

**Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER)
Standards, Protocols, Procedures**

Document Section:	2 – Configuration and Allocation	Status: Complete
Sub-Section:	State 2.7.0	
Procedure Title:	Use of Shared Talkgroups	
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1. Purpose or Objective

The intent of this standard is to provide an option to the users of the Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response System (ARMER), which will allow the talkgroup owners to “at their discretion” predefine sharing authorizations for other agencies.

2. Technical Background:

n/a

3. Operational Context:

Talkgroups are considered to be “Owned” by the agency requesting the creation of the talkgroup, similar to the ownership that applies to conventional RF resources. As the owner of the talkgroup the owning agency has the authority and control to define who can and cannot use the talkgroup and to what degree, traditionally this process has been primarily accomplished with “letters of authorization”.

The optional method to simplify this process is for the owning agency to predefine sharing authorizations, as diagrammed in the chart in section 6.

The predefined authorizations are kept in the talkgroup spreadsheet with the System Administrator who is responsible for the system programming for the using agency. These spreadsheets would be shared among the Administrators, and would be a reference available for the users of the system for talkgroup planning. If an agency does not pre-define sharing authorization for a particular talkgroup, the default will be a “P” as defined in paragraph 4.

4. Recommended Protocol/ Standard:

The following codes are combined to define the intended pre-authorizations:

P	Permission is required to gain authorization for use. A letter of permission must be generated and on file with the appropriate System Administrators.
D	Defined agencies may share, to be defined in a separate letter. The letter would outline specific purpose talkgroups, i.e., only dispatch console, only neighboring cities, etc. The letter will be on file with the appropriate System Administrators.
L	Like agencies may share, “Fire, Medical, Law, Works, etc”
A	All agencies. No restriction on sharing with the exception of the media which is handled as a separate procedure in this manual. (See <i>Section 5 – Media Policy</i>)
RX	Only authorized to receive.
TX	Authorized to transmit and receive.

5. Recommended Procedure:

System Administrators, working with the user groups perform this task.

6. Management

The System Administrators are responsible for the management of this procedure.

*The following table is a **portion** of. The larger table is also used to layout the fleetmap information as described in *Standard 2.6.0 Fleetmap Standards*.

Talkgroup	Owning Agency	Description	Administrating Agency	Global Sharing Authorizations P = Permission letter required to gain authorization for use D = Defined Use - Letter required L = Like Agencies may share "Fire, Medical, Law, Works" etc. A = All Agencies RX = Are only authorized to receive TX = Are authorized to receive & transmit**
Talkgroup 1				D-TX
Talkgroup 2				L-TX
Talkgroup 3				A-TX
Talkgroup 4				P-RX
Talkgroup 5				P-TX
Talkgroup 6				D-TX
Talkgroup 7				L-TX
Talkgroup 8				A-TX
Talkgroup 9				P-RX
Talkgroup 10				P-TX
Talkgroup 11				D-TX
Talkgroup 12				L-TX
Talkgroup 13				A-TX
Talkgroup 14				P-RX
etc.				P-RX

The "RX" option shown in the table is an authorization that **permits receive only use, although the radio may be **technically** capable of transmitting (TX) operation on the talkgroup.