

**** Interoperability Communications ****

Communications Watch Out! Situations

Be very concerned, if...

1. ...Your incident is using radio frequencies in more than one spectrum band (VHF, UHF, and/or 700/800 MHz).
2. ...Your incident is using multiple interoperability channels.
3. ...Your incident is using console or gateway patches between different channels.
4. ...You are unfamiliar with the radio system, its coverage and capabilities (such as will the emergency button be acknowledged by someone if you need to use it).
5. ...You are unfamiliar with the radio that you have been assigned, including how to change channels/groups or put it into direct/simplex operating mode.
6. ...You have no communications with your crew members or supervisor.
7. ...You hear multiple conversations on your assigned channel or talkgroup.
8. ...The radio messages you are receiving are weak or intermittent.
9. ...You are trying to transmit with a high level of background noise (wind, generators, power tools, fire pumps, etc.).
10. ...You are working in the deep interior of a building, parking garage, or underground structure

Tell your supervisor, if you are...

1. ...Unable to communicate critical information due to radio congestion.
2. ...You are unsure of the incident's communications plan.
3. ...Not clear on your mission and assignment.

Take advantage of every opportunity to learn about and train with your equipment.

It may save a life ... even yours!