

Monitoring Incident Communications	<h1>Fire Engineering</h1>	Standard References NFPA 1521; 6.2.8
	<h1>Safety Officer</h1>	
<i>Instructors should always include department references and procedures in this and any training session.</i>		

ISO Communication Monitoring

Background: One of the best ways to keep tabs on what is happening during an incident by the safety officer is to closely monitor radio transmissions. You should be listening for transmission barriers such as open keys or broken transmissions, instructions that are not acknowledged or followed through on. Keep an ear on transmissions that are unclear or incomplete also. When the IC contacts a Division or Group for a progress report, make sure you take in all of the available information and match it up with what you see. The Safety Officer must be an active part of the incident communication process. If progress reports are lacking, prompt IC to get them. Your job is to try to ensure that everyone knows what is happening and who is where and what they are doing.

Communications Evaluation

1. What benchmarks (time frames) are used in your organization for progress reports to and from IC and companies working?
2. What elements are in progress reports or status updates in your department?
3. What would your actions be if a progress report does not match the conditions you are looking at?
4. Do you have the capability to monitor all incident channels on your radio?
5. Do you have a back-up or alternate radio available for multi-channel operations?



Safety Officer Interventions

Scenario: Engine 1 reports a knock on the fire and they believe they have the fire under control. As Safety Officer, you observe fire above the companies in an attic area and signs of extension beyond the area that Engine 1 is operating.

- What would you do?
- How are your actions accomplished?

