

# *INCIDENT COMMANDERS GUIDE TO USING* **CONNECTICUT 8CALL-8TAC SYSTEM**

## **WHAT**

8CALL-8TAC System is a Statewide 800 MHZ conventional radio system designed for multi-agency interoperability communications. It is part of a National plan governed by FCC rules and regulations. It is to be used for command and control radio communications at incidents requiring multi-agency and or multi-jurisdictional responses.

## **WHO**

Municipal agencies including all CT Fire, Police EMS, and Emergency Management Directors. State agencies including DESPP, DEEP, DOT, DPH, and CST. Federal and neighboring State users.

## **EXAMPLES OF USE**

Interdepartmental Communications between many municipalities and or several state agencies.

Mutual aid responses to catastrophic accidents or disasters by many public safety agencies.

Multi Agency coordination to handle events like fires, or law enforcement operations. Extended task force operations involving local, state, and federal agencies to address a public safety challenge.

## **WHERE**

The present system consists of 42 fixed repeater sites in CT. There is a separate 8CALL90 Simulcast Repeater at each site, in addition to a multi-channel 8TAC repeater. All repeaters are controlled from the DESPP Message Center. There are additional municipal systems and deployable systems in the State. Each PSAP and Millstone EPZ Zone EOC has been provided a control station to access the system.

## **8TAC INCIDENT REPEATER ACTIVATION**

Upon arriving at the scene of an incident and determining the use of the Interoperability Mutual Aid Tactical channel repeaters is required, the incident commander shall use the 8CALL90 channel to call the DESPP Message Center to request activation of the repeater function of the primary and/or the secondary tactical channels for the area. This request may also be made by calling the DESPP Message Center at 800-842-0200.

## **8CALL90 Notes:**

Statewide Repeated Channel.

Activated on all fixed sites.

Ties up the channel statewide.

Use only for large events where statewide communications required.

## **DEFINITION OF INTEROPERABILITY**

The ability of public safety personnel in different agencies or jurisdictions to communicate with each other by voice and data on demand, in real time, as authorized.

CTS unit staff, COML's, COMT's, Coordinators and /or IMT's should be considered if your incident has escalated to a level requiring the use of the 8CALL-8TAC system.

## **MESSAGE CENTER SUPPORT**

The DESPP 24x7 Message Center can be reached by calling 800-842-0200