

## **KENWOOD xx10 SERIES**

### **RECOMMENDED PROGRAMMING UPDATE PROCEDURES**

**JULY 2019**

At our most recent Technical Meeting at the monthly SIEC meetings, we had a lengthy discussion about Kenwood affiliation issues. One glaring thing appeared. The 10 versions had one large difference from the 20-version software. The 10 version associated control channels with the Channel ID plan. The 20 version (and Motorola radios) do not do this. I believe that this has caused some 10 radios to fail, even if they had been programmed for Channel ID 4, but additionally, possibly did not have Full Spectrum Control Channel Scan on, didn't have withdraw channels programmed, had control channels programmed for Channel ID 3, but possibly not 4.

We came up with the following 4 suggestions based on information from several programmers and programming instructors.

The suggestions are:

- 1) Kenwood – Radios having issues affiliating once the sites changed to Channel ID 4 – We had a very lengthy discussion of this issue and came up with some possible problems.
  - a. The control channel lists in the radios are assigned to a Channel ID. It is necessary for the Channel ID associated with a control be changed to what is appropriate for the associated tower.
  - b. Apparently, ALL sites have not been changed to Channel ID plan 4. The GTR radios that were in place that were Channel ID plan 3 have not been changed and as such, we now have a situation where some radios can still find Channel ID 3 existing, amid Channel ID 4 sites. This is apparently causing issues in Kenwood radios, but not in other manufacturers. (NOTE: We suggested that all Channel ID 3 sites be changed to 4 as soon as possible)
  - c. Removing Channel ID plan 3 from radios as was suggested by a technician is NOT a valid solution as there are still Channel ID plan 3 sites in use.
  - d. It was suggested that it might be wise under Hunt Option > Full Spectrum Control Channel Scan to consider withdrawing all of Channel ID 3 from channel 0 through 4095. This should cause the radio to not do Full Spectrum Scan for Channel ID 3. If a Channel ID 3 site exists, it would be necessary for control channels for that site to be included in the Normal Hunt Channel tab and the Channel ID must be correct. Any control channels for incorrect Channel ID's should be corrected or removed.

You might ask why we changed the radios now to Channel ID plan 4. Channel ID plan 3 was not created in an efficient manner when first developed in the beginning. With the addition of business channels, Channel ID plan 4 was necessary. Many, many years ago, radios should have been

programmed for Channel ID plan 4. This has been in effect for probably 10 years. If your programmer did not incorporate Channel ID plan 4 within the last 10 years, and/or you haven't had your radios programmed in the last 10 years, then simply, someone has dropped the ball.

Lastly, it does appear that the Version 10 Kenwood radios or Motorola radios with no Channel ID plan 4 programmed are the only ones that are experiencing issues. The Version 10 radios have been "end of life" for quite a few years, and while they work reasonably well, they certainly need their programming periodically updated. To not reprogram a radio in at least the last 5 years is simply not realistic. You might want to find someone in your county that you feel you can trust that could be trained in programming, send them to the SORN conference for training, and then program inhouse, rather than depend on a vendor, which can be prohibitively expensive.