



Fire and Rescue NSW – Critical Communications and how radio technology remains relevant

Inspector Richard Gibb

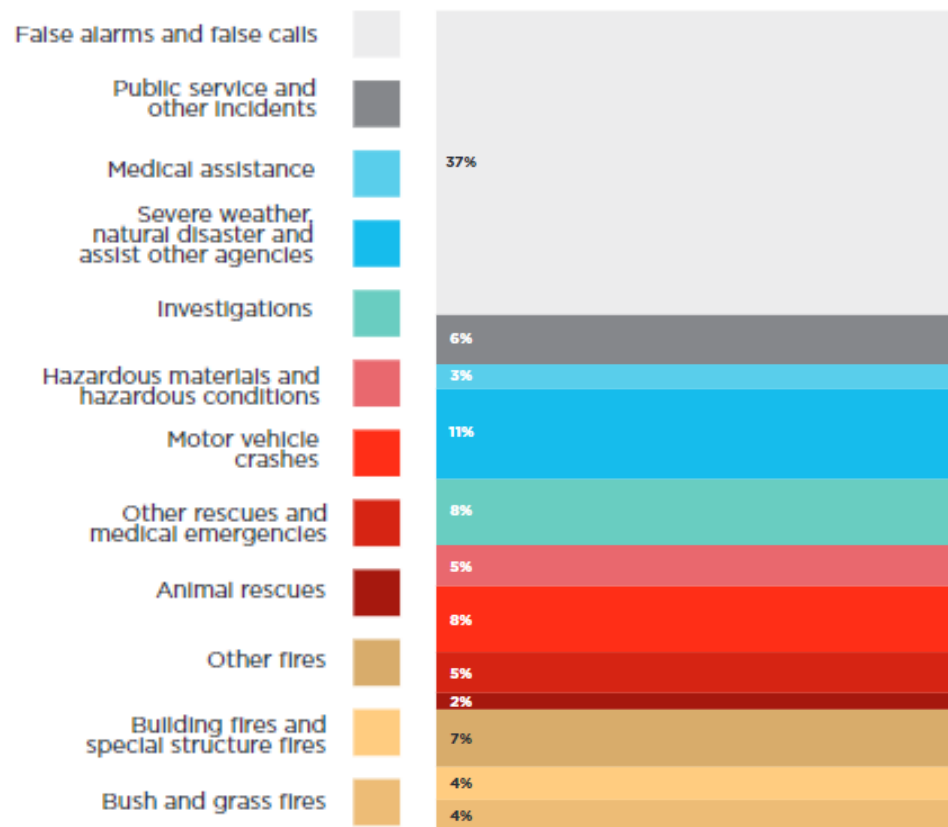
Systems Officer, Operational Communications

Fire and Rescue NSW



Fire and Rescue NSW by the numbers

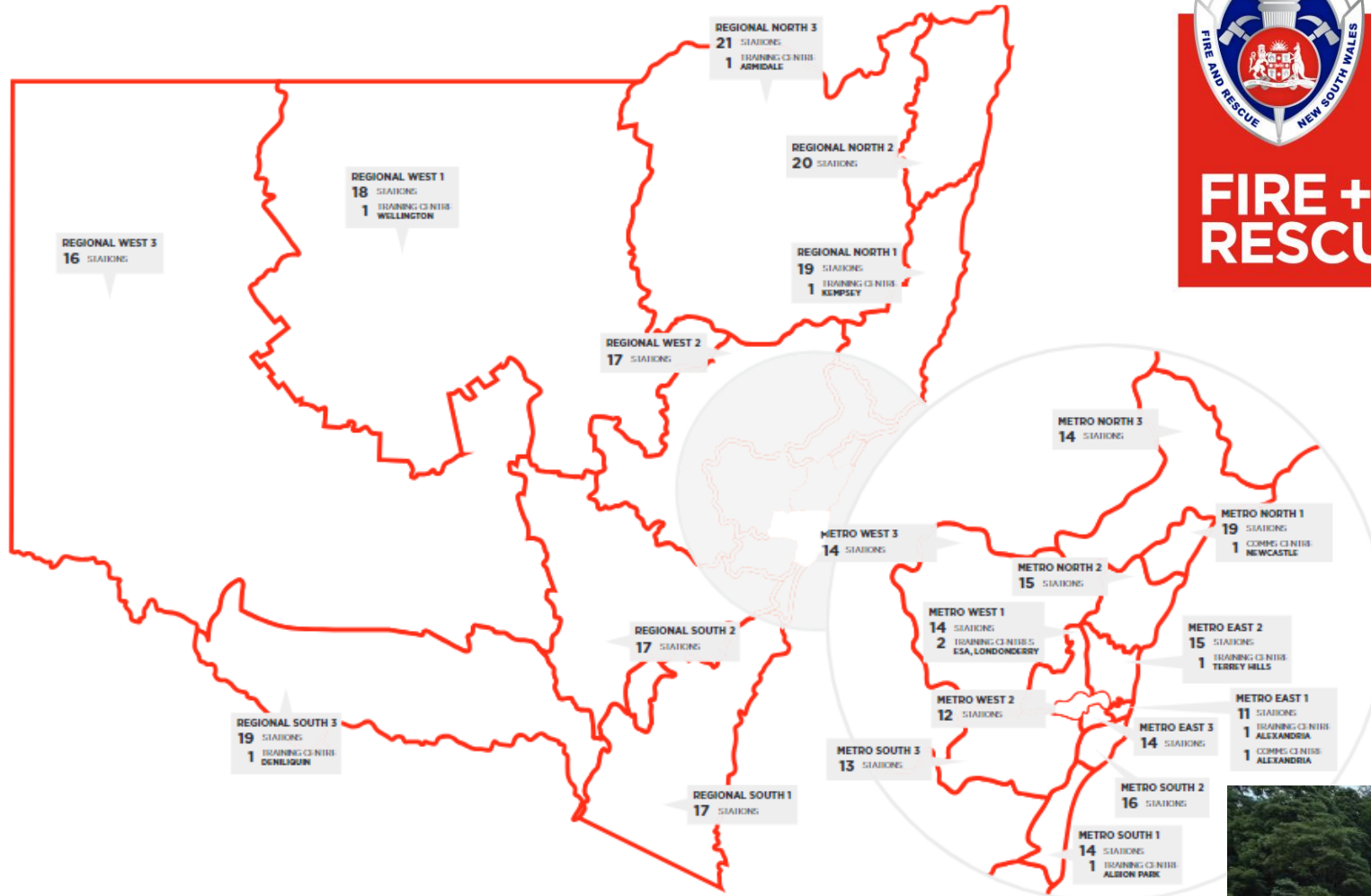
FRNSW responded to 130,568 emergency incidents in 2022 – 2023 leading to 194,439 appliance and specialist turnouts. Making us the busiest in the Southern Hemisphere.



FRNSW is the 4th largest Fire and Rescue service in the world, with 335 fire stations, 705 firefighting vehicles, and 185 accredited rescue crews.

The agency's response area for urban firefighting, rescue, and hazardous materials response spans 809,444 km² covering a population of 7.9 million people (Over 90% of NSW).

Who we are?



What is Mission Critical?

1. When we refer to communications?
2. First responders consider 'Mission Critical' networks as those that will not fail when they need them, no matter what else is happening in the operating environment the technology just continues to work.
3. The financial cost to provide a truly 'Mission Critical' network is often beyond the reach of many jurisdictions both within Australia and across the developed world.



The Firefighter vs The Organisation



Our incidents and what we put our equipment through

Fire – Urban based / Bush / Grass



Rescue Incidents – Industrial / Domestic / Road / Vertical



Hazmat Incidents – Industrial / Waterways / Emerging Technologies



Natural Disasters / USAR / Counter Terrorism / Fire Investigation



**FIRE +
RESCUE**

030
434

RIVERWOOD





**FIRE +
RESCUE**

CABRAMATTA

049



**FIRE +
RESCUE**

CABRAMATTA

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Radios? Is there a future? How can we ensure it remains relevant?

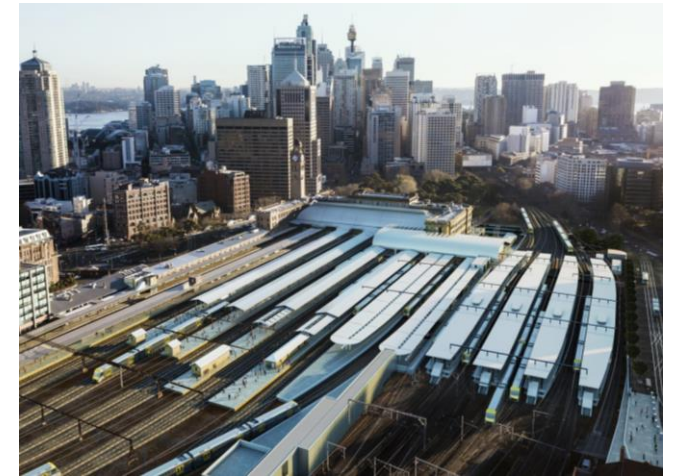
Voice communication is our final line of redundancy



Situational awareness is becoming more complicated



IBC solutions – bonded / multi pathways / resilient



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