Emergency Communication in European Public safety Services

Egil Bovim
M.D., M.Sc (LSHTM)
Director, KoKom
Member of the Board, TETRA
MoU



Public Safety organisations

- Fire
- Police
- Health (ambulance)









Communications with:

- Members of public in distress
- Population at large
- Other public safety organisations
- Other services



Communications with







- Members of public in distress
- Population at large
- Other public safety organisations
- Other services

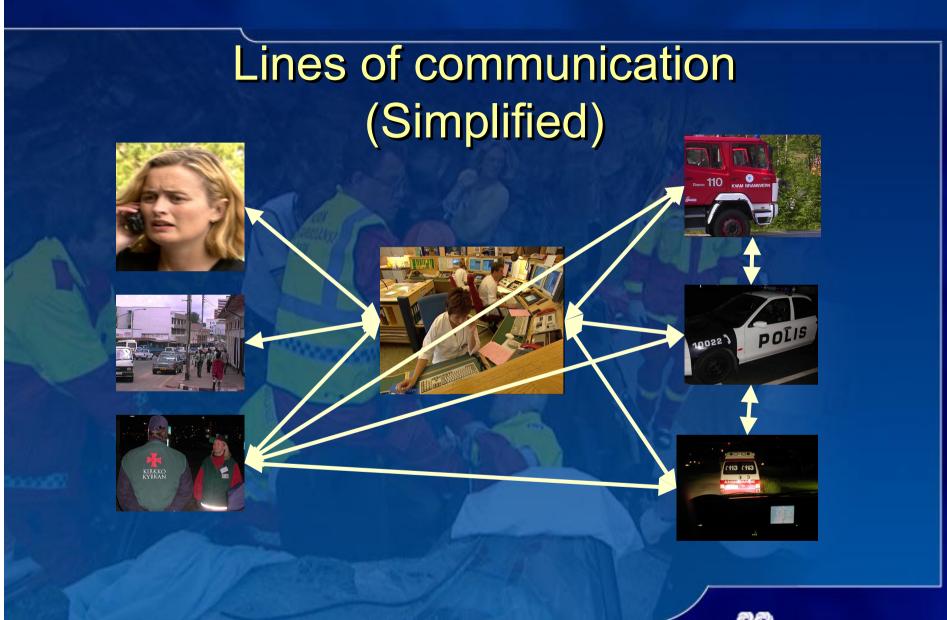


Communication centre



- Link between services and the public
- Link between the services
- May be joint or separate

















 Communication with other services



Members of public in distress

EU Directive:



on the introduction of a single European emergency call number

(91/396/EEC)

Published in the Official Journal. Only the published text is authentic:

Official Journal No. L 217, 06/08/1991 p. 0031 - 0032

(Finnish special edition: Chapter 13 Volume 20 p. 232; Swedish special edition: Chapter 13 Volume 20 p. 232)



Members of public in distress

EU Directive



1. Member States shall ensure that the number 112 is introduced in public telephone networks as well as in future integrated services digital networks and public mobile services, as the single European emergency call number



Members of public in distress

EU Directive



Article 4

Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that calls to the single European emergency call number are appropriately answered and handled, in a manner best suited to the national organization of emergency systems and within the technological possibilities of the networks.

Communication members of public and services



- Public networks
 - Fixed lines
 - Mobile (GSM)
- Needs:
 - Mainly voice,sometimes data
 - Geographic location



Characteristics Public Safety Services

- Specialised services
- High professional skills
- High demands
- High expectations
- Need for collaboration
- Need for coordination





Emergency Communication Needs

- Simple
- Quick
- Safe
 - Always there
 - Appropriate levels of security
- Needed functionalities:
 - Individual calls
 - Group calls
 - Direct calls



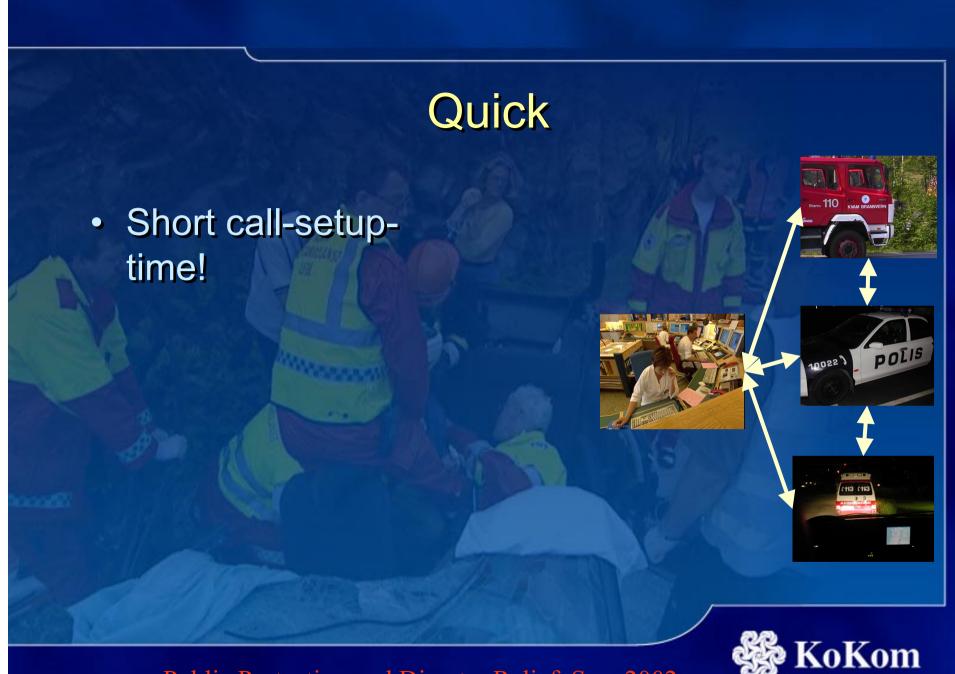


Simple

- As close to selfexplanatory as possible
- Menue lead
- Same as in daily use!!







Safe

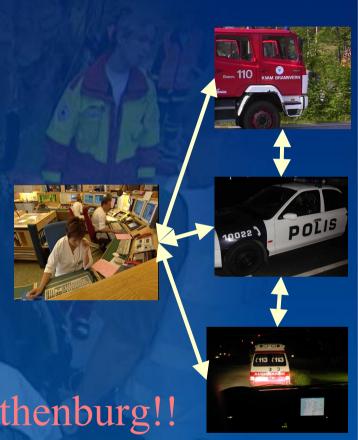
- Always there
 - Public networksbreak down in emergencies
 - Prioritation in private network may be needed
 - Capacity will always be a challenge





Safe

- Appropriate levels of security
 - Needs may differ between services
 - Needs may differ between incidents



Lesson learnt at Disco-fire in Gothenburg!!



Factors in favour of joint system

- Operational
 - Coordination between services
 - Collaboration between personnel
 - Broadcast common information
 - Same equipment in all cases
- Financial
 - Economies of Scale
 - Savings on infrastructure etc.
 - Common applications



Challenges in joint system

- Different needs
 - Paging for fire
 - Extreme user friendliness for un-interested users
 - Advanced systems for advanced users
 - Range of applications
- Needs for virtually separate systems
 - Needs for confidentiality
 - Needs for perceived confidentiality



Challenges (cont)

- Capacity
 - Differences in radio use between services (long calls in health)
 - Continuously running data-applications
 (ECG in ambulances over time and distance)
- Cultural differences between services



Conclusion in services in Norway







The benefits are greater than the challenges:

We will go for it!!



