§ 90.463 Transmitter control points.

(a) A control operator is required to be stationed at the operating position of a transmitter control point. A control operator is any person designated by the licensee to exercise supervision and control over the operation and use of the licensee’s facilities. The control operator may be the licensee; or an employee of the licensee; or the agent of the licensee, appointed by the licensee to act as the control operator; or a third-party contractor, engaged by the licensee to serve as the control operator. Provided, however, in no case, through appointment or designation of any person to serve as control operator, may the licensee delegate any of the duties and responsibilities the licensee may have in his capacity as licensee.

(b) Each station or licensed system of communication shall normally have a control point, or control points, at which the control operator or operators are stationed and at or from which the licensee may exercise supervision and control over the authorized facilities, as required by the provisions of § 90.461. Provided, however, Control point requirements may vary from one system to another, depending upon the nature of the radio operation; the way and by whom the facilities are employed; and other factors, as set out in other rule sections under this subpart.

(c) A transmitter control point may be located at a fixed position in a system of communication at or from which the control operator exercises supervision and control over the operation and use of the licensed facilities. Each fixed transmitter control point shall have equipment and facilities to permit the control operator:

(1) To determine when the transmitter(s) are radiating “RF” energy, or when the transmitter circuits have been placed in a condition to produce such radiation. This may be accomplished either through the use of a carrier operated device which provides a visual indication when the transmitter(s) are radiating or a pilot lamp or meter which provides a visual indication when the transmitter circuits have been placed in a condition to produce radiation. Further, where a local transmitter is used to activate a remote transmitter or transmitters in the licensee’s system of communication, a single pilot lamp or meter may be employed to indicate the activation of both the local and the remote transmitter(s).

(2) To turn the carrier of the transmitter on and off at will, or to close the system down completely, when circumstances warrant such action.

(d) The licensee’s transmitting facilities may be operated from dispatch points, the fixed control point shall have equipment to permit the control operator to either disconnect the dispatch point circuits from the transmitter(s) or to render the transmitter(s) inoperative from any dispatch point being supervised.

(e) Where the system is interconnected with public communication facilities, as provided at §§ 90.477 through 90.483, and where those rules so require, the fixed control point shall be equipped to permit the control operator:

(1) To monitor co-channel facilities of other licensees sharing an assigned channel or channels with the licensee in the licensee’s area of operation; and,

(2) To terminate any transmission(s) or communication(s) between points in the public communications system and the private communications system.

(f) In urban areas, the location of fixed transmitter control points will be specified “same as transmitter,” unless the control point is at a street address which is different from that of the transmitter(s) controlled. In rural areas, the location of fixed control points will be specified “same as transmitter,” unless the control point is more than 152.5 m (500 ft) from the transmitter(s) controlled. In the latter case, the approximate location of the control point will be specified in distance and direction from the transmitter(s) controlled in terms of distance and geographical quadrant, respectively. It would be assumed that the location of a fixed control point is...
§ 90.465 Control of systems of communication.

(a) Depending on design considerations, control of a system of communication may be exercised in varying ways. In single frequency simplex, base/mobile operations, control may be exercised by the control operator at the fixed control point. In mobile relay systems, where there is an associated control point or control station, control may be exercised by the operator at the control point or control station. In mobile-only systems, control may be exercised by the mobile operator. In communication systems involving multiple base stations or fixed relays control of the system may result from a combination of factors and considerations, including control by a fixed control point operator at some point within the system of communication or control by the mobile station operator of the licensee.

(b) In internal systems, as defined in §90.7, control may be maintained by conforming the system to the requirements of §§90.471 through 90.475.

(c) In interconnected systems, as defined in §90.7, control may be maintained by conforming operation and system design to that permitted in §§90.477 through 90.483.


§ 90.467 Dispatch points.

Dispatch points meeting the requirements of this section need not be specifically authorized; provided, however, that the licensee of any radio station operated from a dispatch point or points shall assume full responsibility for the use and operation of the authorized facilities in compliance with all applicable provisions of law or rule and shall comply with the policy:

(a) A dispatch point may be linked to the transmitter(s) being operated by private or leased wire line of fixed radio circuits, provided the requirements of §90.463 are met.

(b) No telephone position in the public, switched, telephone network will be treated as a dispatch point within the meaning or intent of this section.

(c) Operation of transmitting facilities from dispatch points is permitted only when the control operator at a fixed control point in the system is on duty and at no other time.

§ 90.469 Unattended operation.

(a) Subject to the provisions of §§90.243, 90.245, and 90.247, mobile relay, fixed relay, and mobile repeater stations are authorized for unattended operation; and the transmitter control point requirements set out at §§90.463 through 90.465 shall not apply.

(b) Self-activated transmitters may be authorized for unattended operation where they are activated by either electrical or mechanical devices, provided the licensee adopts reasonable means to guard against malfunctions and harmful interference to other users.