

METRO REGION
800 MHz Trunked Regional Public Safety Radio System
Standards, Protocols, Procedures

Document/ Section:	3. Interoperability Guidelines	Radio TOC Recommendation
Sub-Section:	METRO 3.31.0	Date: 9/25/13
Procedure Title:	ARMER System StatusBoard Application Talkgroup or Channel Minimum Requirements	
Date Established:	8/24/08	MESB Approval - Signature:
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1. Purpose and Objective:

To establish a guideline for the minimum talkgroups or channels that shall be required on all ARMER System radio consoles Status Board applications in the Metro Region. This standard does not relate to console resource requirements.

2. Technical Background:

• **Capabilities -**

The Status Board Application, maintained Department of Public Safety Emergency Communication Networks (ECN), is a statewide web-based dispatch tool accessible through the public internet and is intended to help facilitate and advise what interoperable talkgroup or channel may be in use for an urgent, emergent or preplanned event.

• **Constraints -**

This standard will give guidance to all metro region agency dispatch centers as to what talkgroups or channels should be on their Status Board Application, and will serve to minimize usage conflicts when multiple incidents may be occurring simultaneously.

Status Board is accessed via the public internet. If a user has no internet access, then he or she cannot access Status Board.

Status Board is provided on a “best effort” basis without a Service-Level Agreement or any guarantee of service. However, as of this writing, DPS’ web infrastructure hosting the application has had 100% uptime since launching its new website in 2011.

3. Operational Context:

The Status Board Application is to be used for day to day, urgent or emergency situations. It is a tool to advise all dispatch centers what interoperable talkgroups or channels may be in use (real time) at any given time.

Metro Region interoperability resources will be maintained in Status Board by the regional Status Board administrator appointed by the Radio TOC. No other person shall make any changes in the Status Board application regarding these resources.

Please refer to State Standard '3.31.0 – Status Board', for a discussion on the types of reservations and users in the Status Board application.

4. Recommended Protocol/ Standard:

The following matrix shall serve as guidance and as the minimum requirements of which interoperable talkgroups and channels will be included in any Metro Region agency’s dispatch center Status Board Application.

Resource Name	Public Safety LE Dispatch Centers	Public Safety Fire Dispatch Centers	Public Safety EMS Dispatch Centers	Public Service Hwy. Maint. Dispatch Centers	Public Service Transit Dispatch Centers	Public Service Other Public Service Dispatch Centers
<i>Statewide</i>						
STACs (STAC 1-12)	R	R	R	R	R	R
STAC 13E & 14E	R	R	R	N	N	N
LTAC 1-4	R	N	N	N	N	N
LTAC5-12E	R	N	N	N	N	N
SIU 1-4E	R	N	N	N	N	N
VLA31	R	O	R	N	N	N
VFIRE23	O	R	O	N	N	N
VMED28	O	O	R	N	N	N
MN COMM	R	R	R	N	N	N
VTAC14R	R	R	R	R	R	R
FEDCOM	R	R	R	N	N	N
8TAC91-94	R	R	R	R	R	R
8TAC91-94D	R	R	R	R	R	R
<i>Metro Region</i>						
ME TACs 1-10)	R	R	R	R	R	R
ME TAC11E & 12E	R	N	N	N	N	N

R=Required resource in agency’s Status Board
O=Optional resource in agency’s Status Board
N=Not Allowed in agency’s Status Board

5. Recommended Procedure:

Anytime an interoperable talkgroup or channel is used for a preplanned, urgent, or emergency event the Status Board shall be used to indicate this.

A brief description of the event and an estimated end time should be in the description field. In times of urgent or emergency use, at minimum, the Status Board shall be marked "Resource in Use".

The Status Board shall be marked "Resource Available" when the interoperable talkgroup or channel is no longer being used.

6. Management:

The dispatch center managers for agencies on the metro region ARMER system shall insure that there is a procedure for use of the Status Board in the dispatch center for which they are responsible.

Dispatch center operators shall receive initial and continuing training on the use of the Status Board.

The system managers and administrators will be responsible to see that this policy is implemented as defined in the system standards manual. Identified issues and concerns will be brought to the Radio TOC for resolution.