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2015 Year End Summary

Updates and Review



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES

Revised: 10-Dec-2015

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Housekeeping

- Refreshments
- Pen/pencil & paper
- · Cell phones & pagers
- Side conversations
- Questions
- Breaks
- Restrooms
- In case of emergency

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- An update on changes that have occurred during the past year, plus a review of some key procedures.
- Topics covered:
 - Packet
 - Data Network Infrastructure
 - Net Control
 - Audio Excerpts
 - Forms Review
 - Mesh / Wi-Fi Review
 - Training Updates





Packet Review

2015 Year End Summary



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES

Revised: 05-Dec-2015

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FCC/User/Personal vs Tactical Calls

- FCC/User/Legal Call Sign
 - Identifies a single person as an operator
 - Follows the person
 - Independent of assignment, function, etc.
 - Used for check-in, check-out, personal requests
- In contrast, a Tactical Call identifies a location or function...

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FCC/User/Personal vs Tactical Calls

- Tactical Call Sign
 - Identifies a function or location
 - Shelter, fire station, EOC, Staging
 - Does not change when the operator changes
 - Used for activities of the location/function
 - Six characters long
 - Three letter prefix unique to the Served Agency
 - · Three character suffix unique to the location
- Examples for Xanadu Drill City
 - XNDEOC XND001 XNDEV2

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Outpost Shows Which Call Sign is Used FCC Call: Only the call sign is shown - FCC Call: Only the call sign is shown - Folder List | In Tray | U Type From To BBS | Local ID Subject | ND-2085 | Old-103P: Opera | Old-103P: Opera

Manual Login with Tactical Call

- Call sign of TNC determines call sign that BBS sees for login/connect
 - TNC:
 - CMD: MYCALL W6XRL4
 - CMD: CONNECT W5XSC-1
 - W5XSC BBS: connects user and places in W6XRL4 mailbox
- To login manually (no Outpost) with a tactical call such as XNDEOC:
 - TNC:
 - CMD: MYCALL XNDEOC
 - CMD: CONNECT W5XSC-1
 - W5XSC BBS: connects user and places in XNDEOC mailbox

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Manual Login with Tactical Call - ID

- Need to ID every 10 minutes and at end of session. On TNC:
 - Disconnect from BBS
 - In command mode, type
 - − CMD: CONVerse ← Enters converse mode; whatever is typed is sent out

FCC ID = W6XRL4; Tactical Call = XNDEOC

<CTRL-C> ← Returns to command mode

CMD:

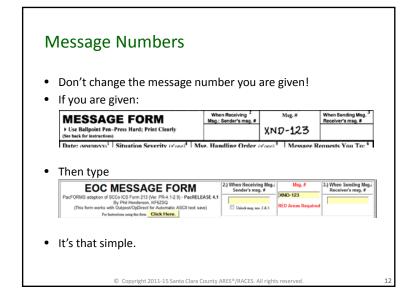
At end of session, switch MYCALL back to normal: CMD: MYCALL W6XRL4

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Message Number "P" Suffix . The P suffix is added to the New Messages Msg Numbering Replies/Forwards Tracking Deleting Adv message number by Outpost Outbound Message Identification . It does not mean that it was a Add message number to the Subject Line for outbound messages without hyphenation... "HXM120P:..." packet message, it just means "HXM-120P: . that Outpost assigned the . The P was added to reduce the Inbound Message Identification (Local ID) possibility of duplicate message Assign a local message number to inbound messages (local use only) standard format... "HXM-120P" numbers from other message forms Box should be checked

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Cancel





PACKET OPERATIONS

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Mobilize To Assignment

- Upon arrival at the site
 - Sign in on ICS 211 Check In List
 - Check in with site supervisor
 - Update your 214
- Get briefing from previous operator
- Assess packet equipment
 - Radio settings and connections
 - TNC settings
- Check in to assigned voice net

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Packet Operator Field Activities Summary

- Mobilize to Assignment Location
 - Use FCC call for communications
- Execute During Operational Period
 - Use Tactical Call for location message
 - Use FCC call for personal messages
- . Demobilize and return home
 - Use FCC call for communications

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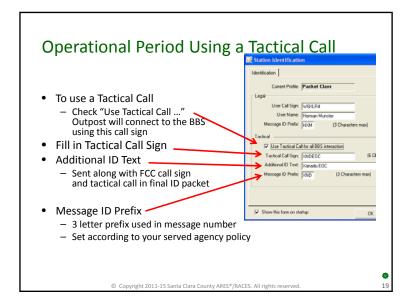
Prepare/Check Outpost

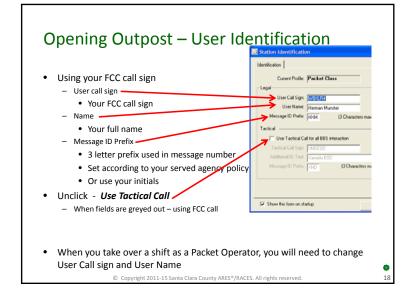
- Check Outpost settings before transmitting
 - Correct BBS
 - Frequency
 - TNC settings
- If emergency, remove "xsctest" from bulletin list
- If needed, set up your User Identification with your Tactical Call for the Served Agency check in message

Served Agency Check In Message

- Begin the Operational Period with a packet check in message to the Served Agency
- Send a text message using your assigned (Tactical or FCC) call sign with the following information
 - Name and Call of Packet Operator
 - Name and Tactical call of Packet Station, if used
 - Time the packet station was operational
- Update personal 214
- Do a "Send/Receive" to get any pending messages and bulletins
- Begin operations

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During Operational Period

- Send, receive, process packet messages
- · Check for new bulletins and follow any new instructions
- Maintain voice radio contact
- Maintain ICS 214 Unit Log
- If prolonged period of inactivity (30+ minutes)
 - Perform a "Send/Receive" operation to verify connection with BBS
 - Message not needed
- Report any problems as instructed
 - Site supervisor
 - Voice net

Demobilization

- Send a text message to the Served Agency using your assigned (Tactical or FCC) call sign
 - Name and Call of Packet Operator
 - Name/Tactical call of Packet Station, if used
 - Time the packet station is assigned to a new operator

Or

- Time the packet station is being deactivated
- Brief the incoming operator
- Paperwork!
- Check out with site supervisor
- Sign out on the Site ICS 211
- Update your ICS 214

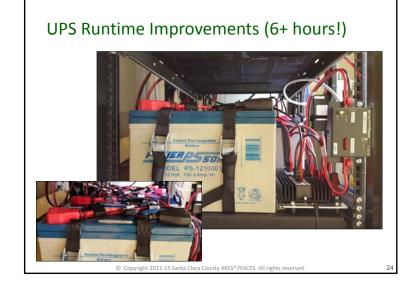
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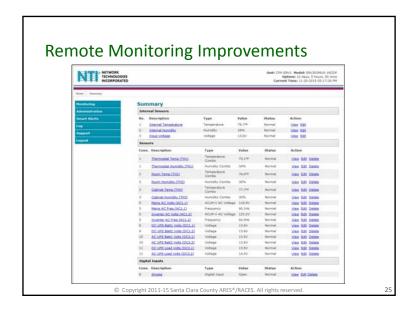
NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

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Key Focus in 2015

- Backbone redundancy, prep for higher speed access
 - Each site to have at least two high-speed (n * 10 Mbps) links
 - Upgraded link between W2XSC and W4XSC (80 Mbps)
 - ½ competed new link between W2XSC and W1XSC
 - Still looking for new site in NW part of county for W3XSC
- Hardened backbone sites
 - Improved routing infrastructure
 - Improved UPS runtime in the event of a generator failure
 - · Result: 6+ hours of battery runtime at Crystal Peak
 - · Frazier Peak is next
 - Improved remote sensor infrastructure









Relief Briefings



- All defined in the "Performance Standards and Best Practices"
 - Assignment, activation number
 - Served agency, person in charge, how recognized
 - Frequencies, tactical calls, locations, contact numbers
 - Who to contact regularly
 - Radio, power supply, antenna information
 - Nearest telephone: location and number, how to dial out
 - Location of toilet, water, food, first aid, and other supplies
 - Summary of previous operational period
 - Current status of: people, resources, incident
 - Pending issues for next operational period
 - Introduce replacement to rest of team

Local Net Transfer/Handing-off



- For local hand-off with single net control operator
 - Relief operator can work as scribe briefly, just prior to hand-off
- For local hand-off with net control & scribe team
 - Replacement arrives early, familiarizes self with location
 - Replacement receives briefing from shift supervisor
 - Net Control runs net solo while scribe briefs replacement with details
 - Scribe catches up on anything missed
 - Net Control announces shift change, stand by for 30 seconds
 - Scribe slides into net control seat; replacement slides into scribe seat
 - Replacement → Scribe → Net Control → Break
 - Announce that net is resumed

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Remote Net Transfer/Hand-off

- You may need to transfer a net to a remote net control
 - Initial resource net control transfer to EOC or event location
 - Hand off to a more experienced net control operator
 - Evacuation of net control location
- Information to transfer
 - Current status of all who are checked into net
 - Resource Net transfer involves current en route status information
 - Any other instructions as may be necessary; see relief briefing list
- Key points
 - Priority One: Maximize accuracy; losing someone is not an option!
 - Priority Two: Minimize transfer time
 - Always use good communications techniques: 5 words at a time;
 proper pro-words; pause before speaking; eliminate need for repeats

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Procedure for Transfer of Net

NC1 = Current Net Control NC2 = Replacement Net Control Who What NC2 Announces presence; ready for net control transfer NC1 Acknowledge; announce start of H&W; requests NC2 to acknowledge each response with a tactical call such as "net2" (or similar) NC1 Calls each person, one at a time, phonetically Individuals Respond as usual (for resource net: street location, odometer, call sign) NC2 "acknowledged, net2" or "roger, net2"; or "say again ..." NC1 Acknowledges; repeats process for rest of people on net NC1 Fills in NC2 on any other pending issues; asks if ready to take net NC2 Acknowledges all info; confirms ready NC1 Announces transfer of net NC2 Announces self as net control Copyright © Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES. All rights reserved

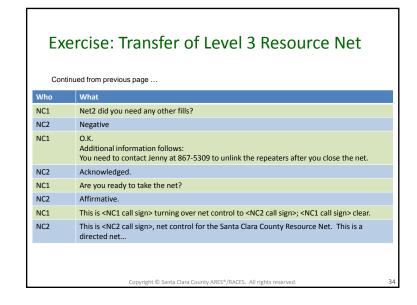
Exercise: Transfer of Level 3 Resource Net

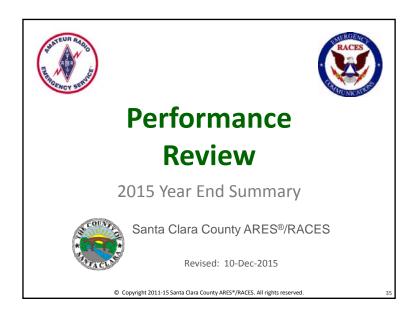
- Need 5 volunteers
 - Net control 1
 - Net control 2
 - Scribe for net control 2 (optional)
 - Traveler 1
 - Traveler 2
- · Before you start:
 - Net Control 1: write down traveler call signs
 - Travelers: make up a street location and odometer reading
- Follow the script ...
 - "<...>" indicates where you substitute your actual information
 - Example: <NC2 call sign> means you say Net Control 2's call sign
 - Net Control 2: fill in ICS-309 as you go
 - Scribe for NCO2: fill in Travel Tracking Form as you go

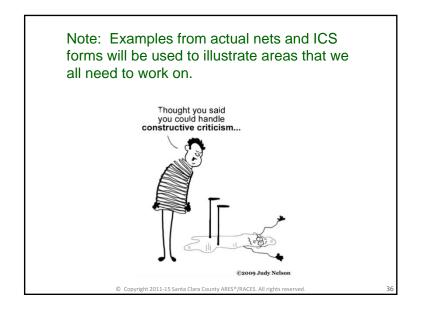
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Exer	Exercise: Transfer of Level 3 Resource Net	
Who	What	
NC2	Net control, this is <nc2 call="" sign="">, ready for net control transfer</nc2>	
NC1	<nc2 call="" sign=""> roger; Break; I will now conduct a H&W check; when I call you, respond with street location, odometer and your call sign; <nc2 call="" sign=""> I want you to acknowledge each response as tactical call "net2"</nc2></nc2>	
NC2	Roger, net2	
NC1	<traveler 1="" call="" phonetically="" sign="" spelled="">, health and welfare</traveler>	
Traveler 1	<respond call="" location,="" odometer,="" sign="" street="" with="" your=""></respond>	
NC2	Roger, net2	
NC1	Acknowledged. <traveler 2="" call="" phonetically="" sign="" spelled=""></traveler>	
Traveler 2	<respond call="" location,="" odometer,="" sign="" street="" with=""></respond>	
NC2	Say again odometer	
Traveler 2	<respond odometer="" with=""></respond>	
NC2	Roger, net2	
NC1	Health and welfare check complete	
Continued or	n next page	
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On-Air Performance Review

2015 Year End Summary

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Instructions

- · Listen to each recording
- Give a thumbs-up if it was properly done
- Give a thumbs-down if it could be improved
- Be ready to justify your opinion
- If it can be improved, how would you say it better?





Resource Net

Net Control Instructions



Check-In





Check-Out







Tactical Net – Dealing with Tactical Call Signs

Net Control ID



Tactical Call Sign Check-in/Assignment





Tactical Call Assignment Change



• In Position



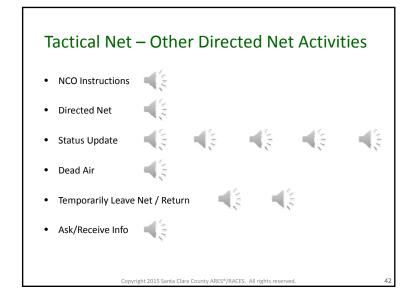


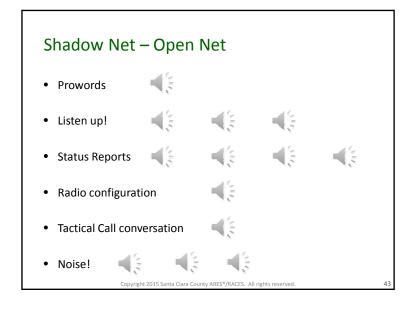


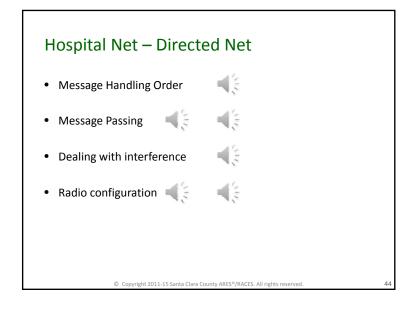
Check-Out



Tactical Net – Gathering Information NCO pre-announce info request, format NCO instructions before gathering reports Info Reports Health & Welfare







Key Points

- Net control operators:
 - Define expected response format
 - Pre-announce upcoming information gathering, when possible
 - Give instructions that avoid doubles
- · Net participants
 - Listen up and answer promptly when called
 - Answer in requested format -- no more, no less
 - When using tactical calls, call and answer using tactical call
- All
 - Attend training! Best performers had more training.
 - Know how to configure your radio; check configuration before using
 - Minimize the number of words (on-air time) used
 - Observe proper handling order at all times
 - Use proper prowords at all times
 - Be prepared for the environment: noise, heat, cold, rain, ...
 - The last thing you say should be your FCC call sign

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Forms Review

2015 Year End Summary



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Revised: 05-Dec-2015

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ICS 214 – Unit Activity Log

- Our version: ICS 214-SCCo
- A record of all major activities and events
- EVERYONE fills out a 214
 - Individuals: a unit of one
 - Teams: Team leader
 - Start when you get assignment (home)
- Occasional message traffic?
 - Just log it right on the 214
- · Use multiple pages if necessary
- Turn in to supervisor at end of shift
- Instructions on back
- Neatness counts

| Part 100| | Part

http://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations.html

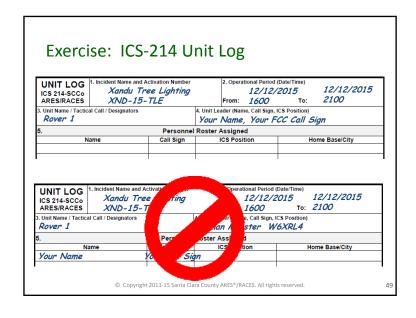
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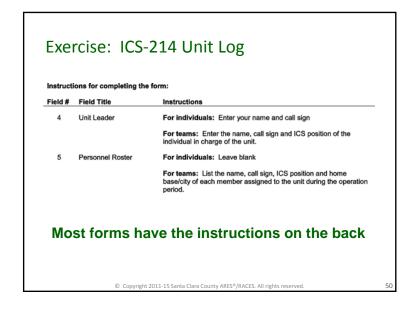
Exercise: ICS-214 Unit Log

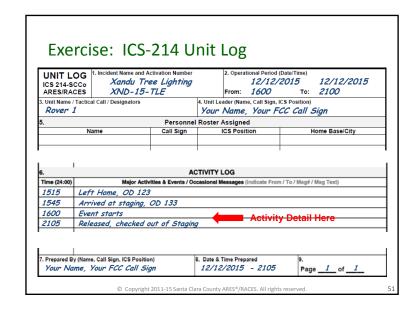
- Create an ICS-214 log for the following scenario in City of Xanadu (XND)
 - Incident is "Tree Lighting", activation number: XND-15-TLE
 - You are assigned a Tactical Call of "Rover 1"
 - The Event IC is Herman Munster W6XRL4
 - The event is scheduled for 1600 to 2100 hours today
 - You leave home at 1515 hours, mileage 123
 - You arrive at the staging location at 1545 hours, mileage 133
 - The event starts at 1600
 - Lots of activities take place during your 5 hour shift such as: H&W, shift change, breaks, messages, etc. (we won't log these for this exercise to save time)
 - You are released at 2105 and check out of staging

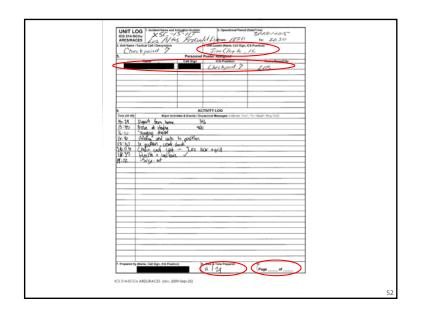
Your ICS-214 should be completed as you would submit it when checking out

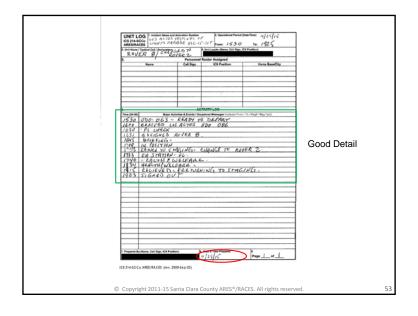


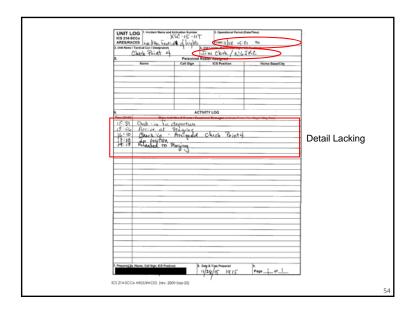


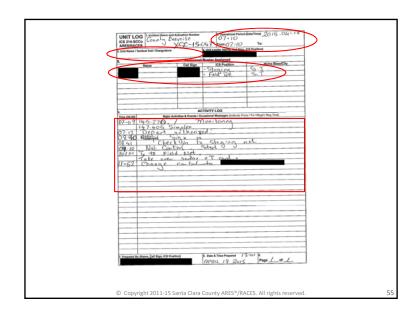


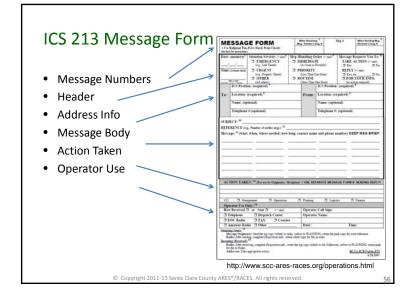


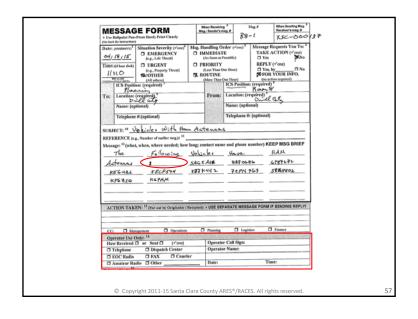


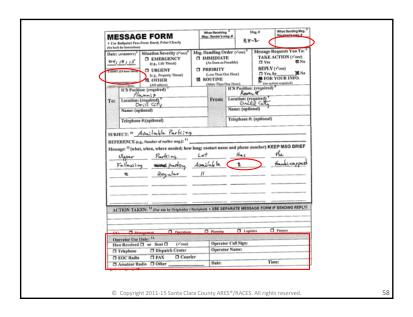


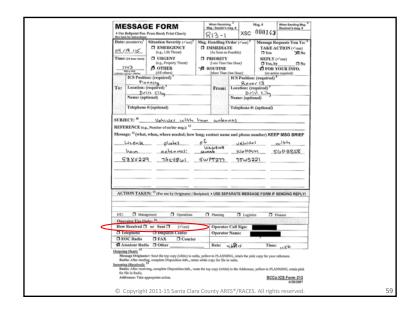


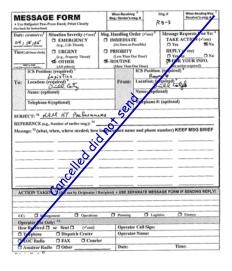












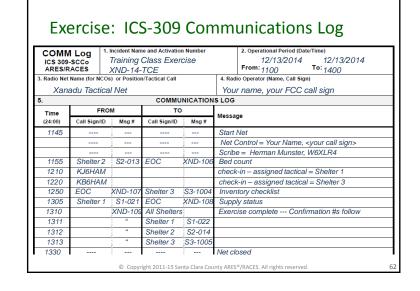
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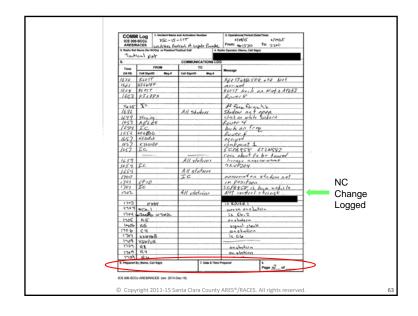
60

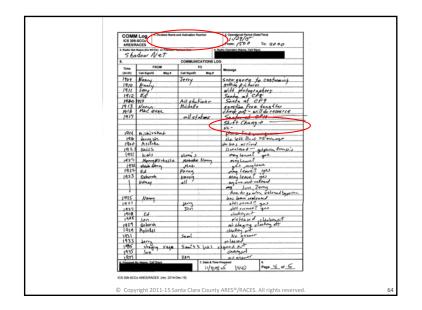
Our version: ICS 309-SCCo Net Control Operators and stations with high message traffic Columns help organize key message tracking info Does not replace 214 EVERYONE fills out a 214 Turn in to supervisor at end of shift Instructions on back

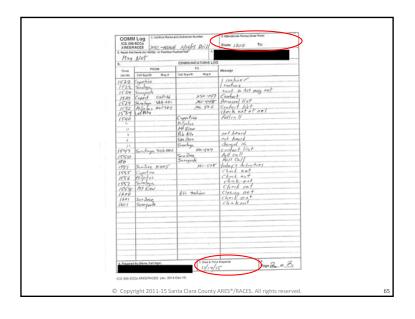
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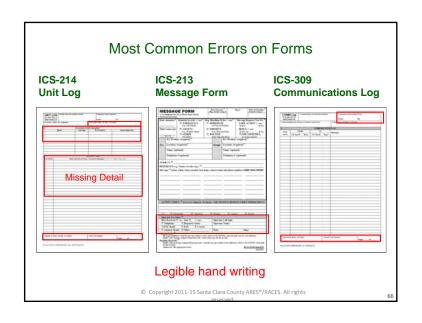
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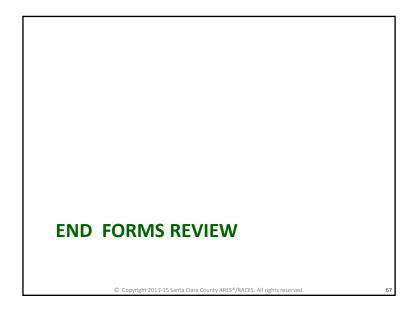


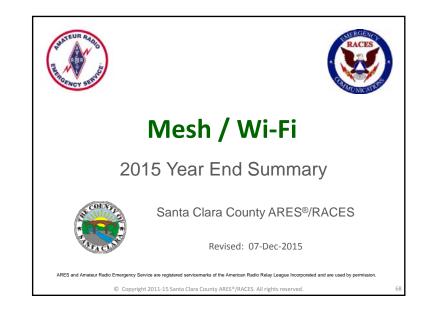












Mesh / Wi-Fi Review

- March 2015 Mesh / Wi-Fi Workshop with 33 participants
- Discussed
 - IP Networking basics
 - Discussed hardware available to use
 - VOIP phones
 - Power over Ethernet (POE)
 - Frequencies
 - Part 15 vs Part 97 considerations
 - Hands-on exercises













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Mesh / Wi-Fi Review

- · County Wide Drill April
 - One aspect of the exercise provided hands-on use of a Mesh Network
- Milpitas BBQ Festival May
 - 3 Ticket Booths with Mesh nodes, VOIP phones, and cameras
 - Command post with Asterisk PBX, VOIP Phones, video display
- Sunnyvale
 - Workshop: May and July 8 plus nodes, VOIP phones, Asterisk PBX
 - Field Day: June 4 nodes with cameras and VOIP phones
 - SNAP Graduation: October 2 nodes with phones, voicemail, 1 camera
 - Joint workshop with Cupertino: August

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Mesh / Wi-Fi Review

- Cupertino SCC Sheriff's Heroes 5K Run November
 - 6 locations
 - Mesh nodes, VOIP phones, cameras, Asterisk PBX
- A Mesh / Wi-Fi workshop is scheduled for June 2016

Additional information: www.scc-ares-races.org/mesh/

SCC Mesh User Group: groups.yahoo.com/group/scc-mesh

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END MESH/WI-FI REVIEW





Training Plans 2016

2015 Year End Summary



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Training Plans For 2016

- Intro and Fundamentals Class offered 3 times each year
 - Maintain reasonable class size
 - Location 2 in Mtn. View and 1 in Sunnyvale
- Field Ops reduced to one class rather than two
 - Fundamentals Class is now a prerequisite
 - Much of the material from Fundamentals was duplicated in this class
- Planning class to be rewritten
 - More realistic examples and exercises
- Discussion about a Leadership Course/Workshop for ECs/AECs
 - Your ideas welcome

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END TRAINING UPDATES



Thank You!

We look forward to seeing you again next year:
Classes, drills, events, ...