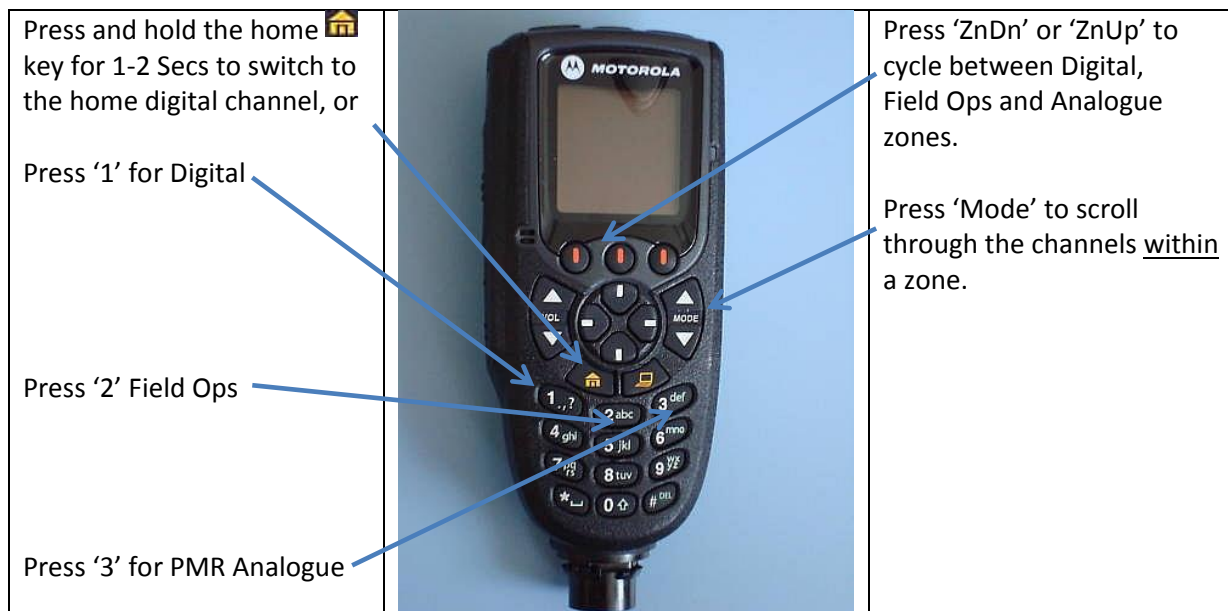


Yass River Digital PMR (Private Mobile Radio) Usage



Remain on channel **S015 STHN TD** unless instructed to change channels or travelling to another zone. Ask Firecom if not sure. S015 is used from Marulan to Bookham, Hall to Bigga across the entire Southern Tablelands zone.

(**S** Southern NSW, **015** Ch No, **STHN TD** Southern Tablelands)

Press the mic button (PTT) and wait for 2 seconds before speaking. This allows the 10 repeaters across the zone to activate.

Hold the microphone about 5-7 cm from your mouth and talk directly into the microphone in a normal voice. If analogue, talk across the microphone.

The alternative digital home channel uses the Government Radio Network (GRN) and is on SG028 STHN TD. Switch to this channel when advised or if unable to contact Firecom on S015. Use the "Mode" button to scroll to SG028. Press the PTT and wait for a beep before speaking.

Using the UHF handheld radios

The handheld UHF CB radios operate point to point on a public channel. They are usually 1 - 2 watts compared to 25 watts for the PMR radios. The truck UHF CBs are about 4 watts.

The handheld microphones are very sensitive and should be held about 10 cm from the mouth.

Fireground comms should be conducted on the UHF CB radios or Field Ops on the PMR. The Firecom repeater system is reserved for operational traffic between Firecom and officers, and notifying Firecom of your change of status such as arriving at the fireground.

Field Ops

The PMR radios are equipped with Field Ops channels and operate point to point between trucks. They are usually 25 watts compared to the truck CBs of about 4 watts. You will be notified if a fire is using Field Ops channels. They are not monitored by Firecom.

Surrounding Zones

Lake George/Palerang currently uses the digital GRN and is on channel SG017 LK GRG.

Monaro (Cooma), Riverina Highlands (Tumut) and Southwest Slopes (Harden) are still analogue, however there are plans to move to digital. Ask Firecom when tasked to another zone.

Tips

- Consider what you are going to say, listen, and then speak slowly and clearly. Wait if there is urgent traffic being passed.
- No need to say “over” unless there is a possibility of confusion
- Very first *task*-call should use the colour code following the truck call sign:
 - “Yellow” – routine call, such as a maintenance run; no response expected
 - “Blue” – operational call such as providing a sit rep when first unit at a fire
 - “Red” – urgent call, such as property under threat, require additional resources
 - “Emergency” – life threatening such as an overrun
- Begin transmission with the station you are calling, followed by your call sign
- Answer any questions requested by Firecom or control
- Subsequent responses can drop the call signs in the interest of brevity

Examples

Maintenance run

Firecom-Firecom, Yass River 2 yellow message
Yass River 2 has departed the shed for a maintenance run
Yass River 2 clear.

First unit at the fire

Firecom-Firecom, Yass River 1 blue message
[Yass River 1 Firecom, go ahead]
Firecom, Yass River 1, we have a running grass fire at 371 Boutchers Drive, Require additional units
[Roger Yass River 1, Yass River 7, Yass River 9 and Gundaroo 1 bravo are on their way]
Thanks Firecom, Yass River 1 clear
[Firecom clear and standing by, time 1324]

Leaving the fire ground

Firecom-Firecom, Yass River 7
[Yass River 7 Firecom, go ahead]
Firecom, Yass River 7 has left the fireground
[Roger Yass River 7, I have you leaving at time 1845]
Yass River 7 clear
[Firecom clear and standing by]

And a call on UHF Ch 27 (or Field Ops 1)

Yass River Captain, Yass River 2
[Yass River 2, go ahead]
Peter, we are low in water and require a refill
[Roger Yass River 2, the quick fill is located at Grid 387 254]
Thanks, we have leaving the fire ground, Yass River 2 clear
[Roger Yass River 2, call again on your return, Yass River Captain clear]