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RF Locator Tuning

RF Locators are transceivers that re-broadcast transmitter messages with an attached location ID. RF Locators have the same options as repeaters and transmitters with the addition of an RF Locator check box (select it prior to programming), and should be programmed accordingly.

The process for tuning an RFL is as follows and is based on the assumption that the RFL has already been programmed and it's location has been placed on a map and the unit is powered up and installed at it's final location.

The first step to tuning an RFL is to make sure the tuning knob is set at zero or is positioned all the way to the left. This will set the range to 50 feet. This is done so that the RFL can be tuned "OUT" based on the specified zone it is intended to cover and to allow for tuning the RFL so that it does not overlap into another zone.

A PMT will be necessary for testing. If the system has paging capabilities, the PMT should be programmed to "Auto Acknowledge" and then send a page upon "Alarm Acknowledge" and page on "Alarm Restoral". This will allow the person testing in the field to know when to send another alarm. If the system does not have paging capabilities, a person will need to be in front of the Crisis Control station and in communication with the field tester.

Testing is fairly straightforward from here. An alarm needs to be sent in and the distance from the RFL needs to be noted on a map. For example, the field tester should walk about 50 feet form the RFL and send an alarm. If the alarm comes in, the tester needs to walk further away from the RFL. When the alarm doesn't come in, the RFL should be tuned up to accommodate for the added distance away from the RFL and another alarm should be sent to test the newly tuned coverage zone. This process should continue until the outer perimeter of the zone to be covered is reached so long as it does not overlap with another zone.

Broken down, the process is this: Tune the RFL all the way down → Send alarm → Check for alarm, if alarm comes in → Move further away from RFL → When alarm doesn't come in → tune RFL up → Send another alarm → Tune until desired coverage zone is reached.