

Table of Contents

	Page
PART I	1
Chapter 1 – Telecommunications for Disaster Mitigation and Relief	3
1 Introduction.....	3
1.1 The need for a Handbook on Emergency Telecommunications	4
1.2 Who should read this Handbook.....	4
Chapter 2 – Organizational framework of Emergency Telecommunications	5
2 Introduction.....	5
2.1 Prevention and Preparedness	5
2.2 Response	5
2.3 Typical Scenarios.....	6
2.4 The Partners in Disaster Response.....	6
2.5 National Disaster Management Structures.....	6
2.6 International Disaster Management Structures.....	7
2.6.1 United Nations Entities	7
2.6.2 The International Telecommunication Union (ITU)	8
2.6.3 The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	9
2.6.4 International Non-Governmental Organizations	9
2.6.5 National Governmental Institutions providing International Assistance.....	9
2.7 Organizing Emergency Telecommunications.....	9
Chapter 3 – The regulatory framework	10
3 Introduction.....	10
3.1 The Creation of an International Regulatory Framework for Emergency Telecommunications	10
3.2 International Regulatory Instruments on Emergency Telecommunications.....	11
3.3 The Tampere Convention	12
3.3.1 Guidelines for the Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval or Accession	12
3.3.2 The main Implications for States Party to the Convention.....	13
3.4 Other international Regulatory Instruments.....	14
3.5 Emergency Telecommunications in the National Regulatory Framework	14
3.5.1 The Development of a National Disaster Communications Concept.....	14
3.5.2 An overall Concept.....	15
3.5.3 Methods and Scope of a Study	15
3.5.4 Confidentiality Considerations.....	15
3.5.5 Need for Coordinated Approach	15
3.5.6 Telecommunications Operators.....	15
3.5.7 Results	16
3.5.8 Network Capacity	16
3.5.9 Additional Vulnerabilities	16
3.5.10 Recovery.....	17
3.5.11 The Implementation of the Plan	17

3.6	The need for a common approach.....	17
Chapter 4 – Emergency Telecommunications: Engendering Prevention and Response	18	

PART II

Chapter 1 – Telecommunications as Tools for the Providers of Emergency Response	23	
1	Introduction	23
1.1	Interoperability and Interworking	23
1.2	Telecommunication Modes.....	24
Chapter 2 – Public Communication Networks	26	
2	Introduction	26
2.1	The Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN, POTS)	26
2.1.1	Local Wireline Distribution (Twisted Pair, Last Mile, Local Loop)	26
2.1.2	Wireless Local Loop (WLL)	27
2.1.3	Switches (Telephone Exchange, Central Office).....	27
2.1.4	The Trunk and Signalling System (Long Distance system)	28
2.1.5	Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)	28
2.1.6	Telex	28
2.1.7	Facsimile (Fax).....	29
2.2	Mobile Phones (cell phones, Handie phones).....	29
2.2.1	Pagers	30
2.2.2	Business Continuity Planning.....	30
2.3	Satellite Terminals and Satellite Phones.....	31
2.3.1	Mobile terminals.....	31
2.3.2	Hand-held Satellite Telephones.....	32
2.3.3	Direct Video (and Voice) Broadcasting	33
Chapter 3 – The Internet	35	
3	Introduction.....	35
3.1	Applications	35
3.2	Privacy	36
3.3	Availability	36
3.4	Accuracy	36
3.5	Maintainability	36
Chapter 4 – Private Networks	37	
4	Introduction	37
4.1	Land Mobile Radio (LMR) services	37
4.1.1	Land Mobile networks.....	37
4.1.2	The different modes of operation	38
4.1.3	The different main services offered.....	38
4.1.4	Technologies.....	39
4.1.5	Interoperability/Inter working	40
4.1.6	Wireless Private Area Networks.....	41
4.1.7	Coverage.....	42
4.2	Maritime Radio Service	42
4.2.1	Maritime Networks.....	42
4.2.2	Maritime Public Correspondence Stations	43

4.3	The Aeronautical Radio Service	43
4.3.1	Aeronautical Networks.....	43
4.3.2	Aeronautical Public Correspondence Stations	44
4.3.3	NOTAM	44
4.3.4	Private Radio on Board Aircraft.....	44
4.3.5	Special Considerations involving Communications with Aircraft	44
4.4	Location Services.....	45
4.4.1	Automatic vehicle Location services.....	45
4.4.2	Personal Locator Beacons (PLB)	46
4.5	The Enterprise private services.....	46
4.5.1	The Private Branch Exchange (PBX).....	46
4.6	Unlicensed Local and Wide Area Networks.....	47
4.6.1	(Virtual) Private Networks	47
4.7	Satellite Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT)	48
4.8	Emerging technologies and trends	49
Chapter 5 – The Amateur Radio Service	51	
5	Introduction.....	51
5.1	The Roles of the Amateur Radio Service in Emergency Telecommunications.....	51
5.2	Amateur Radio Networks and their Ranges.....	52
5.2.1	Short-range networks	52
5.2.2	Medium-range Networks.....	52
5.2.3	Long-range networks.....	53
5.2.4	Amateur radio satellites.....	53
5.3	Operating Frequencies	54
5.4	Communication Modes.....	54
5.5	Repeater Stations	55
5.6	The Organization of Amateur Radio Emergency Service	56
5.6.1	The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Groups.....	56
5.6.2	Typical Situations for Amateur Radio Emergency Communications	60
5.7	Third Party Communications in the Amateur Radio Service	61
5.8	Optimising the Use of the Amateur Radio Service as a Public Service	61
Chapter 6 – Broadcasting	62	
6.1	Broadcasting	62
6.2	Mobile Emergency Broadcasting.....	63
Chapter 7 – New Technologies and New Practices.....	64	
7	Recent developments	64

PART III – Technical Aspects

1	Introduction.....	69
2	The selection of appropriate technologies for Emergency Telecommunications	70
2.1	Simplicity vs. new technologies	70
2.2	Reliability of the infrastructure	70
2.3	Transportation and mobility considerations.....	70
2.4	Interoperability	71
2.5	Comparison of satellite systems for emergency telecommunications	71
2.5.1	Low Earth orbit satellites	71

3	Methods of radiocommunication	78
3.1	Frequencies	78
3.1.1	International frequency allocations	78
3.1.2	National frequency allocations	81
3.1.3	Frequency assignments	81
3.2	Propagation	81
3.2.1	Ground wave	82
3.2.2	Sky wave propagation	82
3.2.3	VHF/UHF propagation	83
4	Antennas as an essential part of any radio station.....	87
4.1	Choosing an antenna	87
4.2	Antenna system considerations	87
4.2.1	Safety	87
4.2.2	Antenna location	88
4.2.3	Antenna polarisation	88
4.2.4	Tuning the antenna	88
4.2.5	Transmission lines	88
4.2.6	Matching impedances within the antenna system	89
4.2.7	SWR meters	90
4.2.8	Antenna impedance matching networks	90
4.3	Practical antennas	90
4.3.1	The half-wave dipole antenna	90
4.3.2	Broadband folded dipole	93
4.3.3	Quarter-wavelength vertical antenna	93
4.3.4	Antennas for hand-held transceivers	95
4.3.5	Vertical antennas for VHF and UHF	96
4.3.6	Delta loop	96
4.3.7	Directional antennas	97
5	Power sources and batteries	99
5.1	Power safety	99
5.2	Mains power	99
5.3	Power transformers	100
5.4	Batteries and charging	100
5.4.1	Battery capacity	100
5.4.2	Primary batteries	101
5.4.3	Secondary batteries	101
5.5	Inverters	102
5.6	Generators	103
5.6.1	Installation considerations	103
5.6.2	Generator maintenance	104
5.6.3	Generator earth ground	104
5.7	Solar power	104
5.7.1	Types of solar cells	105
5.7.2	Solar cell specifications	105
5.7.3	Storing solar energy	106
5.7.4	A typical application	106
5.7.5	Some practical hints	107

5.7.6	Installing solar panels	108
6	Repeaters and trunked networks	109
6.1	Communication beyond line-of-sight through relays	109
6.2	Terrestrial repeater.....	109
6.3	Trunked land mobile radio systems with a central controller.....	109
6.4	Trunked land mobile radio systems without a central controller.....	109
	List of commonly used abbreviations	111
	Morse code signals	115
	Phonetic alphabet code.....	117
	Figure code.....	118
	Q Code	119
	Miscellaneous Abbreviations and Signals.....	122
	Procedure words	124
	Recommendation ITU-R P.1144-1.....	126

APPENDICES

Tampere Convention	133
Recommendation 12 (Istanbul, 2002)	147
Resolution 34 (Istanbul, 2002)	148
Resolution 36 (Rev. Marrakesh, 2002)	150
Recommendation E.106 (ITU-T)	153
Bibliography	167
List of Key Websites	170

Figures

	<i>Page</i>
Figure 1 – Role of Administrative Parties involved in Tampere Convention	13
Figure 2 – Mobile Satellite Communications	72
Figure 3 – Three satellites in geostationary orbit can cover the entire Earth	72
Figure 4 – ITU radio regions.....	78

Figure 5 – Illustration of how HF radio signals travel through the ionosphere. Frequencies above the maximum usable frequency (MUF) penetrate the ionosphere and go into space. Frequencies below the MUF are refracted back to the Earth. Ground waves, skip zones and multiple hop paths are shown	83
Figure 6 – The ionosphere consists of several regions of ionised particles at different heights above Earth. At night, the D and E regions disappear. The F1 and F2 regions combine to form a single F region at night	84
Figure 7 – Near-vertical incidence sky wave paths.....	85
Figure 8 – PL-259 coaxial connector	89
Figure 9 – Construction of a simple half-wave dipole antenna. At top is the basic dipole assembly. Bottom left shows how to connect wire ends to insulators. Bottom right illustrates connection of the transmission line to the centre of the dipole	92
Figure 10 – Alternative ways of installing a dipole. The configuration on the left is an Inverted-V dipole. A sloping dipole is shown at right. A balun (not shown) may be used at the feed point, as this is a balanced antenna	93
Figure 11 – Simple quarter-wave vertical antenna.....	94
Figure 12 – Construction of tree-mounted ground plane antenna. L = 143/fMHz.....	95
Figure 13 – A VHF or UHF ground plane antenna with 4 drooping radials. L = 143/fMHz.....	96
Figure 14 – Various configurations for a full-wavelength Delta loop antenna. Overall length of the antenna wire is approximately 286/fMHz.....	97
Figure 15 – A three-element Yagi showing the reflector, driven element and director supported by a boom.....	98
Figure 16 – In the top drawing, stations A and B are unable to interoperate because propagation is blocked by hills. In the bottom drawing, a repeater station is able to relay signals between stations A and B.....	110

Tables

	<i>Page</i>
Table 1 – Allocation to amateur, fixed and mobile services (simplified, footnotes omitted)	79
Table 2 – Approximate lengths for $\frac{1}{2} \lambda$ dipoles suitable for fixed, mobile and amateur bands	91
Table 3 – Approximate lengths for $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$ monopoles and ground radials suitable for fixed, mobile and amateur bands	94
Table 1 – ITU-R radiowave propagation prediction methods.....	127