

## All-Hazards Communications Technician (COMT) Course

### Description:

This offering delivers introductory and refresher training for the ICS Communications Technician (COMT) position. It introduces public safety professionals and support staff to various communications concepts and technologies. This includes state-of-the-art interoperable communications solutions, Land Mobile Radio (LMR) communications, satellite, telephone, computer and data technologies used in incident response and planned events. This course helps participants establish the essential core competencies required for performing the duties of the COMT in an all-hazards incident. This course addresses all responsibilities appropriate to a COMT operating on a local, regional, tribal or state/territory-level All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT). The course is instructor-led training that supports learning through discussion, lecture, and active participation in multiple exercises. The course provides a realistic, hands-on approach to mastering the tasks and skills of a COMT.

It is designed for local, regional, tribal and state/territory emergency response professionals and support personnel in all disciplines who have a technical communications background. This five day workshop is taught by OEC/ICTAP instructors who have both practitioner and Communications Unit experience.

The course utilizes facilitated lectures, student exercises, and hands-on lab work. It also includes interactive discussions among attendees. OEC/ICTAP instructors work through the discussions, exercises and hands-on lab work to explain processes used for successful establishment and operation of the technical communications resources supporting an incident or planned event. Prior to the on-site workshop, OEC/ICTAP staff will work with the requesting site to incorporate communications technologies in use by the participants' agencies.

### Selection Criteria:

NIMS ICS All-Hazards Position-Specific training should be completed by personnel who are regularly assigned to functional, support and/or unit technician positions, or by those persons who desire to seek qualifications in those positions. Personnel should have a technical communications background to attend this course.

### Prerequisites:

1. A public safety background with experience in field operations;
2. Awareness of fundamental public safety communications technology;
3. Basic knowledge of local communications and communications system, frequencies and spectrum, technologies, local topography, system site locations including knowledge of local, regional, and state communication plans, and contacts;
4. Completion of IS-100b, IS-200b, IS-700a, and IS-800b (ICS-300 is also recommended); and

5. Supervisor's written recommendation that the student has met these prerequisites.

Instructors will review copies of attendees' prerequisite documentation at the beginning of the class.

**Class size:** Each workshop is limited to 15 attendees.

**Course Length:** 5 days (40 hrs).

**Deliverables:**

- Class and presentation materials, and
- Student workbook and informational CD.