



## County of Summit, Ohio

Department of Public Safety

Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System

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<b>Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System Operations Policy</b>	<b>No: 2012-001</b>
	<b>Effective: 02-23-2012</b>
	<b>Akron Approval: 02-23-2012</b>
	<b>Summit Approval: 02-23-2012</b>
	<b>SCCSAC Approval: 02-23-2012</b>
<b>TALKGROUP PATCHING</b>	<b>RSA Approval: 02-23-2012</b>

### 1.0 Introduction

This policy establishes the terms and conditions for Patching Talkgroups within the Summit County – Akron 800MHz Regional Radio System (SCA8RRS).

### 2.0 Purpose

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

### 3.0 Definitions

**Talkgroup Patching:** Physically or electronically joining two or more SCA8RRS Talkgroups together to establish interoperable communications.

**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.

**Temporary Talkgroup 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 Talkgroup 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.



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**Network Dispatch Console:** a Gold Elite Console or similar console which is permanently connected to the SCA8RRS system 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 Talkgroups affects the resources available to all Users. The Owners have a responsibility to all Users to ensure that Talkgroup 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 Talkgroup Patches may be used.

### 5.0 Talkgroup Patching Rules

1. The use of Permanent Talkgroup Patches is prohibited.
2. Talkgroup Patches may be established by any Summit County dispatch center authorized to operate on SCA8RRS.
3. Talkgroup Patches shall not occupy more than (3) channels at any time. See Appendix "A" for guidance.
4. Talkgroup Patches shall be disabled at the end of the incident.
5. Talkgroup Patches may be used in conjunction with Radio Patches in accordance to Radio Patching policy No: 2012-002.
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 SCA8RRS.



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## Appendix “A”

### General Guidelines to Determine Channel Usage for Talkgroup Patching

#### Radio Dispatch Console

1. Each talkgroup patched will utilize (1) channel.
2. A maximum of (3) talkgroups may be patched using this type of console.
3. The addition of a Radio Patch does not affect the quantity of channels used.

#### Network Dispatch Console

1. The quantity of channels utilized by a Network Dispatch Console is determined by the Talkgroup Types patched.
2. Each Talkgroup Type (Analog, Digital, Encrypted) patched utilizes (1) channel.
3. The quantity of talkgroups within a Talkgroup Type does not affect the quantity of channels used.
4. The addition of a Radio Patch does not affect the quantity of channels used.