



Statewide Interoperability Radio Network (SIRN) Standards, Protocols, Procedures



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State Standard Number	3.3.0	Subcommittee
Standard Title	SIRN Talkgroup and Multi-group Naming	Approval: 6/28/2021
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1. Purpose or Objective

The purpose of this Standard is to set forth the naming convention by which all administrators of SIRN establish names for talkgroups and multi-groups in order to ensure that there are no duplicate names, and to facilitate intuitive understanding of the talkgroup/multi-group name.

2. Technical Background

• Capabilities

The SIRN allows for talkgroups and multi-groups to have any unique name up to fourteen characters in length.

• Constraints

All talkgroup names programmed in the system must be unique; there can be no duplicates. In addition, special characters are not permitted.

Talkgroup/multi-group names must not exceed fourteen characters in length. It is encouraged to have a “short” eight-character version to support radio models with limited display capabilities. For example: “45 DPD MAIN E” would be abridged as “45 DPD M E.”

Different radio models will display talkgroup/multi-group names of different lengths. Most radios certified for use on SIRN will display a talkgroup/multi-group name of eight or more characters.

3. Operational Context

This standard allows radio users, dispatchers, and SIRN Administrators to readily identify talkgroup ownership and function. With the exception of the two-character prefix and a suffix of “E” on encrypted talkgroups, users are technically free to choose any unique name for their talkgroups/multi-groups.

4. Recommended Protocol/ Standard:

Talkgroup names shall adhere to the following conventions:

- Talkgroup names are limited to fourteen characters
- All encrypted talkgroups must end with an “E”
- Talkgroups names shall identify the *agency and purpose* of the talkgroup per the naming





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convention guidance below.

- The talkgroup/multi-group name will be prefixed with a County and agency identification unique to that agency.
- Talkgroups shall follow **## AAA BBBB E** convention described below:
 - **##**: the first two characters must indicate the County Number ranging from 01 to 53 (State agencies shall use 00)
 - **AAA**: two to four characters indicating the agency (e.g., BCSO, WFFD, HP, etc.)
 - **BBBB**: the remaining characters are used to indicate the purpose or function of the talkgroup (e.g., Narcotics, Dispatch, Operations, Arson, etc.)
 - **E**: Encrypted talkgroups shall have “E” as a suffix
- Regional interoperability talkgroups/multi-groups must be prefixed with the appropriate two-character regional prefix. The list of regional prefixes is maintained by the Statewide System Administrator.
- Talkgroups and multi-groups that are not owned by an individual agency or region would not have an agency/region specific identifying prefix.
 - Examples of these would be statewide mutual aid and interoperability talkgroups such as ND MA 03 E.

5. Recommended Procedure:

A master table of talkgroup names will be maintained as the Fleetmap database by the Statewide System Administrator.

The Statewide System Administrator will manage the talkgroup database and resolve duplicate talkgroup name requests, or those that deviate from this Standard.

The following naming convention provides guidance and examples:

- 18 GFFD MAIN1 – Grand Forks Fire Department Main 1 or Dispatch talkgroup
- 53 WPD DISP E – Williston Police Department Dispatch secure talkgroup
- 00 NDHP SWAT E – North Dakota Highway Patrol SWAT secure/encrypted talkgroup
- ND NW MA HAIL – Northwest Region’s Mutual Aid Hailing talkgroup
- ND MA 12 – North Dakota’s Statewide Mutual Aid 12 talkgroup (clear or unencrypted)

Agencies seeking additions and/or changes to talkgroup names shall follow the process defined in SIRN Standard 3.3.1 Talkgroup Change Request.





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6. Management

The SIRN Statewide System Administrator is responsible for ensuring the defined standard is followed and maintained.