

REPEATER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
The use of voice announcements on UK Amateur radio repeaters

25th April 2006

1. Policy Guidelines

- (a) The Regulator, Ofcom, has agreed to the use of certain voice announcements on UK amateur repeaters already properly licensed by Ofcom.
- (b) The authority to make use of such limited announcements shall be by a specific amendment to the Notice of Variation (NoV) issued by Ofcom to the repeater keeper for the unit named on that NoV.
- (c) The form and content of the announcements shall be limited to the six types specified below.
- (d) Announcements shall be in plain speech, and may be in any of the languages in common use within the United Kingdom, namely English in England, Welsh in Wales and the appropriate Gaelic dialect in Scotland and Northern Ireland. If a language other than English is to be used it is recommended that both English and the other language are used.
- (e) The voice synthesis system used may be either analogue or digital but the resulting modulation shall be readily demodulated by a conventional receiver for the mode in use, and shall require no special techniques such as unusual de- or pre-emphasis to make it readily understood by the listener.

2. Texts Permitted

a) Identification Messages

The messages shall take the form indicated below and the words in *italics* are to be varied to suit the particular unit in question:

1. "Golf Bravo Three ***Alpha Alpha*** located ***Anywhere*** with CTCSS tone of ***77.80 Hertz***."
2. "For more information on the repeater and the group that provide this service, please contact ***Anywhere Group, Post Office Box Seventy Three, Anywhere, Postcode XX1 9XX***."

b) Information Messages

The keeper may insert one or all of the details and/or contact points they require in place of the words in *italics* in these four messages.

3. "***GB3AA*** is run by the ***Anywhere Repeater Group***. For more information contact ***G4QQQ at Address / PO Box No 88 / telephone no 01888 – 123456***"

4. "Reports of abuse are welcome. Please pass any information that you have in writing without delay to **G4QQQ at: Address / PO Box No 88 / telephone no 01888 – 123456**"
5. "For more information on how to report abuse, please contact **G4QQQ at: Address / PO Box No 88 / telephone no 01888 – 123456** or the Repeater Abuse Co-ordinator, c/o RSGB HQ at Lambda House, Cranborne Road, Potters Bar, Herts., EN6 3JE."
6. "The repeater keeper is **G4QQQ (and may be contacted at: Address / PO Box No 88 / telephone no 01888 – 123456.**"

3. Timing of Announcements

- (a) The announcements shall not in any way replace the requirement for the unit to identify in Morse Code at the specified period and in the form required within the main NoV and in accordance with the requirements laid down in BR68 (current issue).
- (b) No single message may be longer than 30 seconds in duration and there shall be no more than 12 such messages in any one hour under any circumstances whatever.
- (c) The voice announcement shall be disabled when traffic is passing through the repeater.

4. Specific Procedure

- (i) Repeater keepers wishing to add speech announcement to their units shall apply to Ofcom using the form E Which is available on the RMC web site.
- (ii) Unless there is a specific reason why such a facility is felt inappropriate (which shall be indicated in writing to the keeper and to Ofcom in writing), then Ofcom will issue an amended NoV to the keeper permitting the transmission of the permitted announcements (see above) by that unit.
- (iii) The amended NoV will be of the same form as the existing NoV document, but will have the following clause added to the documentation:-

Additional Clause 5A(b)(iii)

"The repeater station may transmit voice announcements to licensed amateur stations, the content and frequency of which must have been agreed in writing in advance by Ofcom on behalf of the Secretary of State".

- (iv) The amended NoV will be issued with the current date.
- (v) Enclosed with the amended NoV will be a copy of this procedure.