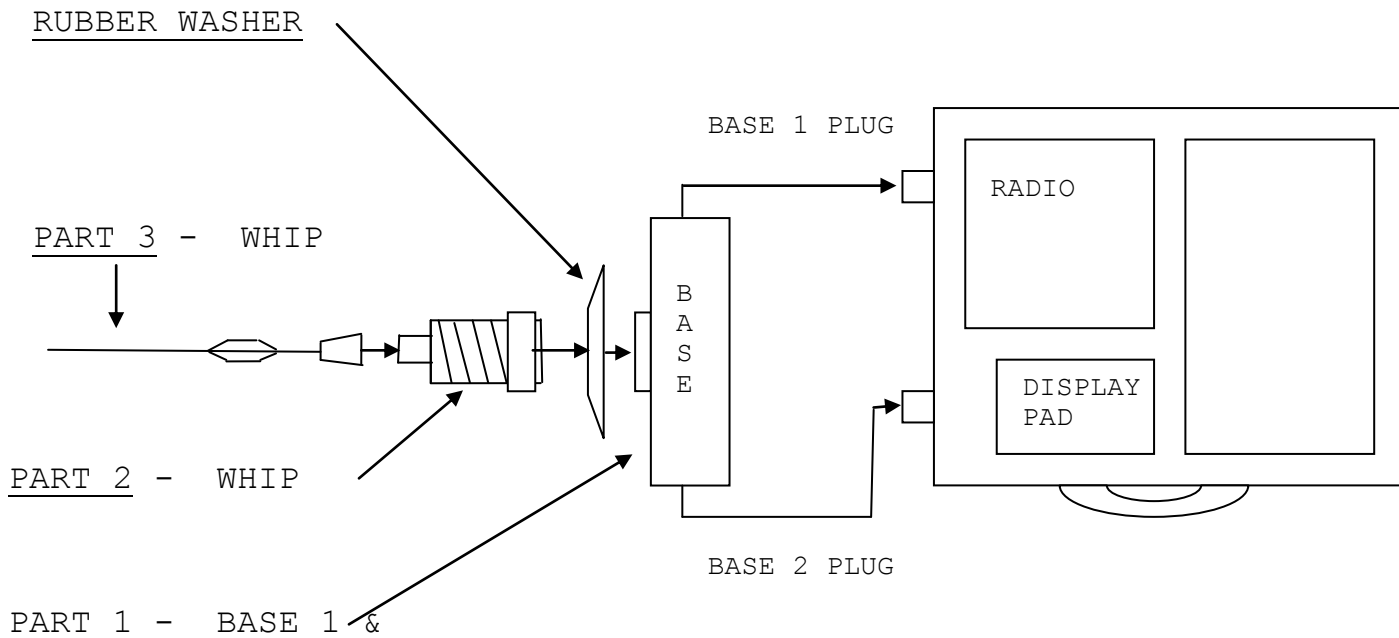
***note:**

(50FT EXTENSION CABLE AND 25FT EXTENSION POWER CORD CARRIED SEPARATELY)

MOBEX REPEATER SYSTEM

ANTENNA ASSEMBLY

4. PLACE RUBBER WASHER ON TOP OF BASE (PART
1 OF 3)
5. SCREW PART 2 OF 3 ONTO BASE
6. SCREW PART 3 OF 3 ON TOP TO COMPLETE
ASSEMBLY



THE COMPLETED ANTENNA ASSEMBLY MAY THEN BE CONNECTED TO A 'BASE PLUG' (**SEE 1ST PAGE**)

THE COMPLETED ANTENNA ASSEMBLY MAY ALSO BE CONNECTED TO AN **EXTENSION CABLE*** TO EXTEND COMMUNICATIONS INSIDE THE STRUCTURE

*note: (***EXTENSION CABLE CARRIED SEPARATELY***)

Ohio MARCS





Using your MARCS Digital Radios

December 2007

Physical Features of the XTS 5000 Portable Radio



Basic Operation of the XTS 5000

On/Off

- Turn the On/Off Volume Control knob clockwise. You also control the volume with this knob.
- The LED light on top of the radio flashes when you turn the radio on.
- If the power-up test is successful, you briefly see “SELF-TEST”, then your “home” display. If the power-up test is unsuccessful, you see “ERROR XX/YY (XX/YY is an alphanumeric code).
- Turn the On/Off Volume Control knob counterclockwise until it clicks to turn the radio off.

Volume

- Turn the On/Off Volume Control knob clockwise until you reach the volume you desire.

Zone Select

- To select a zone, press the “ZONE” button located directly below “ZONE” on the display (the current zone flashes on the display when you do this).
- Press the right side of the 4-way Navigation button to find the zone you want
- OR use the keypad to enter the zone number (i.e. 1, 2, 10)
- Press the “HOME” button to confirm the displayed zone and channel
- OR press the “PTT” button to transmit on the displayed zone/channel


Display

- The top and middle buttons on the side of the radio controls the brightness of your display. Page 8 has the most common symbols seen on your MARCS radio.

Home

- Pressing this button brings the radio to the “HOME” talkgroup which is where you will conduct your day to day business
- You must press and hold the “Home” button until the display changes to “YOUR HOME”
- Make sure the Channel/Mode Select dial is in the “1” position

Scan On/Off 3 Position Toggle Switch

- **The *programmable* scan feature allows you to monitor traffic on different channels by scanning a preprogrammed list of channels.**
- **When you move the 3 position toggle switch to the “B” position, your radio is in scan mode**
- **The scan icon will appear in your display **
- **Your radio can have several different scan lists. These lists must be preprogrammed by a qualified radio technician.**

Scan Select




- **This programmable feature allows you to change scan list members and priorities. Scan Select is located in the “C” position of the 3 position toggle switch**
- **The Scan Select icon will appear in your display**
- This feature lets you change scan list members and priorities

To edit the scan list:

- 1) Toggle the Scan List Programming Switch to the predetermined programming position.
 - On these training radios that is position “C”
 - You will see a small square flash in the upper right corner of the display indicating the programming mode
 - You will also see SEL, DEL, and RCL displayed as possible selections
- 2) Press the left or right side of the 4-way Navigation button to select the item to be changed.
- 3) Press the button directly below SEL or DEL or RCL
 - SEL = add the currently displayed item to the scan list
 - DEL = delete the currently displayed item from the scan list
 - RCL = view the next available item

OR

When adding a priority member, press the button directly below SEL additional times. You will see

-  = this item is in the scan list
-  = this item is in the scan list as a priority-two member
-  = (dot flashing) this item is in the scan list as the priority-one member
Priority-one members cannot be deleted)

- 4) Press the left or right side of the 4-way navigation button to select more items to be added or deleted.

OR

Use the keypad to go directly to additional items to be added or deleted

OR

Use the 16 position select knob to select additional items to be added or deleted

The maximum number of members for a trunking priority monitor scan list is 15

- 5) Toggle the Scan List Programming switch out of the programming position

Channel/Mode Select

- To select a channel/mode, turn the rotary dial on top of the radio to select specific talkgroups you wish to transmit/receive on.
- From the “HOME” position in these training radios, turn the dial counterclockwise and watch the display change from talkgroup to talkgroup in your home zone.

Transmit and Receive (PTT)

- Turn the radio on and select the desired talkgroup. The selected talkgroup appears in the display.
- Listen for ongoing conversations; if your talkgroup becomes available, proceed with your transmission.
- Press the PTT button to transmit and wait for the talk permit tone. (3 beeps) When speaking, keep the radio 4-6” from your mouth. If you hear a busy signal, (honk) wait for a call back tone, then proceed with your call. Release the “PTT” button to listen

Important: Remember to wait briefly before beginning your conversation as the system takes a little time to select an open channel and assign it to you.

Man Down

- The orange button located on top of the radio is a programmable “man down” feature
- When programmed, pressing this button would give a visual alert (on your display) to others in your group you are in distress
- Audio tones can also be programmed into the radios indicating an emergency
- To disable, press and hold the orange button down
- Alerts the “emergency” talkgroup (your radio room, or other designated talkgroup). Other radios will also see the emergency alert. You will only know the ID number of the radio, not the individuals’ name
- Press and hold the “HOME” button to clear the alert and return to the main display

My ID

- In the event you forget what your 6 digit radio ID number is you can pull it up on the XTS 5000 display
- Press the button directly below “CALL” on the radio display
- Press the left side of the 4-way Navigation button to find your ID
- Press “HOME” to return to the home display

Time and Date

You can program the time and date as you might with other electronic devices. The clock display is enabled by a qualified radio technician.

- The default time setting is a 12-hour clock
- If a 24 hour clock is selected, AM/PM selection is not available
- The default setting for the domestic date shows MDY.

To Edit Time and Date

- Press the right arrow button (oval 4 way navigation button) to find “CLCK”
- Press the white button (with blue dots) directly below “CLCK”. The current setting is displayed.
- Press the white button (with blue dots) directly below “EDIT”. The first item flashes
- Press the up/down arrow button (oval 4 way navigation button) to change the selected item

OR

- Press the right arrow key (oval 4 way navigation button) one or more times to move to an item you wish to change.
- Press the up/down arrow button (oval 4 way navigation button) to change the selected item
- Press the right arrow button (oval 4 way navigation button) one or more times to move to an item in the date field
- Press the up/down arrow button (oval 4 way navigation button) to change the selected item
- When you have made all your changes, press the white button (with blue dots) directly below SAVE to save your changes and return to the home display.

Note: If a call arrives while the radio is in the clock-setting menu, the radio exits clock setting, your changes are lost, and the call information is displayed

When you need to call for HELP!!!

HELPDESK

If the control station fails to operate properly, contact the MARCS Network Operations Center (NOC) at **1-866-646-2727**. This center is monitored 24/7 and will assist you in obtaining help with equipment problems.

Other radios will also see the emergency alert. You will only know the ID number of Note: If a call arrives while the radio is in the clock-setting menu, the radio exits clock setting, your changes are lost, and the call information is displayed

Base Level Tasks

Install/Remove Battery

- Turn the radio off
- Grasp the radio upside down and place your pointer finger on the oval button at the base of the radio
- Press down on the button while tilting the battery outward
- To re-install, hold the radio upside down and align the “lip” of the battery with the metal tabs on the back of the radio
- Tilt the battery toward the radio unit and press until it snaps into place

Install Remove Antenna

- Turn the radio off
- Screw the antenna (clockwise) into the antenna receptacle on top of the radio
- Tighten the antenna firmly with your fingers
- Do not attempt to use unapproved antennae on this radio. Doing so may damage the radio
- The antenna is color coded according to its frequency range

Charging the Battery

- The XTS 5000 radio is supported with a rechargeable “smart” battery designed to last approximately 10 hours
- If the radio is placed in the charger while it is powered up, this drains the battery.
- The life of the battery is dependent upon “key-up” time. We suggest you know exactly what you want to say before you key-up to transmit. This will spare the life of your battery and show professional courtesy to other users
- Do not try to use other batteries on the XTS 5000. Doing so will jeopardize signal strength

Walkie Talkie Language

Due to the diversity of agencies cooperating in multi-jurisdictional/multi-agency exercises and emergencies, it is important to speak a language everyone understands. Therefore, use common everyday language when communicating on the interoperability or any other shared talkgroup. There are a few common “cop talk” terms we encourage you to use which are listed below.

COMMAND	EXPLANATION
Affirmative	Yes
Negative	No
Stand By	Used when the communicator must go find information
Go Ahead	Used at the end of a transmission letting the other party know you are finished speaking and are waiting for their response
Clear	Used when all radio traffic is complete-the end of the conversation
Message Received	Also used at the end of a transmission
Break	Gives the listener time to write down information being transmitted
Say Again/Repeat	Asks the last transmission to be repeated
Copy	Do you understand the last transmission
Mayday	Universal call for help

Home (Agency Specific)

This is where you conduct your day-to-day business on MARCS. Everyone’s “Home” is located in Zone 1, Position 1.

More than likely, you will be in Zone 1, Position 1 about 95% of your workday. What makes MARCS so “user friendly” yet “universally useable” is the fact you can conduct your daily business, and have all the resources to operate with relative ease with several other agencies.

MULTI-AGENCY ROADIO COMMUNICATIONS (MARCS) ZONES

The following explains the (20) Zones that are programmed in the MARCS radios.

Zone 1: M-TAC

- Channel 1-10 are the Cuyahoga County interoperable channels, M-TAC (See MARCS acronyms)
- Channel 11 Cuyahoga County Sherriff's Office
- Channel 12 M-CALL 2 (Region 2 talk group that are monitored by OSHP & ODNR) See attached map.
- Channel 13 M-COMM 2 (Region 2 talk group that are not monitored) See attached map.
- Channel 14 ECOMM 22 (Region 2 talk group that Command/Communications/Control could steer incoming responders, if responding to Region 2)
- Channel 15 Hospital 18 Cleveland Clinic Emergency Room

Zone 2:

- Channels 1-16 are the hospital emergency rooms in Cuyahoga County.

Zone 3:

- Channels 1-10 are the Public Health Departments in Homeland Security Region 2

Zone 4:

- Channels 1-4 includes Life Flight helicopters
- LF Dispatch: Toledo St. V's Life Flight
- LIFEFLT: Southern Ohio Life Flight
- MEDEVAC: University Hospital Life Flight
- MEDFLT: Southern Ohio Life Flight

Zone 5:

- Channels 1-9 include the State Fire Marshalls Office, the Ohio Fire Chief's Association, and the Ohio State Fire Academy

Zone 6:

- Channels 1-8 Local Emergency Talk Groups (See MARCS Acronyms)

Zone 7:

- Channels 1-9 include the MCALL and MCOMM channels, along with the MARCS help desk. (See MARCS Acronyms)

Zone 8:

- Channels 1-16 include the ECOMM Channels (See MARCS Acronyms)

Zone 9:

- Channels 1 through 8 include the ECOMM Channels (See MARCS Acronyms) for each Homeland Security Region in Ohio.

Zone 10:

- Channels 1 through 7 include the SCALL and SCOMM channels. (See MARCS Acronyms)

Zone 11 through 16:

- Channels 1 through 16 includes all the Sherriff Office (SO) 1 through 88 in the State of Ohio
- The Cuyahoga County Sherriff Office is SO-18

Zone 17:

- Channel 1 through 8 includes the National Public Safety Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) Interoperability channels for 800 MHz radio systems.

- Channels 11 and 12 include the AIRMED interoperability channels. When requesting a life helicopter, life flight dispatch, will request a frequency to communicate with the IC. AIRMED 1 or 2 could be implemented.
- Channels 13 through 15 include digital Talk Around channels. Radio to radio similar to our Direct 15.

Zone 18:

- Channels 1 and 2 includes two Ohio State Highway Patrol talk groups

Zone 19:

- Channel 1 through 10 BP TACs includes all fire departments operating on the Brook Park 800 MHz.
- Channel 11 through 16, every radio on the Brook Park 800 MHz system has these channels

Zone 20:

- Channel 1 and 2 includes two Division of Fire talk groups
- Channel 3 through 11 includes suburban Fire Departments that operate on the Brook Park 800 MHz system.

MULTI-AGENCY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS (MARCS)

ACRONYMS

M-TAC 1-10

- Cuyahoga County Interoperable Radio Channels

M-CALL 1-4

- Allows any user to call for assistance from anywhere in the state. (See map titled MARCS zones) the talk groups are monitored by the Ohio State Patrol in each zone and Ohio Department of Natural Resources Columbus Central Dispatch.

MCOMM 1-4

- Generic talk groups for any user to talk with any other user. Theory is to use this talk group in our geographic zone (Zone 2).

ECOMM 7-28

- MARCS users “**emergency**” talk groups. Used to talk with any other user when involved in a MARCS coordinated emergency. At a multi-agency scene, Command/Communications/Control would steer responders to these talk groups based on functional work assignments. (I.e. all incoming rescue units go to ECOMM 12)
- ECOMM 7-20 will be coordinated through ODNR/OSHP Communications Centers.
- ECOMM 21-28 are utilized for Homeland Security Regions 1-8 (City of Cleveland is in Homeland Security Region 2-ECOMM 22)
- *ECOMM will be utilized by agencies responding through the Ohio Fire Chiefs Plan.*

SCOMM 7-12

- MARCS generic talk groups for communication with the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (OEMA) Transportable Communications System (TCS).
- Used only when the OEMA TCS is deployed.

SO 01 through SO 88

- Every Sheriff in the state is equipped with a MARCS control station radio.
- Calling the alpha-based two digit county number you would communicate with the Sheriff’s Communication Center (I.e. CFD to SO 18 Cuyahoga County)
- The OSHP also monitors that counties Sheriff’s talk group and the adjacent counties.

HOS 1801 through 1821

- Hospital emergency rooms in Cuyahoga County

LECOMM 1 through 8 : The LECOMM talk groups are specifically for “local” emergency situations, and are only imbedded in non-state agency equipment.