

Pro-Words

Pro-words and Other Jargon You May Hear

“ALL STATIONS STANDBY” - Everybody stop transmitting. This is used most often when there is priority 1 traffic. Net control will say “all stations standby” (probably repeated), then call the station with the priority traffic: “SAR2 go ahead with your priority 1 traffic” All other stations should NOT transmit till net control is clearly done with SAR2 or says “resume normal traffic”.

“COPY” - I got your message.

“SAY AGAIN” - Repeat the portions of your last transmission as indicated by the words below:

“ALL AFTER” - The portion of the message which needs to be repeated is that portion which follows the next word.

“ALL BEFORE” - The portion of the message which needs to be repeated is that portion which precedes the next word.

“WORD AFTER” - The word which needs to be repeated is that which follows the next word.

“WORD BEFORE” - The word which needs to be repeated is that which precedes the next word.

“I SAY AGAIN” - I am repeating the transmission, or the portion you need repeated.

“STANDBY” - Wait I’m busy, I’ll let you know when I’m ready.

“BREAK” - Used when you are going to pause a moment in case some one else needs to say something. It can also be used by the person trying to get in to the conversation. Transmit the word “break” in a pause between transmissions to get the attention of the other parties. They should stop and acknowledge the “breaker”.

“OUT” - This is the end of my transmission to you and no answer or reply is required or expected.

“OVER” - This is the end of my transmission to you and an answer is required or expected. As you can see the phrase “OVER and OUT” is redundant and contradictory. Don’t ever use that phrase. Even saying “OVER” is unnecessary (and a waste of time) because our radios send a tone when the push-to-talk button is released, so you know that the other party is now listening, and the context tells you if a reply is expected. Save time, don’t say “OVER”.

In general, don’t use jargon. If you know the pro-words that is fine, but don’t memorize them unless you want to. It is better to use plain language and be clear than to use phrases that may confuse your listeners. In CERT we are not usually dealing with trained radio operators, like you would find with the ARES/RACES hams. Also, use words people expect; it aids in understanding.