



COMMUNICATIONS

Engineering Services

Richard Berg, Director

Charles Rollman, Deputy Director

September 20, 2023



EMRC History

- EMRC began with Federal Grant 1975
- EMRC was located at Sinai Hospital
- Designed with switch donated from CIA
- All mechanical switching
- Just connected hospitals in Baltimore City and five surrounding Counties
- SYSCOM located at University Hospital and connected by hotline



Original EMRC Circa 1975



Region 3 EMRC at Sinai Hospital



SYSCOM – 4th Floor Old South Hospital





Generation II

- Designed in house
- Consolidated EMRC and SYSCOM at Dunning Hall – 1988
- Statewide Helicopter Communications System operational
- Automated Flight Following - for safety
- CHATS – Hospital Status Tracking



Dunning Hall





Generation III

- New MIEMSS Building
- Needed center to replace Dunning Hall
- On-line 1998
- Uses latest digital technology for switching
- Region 5 EMRC added 1999
- Cecil and Frederick to Region 3 EMRC
- CHATS online to the Internet



EMRC/SYSCOM 2000's



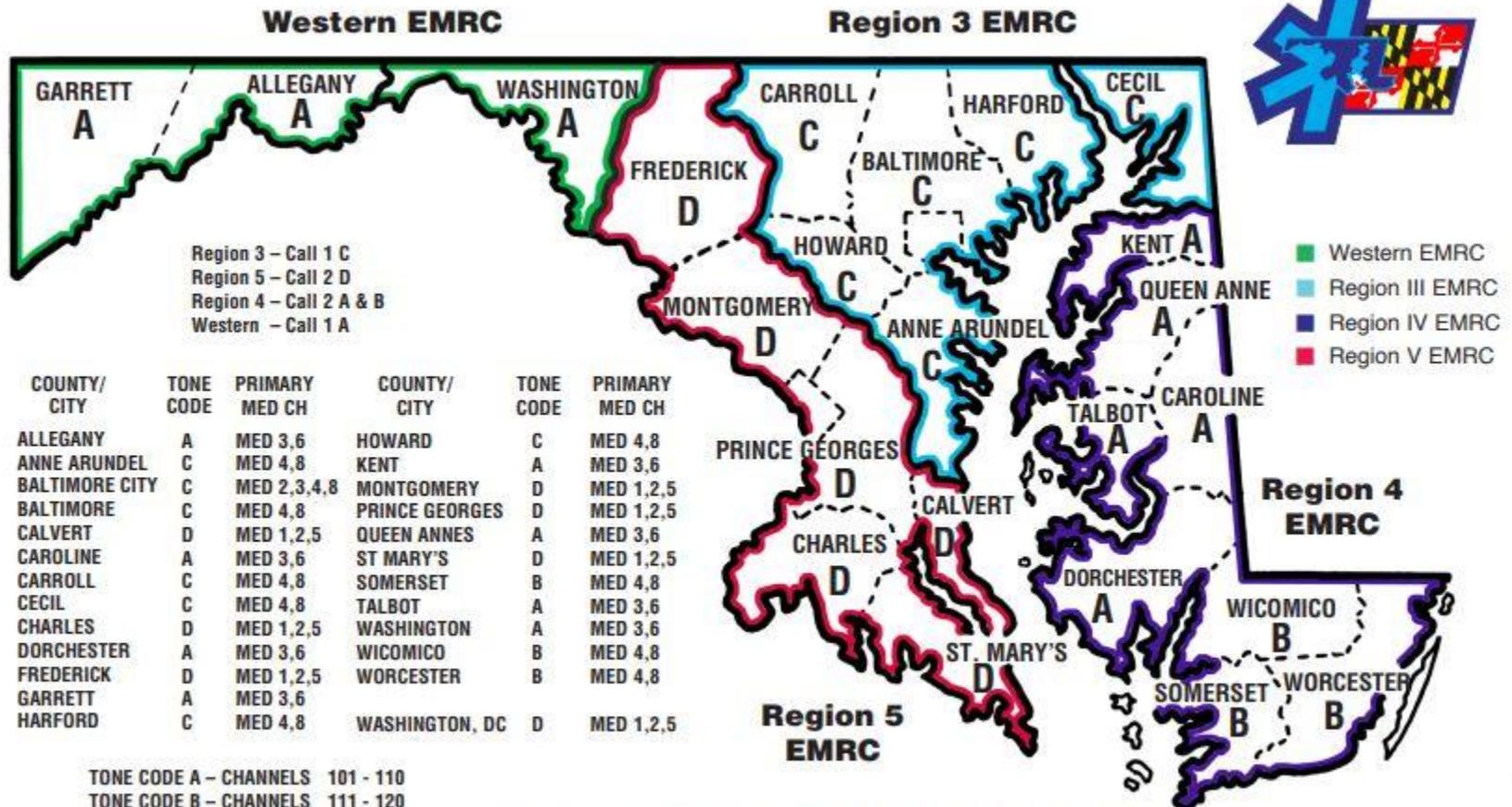


EMRC/SYSCOM 2015





EMRC Regions



TONE CODE A - CHANNELS 101 - 110
 TONE CODE B - CHANNELS 111 - 120
 TONE CODE C - CHANNELS 121 - 130
 TONE CODE D - CHANNELS 131 - 140

NOTE: CHANNELS 109, 119, 129, 139 = CALL 1
 CHANNELS 110, 120, 130, 140 = CALL 2

MIEMSS COMMUNICATIONS
1-800-492-1185



Contact Numbers and Frequencies

HELICOPTER REQUEST

410-706-8080
410-706-8081
410-706-8082
1-800-468-5090

SYSCOM

410-706-7813
410-706-7814
410-706-7815
1-800-648-3001

TROUBLE REPORTS – RADIO REPAIR

1-800-492-1185

TONE FREQUENCY

A=127.3 Hz B=146.2 Hz
C=167.9 Hz D=192.8 Hz

HELICOPTER DISPATCH

44.74 MHz TONE 110.9 Hz

HELICOPTER MEDICAL

47.66 MHz TONE 100.0 Hz

MED FREQ BASE/MOBILE

MED 1	463/468.000	MED 5	463/468.100
MED 2	463/468.025	MED 6	463/468.125
MED 3	463/468.050	MED 7	463/468.150
MED 4	463/468.075	MED 8	463/468.175
CALL 1	462/467.950	CALL 2	462/467.975

MIEMSS COMMUNICATIONS

1-410-706-3668

Western EMRC

301-777-7111 Administration

Western EMRC Patch Line

301-722-0494

Region 3 EMRC

410-706-0036 Administration

Region 3 EMRC Patch Lines

410-578-8400
410-578-8401
410-578-8402
1-800-492-3805

Region 4 EMRC

410-822-0095 Administration

Region 4 EMRC Patch Lines

1-877-963-6963
410-822-5830

Region 5 EMRC

410-706-0092 Administration

Region 5 EMRC Patch Lines

301-333-4671
301-333-4672
301-333-4673
1-877-840-4245



MIEMSS Current Systems

- Redcom Modular Switching Peripheral- analog patching solution utilizing control software developed in house
- JPS Voters- analog system that decides which Base Station is the best to transmit and receive from
- Motorola MCC 7500 Console- Maryland FiRST console allowing connections to MFiRST talkgroups and resources
- C2000 hospital consoles- analog “phone” used by some hospitals for medical patching –currently being replaced by DEMSTEL phones.
- Siemens Tradeboard- legacy phone system used by SYSCOM and EMRC partially unsupported
- Digital Microwave System- provides the transport for Circuit switched and Packet switched technologies
- UHF MED Radio Systems- analog nationally interoperable base stations
- Low Band Radio Systems- analog base stations used for Medevac helicopters



EMS System Upgrade Goals

- Eliminate single point failures
- Provide geo-diversity
- Eliminate unsupported technologies
- Provide for “Next Generation” voice and data capabilities
- Utilize PSINet and DEMSTEL infrastructure under development
- Allow for the development of a true backup capability



MFIRST MCC7500 Console

- Benefits
 - Eliminated unsupported Centracom II Console
 - Allowed native operation on MFIRST system
 - Brought additional capabilities to interact with partner agencies
 - Added administrative radio functionality
 - Allows limited operation from Shock Trauma Backup Center



MFiRST MCC7500 Console

- Limitations
 - Allows limited geo-diversity with talkgroups
 - Air to ground design still dependent on the MIEMSS Building
 - Does not resolve EMRC's technology needs
 - Siemens phone system
 - Redcom MSP
 - JPS Voters
 - C2000 Hospital Consoles

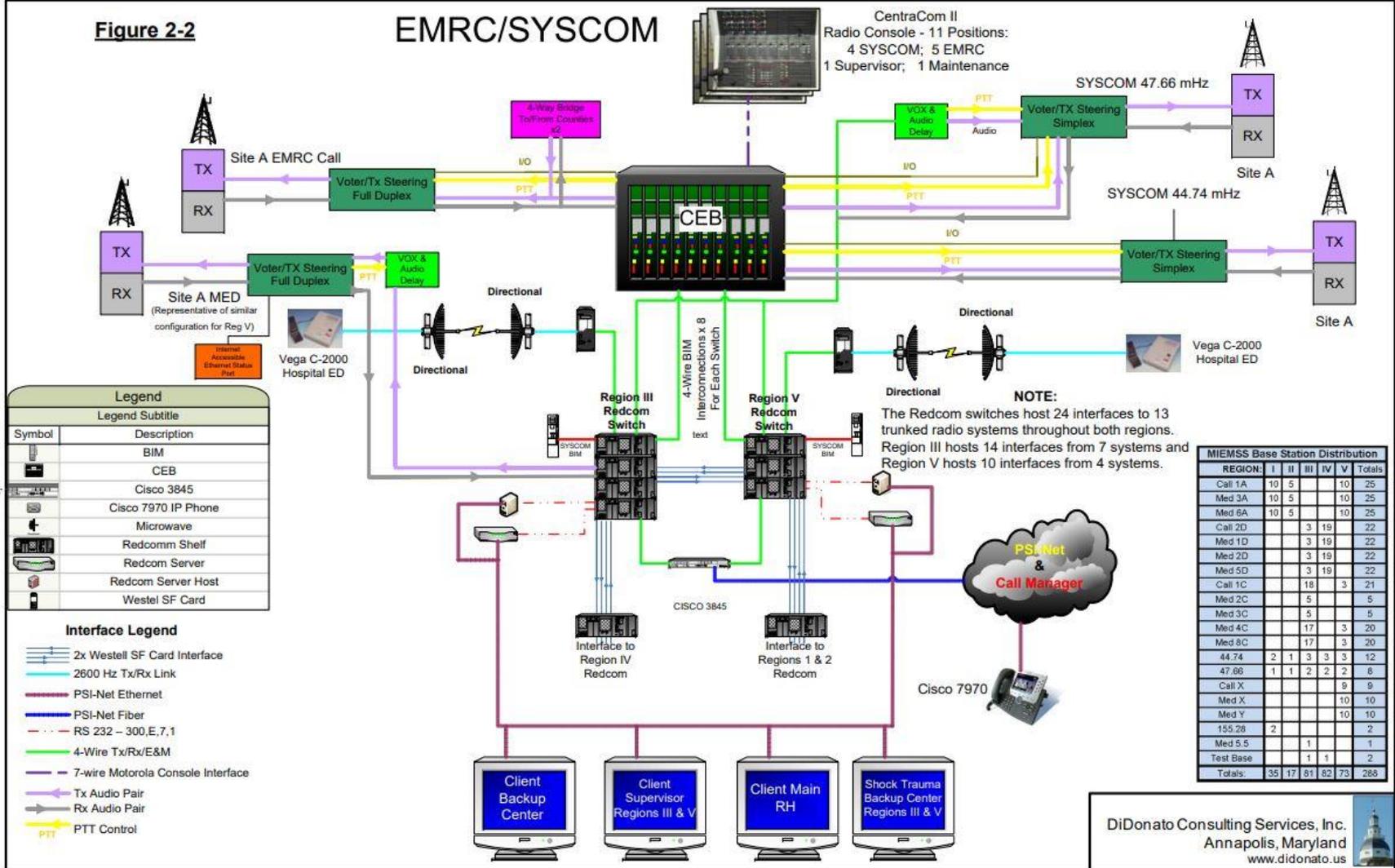


EMRC/SYSCOM Connections

Figure 2-2

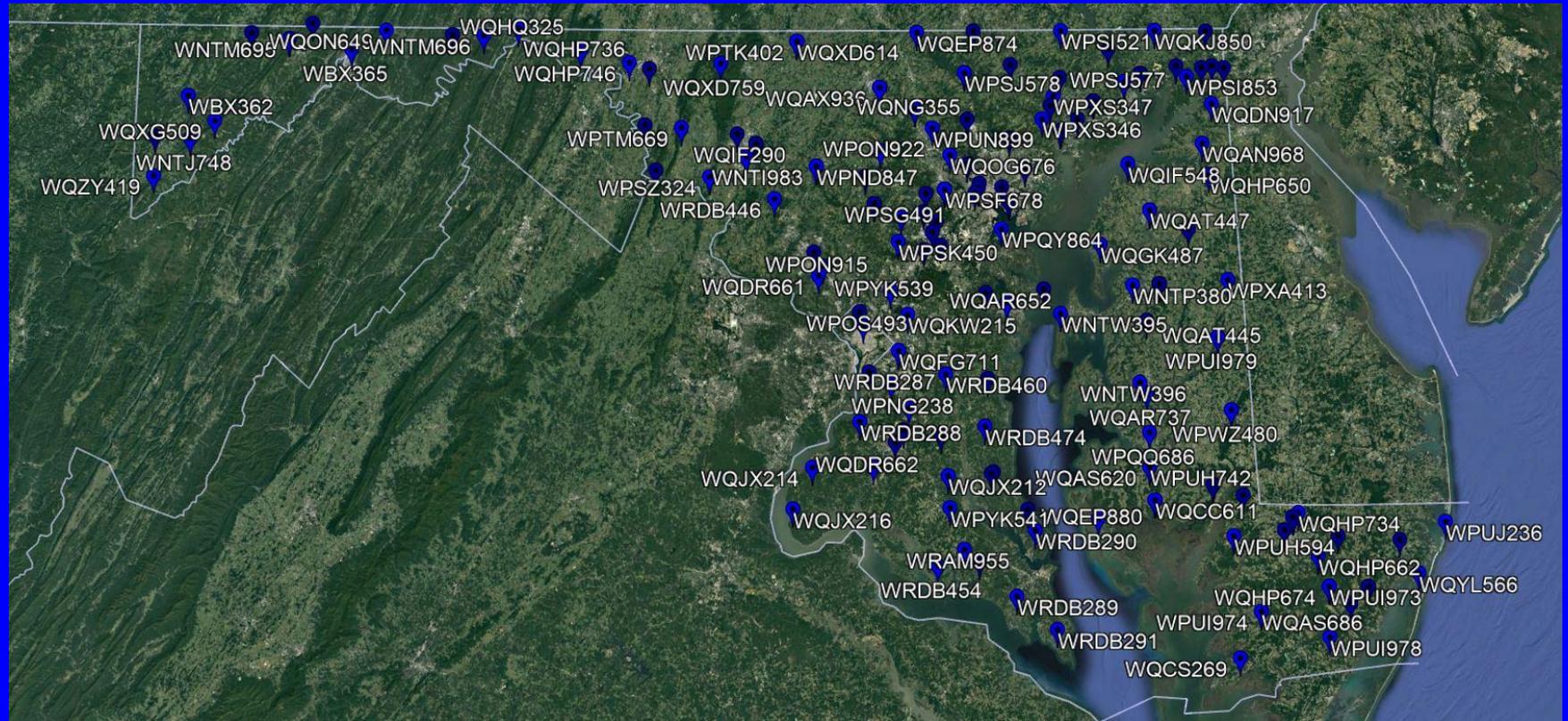
EMRC/SYSCOM

CentraCom II
Radio Console - 11 Positions:
4 SYSCOM; 5 EMRC
1 Supervisor; 1 Maintenance



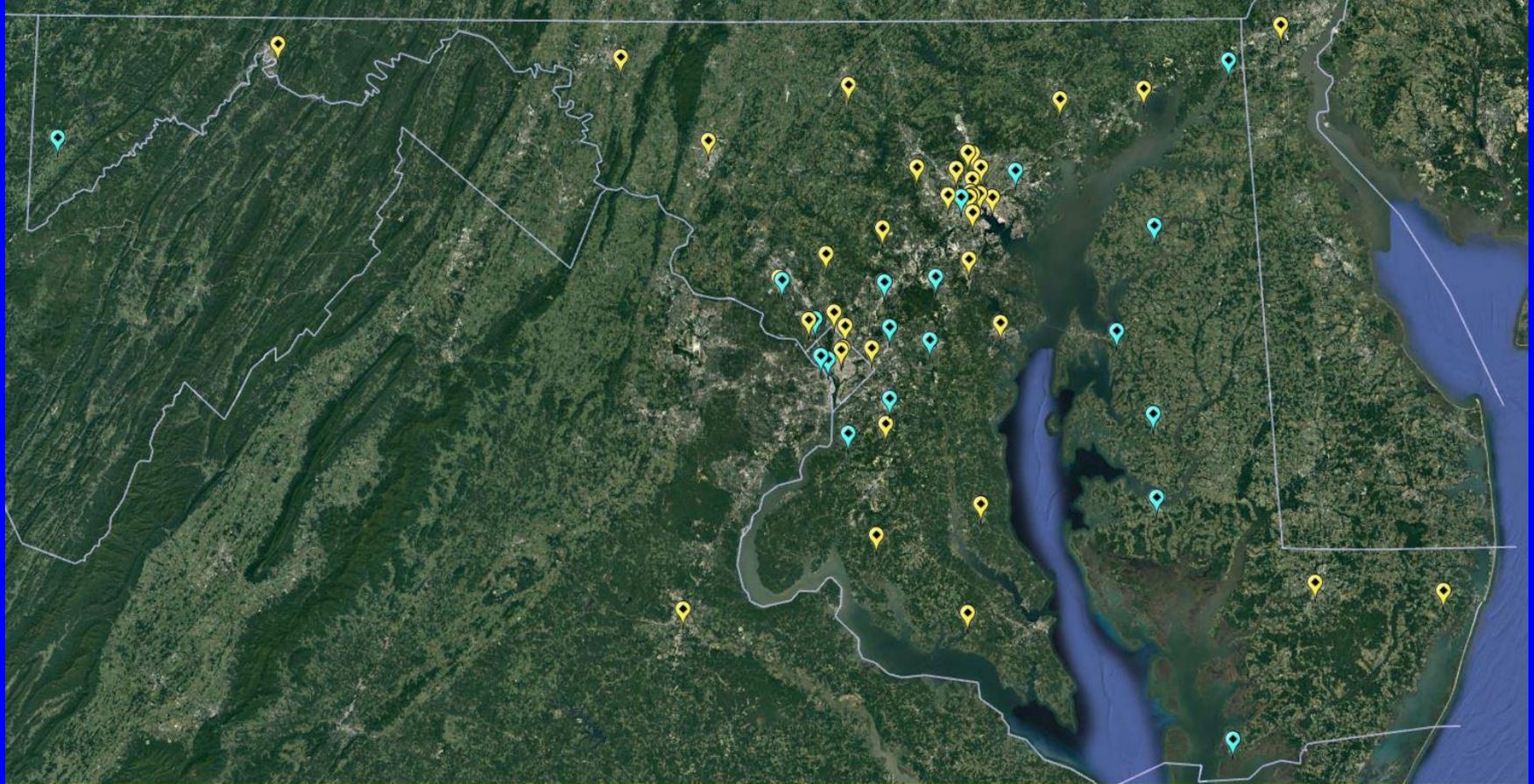


MIEMSS Base Stations





Connected Hospitals





Microwave Transport Layer

- 320 Digital Point-to-Point microwave hops at 166 locations
- Transports all EMS circuits
- Bandwidth is shared with Public Safety partners including
 - Maryland's 700 MHz Public Safety Radio System (MFiRST), Network Maryland, SHA, MEMA, MSP, DNR, FBI, National Guard, 16 local jurisdictions, Homeland Security Border Protection, etc.



PSINet

- Public Safety Interoperability Network
 - All Cisco network
 - “Owned” and managed by MIEMSS
 - Basis for the EMS System upgrade



PSINet

- Deployed to
 - PSAPs
 - MSP Barracks
 - MIEMSS EMRCs
 - EOCs
 - Health departments
 - State hospitals
 - Hospitals
 - Other allied agencies
 - Public Safety towers

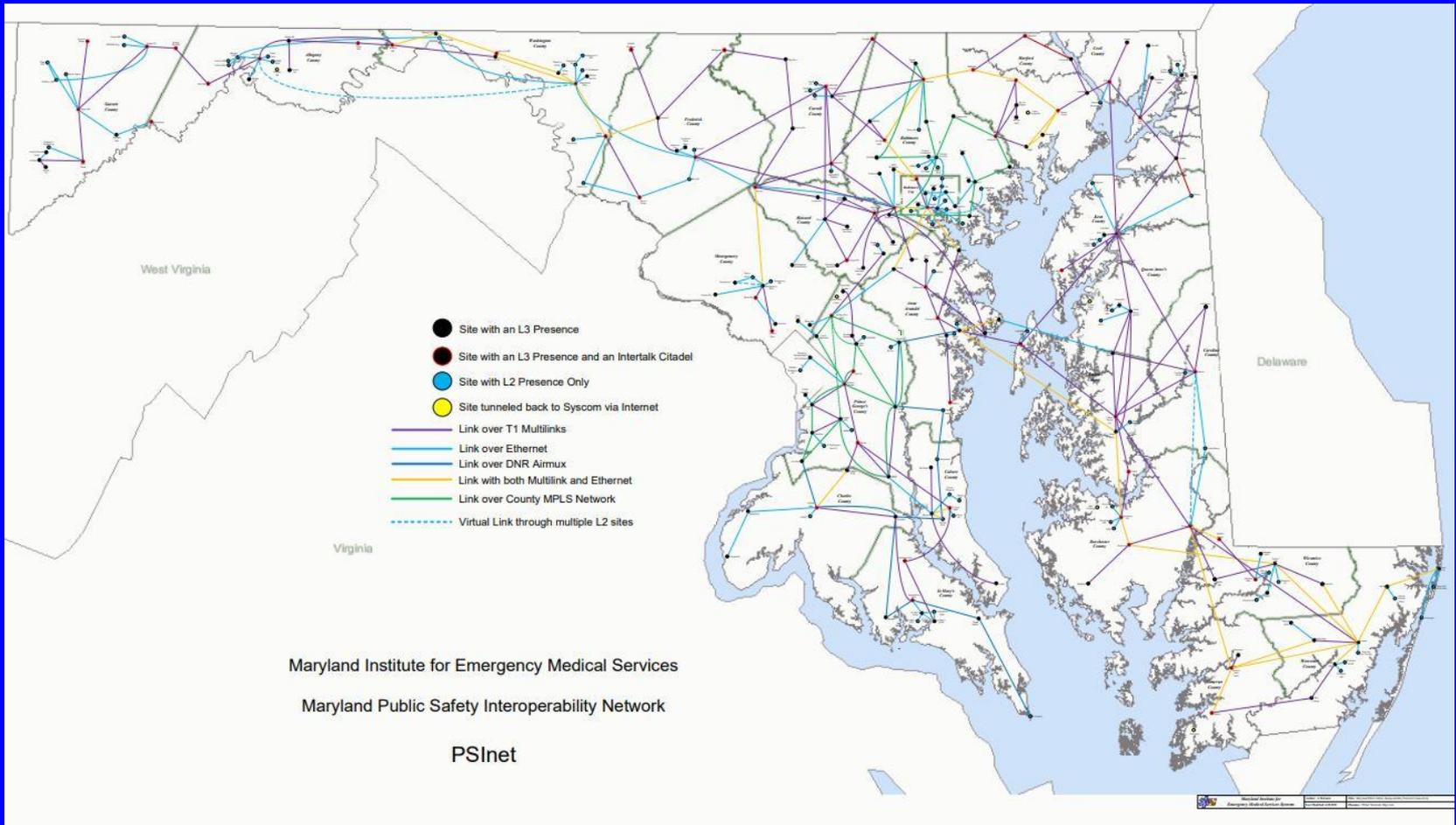


PSINet

- Interoperability applications
 - Digital Emergency Medical Services Telephone (DEMSTel)
 - Central Maryland Area Radio Communications (CMARC)
 - Maryland Eastern Shore Interoperability Network (MESIN)
 - Washington-Allegany-Garrett Interoperable Network (WAGIN)
 - Coordinated Highways Action Response Team (CHART)
 - Maryland Incident Management Interoperability Communications System (MIMICS)
 - Maryland Law Enforcement Information Network (MLEIN).



Public Safety Interoperability Network (PSInet)





Region 3 EMRC Radio Patching Resources

- Conventional UHF Med Channels
 - Call 1, Med 2, Med 3, Med 4, Med 8 (Tone 167.9 Hz)
 - TRAUMA LINE radio
- Conventional Low Band
 - “HELIMED” – 47.66 MHz (Tone 100.0 Hz)
- Conventional 700 MHz
 - 7AIRMED
- State and County Talkgroups
 - Maryland FiRST- 7R3-CALL, 7R3-MED1, 7R3-MED2, 7R3-MED3, HELIMED 1
 - Baltimore City- City C6, City C7, City C8
 - Baltimore County- BAC 221, BAC 224, BAC 228
 - Anne Arundel County- AA 800 CALL, AA 800 MED 4, AA 800 MED 8
 - Howard County- Howard 800 CALL, Howard MED 4, Howard MED 8
 - Harford County- Harford CALL, Harford 304, Harford 308
 - TRAUMA LINE



Region 5 EMRC Radio Patching Resources

- Conventional UHF Med Channels
 - Call 2, Med 1, Med 2, Med 5 (Tone 192.8 Hz)
 - TRAUMA LINE
- Conventional Low Band
 - “HELIMED”- 47.66 (Tone 100.0 Hz)
- Conventional 700 MHz
 - 7AIRMED
- State and County Talkgroups
 - Maryland FiRST- 7R5-CALL, 7R5-MED1, 7R5-MED2, 7R5-MED3
 - Montgomery County- 7H CALL, 7H2, 7H3
 - Prince George’s County- MED CALL, MED A, MED B, MED E
 - Frederick County- 800 CALL, 800 MED 4, 800 MED 8
 - Calvert County- 800 CALL, 800 MED 31, 800 MED 32
- Other
 - HMARS- DC’s Hospital Mutual Aid Radio System



Region 4 EMRC

- Talbot County host Region 4 EMRC
- Operational since 1999
- Use same technology developed for Baltimore EMRC
- Eight counties with seven hospitals
- Linked to Baltimore EMRC/SYSCOM



Region 4 EMRC Radio Patching Resources

- Conventional UHF Med Channels
 - Upper Shore- Call 2, Med 3, Med 6 (Tone 127.3 Hz)
 - Lower Shore- Call 2, Med 4, Med 8 (Tone 146.2 Hz)
- State and County Talkgroups
 - Maryland FiRST- 7R4-CALL, 7R4-MED1, 7R4-MED2, 7R4-MED3



Region 1 & 2 EMRC

- Allegany County host Region 1 & 2 EMRC
- Operational 2006
- Use same technology developed for Baltimore EMRC
- Three counties with four hospitals
- Linked to Baltimore EMRC/SYSCOM



Region 1 & 2 Radio Patching Resources

- Conventional UHF Med Channels
 - Call 2, Med 3, Med 6 (Tone 127.3 Hz)
- Conventional VHF
 - 155.280 MHz
- State and County Talkgroups
 - Maryland FiRST- 7R1-CALL, 7R1-MED1, 7R1-MED2, 7R1-MED3
 - Washington County- WC CALL 211, WC MED 213, WC MED 216



New Patching and Console System

The screenshot displays the EMRC Dispatch console interface, which is divided into several functional areas:

- Top Bar:** Shows the system name "Training4 - EMRC Dispatch - InterTalk", the date "September 13 2014", the time "16:17:30", and the user "EMRC RS". It includes navigation buttons for Patch, Speed Dial, Phone, Intercom, and a Logout button.
- Left Panel:** Contains a "CALL 2D Voter" section with buttons for "Transmit" and "Select" for various call types (e.g., "Fred 800 Call", "Mont 79C Call", "PG 700 Call"). Below this is a "Calls" section with "Current", "Radio", and "Telephone" tabs.
- Center Panel:** Features an "Alarms Panel" with a "Clear All" button and a list of active alarms.
- Right Panel:** A large grid of emergency services units, organized by region and type. The grid includes columns for "PHONES", "TRAUMA", "UHF", "COUNTY TGS/MDFIRST", "PG COUNTY", "DC", "MONTGOM", "SO. MD", "WEST MD", and "OTHER RESOURCES". Each cell in the grid contains the name of a unit and its status.
- Bottom Panel:** A control bar with buttons for "Transmit Select", "Reduce PTT to MOTOROLA Console", "Start Tone", "No Mute", "Mute All Unmuted", "RX Level", and "TX Level".



DEMSTEL

- DEMSTEL, the Digital Emergency Medical Services Telephone system, was originally conceived as a means of communication between EMRC's, hospitals, health departments, and other public health related agencies. Its purpose has since been expanded to include communication between any public safety agencies including, but not limited to, 911 Centers, Hospitals, Maryland State Police, local law enforcement, MEMA, DHMH, and MIEMSS.





SYSCOM & EMRC
Aviation Communications
Overview



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- 44.74 MHz (Tone Code 110.0 Hz)– Primary Command and Control for Aircraft utilizing a 12 site low band voted receive and transmitter steered system
 - Current Sites
 - Bressler (Baltimore City County)
 - Crownsville (Anne Arundel County)
 - Dans Rock (Allegany County)
 - Denton (Caroline County)
 - Dyson's (Prince George's County)
 - Eagle Rock (Garrett County)
 - Gambrill (Frederick County)
 - Salisbury (Wicomico County)
 - Sideling Hill (Washington County)
 - Stoney Forest (Harford County)
 - Johnson (Wicomico County)
 - Leonardtown SHA (St Mary's County)



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- 7AG60 – Secondary Command and Control for airborne Aircraft utilizing 6 conventional 700 MHz digital repeaters with voted receive (automatic) and steered transmit (manual)
 - Sites
 - Dundalk (Baltimore County)
 - Salisbury (Wicomico County)
 - Lambs Knoll (Washington County)
 - Dans Rock (Allegany) Temple Hills (Prince George's County)
 - Leonardtown (St Mary's County)



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- SYSCOM TG – Secondary Command and Control channel for the MSP Medevac fleet utilizing the Maryland FiRST 700 MHz trunked radio system
 - TDMA only !!!
 - This Talkgroup is active statewide
 - Is restricted to APCO P25 Phase II radios only



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- 47.66 MHz (Tone Code 100.0 Hz) – Primary Medical Patching channel for airborne Aircraft utilizing an 8-site low band voted receive and transmitter steered system
 - Current Sites
 - Bressler (Baltimore City)
 - Easton (Talbot County)
 - Central Site (Worcester County)
 - Prince Frederick (Calvert County)
 - Sideling Hill (Washington County)
 - Stoney Forest (Harford County)
 - Thayerville (Garrett County)
 - District Heights (Prince George's County)



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- HELIMED1 TG – Secondary medical patching channel for the MSP Medevac fleet utilizing the Maryland FiRST 700 MHz trunked radio system
 - TDMA Only !!!
 - This Talkgroup is active statewide

- Is restricted to APCO P25 Phase II radios only



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

- “7AIRMED” – Secondary medical patching channel for airborne Aircraft utilizing six conventional 700 MHz digital repeaters with voted receive and multicast transmitters.

- Sites
 - Dundalk (Baltimore County)
 - Salisbury (Wicomico County)
 - Lambs Knoll (Washington County)
 - Dans Rock (Allegany County)
 - Temple Hills (Prince George's County)
 - Leonardtown (St Mary's County)



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities (Misc)

- Unicom – System for pilot-to-pilot communications to coordinate activity at the Shock Trauma helipad
- MSP Barrack TGs
- MEMA MDCALL and MDTAC TGs
- AV OP SW – Aircraft maintenance talkgroup
- AV TAC TGs- on scene communications with local jurisdiction units



SYSCOM's Current Radio Channel Capabilities for Aircraft

7AIRMED Frequencies

EMRC Operations	FB Transmit	Aircraft Transmit	Aircraft Scans and Receives
Andrews - Primary RX Channel	770.13125	800.13125	770.13125 and 800.13125 MHz
Hagerstown	769.13125	800.13125	769.13125 and 799.13125 MHz
Salisbury	770.63125	800.13125	770.63125 and 800.63125 MHz
Leonardtown	773.11875	800.13125	773.11875 and 803.11875 MHz
Baltimore	773.61875	800.13125	773.61875 and 803.61875 MHz
Allegany	774.11875	800.13125	774.11875 and 804.11875 MHz



SYSCOM Patches

- A permanent three-way patch has been established between 44.74, 7AG60, and the SYSCOM Talkgroup
 - Allows all users of one system to be heard on the others
 - Provides situational awareness as we migrate to new primary communications channels



AVTAC Talkgroups

- MSP has established 23 AVTAC (Aviation Tactical) talkgroups on the Maryland FiRST radio system for MSP aviation operations
 - One primary talkgroup per jurisdiction
 - Will be regionalized by current interoperability regions
 - MESIN, CMARC, WAGIN, NCR, and SMIEC
 - Regional AVTAC talkgroups will appear on each member jurisdiction's console either natively or by a console arrangement
 - Multiple talkgroups allow for multiple separate incidents
 - Allows the jurisdiction to patch the AVTAC talkgroup to the jurisdiction's ground based radio channels or talkgroups
 - Simplifies procedures for MSP Aircraft
 - Reduces quantity of channels to be programmed in the MSP radio package



On Scene Air to Ground Communications for Missions

- Currently, when a medivac mission is requested by a jurisdiction, the requesting jurisdiction determines what frequency the responding aircraft need to operate on. SYSCOM passes this information on to the flight crew
- With the transition to the MD AVTAC channels, the local jurisdiction will still advise SYSCOM what AVTAC or other channel they want the aircraft to operate on. SYSCOM will continue to pass this information on to the flight crew



SYSCOM Console Changes

- AVTacs have been added to the SYSCOM console configurations
 - A new AV TAC tab was added to the existing screen configurations
 - Allows SYSCOM to have improved situational awareness while helicopters are on the ground
 - Unencrypted



AV TAC Status

The following counties currently use the AVTacs

- Queen Anne
- Talbot
- Kent
- Caroline
- Harford
- Cecil
- Washington
- Dorchester
- Allegany
- Garrett
- Dorchester
- Somerset
- Wicomico





Long Term Goals

- The SYSCOM Talkgroup will be the primary channel for Command and Control and will be utilized while the MSP aircraft are on the ground or in the air
- 7AG60 will remain in place for aircraft not provisioned for the SYSCOM Talkgroup (typically commercial air-medical)
- The HELIMED1 talkgroup will be utilized for medical patching while the aircraft is on the ground or in the air by MSP Aviation and MFiRST Interoperability partners
- 7AIRMED will be utilized for aircraft not provisioned for the HELIMED1 Talkgroup
- 44.74 will remain until no longer operationally needed
- 47.66 will remain until no longer operationally needed



Long Term Goals

- All MSP aircraft will be equipped with new APCO P25 Phase II capable radio package
- Allied aircraft will be authorized to operate on the MD FiRST talkgroups; SYSCOM and HELIMED1
- Foreign aircraft will be capable of operation on 7AG60 and 7AIRMED systems



Questions?