

APCO25 in Amateur Radio

Dayton Hamvention

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How did I get Involved?

- I have always been interested in new technical advances.
- I have been involved with local public service work in RACES for over 30 years.
- Our local SKYWARN program provides support at the National Weather Service with communication to North Texas County Nets.
- We operate 5 two meter radios, 1 – 1 ¼ meter radio, and 3 – ¾ meter radios using antennas on a 100 ft. tower.
- Remote Bases and UHF links are used to reach outlying areas.

We Needed Some Better Radios

- We had a significant amount of interference between the radios at the NWS.
- Some of the local Motorola Ham Club members were also supporting the Weather Service Team.
- They offered some better VHF radios for use at the NWS.
- We decided to do testing with some Motorola Astro mobile and Spectra handheld digital capable radios.
- The Astro radios provided higher power and better receive front end selectivity.
- The Motorola Ham Club also provided the use of a Quantar digital repeater on their 150 ft. tower.

Digital Radios Provide Additional Capabilities

- The Motorola Club also provided some radios for the Weather Service Team to use in coordinating our support.
- A separate talk group was programmed into the radios for coordination and briefings from the NWS forecasters.
- These radios with improved analog performance and a digital capability have improved our capabilities to provide the forecasters with real time storm spotter reports from the field.

The Operating Positions at NWS



The Antenna Tower at NWS

