



DIGITAL RADIO TEST PROTOCOL

The following is a set of instructions to test a *digital portable radio* for interference in the presence of common fireground noises:

Test A:

1. Use a portable radio on a *digital channel*. Please identify the radio type.
2. One firefighter will operate the power tools listed below at full throttle while another firefighter stands directly next to the one operating the power tool with the portable radio (approximately 3 feet between the radio and the device, apparatus and/or tool).
3. A third firefighter, in a remote location, will monitor the radio transmission.
4. Once the power tool is operating at full throttle, the firefighter with the portable radio will repeat, "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY."
5. The firefighter monitoring radio traffic will document the audio quality for each test as:

I – intelligible, able to understand the voice audio message

U – unintelligible, unable to understand the voice audio message

Record the mode as:

D – digital

A – analog

Use the following power tools, devices or apparatus as appropriate. We recommend you test as many sources as possible:

K12 circular type saw

Chain Saw

PASS Device

High Apparatus engine idle

If your department uses Scott SCBA, perform the test while the vibra-alert is activated in low air mode (in a safe environment).

Test B:

Repeat Test A using the same radio in the *analog mode*.