

IMAS: 1997 Standards Chapter 8

Section Eight: Communication

INTRODUCTION

8.1 An effective communications network is essential for the safety of all clearance operations and necessary to ensure an effective and safe demining operation. Demining activities must not be undertaken without suitable and effective communications between the personnel on-site and the support elements.

SCOPE

8.2 This document addresses the communications requirement for mine survey, clearance and EOD operations and should be read in conjunction with other relevant standards.

PURPOSE

8.3 The purpose of this document is to establish standards for the communications network between all agencies involved in mine and UXO clearance activities

LEVELS OF COMMUNICATIONS

8.4 There are several levels of communications necessary to ensure that mine and UXO clearance, management and support personnel are able to communicate as and when required. This is to be defined in the SOP.

RADIO COMMUNICATION

FREQUENCY ALLOCATION

8.5 Where radios are used, frequencies are to be allocated by the appropriate authority. All agencies should know the demining frequency and channels and, in particular, the emergency frequency/channel.

EMERGENCY FREQUENCY

8.6 A separate emergency frequency or channel must be established.

BASE STATIONS

8.7 Site locations should have continuous communications with support elements and higher formations. This normally requires both HF and VHF base station communications equipment. The use of existing telecommunications equipment should be reviewed against the needs of the demining operation.

8.8 The communication means are to be staffed during all operational activities and should cover the travel period to and from the site.

VEHICLE AND HAND-HELD RADIOS

8.9 Selected personnel are to be equipped with the appropriate communications capability. In some cases there may be instances of an individual having hand-held and vehicle radios.

CALL SIGNS

8.10 Fixed call signs are to be used.