REGIONAL WIRELESS COOPERATIVE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
	No. **O-06.11**
Subject: **Interoperability Talkgroups Procedure**	**Revised: 03/2024** **Prior Rev:** **07/2020** **10/2019** **03/2011**

1.0 Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this procedure is to support the use of interoperability talkgroups.

2.0 Owner

2.1. RWC Operations Working Group (OWG).

3.0 Applies To

3.1. All Members, Associates, Conditional Participants, and Interoperability Participants that have access to RWC interoperability talkgroups.

4.0 Background

4.1. To facilitate interoperable communications, the RWC identified talkgroups to be used for intermittent interoperable situations. This is to include planned multi-agency special events, emergency situations and other unplanned operations. Talkgroups have been configured as either unencrypted or encrypted.

4.2. In most cases day-to-day communications will take place on RWC Member/Long-Term Conditional Participant (LTCP) operational talkgroups. In the following situations, agencies will need to move communications to interoperability talkgroups:

4.2.1. To communicate with other users who do not have the agency's operational talkgroup(s).

4.2.2. To allow another user to monitor communications when they do not have access to the agency's operational talkgroup(s).

5.0 Policy Statement

5.1. Interoperability talkgroups are used to facilitate communications between agencies that do not communicate with each other on a routine basis.

5.2. Interoperability talkgroups can support effective command and control of major incidents under the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

6.0 Supporting Rules

6.1. Standard interoperability talkgroups are located in G, L and O decks.

6.2. Encrypted interoperability talkgroups are located in H and P decks.

6.2.1. Encrypted talkgroups may be used between RWC Members/LTCP's and authorized interoperability participants.

6.2.2. Approval for use of encrypted talkgroups will be managed by exception.

6.3. The use of any RWC Interoperability talkgroup must be coordinated by an RWC Member/LTCP.

6.4. When the same resources are requested for two or more incidents, assignments should be based on the priority levels listed below:

6.4.1. Priority1: Disasters, large scale incidents, or extreme emergencies requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.

6.4.2. Priority 2: Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property.

6.4.3. Priority 3: Other incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies.

6.4.4. Priority 4: Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.

6.4.5. Priority 5: Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for short term agency use.

6.4.6. Drills, tests and exercises.

6.5. In the event of multiple simultaneous incidents within the same priority level, interoperability talkgroups should be allocated with the following priorities in mind:

6.5.1. Incidents with the greatest level of exigency (e.g., greater threat to life or property, more immediate need) have priority over less exigent incidents.

6.5.2. Agencies with single/limited interoperable options have priority use of those options over agencies with multiple interoperable options.

6.5.3. When at all possible, agencies already using an interoperable asset during an event should not be redirected to another resource.

6.6. Use of interoperability decks may be requested by any RWC Member/LTCP. The RWC Member/LTCP must check the electronic interoperability scheduler to identify an available talk group.

6.6.1. The RWC Member/LTCP involved in the operation must be the one that reserves the talk group on the scheduler.

6.6.2. All scheduler appointments must include contact information, including email address, phone number and agency name.

6.6.3. Any non-RWC agency that needs to reserve an interoperability talk group for a planned operation must make the request through the involved RWC Member/LTCP.

6.7. There is no support for emergency alert functions on any interoperability talkgroup.

6.8. RWC Members/LTCP's do not provide dispatch monitoring for any interoperability talkgroup on a routine basis. Agencies must arrange for dispatch monitoring while planning their event.

6.9. There should be no expectation that the interoperability talkgroups are recorded.

7.0 Responsibilities

7.1. RWC Members/LTCP's will ensure all interoperability deck repeaters are turned off when not in use with the exception of G1 and H1.

7.2. Agencies using the interoperability talkgroups must use the following protocols:

7.2.1. Use only plain language, no codes or call types.

7.2.2. Identify their agency and unit's call sign at the start of each transmission.

7.3. Interoperability deck talkgroups must be labeled the same on all subscribers as identified below.

ZONE	*ZONE*	*ZONE*	*ZONE*	*ZONE*
G DECK	**H DECK**	**L DECK**	**O DECK**	**P DECK**
G01 INT A	H01 PS 01	L01 FIREDISP	O01 OCEAN 01	P01 EOS 01
G02 INT B	H02 PS 02	L02 EVENT 02	O02 OCEAN 02	P02 EOS 02
G03 INT C	H03 PS 03	L03 EVENT 03	O03 OCEAN 03	P03 EOS 03
G04 INT D	H04 PS 04	L04 EVENT 04	O04 OCEAN 04	P04 EOS 04
G05 INT E	H05 PS 05	L05 EVENT 05	O05 OCEAN 05	P05 EOS 05
G06 INT F	H06 PS 06	L06 EVENT 06	O06 OCEAN 06	P06 EOS 06
G07 INT G	H07 PS 07	L07 EVENT 07	O07 OCEAN 07	P07 EOS 07
G08 INT H	H08 PS 08	L08 EVENT 08	O08 OCEAN 08	P08 EOS 08
G09 INT I	H09 PS 09	L09 EVENT 09	O09 OCEAN 09	P09 EOS 09
G10 INT J	H10 PS 10	L10 EVENT 10	O10 OCEAN 10	P10 EOS 10
G11 INT K	H11 PS 11	L11 EVENT 11	O11 OCEAN 11	P11 EOS 11
G12 INT L	H12 PS 12	L12 EVENT 12	O12 OCEAN 12	P12 EOS 12
G13 INT M	H13 PS 13	L13 EVENT 13	O13 OCEAN 13	P13 EOS 13

G14 INT N	H14 PS 14	L14 EVENT 14	O14 OCEAN 14	P14 EOS 14
G15 INT O	H15 PS 15	L15 EVENT 15	O15 OCEAN 15	P15 EOS 15
G16 DYNRGP	H16 PS 16	L16 EVENT 16	O16 OCEAN 16	P16 EOS 16

8.0 Conditions for Exemption or Waiver

8.1. As provided in the Waiver or Exception Policy.

9.0 Applicable Procedures

9.1. As listed at www.rwcaz.org.