

Maine ARES Communications Modes and Software Programs

Situation	Band	Mode/Program	Notes
Live Operators	VHF/UHF	Voice	Simple tactical messages using proper phonetics and prowords for clarity. Generally local. Would include DMR or similar digital voice modes.
	VHF/UHF	Data/NBEMS (FEC)	Complex or formal messages & forms. Simplex or repeater. Generally local. Can mix voice and data. Compatible with NH ARES.
	HF	Voice	Simple tactical messages & limited formal traffic using proper phonetics and prowords for clarity. General coordination.
	HF	Data/NBEMS (FEC)	State-wide, limited regional. Compatible with NH ARES.
BPQ Bulletin Board (BBS)	VHF/UHF	Data/Packet with Winlink Express	Requires BBS and appropriate infrastructure i.e. packet nodes. County and some inter-county e.g. Waldo and Knox.
	HF	Data/Winmor or Pactor with Winlink Express Client. Flmsg for forms.	BPQ BBS required for statewide/regional coverage. Can be combined with packet facility.
Winlink Radio-Email	VHF/UHF	Data/Packet with Winlink Express Client. Flmsg for forms.	Requires packet gateway and appropriate infrastructure i.e. packet nodes. County and some inter-county.
	HF	Data/Winmor or Pactor with Winlink Express Client. Flmsg for forms.	Radio-email system using any available Winlink RMS. Eastern Canada and NH use Winlink. World-wide capabilities, inter operates with commercial email.
Health & Welfare Out of State (NTS/RRI Radiogram)	Any	Various	Local, statewide VHF/HF traffic nets using voice, cw & data. Via Winlink or BBS to Maine Digital Traffic Station. Direct injection into Digital Traffic Network via Winlink.

Program Group & Web Site	Operating System(s)	Constituent Software	Applications
NBEMS (Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System) w1hkj.com	Cross platform (Windows, Mac, Linux)	Fldigi – modem program	For keyboard use by itself or as the multi-mode modem for Flmsg and Flamp. Preferred modes for Maine include PSK250RC5 (VHF), Olivia 8/500 (HF Net Ops) and THOR 50x1 (file transfers).
		Flmsg – forms application	Multi-use program for producing formal documents such as ICS forms and radiograms. Will work with any client accepting attachments or file sharing applications. Produces printable form via web browser.
		Flamp – multicast application	One-to-many file transfer program. Breaks a file into blocks, which can be repeated/resent if there is a check sum failure.
Winlink Express winlink.org	Windows only. Requires Microsoft Net Framework 3.5 or higher.	Winlink Express – client program ITSHFBC – HF propagation program (works with Winlink Express) Flmsg – forms application*	Winlink Express (formerly RMS Express) is a multi-mode client program for use with the Winlink radio-email system or with BPQ bulletin boards. Modes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packet: local VHF/UHF • Winmor: sound card HF modem, low/moderate speed. • Pactor: requires SCS modem, highest HF data rate modes. • Telnet: direct internet connection to Winlink system.
DTN User Parser Distribution limited, ask SEC or state Digital Traffic Station	Windows. Appears to work under Wine (Linux)	Self contained but may be used with flmsg	Developed for ARES personnel to prepare radiograms in batch file format for direct submission to the Digital Traffic Network using Winlink radio-email. Includes extensive format checking and helps.
SARTrack sartrack.co.nz	Windows	SARTrack	APRS program optimized for search and rescue.

Notes

* The use of the Winlink html forms templates is strongly discouraged as they will not work with applications other than Winlink Express.