Third EmCom party on the Air

Sunday, November 11th, 2007 11.00 - 15.00 UTC

IARU Region 1 invites the HQ-stations of IARU member societies and stations of emergency communications groups to participate in the Third EmCom party on the Air on Sunday, November 11th, 2007 at 11.00 - 15.00 UTC. The operation will take place on and near the emergency Center-of-Activity (CoA) frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters (+/-QRM).

The objective of the party is to

   1) increase the common interest among member societies in emergency communications,
   2) test how usable the CoA frequencies are across ITU Regions,
   3) create practices for international emergency communication and
   4) practice the relaying of messages.

Please keep in mind:

This is not a contest - it is an emergency communications exercise!

The protocol is as follows:

All traffic during this party will take place in SSB only (we will include digital modes in 2008).

Following the recommendation of GAREC-2007, we ask every participating station to use /D in their callsign (D=distress/disaster) where permitted by their licensing administration.

Each IARU Region will have a HQ station as follows:

> Region 1 – OF3F/D in Finland
> Region 2 – To be announced
> Region 3 – To be announced

HQ stations will be QRV simultaneously on the all CoA frequencies: 3760, 7060, 14300, 18160 and 21360 kHz +/- QRM.

Please note that frequencies on 80 and 40 meters may be different due to the band plan of your Region.

Stations intending to participate are requested – if possible - to send their callsigns to emcomparty@raynet-hf.net before the exercise so that HQ stations can be aware of the number of stations that may be calling them.

The special Aim of this exercise is practice in relaying messages. Each participating station is allowed to send two (2) messages during the exercise: one during two first hours and the second during two last hours of the exercise.

After own message(s) participating stations start to relay messages of other stations and finally after two or more relays in the message forwarding them to the HQ stations of their own Region. It will be very useful if messages are 'jumping' between Countries and/or Regions.

Participating stations are calling: "This is <callsign> station of (ARRL, DARC, HAMNET etc.) calling EmCom stations for testing" (Please announce time to time "this is an exercise").

So each participating station (like 4U1ITU/D) will form own message as follows:

4U1ITU/1/14/17/21/03/IARC via .. via .. etc.

We will use the word "slash" to separate details in these messages where:

4U1ITU   = *the callsign of the station*
/1/   = *first message during first 2 hours of the exercise (/2/ in the second message during two last hours of the Party*
/14/17/21/   = *bands simultaneously in use at 4U1ITU*
03   = *there are 3 operators at 4U1ITU*
IARC   = *International Amateur Radio Club of ITU HQ*
via .. via..   = *callsigns of relayed stations - e.g. via LZ2US via SU1KM to OF3F/D*

HQ-stations of the Regions (like OF3F/D) are not giving messages - only receiving and confirming them. To avoid QRMing the HQ-station, please move to frequencies near the CoA for contacts with other stations.

To create a more realistic situation, please limit your transmitting power during the exercise to 100 watts. A special value is given to stations operating mobile/portable and/or on emergency power.

Please send your comments and suggestions for future exercises after the exercise to: emcomparty@raynet-hf.net , logs are only required from the three Region HQ stations for analysis.

This is the first time that all regions are invited to participate this EmCom Party. To be fair to all regions in the future we will use three different time slots for the Party: The fourth Party will be on May 3rd, 2008 at 18-22 UTC and the fifth on Nov. 8th, 2008 at 04-08 UTC.

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