



What is AUXCOMM?

An Introduction



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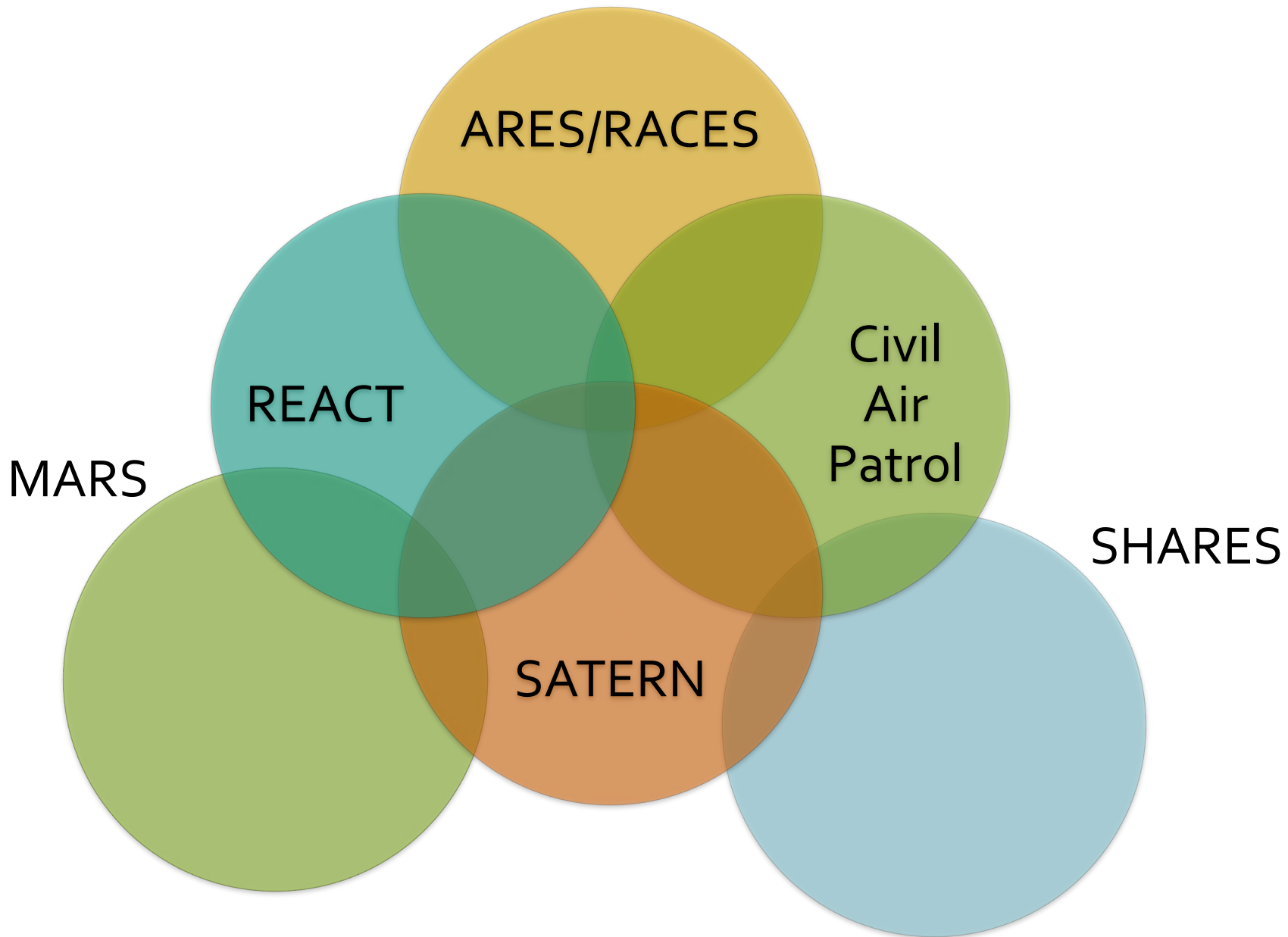
What is Auxiliary Communications (AUXCOMM)?

“Auxiliary Communications, or 'AUXCOMM', refers to **organizations and personnel** which provide *various types* of emergency communications support to **emergency management, public safety, and other government agencies**. AUXCOMM services are typically voluntary, and are commonly provided by amateur radio communicators, but *may also include other volunteer organizations which have established relationships with the government organizations they support.*”

- Auxiliary Communications Field Operation Guide (AUXFOG)

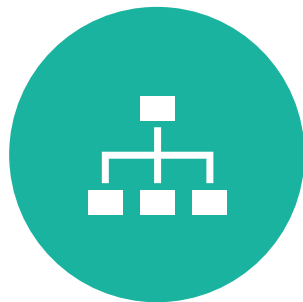


Who is AUXCOMM?





What is the Auxiliary Communicator (AUXC) position?



DEFINED POSITION IN THE INCIDENT COMMAND STRUCTURE (ICS)



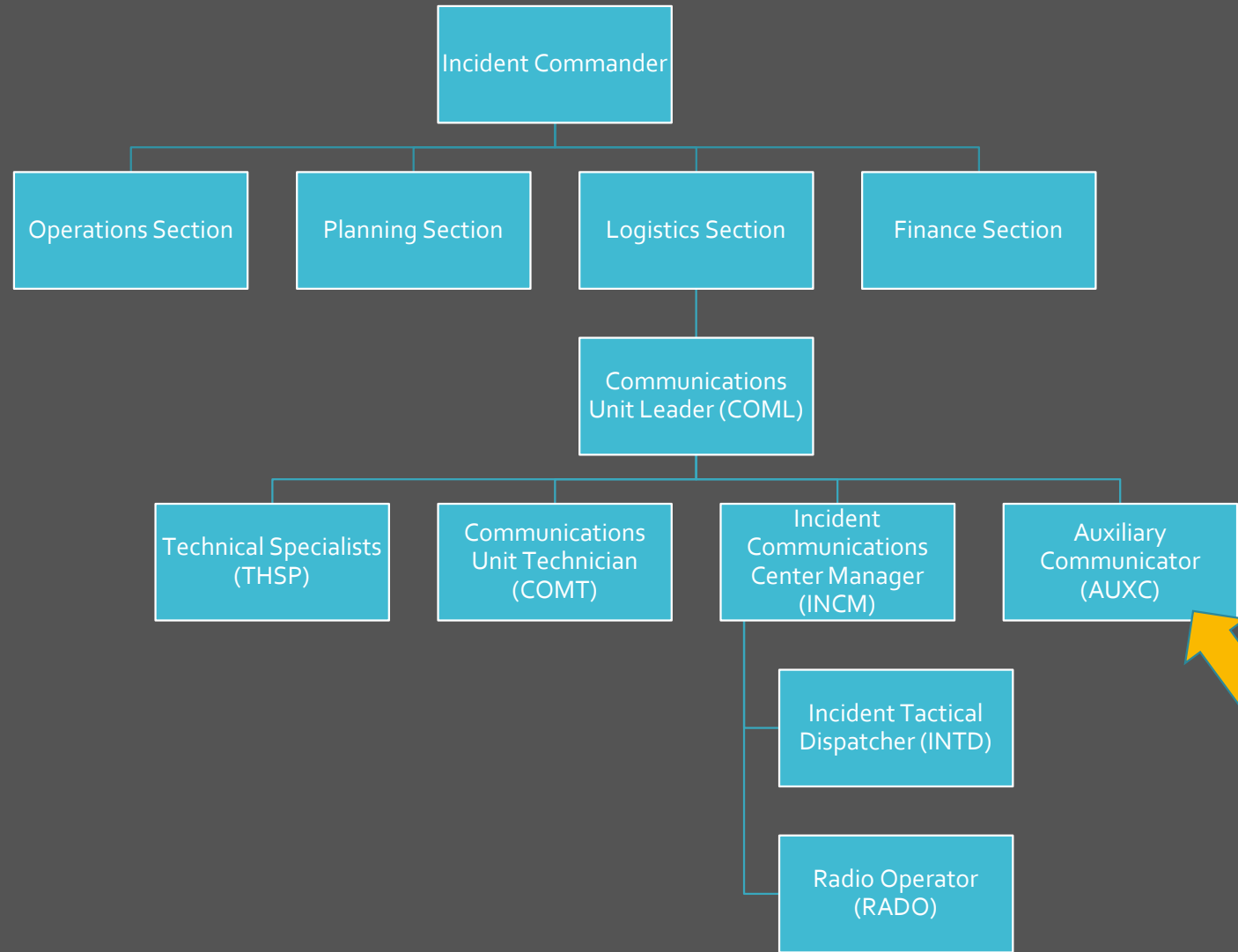
PART OF THE COMMUNICATIONS UNIT (COMU)



CREDENTIALS PROFICIENCY EXPERIENCE



AUXCOMM – part of the Communications Unit (COMU)





AUXCOMM is Organization Neutral

Auxiliary Communicators

- Come from a variety of organizations
- Might not be affiliated with any organization
- Have a desire to
 - Contribute in a NIMS/ICS capacity to support emergency management and public safety
 - Work as part of a team
 - Leave individual organization identity outside



Where am I?

How do I get here?

Beginner

- Willingness to Volunteer
- Amateur License

Intermediate

- Knowledge of Radio
- Core ICS Skills

Advanced Skills

- Net Control
- Various Modes
- ICS/NIMS Proficiency (AUXC PTB)

Served Agency Needs



New to Amateur Radio?

- Get your ticket
- Get a radio (buy or borrow)
- Recommended training for ARRL members or guests*:
 - EC-001: Introduction to Emergency Communication
 - EC-016: Public Service and Emergency Communications Management for Radio Amateurs

*A guest account provides access for 90 days





Learn to be a Better Operator

- Join a club
- Join nets
- Join a traffic net or two
- Become a net control station
- ARRL Learning Network *
(<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-learning-network>)

* ARRL membership required



Practice What You've Learned

- Sign up to work a local event: parades, races, other community events
- Need events?
 - Google
 - Meet with event coordinators
 - What do they need?
 - How can you meet those needs?
 - Recruit volunteers
- Use your ICS and AUXCOMM training to plan
 - ICS-201 Incident Briefing
 - ICS-205 Incident Radio Communications Plan
 - ICS-205A Communications List
- Create Exercises



Learn Something New

- Comfortable with the repeater? Try simplex
- Got VHF/UHF nailed? Try HF
- Comfortable passing traffic via voice? Try a digital mode
 - Fldigi – PSK₃₁, MT-63, Olivia
 - Winlink – Email over the air
 - VHF/UHF Packet
- Good at running a VHF net on the repeater? Try it on simplex. Better yet...HF



First Things First

- It's all about RELATIONSHIPS
- IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS
- RELATIONSHIPS, IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT
- THINK ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS

Did we mention Relationships....?

Thanks to Tom Brown N4TAB



Relationships are Key

- When times are good, people work with people they know
- When times are bad, people work with people they know

- When you need a friend, it's too late to make a friend

Thanks to Phil Sherrod W₄PHS



Formula for Success in AUXCOMM

- $I = (2P + 2T) * R$
- Interoperability
- Planning
- Policy
- Training
- Technology
- Relationship

Thanks to Phil Sherrod W₄PHS

Training

Minimum requirements for working with a served agency
You have information that can be valuable when called upon to assist

Task Book Completion

Demonstrated competencies
Qualified to serve as AUXC under local Emergency Management

State Recognition

Registered in statewide database
Available to be deployed outside your county

Three Levels of AUXC Recognition





Steps to Becoming an AUXC

Build relationship with Emergency Manager

Training

- ICS 100, 200, 700, 800
- Amateur license (Technician or above)
- Auxiliary Communications Workshop

Certification

- Complete the AUXC Position Task Book
- Obtain State Recognition



Resources

- <http://www.AUXCOMM-mi.org> – Michigan AUXCOMM
- Facebook: Michigan AUXCOMM group