

NEW SOUTH WALES FIRE BRIGADES OPERATIONS BULLETIN 2006/02



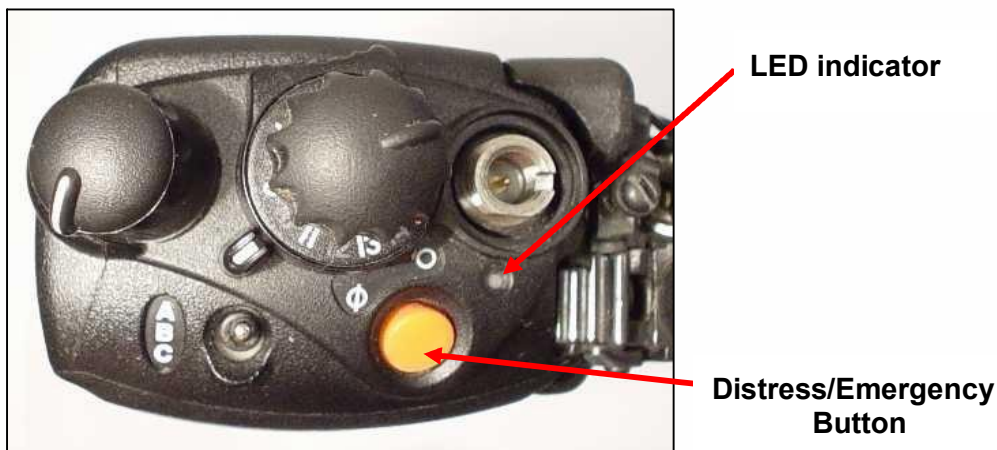
Motorola XTS 3000 Portable Radio: Distress/Emergency Button Use.

This Operations Bulletin should be read in conjunction with the Recommended Practice “*Motorola XTS 3000 Portable Radio Version C*” which has been updated to include changes within this Operations Bulletin. Click [here](#) to access the Recommended Practice from the NSWFB Station Portal.

This Operations Bulletin is issued to inform operational personnel that the distress/emergency button feature on the Motorola XTS 3000 portable radio is now operational in both the Government Radio Network (GRN) and Private Mobile Radio (PMR) radio coverage areas.

The GRN network provides radio communications in the Greater Sydney Area while the PMR network covers country NSW. Previously, the distress/emergency button on the Motorola XTS 3000 portable radio was only operational in the GRN radio coverage area but has now also been introduced in PMR radio coverage areas.

Figure 1: Orange Distress Button / Emergency Button.



Activation

On both the GRN and PMR, momentarily pressing the orange distress / emergency button will activate the emergency call feature and essentially lock the radio so the user cannot undertake other actions. The word EMERGENCY will flash on the screen of the radio and alternate with the channel number that the radio is currently on.

De-activation

When the radio is on a GRN talkgroup, the emergency call can be reset by pressing and holding down the distress/emergency button a second time for approximately 2 seconds until a continuous tone is heard. Until the emergency call is cancelled, the radio will continue to

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flash EMERGENCY and any attempt to use the radio by pressing the push to talk (PTT) will reactivate the emergency signal.

When the radio is on a PMR channel, the emergency feature automatically resets after the distress/emergency signal is sent and acknowledged (ACK RECEIVED) by the ComCen Operator.

General safety information

- The Orange Distress / Emergency Button (Figure 1) on the top of the *Motorola XTS 3000 radio* should only be used in an emergency or if in distress e.g. serious injury, physical entrapment, loss of contact or disorientation within a structure. This feature does not replace the use of a 'Red' message for an urgent request for assistance.
- This radio feature is designed to further ensure firefighter safety at incidents and training exercises. This feature does not preclude personal responsibility for correct implementation of other safe systems of work to ensure personal safety e.g. safe working practices, working in pairs, SCBA Control procedures and adequate supervision
- Turning the radio off and on again will also cancel the emergency call, but this practice is not recommended as it can leave the radio in an indeterminate state.
- **Note! The distress/emergency button only works when a radio is on a GRN channel and is within GRN radio coverage or when on a PMR channel and within PMR radio coverage. This feature does not work when the radio is used on any of the incident ground / simplex channels such as the 500 series talk group.**

| Noted, Station Commander | A | B | C | D | Other |
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| Contact Officer: | File Number: | Date: |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Name: George Gabriel Communication Unit, Greenacre Phone: (02) 9742 7471 | CHO/06178 | 24 th April 2006. |

Previous Operations Bulletin: 2006/1 – Responding with the Care Flight Head Injury Retrieval Trial (HIRT) Helicopter.