



THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM

BRIAN

WX5FTS

ABOUT ME

- Technician License issued January 28th, 2011 in Urbana-Champaign, IL (KC9TOK)
- Upgraded to General that Summer in Waco, TX
- NTS handler for half a year
- One of many Net Controls for DFW Traffic Net
- Worked with ARES for 3 years in McLennan County, Texas (Waco, TX)
- Certified with FEMA as a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member
- Work for Dallas CERT on a volunteer basis

ABOUT THE TRAFFIC SYSTEM

- Called the “National Traffic System” or NTS for short, but can be used to send messages worldwide
- Messages are normally no more than 25 words long
- The forms used to send messages are called “Radiogram forms”
- Traffic consists of 4 different types of “priorities” and various handling instructions
- Each person has their own system for numbering Radiograms (most common is numbering each message you send in the order you send it (i.e., you are sending your first message on the NTS system ever or for the year and number it “1”, second message numbered “2”, and so forth)

WX5FTS NTS Book

Contents inside are from WX5FTS or other stations and to various people around the DFW area. Left side front contains sent material, right side front contains received material. Right side back contains NTS Net Scripts and reference material as well as messages to be sent out, left side back contains blank radiogram forms. Back side of this binder has the US Band Plan for Amateur Radio.

AL = Any Location

AP = Any Power

AS = Any Station

APS = Any Power or Station

ALPS = Any Power, Station, or Location

Message numbers and how they are sorted if introduced by WX5FTS:

1 – 299, 3000's (if needed) : Sent from Home Base Station (APS)

300's, 700's, 6000's (if needed) : Sent from Portable/QRP station (AL)

400 – 599, 900's, 1500's, 7000's (if needed) : Sent from Mobile station (AP)

600's : Sent from Special Site (i.e. Field Day, POTA, BSAJOTA, etc.) (APS)

800's : Sent from Maritime or Aviation Mobile location (APS)

1000 – 1499, 1600 – 1999, 9000's (if needed) : Net Reports (ALPS)

2000's : Service Messages (Replies to Stations) (ALPS)

4000's : Emergency Messages (ALPS)

5000's : Priority Messages (ALPS)

8000's : Welfare Messages (ALPS)

Brian WX5FTS

Follow The Storms

Whiskey X-ray 5 Foxtrot Tango Sierra

-5, -7, -9 on APRS

Spotter Network

OK-ARK and DFW SKYWARN, OK ARES, Dallas CERT

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WHAT IS A RADIOGRAM?

- The standard format for messages
- Allows us to use a standardized and consistent layout when making, sending, receiving, or delivering messages from around the world
- While Radiograms come in various formats (i.e., green tear-off pads, PDFs, Spreadsheet files, etc.) they will always have the same content.
- What does a basic Radiogram form look like?



ARRL — the national association for Amateur Radio™



RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
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TO

THIS RADIO MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT

AMATEUR STATION _____ PHONE _____

NAME _____ E-MAIL _____

STREET _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

FROM

DATE

TIME

TO

DATE

TIME

REC'D

This message was handled at no charge by a licensed Amateur Radio operator, whose address is shown in the box at right above. No compensation can be accepted by a "ham" operator. A return message may be filed with the "ham" delivering this message to you. Further information on Amateur Radio may be obtained from ARRL Headquarters, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111 or www.arrl.org.

SENT

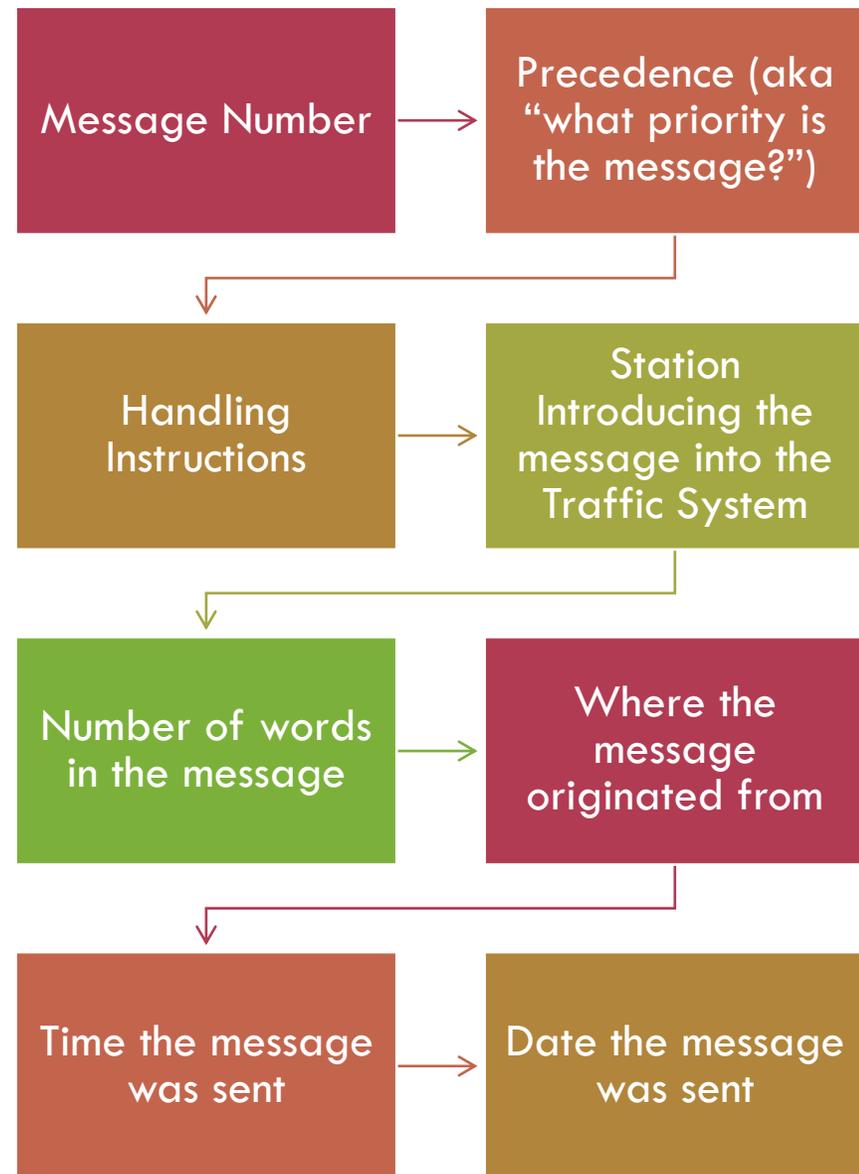
The ARRL is the national association for Amateur Radio and the publisher of *QST* magazine. One of its functions is promotion of public service communication among Amateur Radio operators. To that end, the ARRL has organized the National Traffic System for daily nationwide message handling.

1320 2/11

PARTS OF A RADIOGRAM

- 4 Basic Parts
- Header
- Address
- Text
- Signature

RADIOGRAM HEADER



ADDRESS
BOX

Who are you sending it to?

What is their phone number?

What is their Email?

Are there any special instructions not covered by the Handling Instructions (HX)?

TEXT AND SIGNATURE BOXES

- Self explanatory (for the most part)



THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE
RADIOGRAM
 VIA AMATEUR RADIO



NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
1	R	G	K5SLD	17	Arlington Tx	16162	06/27/21

TO Steven Smith
 KG5VK

THIS RADIO MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED AT

AMATEUR STATION _____ PHONE _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER 318-420-9806

OPROK: IFARL

Arlington	Amateur	Radio	club	15
participating	IN	Field	Day	IN
Arlington	46	participants	with	33
licensed	Amateurs			

Signed: Bill Tatsch AESBT

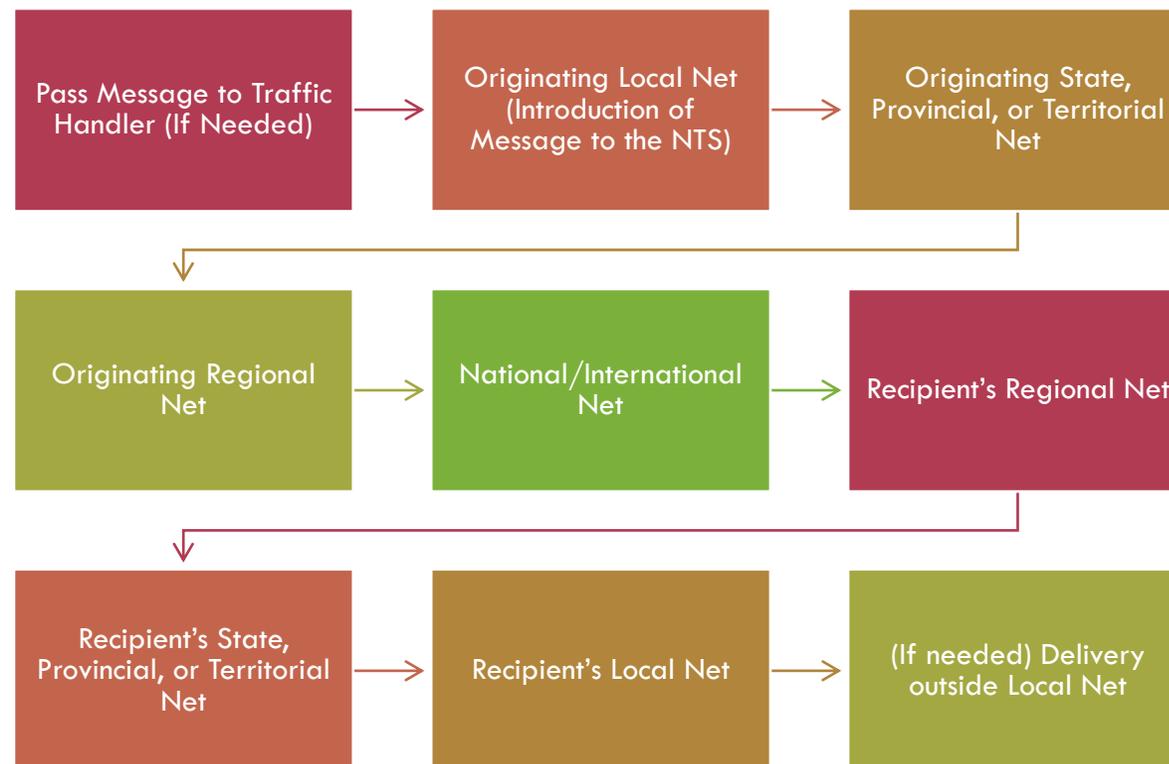
FROM	DATE	TIME	TO	DATE	TIME
REC'D			SENT		

THIS MESSAGE WAS HANDLED FREE OF CHARGE BY A LICENSED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR, WHOSE ADDRESS IS SHOWN IN THE BOX AT RIGHT ABOVE. AS SUCH MESSAGES ARE HANDLED SOLELY FOR THE PLEASURE OF OPERATING, NO COMPENSATION CAN BE ACCEPTED BY A "HAM" OPERATOR. A RETURN MESSAGE MAY BE FILED WITH THE "HAM" DELIVERING THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. FURTHER INFORMATION ON AMATEUR RADIO MAY BE OBTAINED FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS, 225 MAIN STREET, NEWINGTON, CT 0611

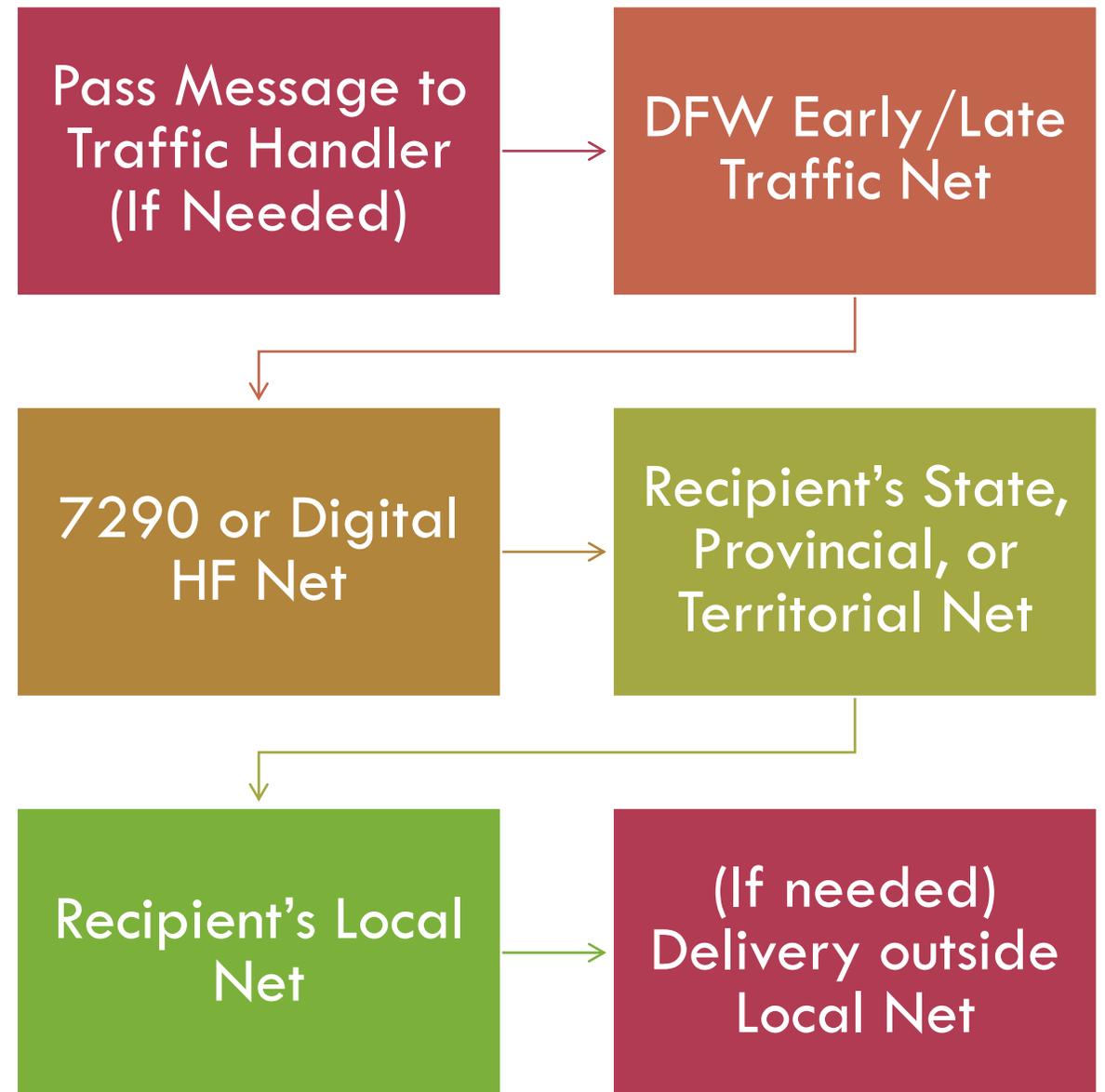
THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC. IS THE NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP SOCIETY OF LICENSED RADIO AMATEURS AND THE PUBLISHER OF QST MAGAZINE. ONE OF ITS FUNCTIONS IS PROMOTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATION AMONG AMATEUR OPERATORS. TO THAT END, THE LEAGUE HAS ORGANIZED THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM FOR DAILY NATIONWIDE MESSAGE HANDLING.

HOW IS A RADIOGRAM MOVED?

OVERVIEW OF HOW THE NTS WORKS



HOW THE NTS WORKS IN DFW



HOW TO GET STARTED IN THE NTS

- Various ways to get started or find resources related to the National Traffic System:
 - NTX STM Website: (www.k8amh.com)
 - ARRL NTX Section Website: (www.arrlntx.org)
 - DFW Traffic Net (www.dfwtrafficnet.org)
 - 7290 Traffic Net (www.7290trafficnet.org)
 - Winlink/RRI (www.radio-relay.org or www.winlink.org)
 - ARRL Net Search (www.arrl.org/arrl-net-directory-search)

NTS NETS AVAILABLE IN DFW

- DFW Early Traffic Net (W5FC 146.880MHz -0.600MHz PL 110.9) 18:30 every night
- DFW Late Traffic Net (WA5CKF 146.720MHz -0.600MHz PL 110.9) 22:30 every night
- 7290 Traffic Net (7.290MHz LSB) 10:00-12:00 every day but Sunday
- TEX (Texas CW) Traffic Net [not affiliated with the ARRL] (3.451 or 3.456MHz CW) 19:00 and 22:00 every day but Saturday
- Texas Slow Net (3.570MHz +/- QRM CW) 19:45 every day

LET'S TRY WRITING A MESSAGE!

- Using what you've learned, let's write a message to Brian (WX5FTS). Your message can contain anything that interests you or anything you want to say.
- Questions? Raise your hand and ask! I'll be more than happy to help you out!