

Fireground is for Fireground!

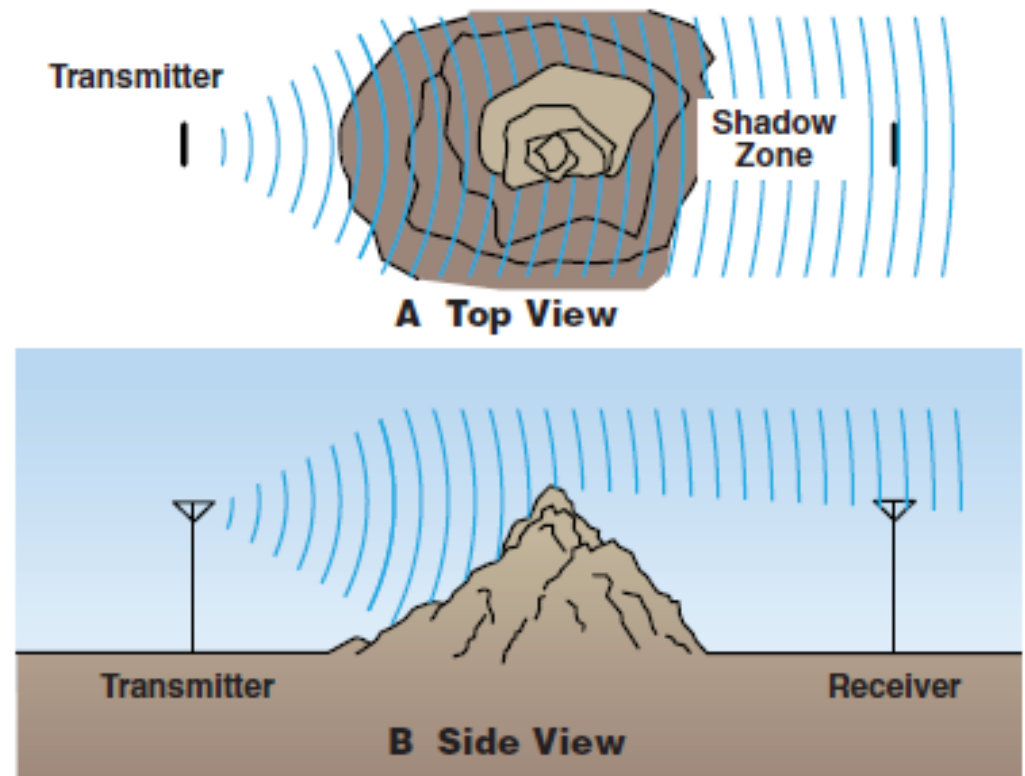
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Operations talkgroups

- ❑ Used by Incident Commander to coordinate incoming Mutual Aid units
- ❑ Used to communicate with dispatcher
- ❑ Utilizes “trunked radio system” to transmit via repeaters and computers
- ❑ DANGEROUS for inside communications
 - Basements
 - Steel/concrete structures
 - Even with “Permission to talk” tone, is your digital message getting through?

Why dangerous?

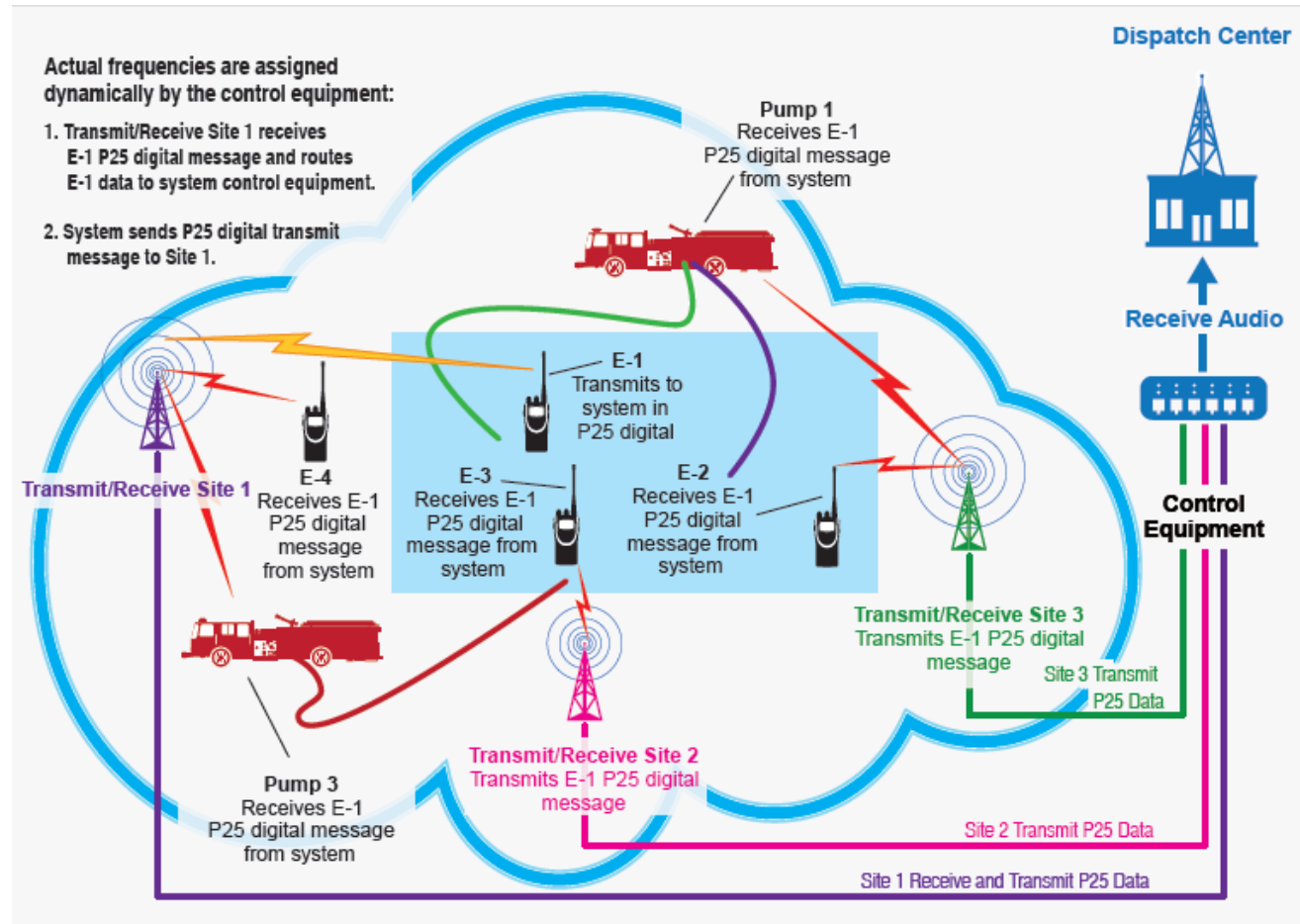
Radio waves can travel through some materials, such as glass or thin wood, but the strength is reduced due to absorption as they travel through. Materials such as metal and earth completely block the waves due to their composition and density. In addition, some materials will reflect radio waves, effectively blocking the signal to the other side.



Why dangerous?

- ☐ If a microphone is keyed (stuck open) no one else can get through or interrupt
- ☐ The distance the signal must travel to the repeater may be beyond the reach of your low wattage portable radio from inside a structure or below grade
- ☐ Weather conditions can affect the operation of the digital trunked radio system

Trunking System

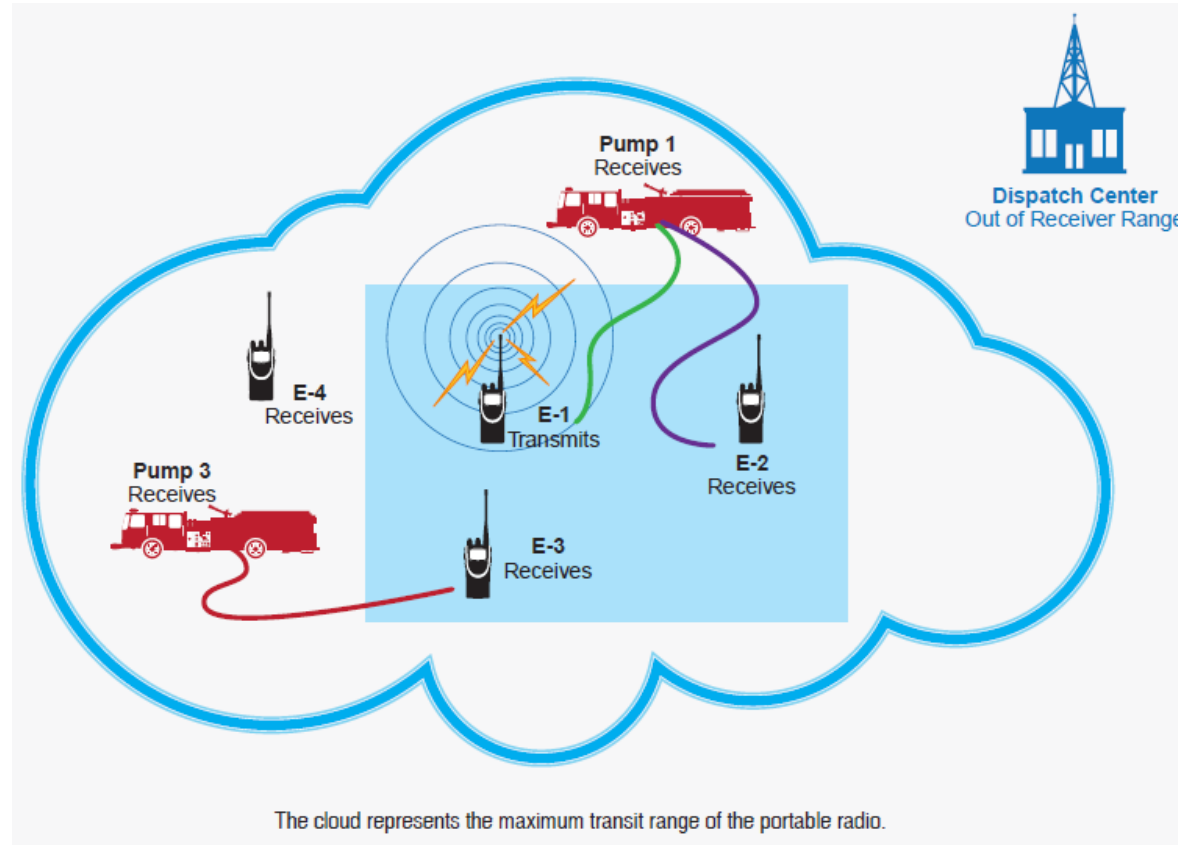


Complicated!

Fireground

- ☐ Direct unit to unit (analog-simplex mode)
- ☐ Everyone on scene can hear you
- ☐ In many cases, stuck open mike can be transmitted over
- ☐ Emergency signals go to all other radios operating on scene
- ☐ Four channels available.
- ☐ Short distance (< 1 mile) so can be reused throughout County
- ☐ No permission required for use
- ☐ In EVERY County fire radio

Fireground operation



Simple!

NFPA 1221

9.3.1.3* A communications radio channel, separate from the radio dispatch channel, shall be provided for on-scene tactical communications.

9.3.1.4* At a minimum, the tactical communications channel identified in 9.3.1.3 shall be capable of operating in analog simplex mode.

Keep Safe!

Know your tools and how to use them!