



Radio Amateurs of Canada

Amateur Radio
Emergency Service

Operations Training
Manual

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Contact:

Vice President for Field Services, Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.,
Suite 217, 720 Belfast Road, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 0Z5.

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Contributors to this manual included the National Training Resource Group: Bob Boyd VE3SV, Bob Cooke VE3BDB, David Drinnan VE9FK, Don Mackinnon VE4DJ, Eric Jacksch VA3DSP, Forbes Purcell VE6FMP, Glenn Killam VE3GNA, Ian Snow VA3QT, John P. Cunningham W1AI, Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ, Lance Peterson VA3LP, Monte L. Simpson K2MLS, Pierre Mainville VA3PM, and Tim Smith VE3HCB. Please see "Acknowledgements" on page 1-2.

This manual was created using Adobe FrameMaker™.

Letter from Vice President Field Services Bob Cooke VE3BDB

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The task of creating a new manual to facilitate training for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is daunting to say the least.

Times change, as do the needs associated with ARES and the methods used to meet ARES goals.

However, I believe this document has risen to the challenge of providing information and training support for use in the field by ARES, and by those Radio Amateur groups that have chosen not to be part of the ARES organization.

This manual affords the opportunity to operate in a consistent manner that will facilitate common Emcomm methods from Section to Section and between ARES in Canada and the USA.

It is the result of extensive deliberation by RAC's National Training Resource Group (NTRG), members of which are named on a subsequent page herein.

One of those members, David Drinnan, VE9FK, who is RAC's appointed National Training Coordinator (NTC), edited this manual and oversaw its creation.

A graduate of Carleton University, Dave possesses degrees in Physics and Psychology and is a professional technical writer with a broad background in training and human performance factors. He has been a licenced Radio Amateur for some 30 years. We are very fortunate to have him leading the new training initiative for ARES and the related National Traffic System (NTS).

Dave's involvement in emergency communications began with his participation in the Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG) in Ottawa in the 1980s. He has also served as the ARES Emergency Coordinator in Saint John, New Brunswick.

I extend sincere thanks to Dave and indeed to all who played a part in bringing this project to fruition. Many years of pertinent experience are represented among those volunteers.

To satisfy the access capabilities and operational needs of all, this publication is being made available for download, at no charge, on the Radio Amateurs of Canada website at www.rac.ca, and in hard copy from RAC headquarters for a nominal fee.

Every ARES member is encouraged to embrace the new manual, to use it in training and operations, and to provide constructive feedback for improvement.

There can be no doubt that, with the roll out of this document, ARES and other Emcomm operators have a vital and broadly focused standard guide to add to their existing resources.

73,

Bob Cooke VE3BDB
Vice President Field Services
Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.

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