

BULLETIN

NO.: 20-073
DATE: May 21, 2020
TO: Fire and Lifeguard Operations
FROM: David Picone, Battalion Chief, Health and Safety Officer
SUBJECT: **Safety Message** - Portable Radio Collar Microphone

The Occupational Health and Safety's messaging sub-committee has written the attached safety message for your situational awareness.

Refer to bulletin #17-076 for Health and Safety communications descriptions.

Please contact the Health and Safety Office at SDFDHealth&Safety@sandiego.gov with comments or areas of improvement. For all other questions contact HSO/Battalion Chief David Picone at 619.533.4466 or dpicone@sandiego.gov

Wellness Resources link: ["Promoting Safe and Healthy Lives"](#) or call 833-SDFD-HSO
password - support



San Diego Fire-Rescue Department Health & Safety Office

SAFETY MESSAGE

Div/Sec: Fire and Lifeguard Divisions	Issue/Incident: Portable Radio Collar Microphone
Date: 05.21.2020	

Background:

The APX 6000 portable radios have started to show signs of corrosion on the contacts for the collar mic. This is due to the exposed brass contacts coming into contact with moisture i.e. water or sweat. This corrosion will cause error code “ERR A002” to display on the screen of the mic. If this error occurs the collar mic will not transmit or receive radio traffic.

- Note:
 - When this error code is visible the radio’s speaker and built in mic will function as if no collar mic is attached



To increase safety, review existing SOPs and follow best practices including:

- Clean and inspect the radio contacts daily, after code 9 and after an incident
- Connect the collar mic as part of the morning equipment checks to verify that the selected channel displays on the screen & that the collar mic is working normally
- When connecting the collar mic for a fire or rescue response verify that it is receiving traffic prior to arriving at scene
- Be prepared to bypass the collar mic if an error occurs during an incident
- Clean the collar mic contacts
 - Always work from the least invasive to most invasive
 - Check the function window prior to proceeding to the next step
 - Use a dry paper towel to wipe the contacts
 - Use the eraser of a pencil to remove light corrosion
 - Use alcohol wipes to clean the contacts
 - Cover the contacts with pencil lead then erase off the pencil lead
 - Do not press hard
 - Use a small piece of a metal polish wipe (gold packet) to clean the contact
 - Heavily soiled or corroded contacts can take a considerable amount of work to clean back to new condition
 - Request through the chain of command a replacement radio or collar mic

Action Items:

- Inspect all Radios and collar mics for corrosion, damage, and function



Chris Webber Assistant Chief, Emergency Operations	Colin Stowell Fire Chief	Kevin Ester Assistant Chief, Business Operations
David Picone Battalion Chief, Health & Safety Officer New Safety Tailboards, Messages, Feedback, Suggestions and/or Reporting to the OHSC - SDEDHEALTH&SAFETY@SANDIEGO.GOV		
“Promoting Safe and Healthy Lives”		

