



## ASTRO® APX™ 7000 Series Digital Portable Radios Recommended Best Practices

### Voice Message Transmission

Use the radio for the initial distress call **before** manual activation of the Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) in a Mayday situation when practical.

- PASS devices may create a great deal of background noise very close to the radio microphone so transmitting on the radio before activating a PASS optimizes the probability that a voice message can be transmitted successfully.

*(In reference to the International Association of Fire Chiefs' Portable Radio Use Best Practices Recommendations.)*

### Microphone Positioning

Ensure that the microphone is placed one to two inches from the mouth or Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) voice port with the microphone positioned directly in front of the audio source.



### Radio Performance/Audio Intelligibility

Speak in a loud, clear, and controlled voice to maximize audio intelligibility. Do not speak at fast pace.

### Microphone Protection/Audio Intelligibility

Shield the microphone from noise sources to improve the intelligibility of the audio in high noise environments. When practical:

- Turn or move away from the noise source.
- Use a free hand to shield the microphone from noise.
- Use the helmet brim or visor to shield the microphone from rain and water.

### Low-Air Alarms and Radio Transmission/ Audio Intelligibility

When practical, consider using a free hand to muffle a mask-mounted SCBA low-air alarm when trying to transmit a voice message on a radio.

### Location of Radios and Microphones Relative to PASS Devices/Audio Intelligibility

Give consideration to the location of radios and microphones in relation to PASS devices and other noise-generating user equipment.

### GPS Performance

Obtain a GPS fix position by turning the radio on while in an open-sky, outdoor environment

that is free of any obstructions that could affect the signal around or above you.

Do **NOT** wear the radio on the body during the GPS fix as it may affect and/or add additional time to the signal acquiring/fix process.

#### Notes

GPS works best in an open-sky area with no obstructions. Due to the limitations of the technology, certain situations do prevent GPS coverage. These situations include, but are not limited to:

- Underground locations such as tunnels, subways, etc.
- Inside of buildings, elevators, parking garages, trains, other covered vehicles, etc.
- Under metal or concrete roof structures.
- Urban canyons, for example, between tall buildings or under dense tree coverage.

Due to GPS limitation, accurate location information may not be available in all mission critical situation.

### Emergency Button Location

If you want to locate the emergency button and are unable to look down at the radio, find the antenna and slide your hand down to the base. The emergency button is placed at the base of the antenna to make locating the button easy by touch.



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