

In any disaster or large scale incident involving multiple response agencies, there is a definite need for on-scene communications between services. Unfortunately, most systems are designed to serve a single agency, and the ability to intercommunicate is severely restricted.

There may also be a need for supplementing communication channels between the scene and the Control Center. The Incident Command System (ICS) is receiving wide acceptance by public safety agencies and this cannot function properly without adequate communications.

The advent of synthesized, multi-channel mobile and portable units, capable of spanning a wide portion of the spectrum, has enhanced the ability to utilize several channels at very little added expense. This plan is designed to:

- 1 Utilize all existing mutual aid channels in the most effective manner.
- 2 Improve interagency communications by adding a specific dedicated channel for on-scene use.
- 3 Encourage agencies to prepare for disaster communications by installing needed channels in radio units of response vehicles.
- 4 Provide for the most effective day-to-day use and disaster use of all designated channels.
- 5 Secure and administer caches of mutual aid communications equipment to be placed at appropriate locations.
- 6 Improve mutual aid communications between agencies from outside jurisdictions.
- 7 Promote better knowledge, usage and control of all mutual aid channels.