

Tab 19

Specific Instructions For Cable Systems

FCC rules require that all wired cable systems that serve 10,000 or more subscribers install EAS equipment and provide EAS audio and video messages on all channels by December 31, 1998.

Wired cable systems with between 5,000 and 9,999 subscribers must meet this same requirement by October 1, 2002.

Wired cable systems with fewer than 5,000 subscribers are to either provide national level EAS message on all programmed channels (including the required testing), or to install EAS equipment and provide a video interrupt and audio alert on all programmed channels and EAS audio and video messages on at least one programmed channel by October 1, 2002.

Current copies of the following documents must be located in all cable system headends that have operational EAS installations:

- 1) CFR 47 Part 11 – FCC Rules on Emergency Alert Systems (These can be downloaded from the FCC's web site, or purchased from a government book store)
- 2) EAS Cable Handbook (This can be downloaded from the FCC's web site).
- 3) State EAS Plan (This can be obtained from the Washington State Emergency Communications Committee - WSECC).
- 4) Local Area EAS Plan - If not incorporated into State Plan (This can be obtained from the WSECC, or your Local Area Emergency Communications Committee – LAECC – See tabs 1 & 2).

All EAS control personnel are required to know EAS responsibilities, for their respective cable system, as outlined in each of the listed documents.

Schedules for Required Monthly Tests, along with information on who will originate each test, are established in the Fall of each year for the upcoming calendar year. Cable industry preferences for RMT schedule times should be submitted to the WSECC as early as possible each year, which will be considered in concert with Broadcast preferences in setting the upcoming year's scheduled. RMT schedules can be obtained from the WSECC, or from the Washington State Cable Industry Chair (see Tab 1).