

**CVSE - Occupational Health & Safety Committee**  
**SOUTH COAST REGION**

**Date:**           **May 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 (April 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 Previous)**

**Location**       **Fraser Valley Regional Office**

**Members and Alternates**

Steve Haywood  
Cole Delisle  
Gary Li  
Cindy Hogg                               (absent)  
Ben Taylor  
Heather Lilburn                       (absent)  
Don Allenby  
Sandra Goes                           (absent)  
Phil Williams

**Representing**

Management  
Management  
Management/ GV Inspection Stations  
Management/ FV Inspection Stations  
FV Inspection Stations  
Mobile Inspectors  
Area Vehicle Inspectors  
Carrier Safety Inspectors  
Vancouver Island Inspectors

Meeting called to order 1105hrs

<b>Item #</b>	<b>Old Business</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>
13-10-04	Some handheld radios not functioning correctly	Update: New digital radios installed. Currently testing range and reception	Steve - ongoing
14-02-02	Inadequate Radio and cell coverage in North Island.	Using in-car booster. Will continue to look into Sat phone option. Update in few months	CLOSED
s.22			CLOSED
14-02-04	Members received OHS committee appointment letters from BCGEU in December	Contact BCGEU about new and revised membership	CLOSED
14-02-07	Filing boxes being stacked and obstructing access in Surrey office kitchen area	Currently inventorying of boxes for off-site removal	Steve - ongoing
14-02-08	CSI duties require extended time periods sitting and working on computers	Registered 1-day Ergonomic Assessment course	CLOSED
14-03-01	Mobile units require annual inspection	Complete prior to next meeting	OHS Reps and Scale Supervisors - ongoing
14-03-02	Portable panic alarm FOB	Van Isl FOB's confirmed and tested	CLOSED
14-04-01	Incident with aggressive Carrier – Van. Isl.	Incident report reviewed and discussed.	CLOSED
14-04-02	Chilliwack Office shed – requires sorting and clean up	Set date to inventory and disposal – Not OHS issue	CLOSED
14-04-03	Hearing Test and First-Aid Training	GVR completed. FV booked. Van Isl. to be booked.	On-going

Item#	New Business	Action	Responsibility
14-05-01	Hi-Vis safety vests	Risk assessment to be completed regarding bib or tear away design	Gary
14-05-02	OHS Committee courses	Completed by Don Allenby	CLOSED

Meeting adjourned 1130hrs - Next meeting Thursday June 19<sup>th</sup> at 1100hrs

**Distribution list**

Committee members	Portable CTI's
Group Supervisors	MoTi LMD OHS Committee c/o Debra Derkson
Arlene Cordoviz	
Coreen Wolanski	

**CVSE - Occupational Health & Safety Committee**  
**SOUTH COAST REGION**

**Date:**            **July 18<sup>th</sup> 2014 (May 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 Previous)**

**Location**        **Fraser Valley Regional Office**

**Members and Alternates**

Steve Haywood	(excused)
Cole Delisle	
Gary Li	
Cindy Hogg	
Ben Taylor	
Heather Lilburn	(absent)
Don Allenby	
Sandra Goes	
Phil Williams	(absent)

**Representing**

Management
Management
Management/ GV Inspection Stations
Management/ FV Inspection Stations
FV Inspection Stations
Mobile Inspectors
Area Vehicle Inspectors
Carrier Safety Inspectors
Vancouver Island Inspectors

Meeting called to order 1105hrs

Recent assignments excuses Steve Haywood from further meetings and welcomes Jim MacMillan

Item #	Old Business	Action	Responsibility
13-10-04	Some handheld radios not functioning correctly	Update: New digital radios installed. New system not works as well as expected. Awaiting additional options before re-opening	Forwarded to Cole-CLOSED
14-02-07	Filing boxes being stacked and obstructing access in Surrey office kitchen area	Currently inventorying of boxes for off-site removal per TRIM protocol	CLOSED
14-03-01	Mobile units require annual inspection	Complete prior to next meeting. All sites inspected	OHS Reps and Scale Supervisors - ongoing
14-04-03	Hearing Test and First-Aid Training	Hearing tests complete. OFA Level 1 class booked for Aug 11	CLOSED
14-05-01	Hi-Vis safety vests	Risk assessment forwarded. Waiting for final design decision and order	ongoing
Item#	New Business	Action	Responsibility
14-07-01	PSA Workplace Ergonomics Course	Offered in October in Vancouver and Burnaby	Don
14-07-02	New vehicles require eyewash bottles and saline	Inventory and count of deficiencies	OHS Reps
14-07-03	Spill kits	Depleted spill kits at scale sites would be replenished. Kit options forwarded	Cole

14-07-04	Incident report – tripping hazard Haig Scale	WSI attended site and modified step to reduce trip potential	CLOSED
14-07-05	Incident report – Aggressive driver	Bypass driver non co-operative and aggressive toward Inspector – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Inspector arrived onsite as back-up	CLOSED

Meeting adjourned 1140hrs - Next meeting August 15th at 1100hrs

**Distribution list**

Committee members  
Group Supervisors  
Arlene Cordoviz  
Coreen Wolanski

Portable CTI's  
MoTi LMD OHS Committee c/o Debra Derkson

From: [Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX](#)  
To: [Wood, Jason TRAN:EX](#)  
Cc: [Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX](#)  
Subject: Re: radio question  
Date: Thursday, November 6, 2014 10:31:26 AM

---

Hello Jason,

I will not be aim the office tomorrow however Rick Wiltshire will be taking over all CVSE vehicle items. He will be available to meet with you at Nordel tomorrow and find a solution to the radio issues.

Thanks  
Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2014, at 2:06 PM, "Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX" <[Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Sounds good Jason. I will be available after 9am til about 2pm

Thanks  
Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2014, at 1:51 PM, "Wood, Jason TRAN:EX" <[Jason.Wood@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jason.Wood@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Steve,  
Can we meet on Friday morning? I am in Vancouver on other business that day?  
Anytime in the AM workis for me.  
JW

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 3, 2014 5:59 PM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: radio question

Hello Jason,

With the upcoming winter season and CVSE officers heading more into the mountain passes I really need a solution to dialling up the repeater with these new digital radios.

I know I've sent a few emails with concern your way in regards to this, however it is imperative a solution is discussed wether that means getting some new radios that are not digital until the winter season is over or finding away for the digital radios to be able to dial up the repeaters while in analogue mode.

As the only source of communication outside of cell range the radios provide important updates as well as provide officer safety while in work alone which we are required to follow by government and Worksafe BC policies.

Can we arrange a time in the next day or two to discuss this issue?

Thanks

Steve

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Handler, Pete TRAN:EX" <[Pete.Handler@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Pete.Handler@gov.bc.ca)>

**Date:** November 3, 2014 at 4:42:49 PM PST

**To:** "Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX" <[Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca)>

**Subject:** RE: radio question

Hey Steve

Thanks – I'm toed up with Neil and Abbys PD tomorrow doing a presentation to Vedder Transport otherwise I can come meet Jason anywhere-anytime- as with the snow coming to the Coquihalla and Canyon that ability to hit up the repeater is pretty key.

Thanks

Pete

---

**From:** Handler, Pete TRAN:EX

**Sent:** Monday, November 3, 2014 4:30 PM

**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX

**Subject:** radio question

Hey Steve

Is there a trick to hitting up the repeater on the new digital radio?

Thanks

Pete

From: [Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX](#)  
To: [Therrien, Perry J TRAN:EX](#)  
Cc: [Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX](#)  
Subject: Re: Truck radio Unit 21251  
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 11:40:25 AM  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

---

Thanks Perry. I will let Rick follow up with Blue max.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 16, 2014, at 11:38 AM, Therrien, Perry J TRAN:EX  
<[Perry.Therrien@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Perry.Therrien@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hey Steve, just a FYI – Not sure if you want to bring it up with Blue Max for quality control, your call. This is the new Ford truck we just picked up.. Unit 21251. We had a Radio issue and were not about to take it all the way back to Langley/Surrey so we had it looked at locally. Installation error, pinched Coax causing poor signal on transmit and receive, no radio range.

Good to go now ☺, we used the Spare antenna they put on.

Perry T

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**From:** Bertoli, Barry TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2014 11:29 AM  
**To:** Therrien, Perry J TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Truck radio

Hi Perry

Just an update, problem with the original coax to front fender, replaced the ends with no difference in output, was less than 2 watts. Used the rear cab cable and added an end and an antenna from the front and full power was restored, about 3 watts. So it appears the coax was damaged somewhere from the radio to front fender, we abandon it and used the rear mount with success.

Barry Bertoli

Senior Area Vehicle Inspector  
Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

4791 - 23rd. Street Vernon, B.C. V1T-4K7

Cell # s.17 Fax # 250-503-3631

Email [barry.bertoli@gov.bc.ca](mailto:barry.bertoli@gov.bc.ca)

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## Wood, Jason TRAN:EX

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**From:** Spanier, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 5, 2015 8:55 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio's

Hey Jason,  
Sure, that will work.  
The Surrey CVSE Office address is:  
Unit 104, 5460 152 St in Surrey.  
It is on the southeast corner of Highway 10 and 152 St.  
See you around noonish this Friday.

***Rick Spanier (RSE)***  
***Area Vehicle Inspector***  
***Lower Mainland Office – Surrey & Fraser Valley***  
***Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement***  
***Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure***  
***Office: 604-575-3433***  
***Cell: 604-575-3447***  
***Fax: 604-575-3447***  
***Email: [richard.spanier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:richard.spanier@gov.bc.ca)***



**[www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse)**

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**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2015 8:05 PM  
**To:** Spanier, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio's

Hi Rick,



I am in Kelowna for a couple of days, but will be coming back thru the lower mainland on Friday.  
If you are available on Friday, we could meet then and I could update your programming.  
I will probably be in the Lower Mainland around noonish. I can come to you.

JW

---

**From:** Spanier, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2015 11:15 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Digital Radio's

Hey Jason,  
After last week's move of the repeater station relocation, my digital radio will need to be reprogrammed.  
When would you be available to perform this task.  
Thanks,

***Rick Spanier (RSE)***  
***Area Vehicle Inspector***  
***Lower Mainland Office – Surrey & Fraser Valley***  
***Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement***  
***Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure***  
***Office: 604-575-3433***  
***Cell: (s.17)***  
***Fax: 604-575-3447***  
***Email: [richard.spanier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:richard.spanier@gov.bc.ca)***



**[www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse](http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse)**

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**From:** Brown, Neil TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, July 31, 2015 9:28 AM  
**To:** Neal, Greg TRAN:EX; Grossling, Fernando B TRAN:EX; Sakhon, Marcus TRAN:EX; Kendall, Jim TRAN:EX; Zakus, Mike TRAN:EX; Engel, Paul TRAN:EX; Thompson, Peter A TRAN:EX; Owen, Clifford F TRAN:EX; Spanier, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** MacMillan, Jim TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Digital Radio's

Please Advise Digital or No Digital

Thx

Neil

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 29, 2015 6:04 PM  
**To:** Brown, Neil TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Digital Radio's

Check with your guys and see who has the digital radio's in their trucks. Might be easier to have Jason just make one trip to Surrey office to have all the radio's reprogrammed if they need to be.

Thanks  
Steve

---

**From:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 29, 2015 1:01 PM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Digital Radio's

Steve just to update you on this:

Jason has move the repeater form the bottom of the tower in the Alex Fraser Bridge to the Top. This should eliminate a bunch of the dead zones that are in Sry and other locations.

He has reprogrammed the base station at Nordel and at Pacific as well as some of the vehicles (C-23 Unit 5204 Unit 21239 and Unit 21119) here at Nordel he programmed Pacific's vehicles as well

If you could find out who has digital radio out of the AVI group it would be appreciated as they can contact Jason directly so that their radios can be reprogrammed.

If the radio states " CVSE RPTR " then has been done.

As for the portable radios they will be done at a later date as Kenwood is coming out with some new Firm ware for them,

I also was able to get two radios for the Blue dodge and a Tahoe that does not have them installed and that will be done tomorrow as AVO is coming here.

Thanks Rick

## Wood, Jason TRAN:EX

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**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 4, 2015 7:23 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital

We are always listening (at least when its working).  
And the fact is, the CVSE staff could give a course to the rest of the users on professional radio conduct.  
We have found the problem and plan to have everything up and running on Thursday.

JW

---

**From:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 4, 2015 8:54 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX; Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital

Thanks Jason  
We didn't know you guys were listening..... thiiiis changes Eeeeverything. LOL

---

**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 3, 2015 4:16 PM  
**To:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital

The guys in the lab just confirmed to me that they haven't heard any digital traffic all day. We are normally able to listen to it.  
We suspect the problem is with the digital repeater on Alex Fraser Bridge. I will have techs check it out first thing tomorrow morning and let you know what we find.

### Jason Wood, P.Eng.

Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

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**From:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 3, 2015 4:05 PM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Digital

Jason just to advise you the digital radio has not been working for the past day. Received a call from Murray one of the officers that have it in his truck and he had to switch back to the analog to get Pacific to hear him  
Please let me know what the outcome of this is

Thanks0

***Rick Wiltshire***

Safety Liaison *Officer*  
**Commercial Transport Enforcement Officer**  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

***Nordel Inspection Station, Delta***

***Cell: s.17***

***Tel: (604) 587-3300***

***Fax: (604) 587-3303***

**[www.cvse.ca](http://www.cvse.ca)**

A mobile-friendly version of our website is now available! Bookmark [www.cvse.ca/mobile](http://www.cvse.ca/mobile)



## Wood, Jason TRAN:EX

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**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 6, 2014 3:02 PM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: radio question

Hi Rick,  
I will be at Nordel at 9am on Friday.  
If that time doesn't work then call me on my cell at s.17 and we can set something else up.

### Jason Wood, P.Eng.

Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 6, 2014 10:31 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Re: radio question

Hello Jason,

I will not be aim the office tomorrow however Rick Wiltshire will be taking over all CVSE vehicle items. He will be available to meet with you at Nordel tomorrow and find a solution to the radio issues.

Thanks  
Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2014, at 2:06 PM, "Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX" <[Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Sounds good Jason. I will be available after 9am til about 2pm

Thanks  
Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 4, 2014, at 1:51 PM, "Wood, Jason TRAN:EX" <[Jason.Wood@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jason.Wood@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Hi Steve,  
Can we meet on Friday morning? I am in Vancouver on other business that day?

Anytime in the AM works for me.

JW

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 3, 2014 5:59 PM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Fwd: radio question

Hello Jason,

With the upcoming winter season and CVSE officers heading more into the mountain passes I really need a solution to dialling up the repeater with these new digital radios.

I know I've sent a few emails with concern your way in regards to this, however it is imperative a solution is discussed whether that means getting some new radios that are not digital until the winter season is over or finding away for the digital radios to be able to dial up the repeaters while in analogue mode.

As the only source of communication outside of cell range the radios provide important updates as well as provide officer safety while in work alone which we are required to follow by government and Worksafe BC policies.

Can we arrange a time in the next day or two to discuss this issue?

Thanks  
Steve

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

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**Date:** November 3, 2014 at 4:42:49 PM PST  
**To:** "Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX" <[Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Steven.Bauer@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: radio question

Hey Steve

Thanks – I'm toed up with Neil and Abbys PD tomorrow doing a presentation to Vedder Transport otherwise I can come meet Jason anywhere-anytime- as with the snow coming to the Coquihalla and Canyon that ability to hit up the repeater is pretty key.

Thanks  
Pete

---

**From:** Handler, Pete TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, November 3, 2014 4:30 PM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** radio question

Hey Steve

Is there a trick to hitting up the repeater on the new digital radio?

Thanks

Pete

## Wood, Jason TRAN:EX

---

**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, May 9, 2014 9:14 AM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Should be on the 9am ferry on Monday, so would be at Nordel at 11:15 ish.

JW

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 8, 2014 1:38 PM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Thanks Jason,

I agree with not setting up Bravo 10 for the talk around Chanel, that will be reserved for portables and vehicles. Monday sounds good, do you have an estimated time frame and I will get the mobile vehicles here for programming. As for funding discussions!!! I will leave that between you and Mr. Haywood.

Thanks  
Steve

---

**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 8, 2014 1:22 PM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Hello Gentlemen,

I do have two digital, portable radios on my desk here and have added a digital talk around channel to them. The callsigns are setup as Charlie 23P and Charlie 38P. They are working as expected. I can bring them over on Monday and drop them at the Nordel scale. I was planning on putting in the new wifi/cellular router in the *Breadbox of Justice* at the same time. If some of the other operators are around the scale at that time then I could program the talkaround channel in their mobile radios at that time. I am reluctant to put the talkaround channel in Bravo 10 at this time because it could create more problems than it solves. My personal feeling is that a radio that is meant for crucial checkins should always stay on a dedicated channel. But it is your system so we are happy to do whatever you feel works best for your operation.

If you decide to go full scale with these digital radios then sooner or later we are going to have to have that funding discussion. ☺

**Jason Wood, P.Eng.**  
Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.



Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

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**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 8, 2014 12:58 PM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Hey Jason,

I'll take it.

Can you let me know when the possibility of having the radios programmed for this channel would fit into your guys schedule? I will arrange for the vehicle operators to attend.

Any word on the portable digital radios yet? Can you also have this talk around channel programmed on them as well please.

Thanks  
Steve

---

**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, May 5, 2014 3:51 PM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Hi Steve,

Range for a talk around digital channel varies immensely with the local conditions (hills, buildings, semi-trucks etc) surrounding the transmitting vehicle.

Worst case, you should have at least a couple of kilometers, best case ( which never happens) would be 15-20 km. This would only be used to communicate directly from one user to another and would not depend on whether the user was within range of the repeater at Alex Fraser.

Meaning, in theory, it could be used anywhere in the province.

**Jason Wood, P.Eng.**

Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 1, 2014 10:58 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX; Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Digital Radio testing

Hello Jason,

Thanks for the quick response. I would be very interested in having the digital talk around station programmed in the radios. Based off the frequencies we have access to do you know what kind of range we will get?

Thank  
Steve

---

**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 01, 2014 10:29 AM Pacific Standard Time  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX; TRAN ALL CM Radio Technicians  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

Steve,

Thanks for this great feedback, It is all valuable information.

I did have a chuckle when reading through the comments and saw the reference to Stephen Hawking. That is the exact same name that came up when we were doing our testing. When a user starts to sound like Stephen Hawking, it is because they are in a weak signal area. Digital radio signals are always "error checked" and when a user gets into a poor coverage area, the receiver starts to experience more errors in the data transmission. The receiver recognizes these errors and attempts to rebuild the audio signal using a predictive algorithm. So since it always tries to rebuild the signal using the same mathematical algorithm, everyone begins to sound like the same computer generated voice. Not much we can do about that aspect other than try to minimize the areas of poor coverage. And I hope Rick has a sense of humour when I say he should be flattered,.. This is probably the only time that anyone will confuse him with Stephen Hawking when he is talking.

As for areas of poor coverage noted below,...

From what I can tell, there aren't really a lot of surprises there. The repeater is located on Alex Fraser bridge which unfortunately puts most of Cloverdale and a lot of east Surrey in a shadow. We could look at moving the repeater but that in itself is a long and slow process which involves a lot of correspondence with the Federal government and even the US government. We aren't against going down that road, but everyone needs to understand that it's a long process and usually any gains in coverage area in one location are met with losses in another direction. If the digital program is embraced by the CVSE then we would look at adding a second digital repeater out in the Abbotsford area in the next year or so to improve coverage out in that direction.

Moving forward for now though here are some tips and suggestions to improve on the growing pains experienced so far.

1. As per Richard's comments about it working one time and not the next when you are within a few feet, yes that does happen. In these scenarios try to use the signal strength meter on the radio display to determine the best area for received signal strength. Sometimes you can improve it significantly by creeping forward a few feet.

2. Any interest in adding a “talk around” channel? Currently all radios are setup to only talk thru the repeater at Alex Fraser. A “ talk around” channel would allow users within a few kilometers to talk directly to one another even when they are in a poor coverage area. It would be setup as a digital channel.
3. We will try some “tweaking” of antennas at Alex Fraser and Pacific Scale in an attempt to generally improve things especially in the Cloverdale area.
4. If operationally possible, try to have conversations in a stopped vehicle when in a fringe area.

We consider this to be very early in the deployment stage will continue to attempt improvements to the system and have no plans to take away any of the existing Analog channels.

**Jason Wood, P.Eng.**

Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

---

**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 1, 2014 8:16 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Fw: Digital Radio testing

Hello Jason,

Some initial feedback on the digital radios. Thoughts on some of the issues mentioned?

Thanks  
Steve

---

**From:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 01, 2014 08:03 AM Pacific Standard Time  
**To:** Philbrick, Richard TRAN:EX; Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX; Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Digital Radio testing

I echo many of ricks findings and will try to add some new challenge areas.  
First off when the radio works it is amazing clarity. I think as we approach the fringe capabilities of the signal strength to repeater, it effects the voice modulation and in fact the ability to have voice recognition.  
While talking with rick in his driveway S/surrey and I was in my driveway Langley City Rick started to sound like Stephen Hawking (No disrespect intended!)

I found that Pacscale heard us a lot more than we heard them in general.  
I think the Pacscale install may need tweaking for lack of a better choice of words  
Digital worked for me listed below.  
Pacscale Langley City my residence.

Richmond to Pacscale  
Richmond to Rick s.15,s.22  
Tsawwassen to pacscale  
Tilbury area delta pacscale  
Scott& 72 delta rick coquitlam office area

Digital did not work for me  
Surrey regional office to pacscale  
Cloverdale in general to pacscale

I like the fact we are stand alone on this channel and I think this will work for us, we just have some growing pains.  
I don't know the costs of repeaters, I wonder if one @ Pascale would help with a stronger signal to Cloverdale and Langley bypass areas.

Gentlemen thanks for including me in this I like this kind of thing.

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**From:** Philbrick, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 1, 2014 6:13 AM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Haywood, Steven TRAN:EX; Calbick, Bruce W TRAN:EX; Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Digital Radio testing  
**Importance:** High

Hi Steve, here are my results for the first few days of testing the Digital Radio Channel.  
I came into this test expecting great results but have been very disappointed with the performance so far. I have found that if the radio works great in one location once I will not work or be garbled the next time at the very same location give or take a few feet. I have found that in some areas B-10 can hear me perfectly but I can't hear them or they are garbled.  
Here are the locations and results so far:-

#### Digital Radio Channel works

s.15,s.22	Morning
s.15	

#### Digital radio Channel Does Not Work

s.15,s.22	Afternoon.
s.15,s.22	
s.15	

Rick Philbrick

Dangerous Goods Inspector  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement  
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(fax) 604-587-3303

**From:** [Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX](#)  
**To:** [Kennedy, Darren TRAN:EX](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Digital radios  
**Date:** Thursday, August 14, 2014 3:08:00 PM

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Follow up on this next week please and respond to Murray, Cole and Rick as well. I will forward Jason woods response to you once I receive it.

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**From:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2014 11:51 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Delisle, Cole TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Digital radios

Hey Jason,

Still seems to be a challenge for the digital radios. The issue of dialing up the repeater on the analog side any solutions or ideas?

Thanks

Steve

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**From:** Campbell, Murray F TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2014 10:31 AM  
**To:** Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX  
**Cc:** Delisle, Cole TRAN:EX; Philbrick, Richard TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Digital radios

Steve:

I would like to provide an update on the digital channel.

I am of the understanding Pac. Hears us more times than not, we can't hear them. When working they are great, quite clear it a beautiful thing LOL.

Unfortunately I have been defaulting back to analog more.

Also I found the mic. For these radios don't activate the repeater system of the analog side.

Can we get them working?

If so where do you want us to get this done?

Thanks

M F Campbell

Area Vehicle Inspection Officer (CVSE)

#104 5460 152 street Surrey BC V3S 5J9

Ph: 604-575-3433 Fax 604-575-3447

**From:** [Bauer, Steven TRAN:EX](#)  
**To:** [Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Digital radios  
**Date:** Thursday, January 22, 2015 4:53:33 PM

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Rick Philbrick  
Murray Campbell  
c23  
c39

Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 22, 2015, at 4:04 PM, Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX <[Rick.Wiltshire@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Rick.Wiltshire@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:  
>  
> Steve, do you remember who has digital radios installed in their vehicles? The reason I ask is because they did a bunch a work on the digital radio system and they want to run a test period if you have that list I'll send an email out to everyone, apparently it's crystal clear.  
>  
> Sent from my iPhone

## Wood, Jason TRAN:EX

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**From:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2015 12:07 PM  
**To:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Mic for Kewood

Hi Rick,

I will be there on Wednesday and can bring by a mic for the radio.

I will also have the correct programming software for the radio and can make any changes to the programming that you require.

We are also going to make some more changes to the digital system this week in an effort to get some improved coverage. Will probably be doing that work on Wednesday and Thursday. Would prefer it if the guys could wait until after we do those changes because after we make those changes we will probably have run out of options for improving coverage and will be at the "this is the best it will be" point. That would be the best time to get the feedback from the guys as to whether or not they think it is usable. It might also require some tweaking of the programming in their radios but I can chase them down at that point if necc.

Last week the buys installed an "IP" extension from the pacific scale ( Bravo 10) to the Nordel scale.

In this way the digital transmission travels from Pacific to Nordel over the internet, and from Nordel it travels RF to the repeater on top of the Alex fraser bridge. This should eliminate the problem of guys not being able to hear pacific scale. This week we will be making some antenna changes on top of Alex Fraser in an attempt to maximize the coverage of the repeater and will also be trying some different frequencies to also improve the coverage.

Cheers,

### Jason Wood, P.Eng.

Manager, Telecommunications and Radio.  
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure  
4C 940 Blanshard Street  
PO BOX 9850 STN PROV GOVT  
Victoria, BC, V8W 9T5  
250-818-2025

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**From:** Wiltshire, Rick TRAN:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, January 26, 2015 11:56 AM  
**To:** Wood, Jason TRAN:EX  
**Subject:** Mic for Kewood  
**Importance:** High

Jason I had to use one of the mics out of a brand new digital radio box could you please send me a replacement for this one? Or can I pick up one from the MOTI radio shop in Cloverdale?.

Also the guys were here last week working on the radio system could I have an update to what was done?. Going to have all the officer's that have had a digital radio installed in their vehicle to start to use it for a test period this week.



# *Rick Wiltshire*

Safety Liaison Officer  
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