Site Trunking (Definition)

One or more trunked sites lose their connection to the Zone Controller. They are not necessarily off the air but because they have lost their connection to the controller they are now working completely independently.

- When talking about "Site Trunking" it is important to understand that the radios, both handheld and vehicle mounted, try to stay affiliated to a site that is in "wide area", (still connected to the Zone Controller and not in site trunking).
- The Zone Controller is the device that controls all system sites and radios and allows the radios to automatically roam from one site to another.

Example

Your radio is affiliated to Site "A" and the site, for whatever reason, loses its connection to the Zone Controller. Your radio is designed to try and re-affiliate with another site that is still in wide area (connected to the controller). If there is an accessible site that is still connected to the controller, the radio will re-affiliate and stay on the wide area site. Users may not even be aware this has occurred. If the site that a radio is affiliated to goes into "Site Trunking" and there is no other site in "wide area" the user radio display will intermittently flash "Site Trunking".

If you were on Site "A", your radio will still be able to function and talk with anyone on your talkgroup **that is still affiliated to Site "A".**

Others who are affiliated to Site "B" would only be able to communicate with those units/radios who are also affiliated on Site "B".

Because of this issue all radios on the UCAN system have been programmed with what is called **Lockdown Talkgroup(s).**

In the case of "Site Trunking" all users should switch their radios to their primary Lockdown Talkgroup. By switching to Lockdown it puts all units on a particular talkgroup who are within coverage of the Lockdown site, back together on that same site.

Issues to be aware of;

If a unit is outside the coverage area of the primary Lockdown Site **and switches to the Lockdown talkgroup** they will only hear an intermittent low tone (Bonk). That "Bonk" indicates they are currently outside of the coverage area. The radio will also display "Out of Range".

Training

Field units should be trained to know that when their radio(s) display site trunking they should automatically switch to their primary Lockdown talkgroup.

Site Trunking (Dispatch)

Dispatch Centers should be aware of the following:

When Red X's are displayed on the dispatch consoles the problem may be isolated to the dispatch consoles and not affect the field users radios.

In a Site Trunking event, Dispatch may or may not see red X's on the console positions.

If a console displays Red X's the dispatcher should turn on their backup radios and determine if they are in site trunking.

The dispatch backup radio is normally programmed identically to the users radios. If it is set or switched to a normal wide area talkgroup and it displays "Site Trunking" intermittently, dispatch and all users should switch to their Lockdown Talkgroup.

If the backup radio is selected to a lockdown talkgroup Site Trunking will not be displayed.

> The dispatch backup radios are nothing more than the radios all users have out in the field and they will function just the same.

> If for some reason dispatch cannot verify site trunking they should communicate with the field personnel by whatever means is necessary, to determine if the field radios are showing Site Trunking.

> When it is determined that the system is in Site Trunking the dispatcher should take the steps necessary to have all users switch to their lockdown talkgroup.

Make sure the dispatch backup radios are on the correct lockdown talkgroup and broadcast to all units to switch to lockdown.

After Dispatch is back communicating with the field personnel they should notify UCA. (In most cases UCA technicians will already be aware of the problem).

> The **preferred** method is by the UCA web site at www.uca911.org

> Click on the red button and fill out the information requested. By using the web site the information will quickly go out to **all UCA personnel** by smart phone.

> A backup method is to call 801-840-4216. This number will be forwarded to the on call technician's cell phone.