OFFICE OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

NOTICE OF COMMUNICATIONS STANDARDS

OCTOBER 2008

Throughout the last several years, emergency response agencies have been programming the National Interoperability Channels into their radio equipment as one solution to improve interoperable emergency communications. In 2007, several "naming standards" were released in an effort to commonly name the National Interoperability Channels. With a number of naming standards being recommended and no single solution, the naming of these channels varied from agency to agency, depending on which standard was chosen.

On September 29, 2008, the Kansas Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) discussed the need to choose one of the many naming and programming standards for the National Interoperability Channels and for the State VHF Low-Band Interoperability Channels. Following the lead of several other states and the Federal Department of Homeland Security, the SIEC chose to adopt the standards developed by the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) as the statewide standard for Kansas.

An extended version of the NPSTC naming and programming standard follows in this document. It has been modified to include some additional information that is specific to our state. Understanding that many agencies have programmed these channels using other channel names, a conversion chart has also been attached for cross reference. Agencies should re-program the channels to the proper standards at their convenience during their next programming upgrade. The conversion chart can be used until a programming upgrade is performed.

In similar action, the SIEC also required any mobile or portable radio purchased through the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC) and FY2008 and subsequent Homeland Security Grant Programs (HSGP) have sufficient capacity to include the National Interoperability Channels. The action also indicates that the National Interoperability Channels must be programmed according to the Kansas standard at the time of purchase.

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NPSTC Channel Naming Plan- With Short Name Supplemental Addendum

FCC-Designated Interoperability Channels With Short Names Included

As adopted by the Kansas SIEC on 9/29/2008 including Kansas Low-Band Frequencies

Please review the entire document before programming radio equipment

Yellow= Kansas statewide recognized Interoperability Channels	

BAND: N = 11.25 kHz modulation bandwidth (narrowband)
W = 16 or 20 kHz modulation bandwidth, depending upon band (wideband)

		CHANNEL AND NAMING STANDARD						
		NPSTC / KS SIEC Name	**Short Name (6 char)****	**Rx FREQ**	**Rx CTCSS**	**Tx FREQ**	**Tx CTCSS**	**BAND**
VHF LOW BAND		**VHF LOW BAND**						
	LLAW1 THROUGH LFIRE4 ARE COMMON FREQUENCIES DESIGNATED FOR INTEROPERABILITY. EACH FREQUENCY REQUIRES AN FCC LICENSE. AGENCIES CAN ADOPT THESE FREQUENCIES AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION.	LLAW1	LLAW1	39.4600	156.7	45.8600	156.7	W
		LLAW1D	LLAW1D	39.4600	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
Pending FCC		LFIRE2 (pend)	LFIRE2	39.4800	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
		LLAW3D	LLAW3D	45.8600	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
		LFIRE4	LFIRE4	45.8800	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
LCALLKS and LTACKS are also used by the Kansas MOTOBRIDGE System and require local FCC Licensing for any use.		LCALLKS	LCALKS	39.5800	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
		LTACKS	LTACKS	39.7000	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
VHF HIGH BAND		**VHF HIGH BAND**						
	The VHF Channels in Yellow are recognized for national interoperability use. FCC Licensing is not required for mobile / portable programming. Licensing is required for base, control, and repeater stations. **These channels are also used by the Kansas MOTOBRIDGE System.**	VCALL10	VCAL10	155.7525	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
		VTAC11	VTAC11	151.1375	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
		VTAC12	VTAC12	154.4525	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
		VTAC13	VTAC13	158.7375	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
		VTAC14	VTAC14	159.4725	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
	VFIRE21 THROUGH VLAW32 ARE ADDITIONAL COMMON FREQUENCIES DESIGNATED FOR INTEROPERABILITY. EACH FREQUENCY REQUIRES AN FCC LICENSE. AGENCIES CAN ADOPT THESE FREQUENCIES AT THEIR OWN DISCRETION. ***VLAW31 IS THE NEW NAME FOR THE CHANNEL COMMONLY KNOWN AS "NATIONAL LAW", "NLEEC", OR "NLEMARS". The name should be changed while narrowbanding.	VFIRE21	VFIR21	154.2800	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VFIRE22	VFIR22	154.2650	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VFIRE23	VFIR23	154.2950	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VFIRE24	VFIR24	154.2725	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VFIRE25	VFIR25	154.2875	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VFIRE26	VFIR26	154.3025	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VMED28	VMED28	155.3400	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VMED29	VMED29	155.3475	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VLAW31	VLAW31	155.4750	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N
		VLAW32	VLAW32	155.4825	156.7	Simplex	156.7	N

	Rx FREQ	Rx CTCSS	Tx FREQ	Tx CTCSS	BAND
UHF					
	The UHF and 800MHz Channels in Yellow are recognized for national interoperability use. FCC Licensing is not required for mobile / portable programming. Licensing is required for base, control, and repeater stations. **These channels are also used by the Kansas MOTOBRIDGE System.** ****800 MHz channels are shown for both pre and post rebanding.**				
800 MHz (Pre-Rebanding)					
	866.0125	156.7	821.0125	156.7	W
	866.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
	866.5125	156.7	821.5125	156.7	W
	866.5125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
	867.0125	156.7	822.0125	156.7	W
	867.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
	867.5125	156.7	822.5125	156.7	W
	867.5125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
	868.0125	156.7	823.0125	156.7	W
	868.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W

NPSTC / KS SIEC Name	Short Name (6 char)**	Rx FREQ	Rx CTCSS	Tx FREQ	Tx CTCSS	BAND
UHF						
UCALL40	UCAL40	453.2125	none*	458.2125	156.7	N
UCALL40D	CAL40D	453.2125	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
UTAC41	UTAC41	453.4625	none*	458.4625	156.7	N
UTAC41D	TAC41D	453.4625	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
UTAC42	UTAC42	453.7125	none*	458.7125	156.7	N
UTAC42D	TAC42D	453.7125	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
UTAC43	UTAC43	453.8625	none*	458.8625	156.7	N
UTAC43D	TAC43D	453.8625	none*	Simplex	156.7	N
800 MHz (Post-Rebanding)						
8CALL90	CAL90	851.0125	156.7	806.0125	156.7	W
8CALL90D	CAL90D	851.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
8TAC91	TAC91	851.5125	156.7	806.5125	156.7	W
8TAC91D	TAC91D	851.5125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
8TAC92	TAC92	852.0125	156.7	807.0125	156.7	W
8TAC92D	TAC92D	852.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
8TAC93	TAC93	852.5125	156.7	807.5125	156.7	W
8TAC93D	TAC93D	852.5125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W
8TAC94	TAC94	853.0125	156.7	808.0125	156.7	W
8TAC94D	TAC94D	853.0125	156.7	Simplex	156.7	W

NOTE: For VHF Low Band, 156.7 Hz is recommended as a national standard for emergency use. However, it is advisable to follow the national law enforcement CTCSS plan to minimize atmospheric skip interference that can plague this band during periods of high sunspot activity.

NOTE: 6 character short name to only be used in radios that can not support the full 8-character name. If the longer NPSTC-recommended name is 6 characters or less, it is also used for the short name, otherwise the name is abbreviated. 800 MHz short names have been approved by NPSTC. Other short names will be addressed during the ANSI standardization process.

NOTE: Tx CTCSS for paired UHF and 800 MHz channels may vary to permit transmitter steering for multi-site systems. However, use of multi-CTCSS base receivers is recommended so that systems always respond to 156.7 Hz as a national emergency tone. For 800 MHz channels, CTCSS plans and operational procedures often are addressed in 800 MHz Regional Plans.

(*) NOTE: At a future date to be determined during the ANSI standardization process, it is recommended that all nationwide interoperability channels have 156.7 Hz CTCSS on both receive and transmit frequencies. During the transition period, it is recommended that channels marked with an asterisk and already narrowbanded (VCALL/TAC and UCALL/TAC channels) should be programmed for CTCSS on subscriber transmit only, with carrier squelch on receive.

CONVERSION CHART

This chart is intended as a cross reference for those who have already programmed the National Interoperability Channels using the original naming convention. The chart can be cut out and used by responders until the new naming convention is programmed into their radio equipment.

VHF	
OLD NAME	**NEW NAME**
V CALL	VCALL10
V TAC-1	VTAC11
V TAC-2	VTAC12
V TAC-3	VTAC13
V TAC-4	VTAC14
UHF	
OLD NAME	**NEW NAME**
U CALL	UCALL40
U TAC-1	UTAC41
U TAC-2	UTAC42
U TAC-3	UTAC43
800 MHz	
OLD NAME	**NEW NAME**
I CALL	8CALL90
I TAC-1	8TAC91
I TAC-2	8TAC92
I TAC-3	8TAC93
I TAC-4	8TAC94