



County of Summit, Ohio

Department of Public Safety

Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System

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Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System Operations Policy	No: 2012-002
	Effective: 02-23-2012
	Akron Approval: 02-23-2012
	Summit Approval: 02-23-2012
	SCCSAC Approval: 02-23-2012
RADIO PATCHING	RSA Approval: 02-23-2012

1.0 Introduction

This policy establishes the terms and conditions for Patching one-way and two-way voice radio equipment with the Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System (SCA8RRS) infrastructure.

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish protocols for the use and deployment of radio patching utilizing the SCA8RRS system, ensuring the most effect system usage while maintaining the high Grade of Service (GOS) necessary for all Users of the system.

3.0 Definitions

Radio Patching: Physically or electronically joining two or more Radio Systems together to establish interoperable communications. Other terms to describe Radio Patching include but are not limited to; Bridging, Spectrum Bridging, Cross Connect, Interconnect, Patch, Patching, Gateway, and Console Patch.

Radio System: One or more radios, conventional or trunked, analog or digital, one-way or two-way, operating on any frequency.

Owners: The County of Summit, Ohio and City of Akron, Ohio.

Users: Any political sub-division, public entity, or private entity that has entered into a written agreement (User Agreement) with the Owners for use of SCA8RRS.

SCCSAC: Summit County Communications System Administrative Committee, established by the Emergency Management Executive Committee as defined in Section 8 of the User Agreement.

RSA: Radio System Administrator, the individual responsible for the management and operation of SCA8RRS as defined in Section 9 of the User Agreement.

SCSO: Summit County Sheriff's Office

MAC: Mutual Aid Channels are defined Talkgroups on the SCA8RRS system.



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Inter-County Radio Patch: a Patch of SCA8RRS with one or more radio systems located outside the borders of Summit County.

Intra-County Radio Patch: a Patch of SCA8RRS with one or more radio systems located within the borders of Summit County.

Temporary Radio Patch: a Patch of any type that is activated for the duration of a specific incident. The Patch is deactivated when the incident ends.

Permanent Radio Patch: a Patch of any type that is activated continuously.

Control Station: Any two-way radio which is installed in a building or structure, typically powered by commercial power, generator, or battery, and is connected to a Radio Dispatch Console.

Network Dispatch Console: a Gold Elite Console or similar console which is permanently connected to SCA8RRS via Microwave, Fiber, or T1 and does not rely on a Control Station for access to SCA8RRS.

Radio Dispatch Console: a Gold Elite Console, MCC5500 Console, or similar console which relies on a Control Station to access SCA8RRS.

4.0 Background

SCA8RRS is a performance rated system based on channel and frequency usage at any given time. The performance of SCA8RRS is directly related to how efficiently it is utilized by the Users. The Patching of other radio systems to SCA8RRS affects the resources available to all Users. The Owners have a responsibility to all Users to ensure that Radio Patching does not impact the performance of SCA8RRS. In the interest of fostering interoperable communications, the Owners on the recommendation of SCCSAC have defined how Radio Patches may be used.

5.0 Radio Patching Rules

1. Temporary Inter-County and Intra-County patches for mutual aid are permitted.
2. Permanent patches are prohibited.
3. All patches to SCA8RRS shall be managed by the SCSO using the following process:
 - a. Users request a patch by contacting the SCSO on MAC CALL.
 - b. The SCSO will assign a MAC talkgroup for the patch and perform one of following:
 1. Patch the assigned MAC talkgroup to a non-SCA8RRS base station or control station located at the SCSO.
 2. Patch the assigned MAC talkgroup to a non-SCA8RRS base station or control station located at another Network Dispatch Console equipped center.
 3. Authorize a Radio Dispatch Console equipped center to establish the patch.
 - c. Users must notify the SCSO on MAC CALL to deactivate the patch when the incident ends.



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4. Users requesting recurring patches with non-SCA8RRS systems shall provide the required radio equipment to facilitate the patch. The equipment shall be installed at one of the following locations:

1. SCSO dispatch center.
2. Any Network Dispatch Console equipped center.
3. Any Radio Dispatch Console equipment center.

The user is responsible for acquiring authorization from the owner of the dispatch center for the installation of the equipment, use by the SCSO, all expenses incurred in the installation of the equipment, and FCC licensing of the equipment.

5. Temporary Radio Patches may be used in conjunction with Talkgroup Patches in accordance to Talkgroup Patching Policy No: 2012-001.
6. The Owners have the right to terminate, by any means necessary, a Patch at any time, including disabling the radio or console creating the Patch. Every effort will be made to contact the originator of the Patch prior to disabling any Patch or equipment.

6.0 Enforcement

Violation of the above rules shall result in a thorough administrative investigation by the Owners and possible termination of the User Agreement between the affected political sub-division, public entity, or private entity and the Owners.

7.0 Policy Updates

The Owners at any time may update this policy to adjust for changes in technology, compliance with federal, state and local laws, including but not limited to FCC Rules & Regulations, or to preserve the general welfare of the SCA8RRS system.