WISCOM Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

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Type Policy
Subject System Acronyms and Definitions
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Acronyms

AVL	Automatic Vehicle Locator
APCO	Association of Public Safety Communications Officials
BLS	Basic Life Support
CTCSS	Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System
DTMF	Dual Tone Multiple Frequency
EMS	Emergency Medical Services
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
IC	Interoperability Council
MHz	Megahertz
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
PTT	Push-To-Talk, i.e., transmit button
RF	Radio Frequency
RSS	Radio Service Software
SSMG	Statewide System Management Group
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
VHF	Very High Frequency
WEM	Wisconsin Emergency Management
WISCOM	Wisconsin Interoperable System for Communications

Definitions

The SSMG has established standard naming conventions and standardized language terminologies to be used within published documentation for WISCOM.

Public safety communications systems terminology varies with the technology implemented. WISCOM uses Project 25 trunking architecture. As such, much of the language contained in policy and procedure manuals references that technology. Other references are from accepted operational standards published by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) training manuals and operations guides.

The purpose of this policy is to define relevant language to be used and to help clarify terms used throughout the standards, protocols and procedures manual.
The definitions in this policy apply only in the context of WISCOM as follows:

Alias – An alias is a name that is given to a talkgroup number or subscriber ID number to provide a user friendly display and reference.

Backbone System - The primary connectivity mechanism of a hierarchical distributed system. All systems which have connectivity to an intermediate system on the backbone are assured of connectivity to each other. The WISCOM core system serves as a backbone to connect other communications systems to improve interoperability.

Control Station - A fixed station that communicates with the statewide system, usually connected to a dispatch console either as the primary dispatch radio or used to enable mutual aid patches.

Critical Operations - Governmental, quasi-governmental and non-governmental voice communications operations designated by the SSMG as authorized users who rely upon a functioning two-way radio communications system. Unavailability, degradation, delay, partial or complete failure, or failure, in system operations would significantly impact the successful operations of the users.

Logging - Audio recording of radio communications including date/time stamp or other data.

Mobile Radio - A station in the mobile service, generally installed in a vehicle, intended to be used while in motion or during halts at unspecified points.

Mobile Service - A service of radio communication between mobile and base stations, or between mobile stations.

Patch - Permanent (hard) Patch: A physical connection between two or more audio resources, which is fixed and cannot be controlled or edited by the dispatcher.
Manual (soft) Patch: A connection between two or more audio resources, which is setup and controlled by the dispatcher. The dispatcher owning the patch can add & delete resources as needed.

Portable Radio - A station that is completely freestanding and may be hand-carried, or worn by the radio user, or mounted in a temporary fashion in a vehicle through the use of a charger or other repeater device permanently mounted within the vehicle.

Private Call - (a.k.a. Individual Call) A Private Call permits two radios to directly communicate with each other without using a talkgroup.

Public Safety - Government or non-government functions that operate to serve and protect the general welfare of the general public primarily from physical danger. In the context of the radio system, public safety means eligible public, quasi-public or private law enforcement, fire and emergency medical service agencies. SSMG may include personnel of agencies that work directly with or under public safety personnel including, but not limited to, emergency management, natural resources and environmental enforcement personnel, non-licensed public officials with statutory or local ordinance compliance authorities, officers and officials of the court and corrections, public agency security personnel, private security personnel working under contract with public or quasi public security services and those individuals who support public safety operations under special operations or circumstances as determined by the host public safety agency.

Public Service - Services provided by public, quasi-public or private entity. A service provided by a private entity is public service if acting under authority of a public quasi-public entity. Any other legally authorized and eligible governmental and quasi-governmental radio system users not otherwise

included within the scope of Public Safety. This would include, but not be limited to, public works, transportation, transit operations, environmental management, public and environmental health, parks and recreation, public schools and higher institutions, public libraries, facilities maintenance, building inspection, engineering and zoning, planning and development, general government administration, health and social services and those personnel or service providers under contract to provide or support such services to an eligible governmental or quasi government radio system user. <u>The term "Public Service" is not used in relation to WISCOM; all users defined in this paragraph will be considered to be "Public Safety" agencies.</u>

Regional System - A public safety communication system that serves multiple counties.

Simulcast Cluster - A group of radio frequency (RF) sites that function as a single site in transmit and receive.

Site - A radio communications tower or other structure that is equipped with WISCOM trunking equipment.

Statewide and Regional Mutual Aid Interoperability Talk Groups - Statewide and regional mutual aid talkgroups are set-aside for communicating among multiple agencies. Regional talkgroups can be accessed at any tower site in the region and are used when the potential participants in the conversation do not have a common local talkgroup. Statewide talkgroups can be accessed at any tower site in the system and are used when the potential participants in the conversation may be located in more than one region.

Sub-System - A system that connects to the WISCOM system.

Sub-System Administrators: Individuals responsible for the day to day radio sub-system operations of a participating agency

System: The WISCOM network.

System Administrator – The individual acting on behalf of SSMG who is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the WISCOM system.

Talkgroup - A talkgroup is a channel established on a trunking system. Talkgroup is sometimes abbreviated as TG.