general

NGE 230 Communications equipment

Purpose

To prescribe the rules for using communications equipment in the Network.

Communications equipment

Communications equipment listed in the following table, or compatible with equipment listed in the table, may be used to establish spoken effective communication in the Network.

Before rail traffic travels in the Network, equipment fitted to communicate with Network Control must be working correctly.

If Network Control communications equipment is defective, the Network Controller must:

- tell Maintenance Representatives about the faulty equipment, and

- establish alternative communication methods.

If a train's communications equipment becomes defective, Drivers must act in accordance with *NTR 410 Defective equipment.*

The following table lists the protocols to be used for each type of communications equipment.

Communications equipment	Protocol	Emergency button
450.050 MHz	Open-channel	No
In-cab Communication Equipment (ICE)	Discrete-channel if communicating with Operations Control, or through a pre set or dialled in number. Open-channel if communicating with other trains or ground staff that are using portable handset.	Yes
Digital Train Radio System (DTRS)	Discrete-channel	Yes
Government Radio Network (GRN)	Open-channel and discrete channel	No
UHF radios	Open-channel	No

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Communications equipment	Protocol	Emergency button
Yard radios	Open-channel	No
Control phones	Discrete-channel	Some
Mobile phones	Discrete-channel	No
Satellite phones	Discrete-channel	No
Standard phones	Discrete-channel	No
Trackside phones	Treat as discrete channel	No

> **ⓘ Note**
>
> If a Network communications failure is declared, the nominated senior Rail Operations representative, must make sure that:
>
> • appropriate controls are in place to ensure effective communications, and
>
> • all Train Crews, Network Controllers and Signallers are advised of the Network Communications failure, and
>
> • trains will enter the Network from Maintenance Centres, out-depots and sidings using an alternative means of communication.

Related Documents

NPR 721   Spoken and written communication