



IARU

Emergency

Communications

Procedures

Greg Mossop, G0DUB
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The Current Procedures



IARU HF INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATING PROCEDURE

As Adopted by all 3 Regions



The Current Procedures

- Authored by DJ6TJ and adapted from ARRL NTS procedures.
- Adopted in 1998 by IARU Region 1 and then by the other regions.
- Generally untested and unused until brought into the GlobalSET exercises in 2009.
- Only three pages compared to the ~300 of the ARRL Methods and Practices Guidance for messages.



The Current Procedures

- Contains some differences in philosophy to the USA such as the use of 'Q' codes.
- Contain instructions on how to gather information from a station in distress but not who to give it to.
- Contain few examples of proper usage for different modes.
- Do not deal with routing messages to email etc.



The Current Procedures

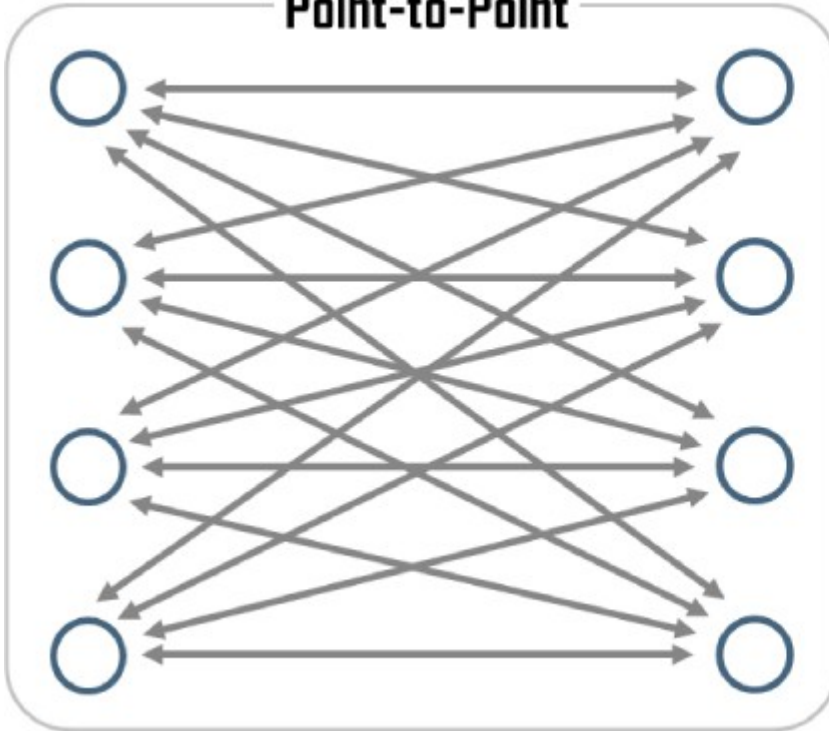
Need to change...

- Describe 'tactical' messages for Public Service use.
- Describe the message format.
- Describe how to transfer messages through email.

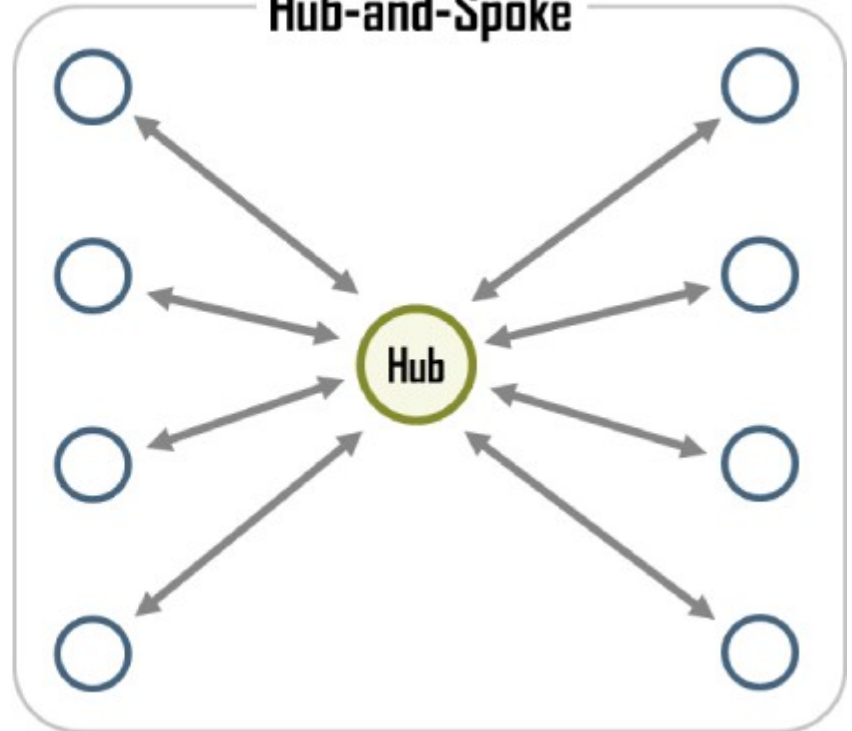


We need to think about our networks

Point-to-Point



Hub-and-Spoke





What do they have to do?

In a terrorist attack in Belgium on 22nd March 2016 their public safety network A.S.T.R.I.D handled

- More than 4,300 active radio users in Brussels, instead of 2,500 as is the case on a typical day
- 26,000 successful group communications
- 8,400 unsuccessful (or interrupted) group communications



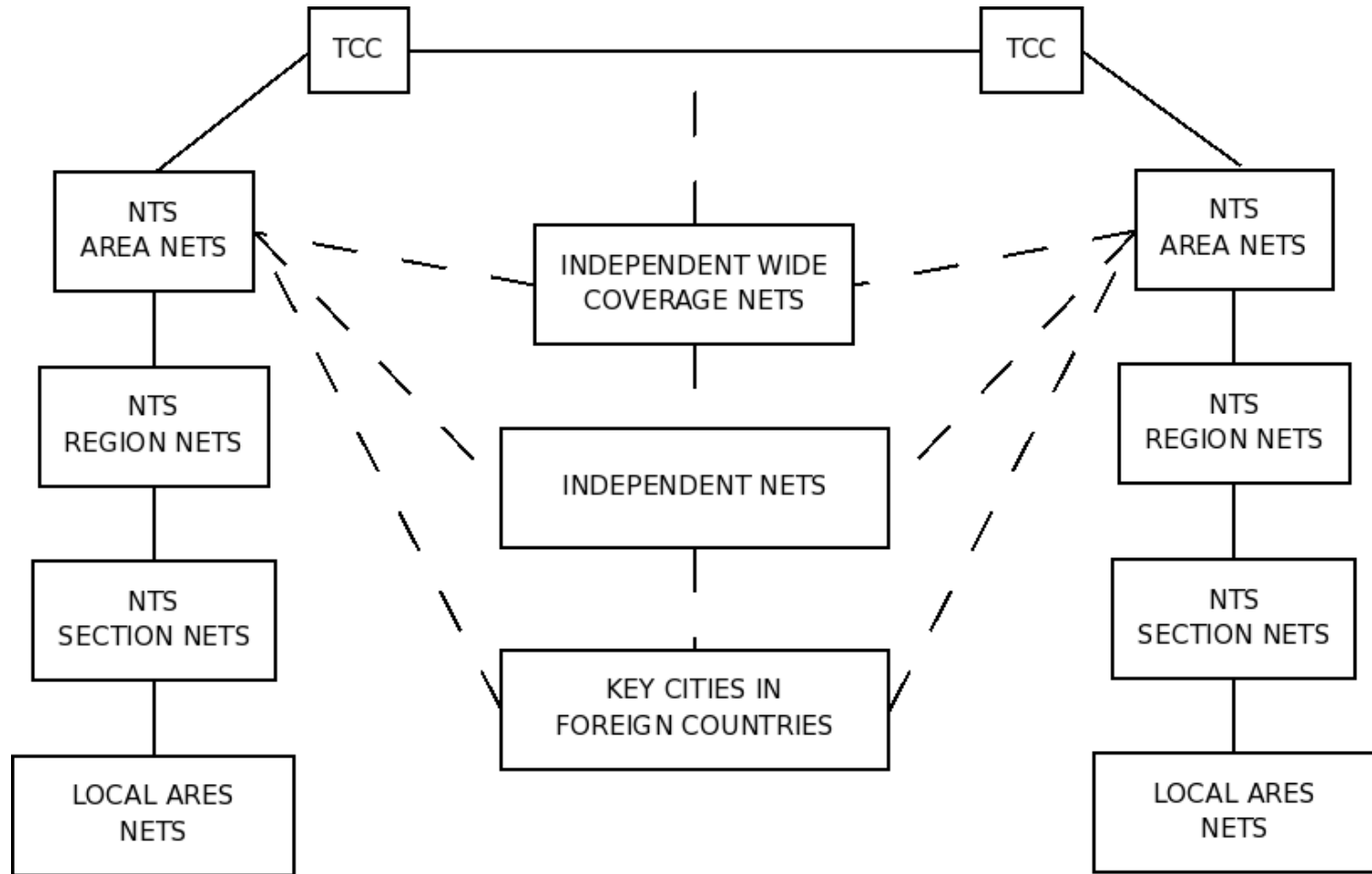
What do they have to do?

More than 40 NTS members in the U.S. and Canada demonstrated the ability to relay situational awareness from a simulated disaster area covering the States of Alaska, Idaho, Northern California, Oregon and Washington to their National Response Coordinating Center at Washington, D.C.

An initial review of TCC traffic shows near perfect accuracy (>99%) with the random, five character groups used for message texts. Coast-to-coast traverse time averaged less than fifteen minutes. One message was relayed in less than one minute.



The original ARRL structure.





E-mail subject lines

- ✚ WL2K has required //WL2K in subject lines for some time.
- ✚ They also added priority to the subject lines for the WL2K 'Hybrid network'
 - //WL2K Z/ - Flash (for urgent message use only)
 - //WL2K O/ - Immediate (for urgent message use only)
 - //WL2K P/ - Priority
 - //WL2K R/ - Routine (Default)



E-mail subject lines

- ✚ The ARRL NTSD also has a format for subject lines when transferring messages through PACTOR.

(Priority) (Destination Town/City) (Phone Number) (Callsign or Name)

Or

P CHESTER 01244 458562 G0DUB



E-mail subject lines

✚ Merge the two styles?.

//WL2K x/ (Destination Town/City) (Phone Number) (Callsign or Name)

Now a look at the message list shows which message needs to be relayed first.



We also need to keep messages short

11

Routine

M0NAS

16

Halstead

2033L.

Sep 28

To: Raynet Emergency Co-ordinator

Message: Hello Greg X Essex Raynet could only support
one disaster at a time X 73 Neil

NNNNN



It should be...

11 R MONAS 16 Halstead 1933 Sep 28
Raynet Emergency Co-ordinator

Hello Greg X Essex Raynet could only
support
one disaster at a time X 73

Neil

Every character takes time to send, we need to take out
all extra characters.



These ideas need extending.

- ✚ We need to understand how messages will be sent from area to area.
- ✚ We need to practice – the USA has message handling networks. Other countries have them or want to set them up.
- ✚ What else needs changing?



Thank you!



The International Amateur Radio Union

Since 1925, the Federation of National Amateur Radio Societies
Representing the Interests of Two-Way Amateur Radio Communication
