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### 2018 Year End Summary, Update, Preview



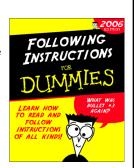
Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES
Revised: 05-Dec-2018

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#### Housekeeping

- Introductions
- Pen/pencil & paper
- Cell phones on silent or vibrate
- Side conversations
- Questions
- No food or drink in roomwater only
- Breaks
- Restrooms
- In case of emergency



Agenda

- Training
- Field Operations
- Message Passing
- Net Control and Procedures
- Packet Networking
- County Wide Drill Recap
- SCCo Data Network Update
- Amateur Radio for Emergency Managers

3

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## Training 2018 Year End Summary, Update



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES Tim Howard, KE6TIM Revised: 05-Dec-2018

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#### 2018 Review

- 63 hours of classroom training was offered
- 545 attendees (not including today's class)
- 34,335 contact hours
- 162 Unique Individuals
- Courses will continue to evolve and improve
  - Based on observations and changes to procedures
  - It is a good idea to retake a class every 2-3 years
  - Your feedback is important, please turn in course evaluations
- Please remove yourself from the course sign-up if your plans change
- Free up a seat for someone else in large classes
- Room size limitations

#### 2018 Review

- Additional Field Ops and Message Passing Classes
  - Now offered twice each year
  - Pre-requisite for other classes
- Created video training on ICS-214 Unit Activity Log
  - Other forms to consider: 211, 205, 309, ??
  - What are your thoughts?

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#### 2019 Training Schedule

Day	Date	Course	Instructor
Sat.	January 5	Field Ops Type III Part A	Fox
Sat.	February 9	Field Ops Type III Part B & Type II	Fox
Sat.	February 2	Net Control Type III Part A	Laubach
Sat.	March 2	Net Control Type III Part B	Laubach
Sat.	April 6	Net Control Type II	Laubach
Sat.	May 4	Message Passing	McKee
Sat.	June 1	Event Planning Type I	Howard
Sat.	July 13	Field Ops Type III Part A	Fox
Sat.	July 20	Field Ops Type III Part B & Type II	Fox
Sat.	August 3	Shadowing	Howard
Sat.	September 7	Packet Type III Part A	Oberhofer
Sat.	September 21	Cross Band Repeat / Antenna Fund.	Ott
Sat.	October 5	Packet Type III Part B	Oberhofer
Sat.	November 2	Packet Type II	Oberhofer
Sat.	November 16	Message Passing	McKee
Sat.	December 14	Year End Summary	County Staff

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#### 2019 Training Schedule

Day	Date	Course / Location	Instructor
Sat.	Feb. 9	Intro to EmComm (Cupertino)	Halchin
Sat.	Mar. 9	Fund. of EmComm (Cupertino)	Halchin
Wed	l. June 14	Intro to EmComm (Sunnyvale)	Howard NIGHT CLASS
Wed	l. July 12	Fund. of EmComm (Sunnyvale)	Howard NIGHT CLASS
Wed	l. Oct. 9	Intro to EmComm (Mtn. View)	TBD NIGHT CLASS
Wed	l. Nov. 13	Fund. of EmComm (Mtn. View)	TBD NIGHT CLASS

www.scc-ares-races.org/training.html

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#### Theory vs Practice



- Learning is more than just attending a class
  - Focus of the classroom is on theory/procedures
  - Practice is hands on experimentation
- Just like lecture vs. lab in college, both are needed to learn the subject

LECTURE LAB

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#### On-Air Message Passing Practice

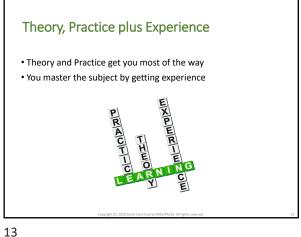
- Use the time allocated to the Training Net
- Monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
- Resource Net Repeaters will be linked
  AA6BT 146.115, N6NAC 444.625, W6ASH 440.800
- Initial session will be a demo
- Everyone encouraged to copy the messages (ICS-213)
- Future sessions will be more interactive with participants
- First one on Tuesday, December 18th, 8:30pm

Packet performance differences noted between weekly Mon. & Tues. practice sessions and performance at drills

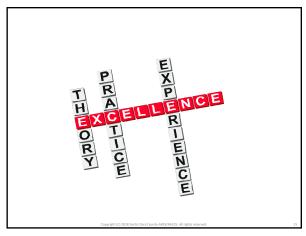
#### Pop-Up Packet Practice

- $\bullet$  Provide an opportunity to test equipment in a deployed environment
- Morning activity in probably a park
- Participation is quick and easy.
  - $\blacksquare$  Travel to the pop-up packet location
  - Set up your station, send/receive a few messages (less than 1 hour)
  - Pack up your station
- Be home for lunch
- $\bullet$  No AC Power, No Generators. Should be able to run 1 hour on batteries.
- Mentors available to assist
- Saturday, April 13, 2019
- $\bullet$  Opportunities for P3 & P2 evals and MAC Credit.

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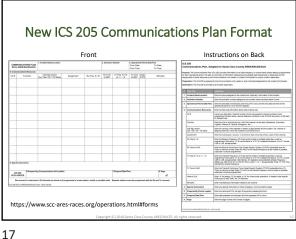


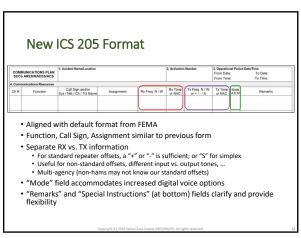






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#### 2019 Changes to Field Ops Class

- 2018 included more information, but too much for 3 hours
- 2019 splits the class into its original two parts
  - Field Operations Type III, Part A
  - Field Operations Type III, Part B and Type II
- · More time for discussion, interaction, exercises

Message Passing 2018 Year End Review, Update Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES Don McKee, KE6DM

Revised: 02-Dec-2018

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#### What does it take to be a great Message Passer?

- You need to be a great communicator,
  - com·mu·ni·cate: to transmit information, thought, or feeling so that it is satisfactorily received or understood
- Who is able to communicate precisely,
  - pre-cise-ly: 1. in a precise manner 2. exactly
- Using a shared, standard procedure, that EVERYONE is trained to use,
- · While following instructions!

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#### Message Passing Fundamentals

The building blocks of the message passing process

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#### Follow the NTS Manual (plus SCCo changes)

- Most of what we will cover comes from the ARRL NTS manual
  - Chapter 2 Sending Messages on Voice - Print it out; keep it in your go kit; refer
  - to it often Look for "[NTS-x.x.x]" section numbers
- A (very) few NTS procedures don't fit RACES situation where the
- message author and recipient are not radio operators Example: "X" for end of sentence
- Santa Clara County RACES additions
- and/or exceptions adjust for our environment (FM simplex or repeaters) and fill in missing procedures
  - Punctuation, symbols, GPS coords, ...

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Intro Proword: Figure(s)

- [NTS-2.1.5.1]
- · Identifies one or more numerals to follow Voice each digit separately
- A "." is voiced "DECIMAL"
- A preceding "-" is voiced "MINUS"
- - Written: Send 12 dozen jelly donuts right away
  - Spoken: "Send FIGURES ONE TWO <pause> dozen jelly donuts right
  - Written: Switch to frequency 146.115
  - Spoken: "Switch to frequency FIGURES ONE FOUR SIX DECIMAL ONE ONE FIVE"
  - Written: The temperature will dip to -10
  - Spoken: "The temperature will dip to FIGURES MINUS ONE ZERO"

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#### Intro Proword: Figure(s) [NTS-2.1.5.1] · Identifies one or more numerals to follow Voice each digit separately • A "." is voiced "DECIMAL" • A preceding "-" is voiced "MINUS" Written: Send 12 dozen jelly donuts right away Spoken: "Send FIGURES ONE TWO <pause> dozen jelly donuts right Written: Switch to frequency 146.115 Spoken: "Switch to frequency FIGURES ONE FOUR SIX DECIMAL ONE ONE FIVE" Written: The temperature will dip to -10 Spoken: "The temperature will dip to FIGURES MINUS ONE ZERO"

#### Punctuation

- In SCCo RACES we handle punctuation differently than the ARRL NTS manual because the people creating and receiving the message are not other radio operators
  - Period
    - Written: "." at the end of a sentence, is not written as a separate
    - group.
       Spoken: "period"
  - Question Mark
    - Written: "?", commonly at the end of a sentence, is not written as a separate group.
    - Spoken: "question mark"
  - Colon
    - Written: ":", often in an internet address, is not written as a separate

  - Semicolon
    - Written: "," within a sentence, is not written as a separate group.
       Spoken: "semicolon"

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#### **Symbols**

• The NTS manual does not cover how to voice many symbols. SCCo RACES will adopt the following standard:

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- "/" is spoken "slash"
  - Example: "... and/or ..." is spoken "... mixed group alpha november delta SLASH oscar romeo ..."
- "\" is spoken "backslash"
  - Example: "... PasW\d1 ..." is spoken "... mixed group uppercase papa lowercase alfa sierra uppercase whiskey BACKSLASH lowercase delta

- "-" depends on the context
  - "-" is spoken "minus" as part of a number
  - Example: "... -123 ..." is spoken "... figures MINUS one two three ..."
     "-" is spoken "dash" when used as a dash

  - Example: "... w2xsc-1 ..." is spoken "... mixed group whiskey two x-ray sierra charlie DASH one ..."

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#### Symbols (cont.)

- Voicing of "." is context dependent:
  - At the end of a sentence, "." is spoken "period"
    - Example: "... Bring food. ..."
    - Spoken: "... bring food PERIOD ..."
  - In a number, "." is spoken "decimal"
    - Example: "... 146.475 ..."
    - Spoken: "... figures one four six DECIMAL four seven five ..."
  - In an email, packet, or internet address, "." is spoken "dot"
    - Example: "... joe@host.com ..."
    - Spoken : "... email address juliet oscar echo atsign hotel oscar sierra tango DOT charlie oscar mike ...

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#### Symbols (cont.)

#### · Here are some more:

- "=" is spoken "equal"
  - Example: "... beds = 5; tarps = 10; ..."
  - Spoken: "... beds mixed group EQUAL figure 5 semicolon tarps mixed group EQUAL figures one zero semicolon ..."
- "&" is spoken "ampersand"
  - Example: "... contact AT&T ..."
  - Spoken : "... contact mixed group alfa tango AMPERSAND tango ..."
  - Example: "... staging near Main & Park ..."
  - Spoken: "... staging near main mixed group AMPERSAND park ..."
- "\_" is spoken "underscore"
  - Example: "... map\_201802.pdf ..."
  - Spoken: "... mixed group mike alfa papa UNDERSCORE two zero one eight zero two dot papa delta foxtrot ...

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#### Message Passing Prowords

- Prowords are special words used to facilitate message passing by
- They are NOT written into the message
- Prowords can be grouped into four categories, depending on how they are used:
  - Operational/Control Prowords
  - Define the start, end, or control the flow of the message
  - **Clarification Prowords** · Always spoken after a group
    - · Clarifies or emphasizes what was just said
  - **Qualification Prowords**
  - Used <u>within</u> a group
     Defines a quality to allow precise copy
  - Introductory Prowords

  - Always spoken <u>before</u> a group
     Alerts receiving operator to what is coming next
- It is important to use each of them in the right place to avoid confusing the recipient and slowing down the message transfer

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#### **Qualification Prowords**

- Always spoken WITHIN a group
  - Typically previously identified with an Introductory Proword
- · Alerts the receiving operator to a special quality for the character(s) that follows
  - Allow precise copy, such as case-sensitive information (web addresses, passwords, chemical names, etc.)
- Implies that the following characters are going to be sent one character at a time, phonetically
- Remains in effect for group until over-ridden
  - Like the "Caps Lock" key on your keyboard

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## **Qualification Proword Examples**

- "UPPERCASE" and "LOWERCASE"
  - Used to indicate that following characters should be copied in in the appropriate case
  - Used with ONE GROUP AT A TIME
  - Remain in effect until the end of the group or until over-ridden by another Qualification Proword (think "caps lock")
  - Most of the time case doesn't matter, but other times it's critical (e.g. passwords, internet addresses)
- Examples:
  - Written: The password is passWORD
  - Spoken: "The password is password I spell LOWERCASE papa alfa sierra sierra UPPERCASE whiskey oscar romeo delta'
  - Written: Deliver 1 LiFePO4 battery
  - Spoken "deliver figure one mixed group UPPERCASE lima LOWERCASE india UPPERCASE foxtrot LOWERCASE echo UPPERCASE papa oscar four battery'

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#### Intro Proword: GPS Coordinates

- · Identifies a set of GPS coordinates to follow
- Used when a set of numbers contain one or more of the coordinate "marker" symbols:
  - ° (degrees), ' (minutes), " (seconds)
  - N (north), S (south), E (east), W (west)
- · Voice the "marker" symbols where they appear
  - But don't add them, if not already part of written message.

#### Include the word "AND" between the latitude and longitude

- Send as a single group, even if written across multiple "slots"
  - You may need to make adjustments to fit the "5 words at a
- · If the numbers look like coordinates, but don't contain any "marker" symbols, just send them as FIGURES.

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#### Intro Proword: GPS Coordinates (cont.)

- Examples:
  - Written: 41° 24.20′, 2° 10.44′
  - Spoken: "GEE-PEE-ESS COORDINATES four one DEGREES <pause> two four decimal two zero MINUTES comma <pause> two DEGREES <pause> one zero decimal four four MINUTES"
  - Written: 41°24'12.2"N 2°10'26.5"E
  - Spoken: "GEE-PEE-ESS COORDINATES four one DEGREES <pause> two four MINUTES <pause> one two decimal two SECONDS NORTH <pause> two DEGREES <pause> one zero MINUTES <pause> two six decimal five SECONDS EAST"

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#### Intro Proword: Internet Address

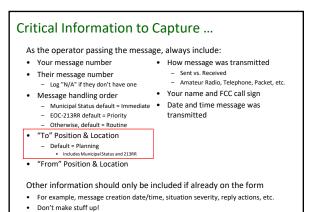
[NTS-2.2.4.6]

- Indicates an internet (e.g. "web") address follows
  - <scheme>://<hostname[:port]>/<path>[?<query>]
    - · https://www.google.com/
    - ftp://some.host.com:21/
    - http://qrz.com/The/Path/index.htm?name=Herman&call=W6XRL4
- Everything after <hostname> is case-sensitive!
- Example:
  - Written: http://www.scco.org/ops.html#GoKit
  - Spoken: "INTERNET ADDRESS hotel tango tango papa colon slash slash whiskey whiskey whiskey dot sierra charlie charlie oscar dot oscar romeo golf slash lowercase oscar papa sierra dot hotel tango mike lima poundsign uppercase golf lowercase oscar uppercase kilo lowercase india tango"

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**Agency Forms** and **Informal Messages** 

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Net Control
2018 Year End Summary, Update

Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES
Mark Laubach, K6FJC
Revised: 05-Dec-2018

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#### 2018 Net Control Year End

- No changes felt from California AB 1222 (aka AB 1785, Section 23123.5(f) CVC) and our mobile ham radio use
  - We will continue Travel Tracking Net and H&W checks as we modified from last year
  - https://www.scc-ares-races.org/operations.html
- $\bullet$  Repeat focus request from 2017 year end: improve efficiency
  - $\bullet$  Root cause  $\Rightarrow$  need better following of SCC message passing and use of prowords
  - Please study up it does take practice
  - $\bullet$  Our drills are "dress rehearsals" for the real thing, not the time to start practicing
  - NCO efficiency
    - Find ways to not repeat the same information
    - Remember to allow sufficient pauses, especially Resource Net Level 3 Travel Tracking

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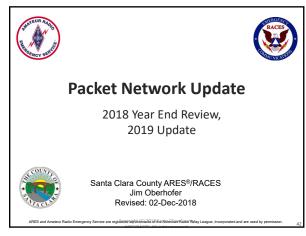
39

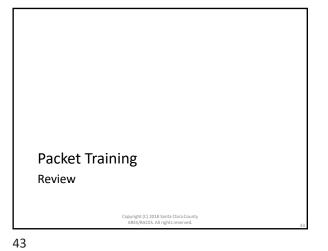


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2018 Packet Classes

#### By the numbers

- 318 classroom hours spent (not counting homework)
- 116 class sign-ups (all 3 classes)
- 106 class show-ups
  - 46 in Packet III-A
  - 35 in Packet III-B
  - 25 in Packet II
- 57 unique participants
- 24 packet Ops attended only one class
- · 17 packet Ops attended only two classes
- 16 packet Ops attended all three classes

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## Packet Exercise Workbook Covered Packet III-B content Included related topics such as... Checking out your packet station Working with messages Customizing message handling And other topics, such as: ICS 309 Reporting Using Address Books Message Addressing Watch for updates to the Exercise Workbook Copyright (C) 2018 Santa Chanachamaghan Alex MACES All rights reserved.

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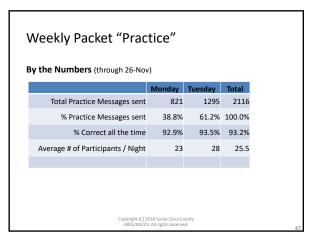
Using Telnet Access for Outpost Training

 Required for Packet III-B and Packet II class \*if\* you have a Laptop but not a TNC & Radio.

 Full instructions on configuring Outpost to access the W5XSC Training BBS.



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Weekly Packet "Practice"

Q: When is a check-in not a check-in?

A: When it is "practice"

 See the "Standard Packet Check-In/Out Message" App Note under...

https://www.scc-ares-races.org/data/packet/index.html#app-notes

 See the Practice Message, Subject section under... <a href="https://www.scc-ares-races.org/data/packet/weekly-packet-practice.html#Message">https://www.scc-ares-races.org/data/packet/weekly-packet-practice.html#Message</a>

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# Outpost & PacFORMS Review Copyright (C) 2018 Santa Clara County ARES/RACES. All rights reserved. 46

SCCo Installer v140 — August 2018

By the numbers

• 45 Total changes
• 26 SCCo Submitted
• 23 Enhancements
• 21 Defects

• 25 Enhancements
• 26 SCCo Submitted
• 28 Enhancements
• 29 Enhancements
• 20 Defects

• 20 Subject Line related
2 - printer related
3 - printer related
4 - printer related
5 - printer related
6 - printer related
7 - Add-on related
8 - Secol/Receive
9 - Subject Line related
9 - printer related
1 - plus another 10 changes

• See the details up on the SCCo RACES website...

Packet BBS Service > Presentations > 2018 > SCCo Packet Installer v139 Summary

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Managing information in their terms
 New Operational Area Municipal Status Form replaces the City Scan form

 Managing Status Form replaces the City Scan form

New OA Municipal Status Form

Course of each on the improve (parameters)

International Course of the Course of the

51

Managing information in their terms
 Last minute PacFORM add required for this year's Bay Area Yellow Command Exercise (focus was on shelter operations)

\*\*Managing information in their terms

\*\*Last minute PacFORM add required for this year's Bay Area Yellow Command Exercise (focus was on shelter operations)

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\*\*Last minute PacFORM add required for this year's Bay Area Yellow Command Exercise (focus was on shelter operations)

\*\*Managing information in their terms

\*\*Mana

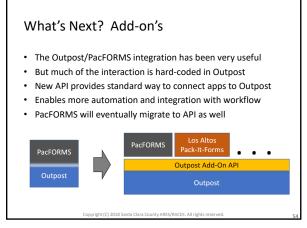
52

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#### What's Next? ... PacFORMs

- Mutual Aid Request Form
  - As County OES changes what they need, we will align our tools to support them.
  - Changes planned are around usability
- Hospital Forms updates
  - Approached by Medical Health Operations Center to help revise all Hospital PacFORMs to align with their changing standards.

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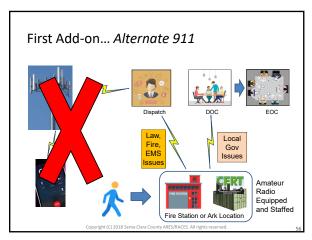
54

#### First Add-on... Alternate 911 (Alt911)

- During the 2009 Morgan Hill cable cut, RACES responders staffed key city locations and the city's Dispatch Center (PSAP) to pass 9-1-1 assistance requests.
- Cupertino, Saratoga, and Los Altos Hills contract with Santa Clara County for all Sheriff, Fire, EMS, and dispatch services.
- In the event of a total telephone service outage, the public in these cities has no way to request 9-1-1 assistance.
- There is no local PSAP in Cupertino, Saratoga, or Los Altos
- We cannot easily pass 9-1-1 traffic because (i) our PSAP is located 15 miles away in San Jose, and (ii) DSW restrictions do not easily let us operate outside our city.

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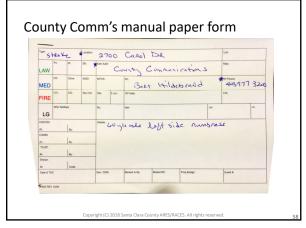
56

#### Managing information in their terms

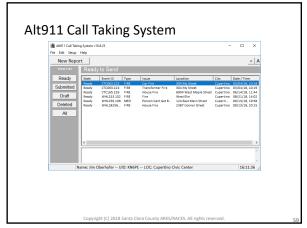
#### What County Comm needs to know

- WHERE? Where are you? Where is the incident?
- WHAT? What happened?
- WHO? Who's involved? Is anyone hurt?
- WHEN? When did it happen?
  - Is it going on right now?
- WHY? Follow-up questions...
- Ref: <a href="https://www.sccgov.org/sites/911/Pages/The-Five-Ws.aspx">https://www.sccgov.org/sites/911/Pages/The-Five-Ws.aspx</a>

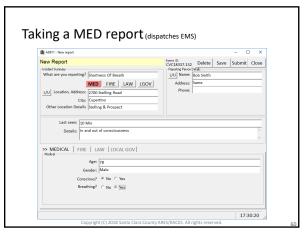
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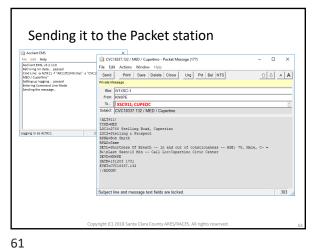


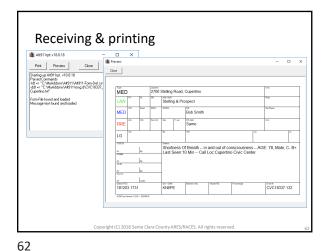
58



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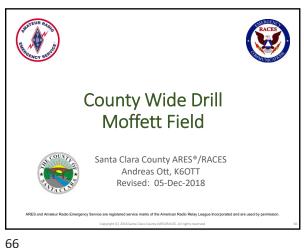
The end to end message flow RACES RACES Alt911cts Aoclient Opdirect Outpost

The Packet Value Proposition What do these things have in common? · Outpost enhancements, updates PacFORM additions, changes Policy refinements · Messaging add-on delivery All of SCCo Packet Service improvements enhance our ability to support our Served Agencies. Our Served Agencies see our value as doing business in their terms, that is, managing information and communications on their behalf. · Our packet infrastructure, training, and capabilities allow us to do this!

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For More Information Support See the Santa Clara County ARES/RACES web site packet page https://www.scc-ares-races.org/data/packet/index.html - Join the packet discussion group Practice Send a message during the weekly packet net, either or both days https://www.scc-ares-races.org/data/packet/weekly-packet-practice.html Automated feedback to help you improve, verify you've got it right - Participate as a packet operator at drills and other events 65



## XSC-18-08T aka. #CWD20181027 Moffett Field

**ARRL Simulated Emergency Test 2018** 

Supporting Santa Clara County CERT teams communications at six field locations and an EOC

KEOT

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#### Stats (some preliminary)

- 60 participants: 41 ham radio operators (17 "new hams" licensed since 2014), 1CERT, 18 staff
- MAC evaluations at levels 3, 2 and 1
- 2 operations shifts, 3.25 hours each
- · 16 cities and agencies represented
- 6 simulated command posts, 1 EOC in Drill City
- 78 messages passed: 43 packet, 35 voice (some logs are most likely missing)
- · ARRL SET score: 579 points

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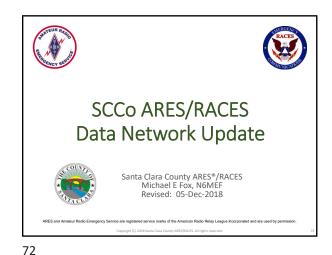
## Field Command Post

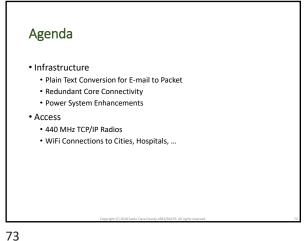
70

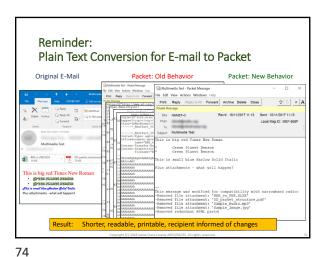
#### Lessons learned (what staff is doing)

- This is as close to a real incident as it gets (supporting CERT in the field to communicate to the EOC)
- Repeat experience (same drill held in 2016), still very labor intensive in planning and execution
- You wish you had a working printer at your field packet station
- DSW processing (thank you for your patience)
- Processes, procedures, content of training classes
- Forms review on-site at checkout (and trying to "recreate" the event from incomplete logs)

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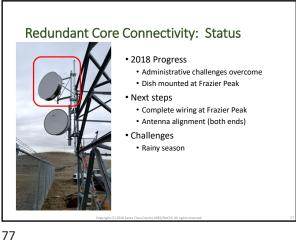


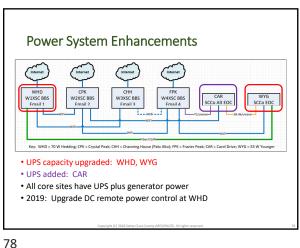


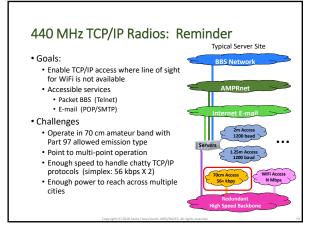


Plain Text Conversion: Status • 2017 Year End • Basic functionality working on development server • Need to add Error-handling . Variety of unusual cases: ex. encoding, blank body w/ text attachment · Lots more testing needed; move to test server • Expected production deployment: Spring 2018 • 2018 Year End • No additional progress – other priorities • Plan: Deliver basic functionality for early 2018; complex cases later **Redundant Core Connectivity** 2018 Goal: Install FPK end of link from CHH to FPK

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440 MHz TCP/IP Radios: 2018 Activity

Two commercial vendors selected for testing
CalAmp Viper SC+:
10 W, 50 MHz channel, 128 kbps 16 FSK, static
ARF Aprisa SR+:
SW, 50 MHz channel, 240 kbps 64 QAM, dynamic, FEC
Both are priced in the \$1200-1400 range

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440 MHz TCP/IP Radios: 2018 Activity

- Bench testing
  - RF testing
  - Application testing: Packet over Telnet, E-mails with attachments

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440 MHz TCP/IP Radios: 2019 Plan

• We know this works

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- Both vendors have large commercial deployments
- But they are in licensed bands with directional antennas
- Radios are too expensive and proprietary to move forward before we achieve success in a reasonable number of locations
- Follow-up with vendor, implement recommendations, make it work in our environment
- Once we know what it takes to make it work, re-evaluate cost of overall solution

#### WiFi Connections to Cities, Hospitals, ...

- We're ready for subscriber connections
- Service description web pages exist
- Explains what's possible, how to request connection
- Subscriber config web page by end of the month
  - Should answer most (all?) questions about subscriber-side network configuration: addressing, routing, firewalling, etc.
- 2019 Plans
  - Acceptable use policy
  - Self-service login/password management
  - Connecting sites

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## Amateur Radio for Emergency Managers



Santa Clara County ARES®/RACES/ACS Michael Fox, N6MEF Revised: 05-Dec-2018

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This section to be distributed later

End

## Thanks for coming!

Please complete the course Evaluation.

See you at a training class next year!