Disaster Service Workers and RACES Activation

Who, What, Why & How

Mike Kutner, N6IHT
Based on presentation by Jerry Haag, K6GAC (SK)
Mountain View ARES/RACES

Agenda

- Amateur Operator Activation
  - "What to do in an emergency"
- Disaster Service Worker
  - "How amateur operators are protected"
- Resources

Amateur Operator Activation

- Event types
- Notification methods
- What to do

Event Types

- Self-alerting
  - You know that something happened
    - Felt the earthquake
    - Saw the rising water
- Not self-alerting
  - You don't know that something happened
    - Did not see the hazardous material spill
    - Did not notice that cell tower is down

Notification Methods

Especially for not self-alerting events

- Phone tree
  - AEC calls you
- AlertSCC
  - SMS, e-mail, automated phone call

What To Do - First Step

- Make sure that everything is OK at home

What To Do - Level 1

- Purpose: quickly gather information

- Tune to resource net
  Three repeaters will be (eventually) linked
  - North County - 145.270MHz (-) 100Hz
    - Same as Monday night SPECS net
  - Primary County - 146.115MHz (+) 100Hz
  - South County - 444.625MHz (+) 110.9Hz
    - South of 101 at 85 in South San Jose

What To Do - Level 1

- Net control will ask for damage reports
  - In order of decreasing severity
- Respond with your call sign
- When net control calls you, respond with
  - Call sign, city, (very) brief report, call sign
  - For earthquake, use Mike-Mike scale (next page)

What To Do - Level 1

- Earthquake damage - use Mike-Mike scale

Mike-Mike 8	Buildings collapsed
Mike-Mike 7	Furniture broken, cannot stand, chimneys fall
Mike-Mike 6	Glassware broken, books off shelf, floor lamps topple
Mike-Mike 5	Pictures move, doors swing, small items on floor
Mike-Mike 4	Windows, dishes rattle
Mike-Mike 3	Know it was an earthquake somewhere
Mike-Mike 2	Barely noticed
Mike-Mike 1	Not felt at all

- "N6IHT, Mountain View, Mike-Mike 4, N6IHT"

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What To Do - Level 1

- Other than earthquake
  - Describe what you see
  - Use judgment on severity
- "N6IHT, Mountain View, tree down blocking road, N6IHT"

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What To Do - Level 1

- Listen for further instruction
- What if there is no net control?
  - It's you!
  - Ask if a net is in progress
  - Announce that you are starting a net
  - Announce that you cannot dispatch emergency services
  - Gather damage info in decreasing severity
  - Be ready to pass damage info to another op

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What To Do - Level 2

- Purpose: refer to city tactical net
- Listen on the resource net for announcement from Mountain View EOC (K6MTV)
- Switch to the announced city tactical frequency
  - Usually 146.535MHz simplex
- When net control asks for check ins
  - Check in with your call sign only

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What To Do - Level 2

- Be patient
  - It will take a long time to open/staff city EOC
  - It will take a long time to check in everyone
    - It's a good time to prepare/check your equipment
- Net control will ask you
  - Availability for assignment
  - Capabilities
    - Field station, packet, …
    - Transportation
    - Physical constraints

What To Do - Level 2

- What if there's no announcement from the Mountain View EOC (K6MTV)?
  - Contact an AEC - make sure we know about the event
    - AEC contact info is in the "Mountain View ARES/RACES Emergency Plan" document
  - If you can't contact an AEC, you're it!
    - Gather availability/capability information
    - Remain on standby until receive request from Mountain View OES

What Not To Do

- Do not "self-activate"
  - For example, jump in car and drive to fire station

- (Reason will be discussed later.)

What To Do - Level 3

- Purpose: Assign/track operators, provide services

- Net control will ask if you're ready for an assignment
  - Only say "yes" if you're ready to go

What To Do - Level 3

- Net control will offer you an assignment
  - Only say "yes" if you're comfortable with the assignment
    - Trained for the task
    - Have necessary equipment
    - Have time (usually 8 hours)

- If no immediate assignment, continue to listen to city tactical frequency
  - Need to staff second shift, third shift, …

What To Do - Level 3

- Net control will activate and assign you
  - Start an ICS-214 *Unit Activity Log*
  - Write down the activation number
  - Write down the destination
    - Common destinations are in the "Mountain View ARES Emergency Plan" document
      - Fire stations, shelters
  - Write down the on-site contact info
    - Served agency
    - Amateur operator on previous shift

What To Do - Level 3

- Call net control when departing home
- ~~Call net control every 15 minutes while you are enroute~~
  - We suggest using mag mount antenna

What To Do - Level 3

- When you arrive at the destination
  - Call net control
    - Before you leave your vehicle
  - Find on-site contact
    - Amateur operator on previous shift
      - Conduct hand-off briefing: issues, problems, …
    - Served agency - introduce yourself
  - Start/update forms
    - ICS-211 *Check-In List* - for site
    - ICS-309 *Communication Log* - for site
    - ICS-214 *Unit Activity Log* - for you

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Interacting With Authorities

- Approach in the field of vision of the officer,
- Keep hands in sight,
- Greet the officer,
- Identify yourself,
- Show identification,
- State who sent you,
- State where you are headed,
- State what you will do there,
- Request permission to pass,
- Thank the officer.

If appropriate, walk away and ask net control for help.

What To Do - Level 3

- When your operating position is set up
  - Call net control
  - Be courteous and respectful
  - Only do tasks for which you have been assigned and trained
    - Remember, task is "communication"
    - Do not do tasks other than "communication"
  - Expect "health and welfare" check from net control every 30 minutes
  - Call net control if you need help

What To Do - Level 3

- At end of shift
  - Conduct hand-off briefing to next operator
  - If you're the last operator at the site, take the site's ICS-211 and ICS-309
  - Call net control when departing site
  - ~~Call net control every 15 minutes while you are enroute~~
  - Call net control when you arrive at destination
  - Give paperwork to shift supervisor at EOC

What About MACs?

- MAC = Mutual Aid Communicator
  - Registered, trained by Santa Clara County

- Request comes from another agency
- Need to be released by MTV EC

Summary Before Break

- We explained
  - Event types
  - Notification methods
  - What to do

- Questions?

- 10-minute break

Disaster Service Worker

- What it is
- Why it is important
- What to do

What is a Disaster Service Worker?

- Any person registered by an accredited Disaster Council for the purpose of engaging in disaster service without pay or other monetary consideration.

What is Disaster Service?

- All activities authorized by and carried on pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, including approved and documented training necessary or proper to engage in disaster activities.

Why is it important?

- Workers Compensation coverage by State Compensation Insurance Fund
  ◦ Death Benefit
  ◦ Wage Continuation
  ◦ Medical Treatment
- Limited liability protection when acting within scope of assignment and training

- Make sure your family knows about this

DSW Coverage Requirements

- Disaster Service Worker coverage requires
  ◦ Registration
  ◦ Training
  ◦ Activation
  ◦ Assignment
  ◦ Supervision

Registration

- Only an "authorized person" may register you.
- Separate registration for each entity (city, county)
- DSW registration does not expire, but the Emergency Responder ID cards do.
- Personal information must be verified every five years.

Training

- Training is the responsibility of the local ARES group.
- In Mountain View there are 3 levels of qualification.
  ◦ Field communicator
  ◦ EOC communicator
  ◦ Mutual Aid Communicator
- Major emphasis is on safety and effectiveness of responders.

Activation

- Only an entity with whom you are registered may activate you.
- An "Activation Number" will be issued.
  - e.g., MTV-15-01
- (See previous discussion.)

- Do not self-activate!

Assignment

- You will usually get your assignment by radio.
- You must have been trained for the task
- Task must be "communication"
- (See previous discussion)

Supervision

- You must be under continuous supervision while acting under assignment.
- This means you must be reachable by radio at all times,
- And this means you must have a radio that can be operated with reasonable range while you are in your car
  - Which is why you should have a mag-mount antenna

Records and Logs

- Evidence of Training, Activation, Assignment, Supervision
  - ICS-211 *Check-in List* – Be sure you are on the receiving agency's records.
  - ICS-214 *Unit Activity Log* – This is the record of your activities.
  - ICS-309 *Communications Log* – Record of messages handled on behalf of served agency
- Turn them all in before you leave.

DSW Coverage Requirements

- Disaster Service Worker coverage requires
  - Registration
  - Training
  - Activation
  - Assignment
  - Supervision

The "Emergency Responder ID" Card

- What it is
  - A passport through security lines when under assignment
  - Only for official use
  - (See previous discussion on interacting with authorities.)
- What it isn't
  - It is not an ID Card
  - It is not a get-out-of-jail card

What's it Say?

- "The bearer of this identification is on official business in response to an emergency or disaster situation. If safety permits, please allow passage to destination."
- "It is a misdemeanor to wear, carry or display without authority, any means of identification specified by the emergency agency of the state."

What to Do

- Check your record in our data base.
- Receive and sign new DSW card.
- Get DSW card laminated.
- Inform Spouse/S.O./Family of Workers Comp. provisions
- Keep your copy of the signed DSW registration form in a safe place
  - You may need it as evidence of registration

Resources

- Mountain View ARES Emergency Plan
  - Mountain View ARES/RACES web site
    - http://www.k6mtv.org/
  - On "Emerg. Docs" page
  - Contains most information in this presentation

Resources

- Santa Clara County ARES/RACES classes
  - Introduction to Emergency Communications
    - Next class is 2017/6/14 in Sunnyvale at 6:00pm
  - Fundamentals of Emergency Communications
    - Next class is 2017/7/12 in Sunnyvale at 6:00pm
  - Register at
    - https://www.scc-ares-races.org/activities/events.php

Resources

- Modified Mercalli (Mike-Mike Scale)
  - Santa Clara County ARES/RACES web site
    - Includes printable wallet card

- ICS Forms
  - Mountain View ARES/RACES web site
    - On "Links/Resources" page
  - Santa Clara County ARES/RACES web site

Resources

- Disaster Service Worker Program
  - California OES web site

Wrap-up

- Discussion/Questions