

## Communications Job Description

**Vision: Provide communications service and support while testing your abilities to provide successful communications over greater distances and in unusual operating environments.**

**What you deliver:** Communications for the entire rally provide a safe operating environment for our volunteers, public and competitors. The radio communicator will serve 4 basic functions:

1. Providing safety and logistics information for rally officials.
2. Reporting the locations of all cars on the stages.
3. Reporting to net control the status of cars out of the event, and their location..
4. Assistance in the direction of emergency vehicles to the site of an emergency.

**How you deliver:** By setting up at your designated location, establishing communications with your other team mates and securing you location so that unauthorized traffic is not allowed on the Stage during the Rally. Be able to report unsafe conditions or emergencies immediately. If so directed, be able to stop rally traffic by displaying the appropriate sign to competitors. In case of an emergency, maintain the security of your location and provide reports and updates on activity in your vicinity and follow directions of the Rally Organizers as needed.

### **Requirements:**

Be a licensed Amateur Radio Operator (ham)

Must have a radio capable of operating within the Communications Plan for the event.

Be prepared to adapt to changing communications and operational needs.

**Pre Event:** Volunteer for the event by signing up on the web site and providing the necessary information regarding your equipment and capabilities. Be sure to include any restrictions or limitations that would restrict your placement during the event. Communicate with your team lead or Comm Capt as to assignment and supplemental information prior to the event. Prepare yourself and your equipment to be self contained for the duration of your assignment to include changing weather conditions.

**Day of Event:** Prior to Volunteer meeting, register at Volunteer Registration, sign waiver and receive wrist band. Sign for and pick up additional equipment (i.e. Ham Signs, vests, Stage packets, etc.) as needed for your assignment. Check the Rally Information board for the latest changes and meeting locations or times. Be ready to convoy with others on your team to your location. Typically, stages must be operational 90 minutes prior to Stage Start which means you are enroute to your location before anyone else!

### **Course Control**

All roads used as stages during the event will be temporarily closed to public access. **Only event organizers, Rally America Stewards, competitors, course opening and closing vehicles and emergency personnel will be allowed on the stage roads during the running of that stage. Personnel must run in direction of rally traffic only!** These individuals will have a Stage & Road

**Pass allowing access to a stage or past a roadblock.** There are very few accesses to the stage roads. These accesses will have radio equipped manned blockages. The bannered roads and washes will be checked before the start of the event by the marking crew and any banner found disturbed after this time will be investigated by the Control Captains or course opening vehicles and motorcycles may be used to check side roads and trails, on the day of event. Start and finish controls will be responsible for blocking entrance to the stages. All personnel in charge will be equipped with road use documentation from Riverside County, La Paz County and Yuma Proving Ground, as well as the event Safety Plan.

No press, worker or civilian vehicles are allowed on the stage road from the entry of the first course opening vehicle, until Green Light (course closing) passes the location. (If any vehicle does enter the course after the controls are set up but prior to Car 000 and road closure, they must be tracked and confirmed off the course before the stage can be run in competition). When Green Light reaches stage finish, and all personnel are accounted for, Net Control declares the stage completed and allows two-way traffic to proceed with extreme caution..

**Post Event:** When the last competitor has started the course, the Sweep vehicles, Medical and course opening vehicle (Green Light vehicle) will be sent on the course. Tracking these vehicles will be critical for you because once they pass your position the route to that point is open to the public. Coordinate with your Comm Captain as to how best to exit your area once released. Coordination will be imperative to avoid any accidents as the volunteers exit the stage. Return any equipment and signage you may have to the designated representative or the person you got it from. If any are damaged please let them know so it can be repaired or replaced before the next use. If possible, please attend the Post Event Party. That is where you can receive the recognition and thanks of the many other volunteers and competitors. Without the communications support you provide, this and other events could not be conducted in as safe and organized manor as it is.

**Checklist:** (suggestions only, create your own and share)

**Radios preprogrammed and manuals are with them?**

**Additional antennas, masts, coax and connectors?**

**Batteries, battery charger, power inverter or DC adapters, cabling for connections?<sup>1</sup>**

**Clothing: extra sets, jackets, rain gear, hats, gloves**

**Lights for night time use. (jumper cables if running off your vehicle)**

**Food and Water for 24 hours (emergency)**

**Medications**

**Paper, pens, pencils clipboard**

**Generate your list and share!**

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<sup>1</sup> I've noticed several people (myself included) have brought Anderson Power pole crimpers as part of our kits. If your equipment and batteries do not have this connection, please consider using it. Let us know and arrangements can be made to meet with you and help you make the conversion. This would give us a greater compatibility of equipment if it is ever needed.