



## **IATN/Evening Cycle Trunk Lines Management Protocol**

**Background.** Building upon a recent concept paper, this protocol outlines an alternative circuit system for the IATN Evening Cycle long-haul functions (BRAVO>HOTEL [East-to-West], ECHO>GOLF [Central-to West], JULIET>DELTA [West-to-East] and INDIA>FOXTROT [West-to-Central]). This guidance represents a limited transition effort requiring written refinement as the system evolves.

**Objective.** The objective of this long-haul relay system is to increase the success rate of the four function/trunk lines by migrating away from assigned operator/time/frequency schedules to “windows” and “places” where IATN operators understand to converge for relaying traffic. The Central Area IATN operators are critical this system given present conditions and circumstances, so efforts will be stressed to secure IATN-C operators to join this system.

**Active IATN/Evening Cycle Operators.** Operators active on the IATN Roster are urged to volunteer on an unscheduled basis to utilize and monitor, as time permits, the *watch block-times* and *designated watch frequencies*. The IATN operator within this system performs one of three functions: *injecting* traffic; *facilitating a relay*; or *accepting* traffic for routing to the area net or otherwise. The operator accepting traffic is responsible for proper routing to the area net or otherwise consistent with the RRI Operations Manual.

**Watch Time Blocks.** The following primary and secondary *time-blocks* are established for each function/trunk line:

**Trunk Line** BRAVO>HOTEL (East-to-West): *Primary* -- 0130Z to 0230Z (0030 to 0130Z during DST<sup>1</sup>); *Secondary* – 1700Z to 1800Z (1600Z to 1700Z during DST).

**Trunk Line** ECHO>GOLF (Central-to West): *Primary* – On or following CAN at NCS direction; *Secondary* – On WAN.

**Trunk Line** JULIET>DELTA (West-to-East): *Primary* – 1700Z to 1800Z (1600Z to 1700Z during DST); *Secondary* – 2300Z to 0000Z (2200Z to 2300Z during DST).

**Trunk Line** INDIA>FOXTROT (West-to-Central): *Primary* – On or after WAN at NCS direction; *Secondary* – 1700Z to 1800Z (1600Z to 1700Z during DST).

**Designated Watch Frequencies.** The following primary and secondary *watch frequencies* are designated for each function:

**Trunk Line** BRAVO>HOTEL (East-to-West): *Primary* – 7.115 (14.115 as conditions require); *Secondary* – reverse of primary.

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<sup>1</sup> DST=Daylight Savings Time periods.

**Trunk Line** ECHO>GOLF (Central-to West): *Primary* – On or after CAN at NCS direction; *Secondary* – 7.115.

**Trunk Line** JULIET>DELTA (West-to-East): *Primary* – 14.115; *Secondary* – 10.115.

**Trunk Line** INDIA>FOXTROT (West-to-Central): *Primary* – On or after WAN at NCS direction; *Secondary* – 7.115.

**Additional Guidance.**

End-Circuit Stations. The *injecting* and *accepting* operators are the end-circuit stations. They are mutually responsible for establishing contact, determining any needed relay or QSY moves, and reporting on traffic results.

Relay Stations. IATN operators serving in a *relay* function need to be respectful, yet responsive to QSP requests from the operators on the ends of the circuit. Do not presume a relay is really necessary. Listen closely and patiently, particularly to instructions (for example, QSY information). If a QSP is requested, the relay operator must first confirm that contact with both end-circuit stations is established. The *injecting* operator must be clearly advised by the *relay* operator if and when the relay to the *accepting* operator is completed.

*Relay* stations are encouraged to record and submit monthly information summary reports.

QSY Protocol. If contact on the designated *primary* or *secondary* frequency proves to be unworkable, the operators may QSY to an agreed upon designated alternative frequencies (3.595, 7.115, 10.115, 14.115 and 21.115). If a *relay* station is involved at this point, be certain that the QSY instructions are acknowledged by all stations.

QRL Watch Frequency. If a designated watch or alternative frequency is QRL, the standard QSY is DOWN two KHZ to clear frequency.