Region 2 Hospitals
Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
(TICP)

INFORMATIONAL PLANNING GUIDE

-This document was developed to establish informational guidelines for Hospital related communications during times of crisis or emergencies

INDEX

Record of Change

Change No.	Description	Change Date	Approved /Changed By
001	Plan accepted by Region2 RHCC	4/03/2015	Region 2 RHCC
002	Plan reviewed by Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Committee for Emergency Operations and Coordination	10/4/2016	*DRAFT*
003	Plan approved by Region 2 Healthcare Coalition Committee for Emergency Operations and Coordination	10/25/2016	**FINAL**
004	Updated TICP to include Peoria County Frequencies, updated state radio cache information and removed individual facility contact information as it is duplicated in the Region 2 Plan	12/18/2019	Under Revision
005	TICP revised	1/15/2020	Revised -Published
006	TICP revised	1/4/2021	Revised- Published
007	TICP revised	1/21/2022	Revised - Published

This Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) is subject to information and/or equipment updates and changes. The use of this Record of Change helps manage TICP modifications throughout the life of this document. All attempts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information within this TICP as of the initial distribution date. Any subsequent adjustments should be logged and coordinated with user agencies within IDPH Region 2 Hospitals.

Preface

The hospitals in coordination with the Region 2 Healthcare Coalition recognize the need for immediate interagency communications, regional interoperability, and communications coordination within region 2. Effective prevention, protection, response and recovery to incidents, whether natural or man-made, mandate instant communications interoperability and cooperation from local to county to the region, along with state and federal response agencies. Effective communication requires coordination, collaboration, and a method of resolving conflicts.

This document establishes a Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) for all Hospitals within IDPH Region 2 and of Illinois, The TICP is intended to be an informational document outlining communications capabilities as it relates to IDPH EMS Region 2 and the hospitals within.

The development of this TICP was a cooperative effort by a working group comprised of representatives from each of the Region 2 Healthcare Coalition.

Executive Overview

This document establishes a Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) for IDPH EMS Region 2 Hospitals. A working group comprised of representatives from the Region 2 Healthcare Coalition developed the plan. The plan was then approved and adopted by the Coalition. The TICP developed by and for the hospitals in Region 2 is used in conjunctions with the (Illinois SCIP) Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan and the (Federal) National Interoperability Field Operations Guide

Illinois completed a [Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan](#) (SCIP) in 2007. The SCIP, as a strategic interoperable plan, was adopted by the SIEC, several state agencies and associations and the Illinois Terrorism Task Force as the official voice radio interoperable communications plan for the State. The Statewide State Agency TICP is a first step toward realizing that goal, and is intended to provide a framework for development of the tactical plans as interoperable communications progresses from a local issue to a state "Type 3" incident or event. The policies and procedures set forth in this plan leverage and build upon existing interoperability standards adopted by the SIEC and standard operating procedures existing within participating agencies. It documents the interoperable communication resources available within the state of Illinois and counties, who controls each resource, and what rules of use or operational procedures exist for the activation and deactivation of each resource.

Region 2 Radio Drills

StarCom21: Region 2 Starcom21 Radio Drill conducted on the first Tuesday of every odd month at 09:00hrs.
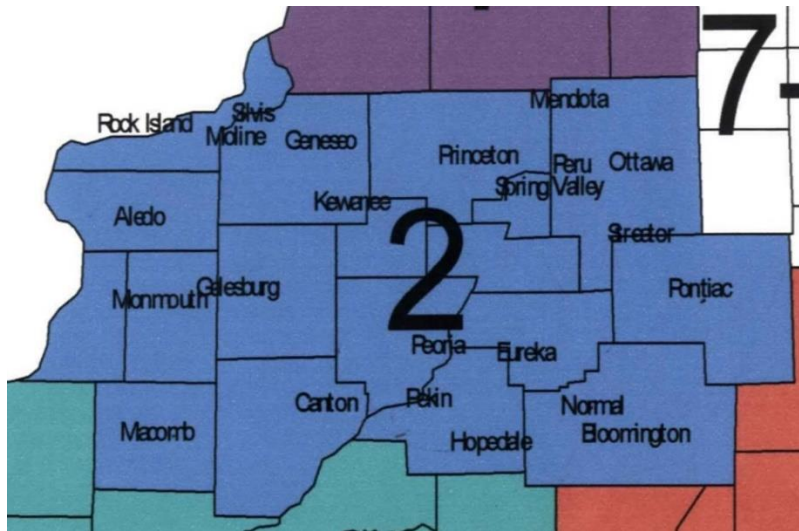(January, March, May, July, September, November)
See Appendix A: of TICP - Region 2 Starcom21 Radio Net Communications Drill Policy

IDPH Region 2

Area of Coverage

All or part of the following counties:

Bureau, Fulton, Henry, Henderson, Knox, LaSalle, Livingston, Marshall, McDonough, McLean, Mercer, Peoria, Putman, Rock Island, Stark, Tazewell, Warren, Woodford

Region 2 Hospitals:

1	Advocate BroMenn Medical Center	13	OSF Saint James Medical Center
2	Advocate Eureka Hospital	14	OSF Saint Joseph Medical Center
3	Genesis Medical Center - Aledo	15	OSF Saint Luke Medical center
4	Genesis Medical Center - Silvis	16	OSF Saint Mary Medical Center
5	Graham Hospital	17	OSF Saint Paul Medical Center
6	Hammond Henry Hospital	18	St. Margaret's Health – Spring Valley
7	Hopedale Medical Complex	19	St. Margaret's Health – Peru
8	McDonough District Hospital	20	Unity Point Health, Methodist
9	OSF Holy Family Medical Center	21	Unity Point Health, Pekin
10	OSF Saint Clare Medical Center	22	Unity Point Health, Proctor
11	OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center	23	Unity Point Health, Trinity
12	OSF Saint Francis Medical Center		

Hospitals shared Radio Frequency

VHF Radio

Channel	Frequency	Description
MERCI	155.34	Ambulance to Hospital communications
MERCI 2	155.28	Designated for hospital to hospital and disaster-related communications
IREACH	155.055	Designated for communication among Illinois public safety agencies when no other direct means of communication is available

Hospital MERCI (PL / CTCSS) Tones

Advocate BroMenn Medical Center	94.8	OSF Saint James Medical Center	118.8
Advocate Eureka Hospital	141.3	OSF Saint Joseph Medical Center	210.7
Genesis Medical Center, Aledo	225.7	OSF Saint Luke Medical center	136.5
Genesis Medical Center, Illini campus	110.9	OSF Saint Mary Medical Center	107.2
Graham Hospital	173.8	OSF Saint Paul Medical Center	146.2
Hammond Henry Hospital	229.1	St. Margaret's Health – Peru	162.2
Hopedale Medical Complex	85.4	St. Margaret's Health – Spring Valley	162.2
McDonough District Hospital	100.0	Unity Point Health, Methodist	82.5
OSF Holy Family Medical Center	71.9	Unity Point Health, Pekin	97.4
OSF Saint Clare Medical Center	179.9	Unity Point Health, Proctor	230.0
OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center	97.4	Unity Point Health, Trinity	179.9
OSF Saint Francis Medical Center	167.9		

Region 2 Hospital Information

<u>Hospitals shared Radio Frequency</u> (cont'd)

STARCOM 21 Radio

Channel	Zone	Description
EMS	B	For communication amongst all RHCC Hospitals
EMS R2	B	For communications amongst all Hospitals in Region 2

To call the RHCC using STARCOM 21

- Switch SATRCOM 21 radio to Zone: B Channel: EMS   (B EMS)
- Call the RHCC "OSF Saint Francis Medical Center from (your facility)
- Once OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Responds ask them to switch to B EMS R2
- Switch STARCOM 21 Radio back to Zone: B Channel: EMS R2   (B EMS R2)
- Call for "OSF Saint Francis Medical Center from (your facility)"
- Proceed with your traffic

STARCOM 21 – IDPH Template

** This Plan does not include radio systems that's are non-interoperable or the system exists but the hospitals do not have the technology or hardware to use them.

Old Template

Zone	IDPH TALKGROUPS A	IDPH TALKGROUPS B	IEMA BA	IEMA BB	ANSI NS BC	ANSI NS BD	ANSI NS BE	ANSI NS BF	ANSI NS BG	Analog Low Power BH	Analog Low Power BI
MODE 1	Pub Hlth	Pub Hlth	IESMA	RGN 2A	8CAL-90D	7 CAL 50D	7 MOB 59D	7 CAL 70D	7 MOB 79D	7FTAC1D	7MTAC9D
2	EMS	EMS	ILEAS	RGN 2B	8TAC-91D	7 TAC 51D	7MOB59DA	7 TAC 71D	7MOB79DA	7FTAC2D	7NTAC10D
3	IMERT1	IMERT1	MABAS	RGN 3A	8TAC-92D	7 TAC 52D	7 LAW 61D	7 TAC 72D	7 LAW 81D	7FTAC3D	7NTAC11D
4	REDCROSS	REDCROSS	Pub Hlth	RGN 3B	8TAC-93D	7 TAC 53D	7 LAW 62D	7 TAC 73D	7 LAW 82D	7GTAC4D	7NTAC12D
5	PH RKFRD	EMS R1	IPWMAN	RGN 4A	8TAC-94D	7 TAC 54D	7 FIRE 63D	7 TAC 74D	7 FIRE 83D	7GTAC5D	7MTAC9
6	PH PEORIA	EMS R2	Incidnt1	RGN 4B	8CAL-90	7 TAC 55D	7 FIRE 64D	7 TAC 75D	7 FIRE 84D	7LTAC6D	7NTAC10
7	PH SPGFLD	EMS R3	Incidnt2	RGN 6A	8TAC-91	7 TAC 56D	7 MED 65D	7 TAC 76D	7 MED 86D	7LTAC7D	7NTAC11
8	PH EDWRS	EMS R4	Incidnt3	RGN 6B	8TAC-92	7 GTAC 57D	7 MED 66D	7 GTAC 77D	7 MED 87D	7LTAC8D	7NTAC12
9	PH MARION	EMS R5	Incidnt4	RGN 7A	8TAC-93	7 CAL 50	7 MOB 59	7 CAL 70	7 MOB 79	7FTAC1	BLANK
10	PH CHMPGN	EMS R6	Incidnt5	RGN 7B	8TAC-94	7 TAC 51	7MOB59A	7 TAC 71	7MOB79A	7FTAC2	BLANK
11	PH BLLWD	EMS R7	North A	RGN 8A	BLANK	7 TAC 52	7 LAW 61	7 TAC 72	7 LAW 81	7FTAC3	BLANK
12	PH WCHCGO	EMS R8	North B	RGN 8B	BLANK	7 TAC 53	7 LAW 62	7 TAC 73	7 LAW 82	7GTAC4	BLANK
13	PH CHCGO	EMS R9	Center A	RGN 9A	BLANK	7 TAC 54	7 FIRE 63	7 TAC 74	7 FIRE 83	7GTAC5	BLANK
14	PUB HLTH 1	EMS R10	Center B	RGN 9B	BLANK	7 TAC 55	7 FIRE 64	7 TAC 75	7 FIRE 84	7LTAC6	BLANK
15	PUB HLTH 2	EMS R11	South A	RGN 11A	BLANK	7 TAC 56	7 MED 65	7 TAC 76	7 MED 86	7LTAC7	BLANK
16	PUB HLTH 3	PUB HLTH 4	South B	RGN 11B	BLANK	7 GTAC 57	7 MED 66	7 GTAC 77	7 MED 87	7LTAC8	BLANK

Emergency Disabled — NEW Talk Groups

Inter operability Template IEMA / ITTF ANSI National Standard Channels and Talk Groups Always In the Clear

Selectable Secure — ALWAYS Secure — New Interop — Always in the Clear

EMERGENCY Button Disabled on all Channels

New 2022 SWIT Template

Zone / Channel	IDPH A	IDPH B	CALLING	INCIDENT A	INCIDENT B	RESERVE A	SECURE A	SECURE B	NWS
1	IDPH	IDPH	IL-CALL	IL-INC A1	IL-INC B1	IL-RSV 1	IL-SEC A1	IL-SEC B1	NWS-CHI
2	PH RKFRD	EMS	ILEAS	IL-INC A2	IL-INC B2	IL-RSV 2	IL-SEC A2	IL-SEC B2	NWS-QUAD
3	PH PEORIA	EMS R1	MABAS	IL-INC A3	IL-INC B3	IL-RSV 3	IL-SEC A3	IL-SEC B3	NWS-LINC
4	PH SPGRFLD	EMS R2	IDPH	IL-INC A4	IL-INC B4	IL-RSV 4	IL-SEC A4	IL-SEC B4	NWS-STL
5	PH EDWRDS	EMS R3	IPWMAN	IL-INC A5	IL-INC B5	IL-RSV 5	IL-SEC A5	IL-SEC B5	NWS-PDK
6	PH MARION	EMS R4	EMA	IL-INC A6	IL-INC B6	IL-RSV 6	IL-SEC A6	IL-SEC B6	NWS-MKE
7	PH CHMPGN	EMS R5	IL-RGN 2	IL-INC A7	IL-INC B7	IL-RSV 7	Reserved	IL-SEC B7	NWS-SW
8	PH BLLWD	EMS R6	IL-RGN 3	IL-INC A8	IL-INC B8	IL-RSV 8	Reserved	IL-SEC B8	Reserved
9	PH W.CHI	EMS R7	IL-RGN 4	IL-INC A9	IL-INC B9	IL-RSV 9	Reserved	IL-SEC B9	Reserved
10	PH CHI	EMS R8	IL-RGN 6	IL-INC A10	IL-INC B10	IL-RSV 10	Reserved	IL-SEC B10	Reserved
11	PUB HLTH 1	EMS R9	IL-RGN 7	IL-INC A11	IL-INC B11	IL-RSV 11	Reserved	IL-SEC B11	Reserved
12	PUB HLTH 2	EMS R10	IL-RGN 8	IL-INC A12	IL-INC B12	IL-RSV 12	Reserved	IL-SEC B12	Reserved
13	PUB HLTH 3	EMS R11	IL-RGN 9	IL-INC A13	IL-INC B13	IL-RSV 13	IL-SECEMA13	IL-SEC B13	Reserved
14	PUB HLTH 4	EMS Ops 1	IL-RGN11	IL-INC A14	IL-INC B14	IL-RSV 14	IL-SECEMA14	IL-SEC B14	Reserved
15	IMERT	EMS Ops 2	IL-102A	IL-INC A15	IL-INC B15	IL-RSV 15	IL-SECDOT15	IL-SEC B15	Reserved
16	REDCROSS	EMS Ops 3	IL-102B	IL-INC A16	IL-INC B16	IL-RSV 16	IL-SECDOT16	IL-SEC B16	Reserved

Zone / Channel	ITTF - BA	ITTF - BB	SWIT-BC	SWIT-BD	SWIT-BE	SWIT-BF	SWIT-BG	SWIT-BH	SWIT-BI	SWIT-BJ	SWIT-BY	ITTF - BZ
1	IESMA	RGN 2A	8CALL90D	7CALL50D	7MOB59D	7CALL70D	7MOB79D	7FTAC1D	7MTAC9D	7AG58D	7MOB59DE	SECURE 1
2	ILEAS	RGN 2B	8TAC91D	7TAC51D	7DATA69D	7TAC71D	7DATA89D	7FTAC2D	A7-US-01D	7AG60D	7MOB79DE	SECURE 2
3	MABAS	RGN 3A	8TAC92D	7TAC52D	7LAW61D	7TAC72D	7LAW81D	7FTAC3D	A7-US-02D	7AG67D	Reserved	SECURE 3
4	Pub Hlth	RGN 3B	8TAC93D	7TAC53D	7LAW62D	7TAC73D	7LAW82D	7GTAC4D	A7-US-03D	7AG68D	Reserved	SECURE 4
5	IPWMAN	RGN 4A	8TAC94D	7TAC54D	7FIRE63D	7TAC74D	7FIRE83D	7GTAC5D	7MTAC9	7AG78D	7FIRE83DE	SECURE 5
6	Incidnt1	RGN 4B	8CALL90	7TAC55D	7FIRE64D	7TAC75D	7FIRE84D	7LTAC6D	A7-US-01	7AG80D	7FIRE84DE	SECURE 6
7	Incidnt2	RGN 6A	8TAC91	7TAC56D	7MED65D	7TAC76D	7MED86D	7LTAC7D	A7-US-02	7AG85D	7MED86DE	SECURE 7
8	Incidnt3	RGN 6B	8TAC92	7GTAC57D	7MED66D	7GTAC77D	7MED87D	7LTAC8D	A7-US-03	7AG88D	7MED87DE	SECURE 8
9	Incidnt4	RGN 7A	8TAC93	7CALL50	7MOB59	7CALL70	7MOB79	7FTAC1	7-US-01D	7AG58	7MOB59E	Reserved
10	Incidnt5	RGN 7B	8TAC94	7TAC51	7DATA69	7TAC71	7DATA89	7FTAC2	7-US-02D	7AG60	7MOB79E	Reserved
11	North A	RGN 8A	Reserved	7TAC52	7LAW61	7TAC72	7LAW81	7FTAC3	7-US-03D	7AG67	Reserved	Reserved
12	North B	RGN 8B	Reserved	7TAC53	7LAW62	7TAC73	7LAW82	7GTAC4	7-US-01	7AG68	Reserved	Reserved
13	Center A	RGN 9A	Reserved	7TAC54	7FIRE63	7TAC74	7FIRE83	7GTAC5	7-US-02	7AG78	7FIRE83E	SECEMA 1
14	Center B	RGN 9B	Reserved	7TAC55	7FIRE64	7TAC75	7FIRE84	7LTAC6	7-US-03	7AG80	7FIRE84E	SECEMA 2
15	South A	RGN 11A	Reserved	7TAC56	7MED65	7TAC76	7MED86	7LTAC7	Reserved	7AG85	7MED86E	SECDOT 1
16	South B	RGN 11B	Reserved	7GTAC57	7MED66	7GTAC77	7MED87	7LTAC8	Reserved	7AG88	7MED87E	SECDOT 2

Conventional Analog | Conventional P25 Digital | P25 Secure

Amateur Radio Interoperability Frequencies

Channel Name	Analog /Digital	Mode Wide/Narrow/SSB	Freq/Tone/ Offset	Primary Use	Agencies Supported
				ARES - RACES	
Illinois Amateur Radio Frequencies available to ARES/RACES					
ILDA	Digital	Wide	145.6100	All Amateur	All Amateur
IL2A	Analog	Wide	146.5200	All Amateur	All Amateur
IL2B	Analog	Wide	147.5250	All Amateur	All Amateur
IL2C	Analog	Wide	147.5350	All Amateur	All Amateur
ILUHFA	Analog	Wide	446.0000	All Amateur	All Amateur
ILUHFB	Analog	Wide	446.4000	All Amateur	All Amateur
ILUHFC	Analog	Wide	446.7000	All Amateur	All Amateur
Illinois ARES HF Net (SSB)					
Statewide ARES Net	A	SSB	3.905	Statewide ARES Net	ARES
Statewide ARES Net Alternate	A	SSB	7.230	Statewide ARES Net	ARES
National Simplex Channels					
National Simplex	A	W	146.52	Unit to Unit Comm / Tactical	All Amateur
National Simplex	A	W	144.20	Calling frequency	All Amateur
National Simplex	A	W	446.00	Unit-to-Unit Comm/Tactical	All Amateur
National Simplex	A	W	432.10	Calling Frequency	All Amateur

Hospital with Amateur Radio Systems installed

	Radio	Ant			Radio	Ant
Advocate BroMenn Medical Center	NO	YES		OSF Saint James Medical Center	YES	YES
Advocate Eureka Hospital	YES	YES		OSF Saint Joseph Medical Center	NO	NO
Genesis Medical Center, Aledo	NO	NO		OSF Saint Luke Medical center	NO	NO
Genesis Medical Center, Illini campus	NO	NO		OSF Saint Mary Medical Center	YES	YES
Graham Hospital	NO	NO		OSF Saint Paul Medical Center	YES	YES
Hammond Henry Hospital	NO	NO		Perry Memorial Hospital	YES	YES
Hopedale Medical Complex	NO	NO		St. Margaret's Hospital	YES	YES
McDonough District Hospital	NO	NO		St. Mary's Hospital - (Streator)	NO	NO
OSF Holy Family Medical Center	NO	NO		Unity Point Health, Methodist	NO	NO
OSF Saint Elizabeth Medical Center	NO	YES		Unity Point Health, Pekin	NO	NO
OSF Saint Francis Medical Center	NO	NO		Unity Point Health, Proctor	NO	YES
				Unity Point Health, Trinity	NO	NO

Communications Resources:

Regional Communications Capabilities at Preparedness Warehouse

Within the Regional Preparedness Warehouse, we have capabilities for STARCOM Statewide Communications, local or semi-regional analog VHF and UHF communications, along with VOIP systems and phone conferencing capabilities. We can also stand up a digital platform allowing both video and audio conferencing via a Skype type platform, for regional situational awareness and crisis operations.

Regional Radio Cache:

OSF Disaster Preparedness maintains a cache of radios that can be requested:

- Handheld UHF radios – programmed for OSF and RMERT Frequencies
- Handheld STARCOM Radios – programmed with the IDPH template

Mobile Assets

- Portable Communications box with a VHF, UHF, and STARCOM portable radio and also a gateway system to patch unlike band frequencies together
- Mobile Communications Vehicle including Radio systems VHF, UHF, STARCOM. Also has Satellite Phones that can be activated. The Mobile Communications vehicle has Satellite based internet and VOIP capabilities built in. it also has the capability for HIPAA Compliant Medical Video Conferencing to our specialists at OSF. Has multiple tablets and a desktop computer.

Statewide Assets

- ITECS (Illinois Transportable Emergency Communication System) - sophisticated mobile communications packages with multiple systems that are housed around the state and are available to deploy anywhere in Illinois to enhance or replace local emergency response communications following any disaster or incident
- STATE Radio Caches: refer to maintaining a group (cache) of standby radios that can be deployed to support incidents. Cache radios allow all responders to use common, compatible equipment during an incident.

State Cache Radio Shared Channels

(All State of Illinois Cache Radios are required to have the following channels programmed)

Radio Cache / Radio Type	Channel(s) Name(s)	Primary Use
State VHF	ISP HF-4 (155.4600)	Law Enforcement
State VHF	ISPERN (155.4750)	Law Enforcement
State VHF	MABAS Fire Red (153.8300)	Fire
State VHF	IEMA VHF 1 (155.9250)	IEMA Interoperability
State VHF	ESMARN (155.0250)	ESMARN Interoperability
State VHF	IREACH (155.0550)	Cross Discipline Interoperability
State VHF	National Weather Service (7 channels)	Weather
State VHF	V-CALL / V-TAC	National Interoperability
State UHF	U-CALL / U-TAC	National Interoperability

<u>Incident Command System – Communications Operations & Planning:</u>

This appendix contains information for the **<u>communications</u>** aspect of Incident Command System (ICS) planning.

The forms included here are for REFERENCE ONLY.

The only **<u>communication</u>** form that is included in the Incident Action Plan (IAP) is the ICS 205, Incident Communications Plan. The other forms are used to develop the ICS 205 and are kept within the Communications Unit for reference.

One source for ICS forms is:

OSF Disaster Preparedness web site:

https://www.osfhealthcare.org/ems/disaster-preparedness/resources/forms/

ICS 205:   INCIDENT COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

ICS 213:   GENERAL MESSAGE

ICS 216:   RADIO REQUIREMENTS WORKSHEET

ICS 217:   RADIO FREQUENCY ASSIGNMENT WORKSHEET

ICS 217A: COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCE AVAILABILITY WORKSHEET

ICS 309:   COMMUNICATIONS LOG

Glossary

Item/Acronym	Definition
ACU-1000	Audio bridge used in fixed and mobile configurations. Requires radio from each connected communications system. Gateway device used to link disparate radio systems.
COMC	Communications Coordinator
COML	Communications Unit Leader
COMT	Communications Technician
Console Patching	Ability to connect channels via dispatch consoles
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FCC	Federal Communication Commission
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IC	Incident Commander
ICC	Incident Communications Center, Illinois Commerce Commission
ICP	Incident Command Post
ICS	Incident Command System
IDPH	Illinois Department of Public Health
Interoperable	Ability of a system to use the parts or equipment of another system
IREACH	Illinois Radio Emergency Assistance Channel
ITTF	Illinois Terrorism Task Force
MERCI	Medical Emergency Response Communications of Illinois
MHz	Abbreviation for megahertz. 5 MHz = 5,000,000 Hz or 5,000 kHz.
NIMS	National Incident Management System
POC	Point of Contact
SCIP	Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan
SIEC	Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STARCOM21	The STARCOM21 P25 network is a Motorola owned, operated, and maintained 700/800 MHz trunked voice radio platform consisting of over 200 linked sites and provides radio communications, services, and interoperability to federal, state, county, and local public safety entities participating on the system. STARCOM21 provides mobile radio coverage in more than 95 percent of the geographic area of Illinois with a grade-of-service level of five percent or greater

Item/Acronym	Definition
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
Talkgroup	Term ususally used with trunked radio systems. A talkgroup is a predefined list of radios/users assigned a unique ID which allows them to communicate with each other over the trunked radio system.
TICP	Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan
UCP	Unified Command Post (building/vehicle)
UHF	Ultra High Frequency – Range of 300 to 3,000 MHz For public safety LMR usually refers to two bands. 380 to 460 MHz (low) and 460 to 512 MHz (high).
VHF	Very High Frequency – For public safety LMR, usually refers to VHF High Band with a range of 136 to 164 MHz VHF - Low Band has a frequency range below 100 MHz

Appendix: A

Region 2 Starcom21 Radio Net Communications Drill Policy

Conducted on the first Tuesday of every odd month at 09:00hrs.

General Instructions:

1. Host (OSF Saint Francis Medical Center) will send an e-mail reminder to all participants several days prior to the drill.

2. The day of the drill, 5 minutes prior to the drill commencing, the host/net control utilizing the Starcom21 Radio and from the hospital region all-call talkgroup **B EMS R2** (all Region 2 hospital radios should be at this default setting), announces that the drill will begin at the designated time. *Example announcement, aired 5 minutes prior to drill start: "This is (hosting agency). The IDPH StarCom Radio drill for (selected unit/group) will commence at 9:00 AM".*

3. At the date and time that has been predetermined for the drill, the host/radio net control begins the drill.

Example announcement: "This is OSF Saint Francis Medical Center conducting the IDPH StarCom Radio drill for Region 2 hospitals on EMS R2 talkgroup. (Allow a short pause.)

The host will then proceed with roll call of each hospital

4. Participants shall respond to the host's roll call as follows:

Example announcement: "(Participating Hospital name as announced) **is** *present".*

Roll call will be repeated twice by the host/net control.

5. The host/net control of the radio drill will complete the appropriate Drill Report documentation, including participant names and each participant's success at completing the drill. The host/net control will also document any failures or communication problems using the IDPH Regional Starcom21 Radio Net Communications Drill Worksheet.
In an actual event, the ICS 309 form would be the preferred worksheet.

6. Upon completion of the drill process, the host will notify the participants that the drill has concluded.

Script for Region2 Hospitals Starcom21 Radio Net Communications Drills:

1. Host: "This is OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in five minutes Region 2 will Initiate a StarCom Radio Net Communications drill for the all-Region 2 Hospitals, Please stand by OUT"

2. Host: OSF Saint Francis Medical Center is initiating a Starcom21 Radio Net Communications Drill for the Region 2 Hospital on EMS R2 Talkgroup. OVER

3. Host: "Please respond to Agency roll call. (Announced as listed on the roll call sheet) "(Hospital name)" are you present. "OVER"

4. Responder: "(Hospital name) PRESENT OVER."

5. Host: "(Hospital name) message received OVER."

6. (If the responding Hospital didn't acknowledge the call by the host, the host should respond with "Negative Contact with Hospital name OVER" and the host should continue with the drill.

a. Upon completion of the first effort through the roll call list, if any Hospital(s) name did not respond a second effort will be attempted, the host will announce that a second attempt to reach the Hospital, only calling on those Hospital(s) name who didn't respond to the first time using basically the same script.

7. Upon completion of the drill the host responses with: "This concludes the Region 2 StarCom Radio Drill. OUT"

8. Upon completion of the drill, using other methods, the Host will contact the Units which did not respond during the drill to determine if there are any technical problems and then producing an After Action Report which provides the necessary information pertinent to the drill and its outcome along with the correction and any suggestions or improvements which might be suggested.