

# TELECOMatters

our monthly newsletter of things that matter. all things Telecom.

## MATACs Explained [Again] MUTUAL AID TACTICAL CHANNELS

With more neighboring counties joining the State's MARCS IP radio system, MATACs are becoming a hot topic amongst our radio users. Common questions are: Why do I have them? How does it work? How do I find them?

*NOTICE: MATACs may also be referred to on-air as "SW MATACs". SW stands for "South West" as we need to distinguish our region on the state's radio system. If this idea takes off, other regions could mimic the design, and the state needs a way to tell OUR MATACs from OTHER MATACs. Your radio may be reprogrammed for these to display as "SW MATAC..." to clarify this if character limits allow. But just hearing "MATAC" means the same thing.*

As of this newsletter issue, only Warren, Greene and Butler Counties are operational on MARCS' IP radio system, making them capable of talking with us on the MATACs. The plan is for all counties that border Warren County to program these 2 zones of MATACs into their user's radios, broadening the reach and ease of mutual aid / radio interoperability.

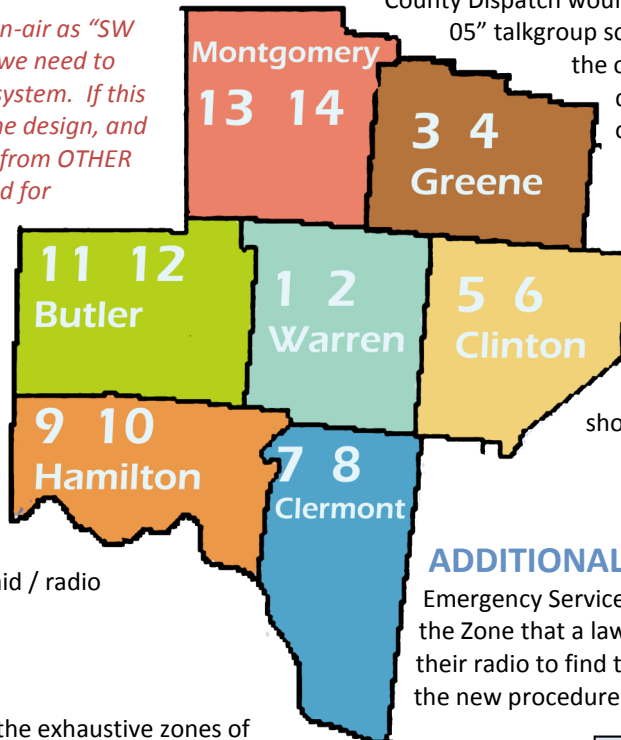
### WHY DO I HAVE MATACs?

To talk with neighboring counties without the exhaustive zones of THEIR system talkgroups. For region-wide radio communication. For mutual aid. For ease of navigation. For muscle-memory's sake. For mind-memory's sake. Warren County agencies can still have their familiar neighboring county's system talkgroups for ease of mutual aid communication, if they wish. For example, Mason has Loveland-Symmes' "NECC" talkgroup as they are a frequent mutual aid partner, WCSO has "09 MA's" for mutual aid with Butler County. However, for the counties that our agencies don't typically mutual aid for (e.g. Greene County and Deerfield Twp, or Montgomery County and Harlan Twp), these 2 zones of MATACs can replace 6-8 zones of "outside county talkgroups", significantly reducing the size and complexity of your talkgroup template. Or for "the big one" where all available units in SW Ohio are requested, MATACs are a common set of talkgroups that all will have.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Scenario: Butler County has an incident they've been working for 2 hours on their talkgroup "09 FIRE 05". They decide to call in mutual aid from multiple Warren County agencies; both fire and law. Butler County's first earmarked MATAC, as shown on the map, is "MATAC 11". Warren County agencies would flip their radios to MATAC11 (Zone D Position 11 for Fire / Zone E Position 11 for Law). Butler County Dispatch would 'join' MATAC11 to the existing "09 FIRE 05" talkgroup so that incoming units can communicate with the ongoing incident AND the ongoing incident doesn't have to switch talkgroups mid-operation.

The MATACs were assigned in a clockwise order, starting with Warren in the center (1/2). Then Greene (3/4), Clinton (5/6), Clermont (7/8), Hamilton (9/10), Butler (11/12), Montgomery (13/14). You'll notice a 2nd zone of MATACs 15-28. These are simply an overflow zone should the MATAC design gain heavy traction in our region as all counties build/turn on their MARCS IP radio systems.



### ADDITIONAL OFFERING FOR AGENCIES

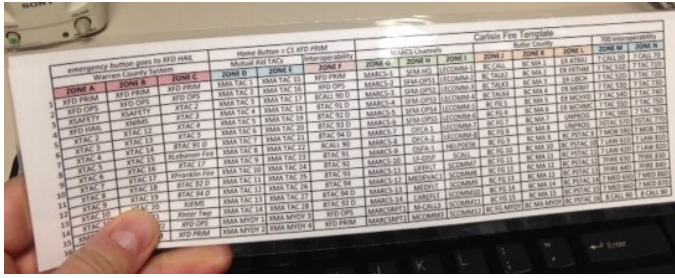
Emergency Services' Dispatch Center has agreed to verbalize the Zone that a law or fire responder needs to switch to in their radio to find the MATACs, as you become familiar with the new procedure (to take effect soon).

Law: Zone E&F  
Fire: Zone D&E

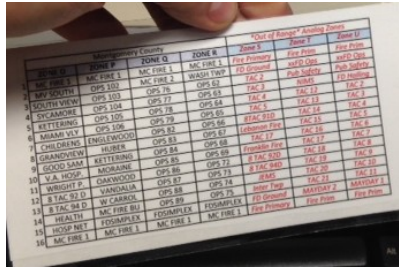
1	MATAC 1 (warren)	MATAC 15
2	MATAC 2 (warren)	MATAC 16
3	MATAC 3 (greene)	MATAC 17
4	MATAC 4 (greene)	MATAC 18
5	MATAC 5 (clinton)	MATAC 19
6	MATAC 6 (clinton)	MATAC 20
7	MATAC 7 (clermont)	MATAC 21
8	MATAC 8 (clermont)	MATAC 22
9	MATAC 9 (hamilton)	MATAC 23
10	MATAC 10 (hamilton)	MATAC 24
11	MATAC 11 (butler)	MATAC 25
12	MATAC 12 (butler)	MATAC 26
13	MATAC 13 (mont)	MATAC 27
14	MATAC 14 (mont)	MATAC 28
15	MAMAYDAY 1	MAMAYDAY 3
16	MAMAYDAY 2	MAMAYDAY 4



# Laminated Radio Template Reference Cards



Does your agency have trouble finding talkgroups in their radio? Our suggestion—spend some time



at your monthly meetings or roll call trainings reviewing your template and quizzing your people. One particular agency requires its personnel to “blind navigate” to any talkgroup on demand!

In addition to your internal training, **we’re happy to provide each of your personnel a 2-sided, laminated reference card that can be tucked in your vehicles’ visors.** They are color coded with helpful tips within the margins.

Order your QTY through trainer allison.lyons@wcoh.net

# CAD MESSAGES!

## CAD Messages to Straight Talk Customers

We have discovered a way to send CAD pages to Straight Talk cell phones. If your members want CAD



pages to their Straight Talk phone, please send us their phone number, name, and carrier (Verizon, Sprint, etc). If they don’t know the provider, we may be able to determine it from the phone number.

# BLUE TOOTH on the APX6000XE

The cost is \$150 per radio to activate blue tooth on your APX6000XE radio as it requires a ‘flash’ to the radio. Contact the radio team (x3251) if you wish to move forward with any of your fleet.



# Heads up from the WCPSN

## Red October Cyber Spy Op Goes Mobile Via Spear-Phishing

Researchers with Blue CoatUSBUS and Kaspersky Lab identified and analyzed a cyber-espionage campaign that appears similar to the Red October campaign dubbed Cloud Atlas or Inception Framework that has been **targeting the Android, iOS, and BlackBerry devices of specific users in the government, finance, energy, military, and engineering sectors** in several countries via spear-phishing. The malware appears to primarily be designed to record phone conversations and can also track locations, monitor text messages, and read contact lists.

Spear-phishing emails often contain attached Microsoft Word documents that included malicious code used to gather information on the targeted system. As a reminder, **we suggest suspicious email links or attachments not be clicked. Instead the email should be shared with your IT department.**

Spear-Phishing Defined [http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/april/spearphishing\\_040109](http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/april/spearphishing_040109)



# The latest MARCS IP Tower Map

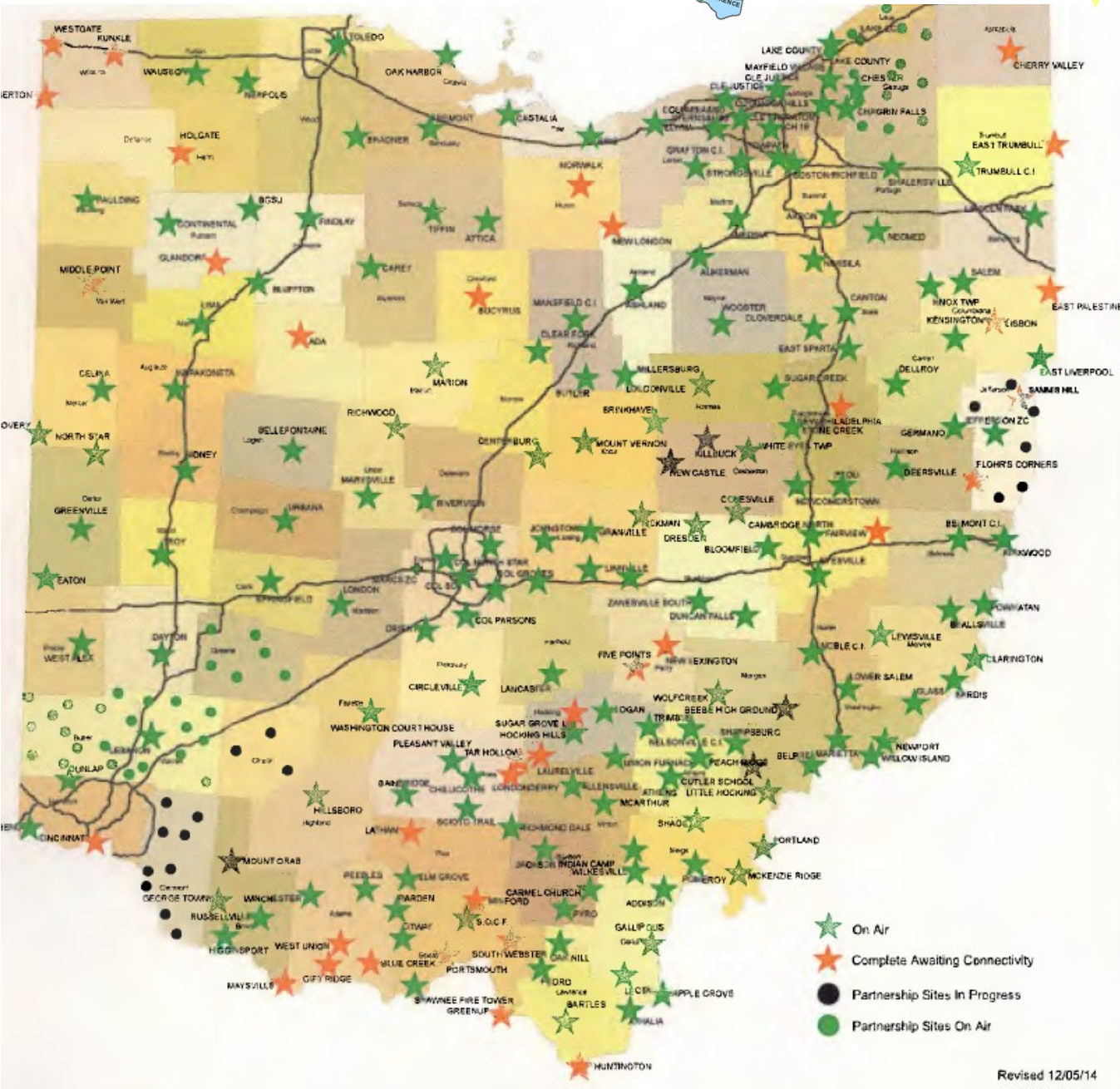
These are the tower locations that we get the benefit of using when outside our County borders, within the [guidelines of our strategic roaming plan](#). It also reveals the surrounding counties with MARCS systems in progress or already online.



FIRE HAILING  
POLICE HAILING  
MA TACs  
MA MAYDAYs  
FRANKLIN PD 2  
LEBANON PD 2  
WCSO-3

TACs2-21

LEB/FRK PRIMs  
FIRE PRIMARY  
PD PRIM 1  
PD PRIM 2  
INQUIRY  
LOCALS



- ★ On Air
- ★ Complete Awaiting Connectivity
- Partnership Sites In Progress
- Partnership Sites On Air

Revised 12/05/14



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Director 695-1318 paul.kindell@wcoh.net | CAD/RMS 695-2800 paul.bernard@wcoh.net | Data Systems 695-1810 gary.estes@wcoh.net  
Radio Systems 695-2860 gary.hardwick@wcoh.net | Telephony 695-1320 adela.dingman@wcoh.net | Training 695-2802 allison.lyons@wcoh.net