



Homeland
Security

Fact Sheet

Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program

Purpose: The SHARed RESources (SHARES) High Frequency (HF) Radio Program is an essential element of the national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) infrastructure. Approved by the Executive Office of the President in 1989, SHARES provides the Federal emergency response community with a single interagency emergency message handling system for the transmission of NS/EP information. SHARES brings together existing HF radio resources of Federal, State and industry organizations when normal communications are destroyed or unavailable.

Background: The National Communication Systems (NCS) was tasked under Executive Order 12472 to develop a survivable telecommunications infrastructure capable of supporting NS/EP requirements. SHARES is a key element of this infrastructure. Participation in SHARES is open to all Federal departments and agencies and their designated affiliates on a voluntary, non-interfering basis. Overall support for SHARES is the responsibility of the Manager, NCS. The Chief, Critical Infrastructure Protection Division, Office of the Manager, NCS (OMNCS), is responsible for administering the SHARES program.

Highlights: Over 1,400 HF radio stations -- representing 104 Federal, state, and industry organizations, located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and at 23 locations overseas -- participate in SHARES. Nearly 300 emergency planning and response personnel also participate in SHARES. One hundred seventy-one HF frequencies are available for use by the members. The SHARES HF Interoperability Working Group, made up of 143 members representing 110 organizations, was established in 1985 to provide guidance and direction for the SHARES network, and to provide the Federal community a forum for addressing issues affecting HF radio.

Contact Information: Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Manager, NCC at (703) 676-CALL or (866) NCS-CALL, Choose Option 4. Fax: (703) 235-5078. Web Site: www.ncs.gov/shares
E-mail: NCSSHARES@dhs.gov. The SHARES Program Office can be contacted at (703) 235-5261.