



SARL HAMNET

National Emergency Communications Plan

Table of Frequencies and Listening Watch

Effective immediately



SARL HAMNET Emergency Communications Plan

Introduction

1. SARL HAMNET specialises in providing emergency communications on a local, regional and national level and needs to be ready to deploy should a situation develop where emergency communications are required. During the initial stages of a national blackout or where the loss of conventional communications platforms occur there may be no way of communicating frequencies and modes to be used. In this situation the frequencies, modes and times to maintain a listening watch need to be known ahead of time.
2. It is critical that all HAMNET members are fully aware of the procedures to follow should instructions not be able to be disseminated ahead of time.

Aim

3. The aim of this document is to allocate standard emergency frequencies and modes to be used for all SARL HAMNET deployments and training exercises to ensure readiness should an emergency situation occur.

Execution

4. This table of frequencies and modes is effective immediately and will be modified as required by the National Director or his designate as and when new modes and frequencies have been thoroughly tested to ensure their effectiveness for emergency communications.
5. The current table of frequencies and modes were used effectively during the 2020 HAMNET Winter Blackout Exercise. This exercise proved the effectiveness of JS8Call for passing messages in an emergency situation.
6. For HF communications where propagation varies continuously there is a need to change frequencies according to the time of day to ensure that the most effective frequency is used for the propagation conditions.
7. Night time bands. Typically the 80m band would be used for night time communications and the band starts to open an hour after sunset and closes two hours after sunrise. The 80m band also tends to remain quite consistent through the night.
8. Day time bands. During the day the bands are severely affected by the propagation conditions and it may be necessary to change bands when propagation conditions dictate. Fortunately weak signal modes like JS8Call can still work well even when band conditions are not the best. The 40m band should be the primary HF band for use during the day.



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Frequencies and Modes

Once contact has been made you may arrange to QSY to another frequency to send the message thus not flooding the call frequencies.

FM Frequencies *(see end of document for possible regional repeaters)*

145.500 MHz FM

433.500 MHz FM

SSB

Calling Frequencies:

3.760.00 MHz LSB

5.410.00 MHz USB *(As stated in 60-Meter-Allocations-World-Wide-ver-16-March-2019.PDF)*

7.110.00 MHz LSB

10.135.00 MHz USB

14.300.00 MHz USB

JS8Call

As provided by the Software per band (All USB).

60m = 5.361.00 MHz USB ***(This is not provided in the Software.)***

Winlink P2P

ARDOP is supported across most platforms and replaces WINMOR that is no longer supported.

Centre Frequency	Dial Frequency	Radio Mode	Winlink Mode
3.610.00	3.608.50	MHz USB	ARDOP P2P
3.615.00	3.613.50	MHz USB	VARA P2P
5.435.00	5.433.50	MHz USB	ARDOP P2P
5.410.00	5.408.50	MHz USB	VARA P2P
7.055.00	7.053.50	MHz USB	ARDOP P2P
7.060.00	7068.50	MHz USB	VARA P2P
14.085.00	14.083.50	MHz USB	ARDOP P2P
14.090.00	14.088.5	MHz USB	VARA P2P

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Listening Watch

A regime of maintaining a listening watch needs to be implemented by all HAMNET members.

HF SSB Calling Frequencies

Every two hours on the even hour for 10 minutes.

JS8Call

JS8Call should run continuously with Heartbeat Mode every 30 minutes with Auto Acknowledge on.

WINLINK

If sufficient equipment is available to allow for a 2nd HF station on the air, then WINLINK can be run with ARDOP modem selected in listen mode. Alternatively, JS8Call can be used to request a WINLINK session.

Possible Regional Repeaters

KZN Lower South Coast 145.7375 MHz

Gauteng 438.700MHz & 145.6125MHz

Port Elizabeth 145.625 (88.5) NFM about 50km west of PE.

Cape Town area 145.700 (88.5), as initial, thereafter the 145.650 (88.5), 145.750 and 145.600 (88.5) all NFM.