

Training & Exercises

<i>Communications Technician (COMT) Training Course</i>	
TA Delivery Method:	Five-Day In-Person Course
Recommended Participants:	Emergency Response Personnel with a Technical Communications Background

Offering Overview

This class provides introductory and refresher training for the NIMS ICS COMT position. It introduces public safety professionals and support staff to various communications concepts and technologies including interoperable communications solutions, LMR communications, satellite, telephone, data, and computer technologies used in incident response and planned events. It is designed for state/territory, tribal, urban, and local emergency response professionals and support personnel in all disciplines who have a technical communications background.

Participants develop the essential core competencies required for performing the duties of the COMT in an all-hazards incident, including responsibilities while operating in a local, regional, or state-level All-Hazards Incident Management Team.

The course is instructor-led and supports learning through discussion, lecture, and hands-on exercises to explain processes used for establishment and operation of the technical communications resources for an incident or planned event. The course is five-days and provides a realistic, hands-on approach to mastering the tasks and skills of a COMT. Course materials and the COMT Position Task Book will be provided to attendees via digital download prior to the course start date.

This class is taught by CISA instructors who have both practitioner and Communications Unit experience. Prior to the on-site class, CISA staff will work with the requesting site to incorporate communications technologies in use by the participants' agencies. SWICs are encouraged to notify the STO prior to its start to ensure the course is documented.

There must be a minimum of 8 up to a maximum of 16 vetted/qualified students two weeks in advance of the course in order for CISA to conduct the course.

Prerequisites for Attendance: *(prerequisites must be verified by the state two weeks in advance of the course)*

- Personal experience:
 - A public safety background with experience in field operations
 - A technical communications background
 - Awareness of fundamental public safety communications technology
 - Basic knowledge of applicable communications plans
- Completion of the following online courses from the FEMA EMI website:
 - IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100
 - IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
 - IS-700: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System
 - IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction Familiarity with the pre-course reading materials

Course Registration Process

- SWIC (or designated point of contact [POC]) Action:
 - Review and vet/approve the prerequisite documentation for sufficiency.
 - Submit a completed student verification form to CISA at least 14 days prior to the class.