AMATEUR RADIO
“GO KIT”

STEVE SMITH
KM4CJ
What Is A ‘Go kit’?

- A Go-Kit is made up of a portable "Amateur radio" station and assorted personal gear that can quickly be assembled to respond to a "Call To Service". What the kit will consist of depends on the type of incidents being responded to and potential extent of the events.

Being Prepared and Equipped to serve, enables rapid deployment
What Is In A “Go Kit”?

- The best kit for you may not fit a "canned" list, but should be based upon your operating mode, experience and local conditions.

- A typical "go" kit should sustain a day of continuous operation and be easily supplemented for overnight or weekend trips. The bare essentials are a 2-meter or dual-band radio, some sort of "gain" antenna, auxiliary power source, writing materials, comfort and safety items. You can do a lot with a minimum kit, if you plan its contents carefully. There is risk of not having something you may need if you go "too" light, but obvious "bells and whistles" should stay home.

- A Go–Kit radio is usually capable of more transmitter power than a HT. It is good practice to use no more transmitter power than required, but it is also necessary to have enough power available to complete the communications. The additional transmit power does not have to be utilized, but if needed, it is there.

- The ARRL ARES Field Resources Manual provides excellent guidance on "Go" kits.
Go Kit Radio Items

- A mobile radio with switching power supply or an HT, Dual Band is recommended. Mono-Band OK.
- Magnetic- mount antenna for your radio and BNC, SMA, PL-259, SO-239 adapters for your radio to connect to your antenna.
- Emergency power for your mobile radio (gel-cell battery)
- The dry cell battery pack and 2 extra sets of batteries for your HT.
- The car and wall charger for the HT.
- The radio manuals or a cheat sheet.
- A headset with mike – can keep both hands free. Don’t disturb others
- A notebook, clipboard or logbook.
- Several pens and pencils.
- A copy of your Amateur Radio License as well as your Drivers license.
- Your "favorite" pain relievers as well as any prescribed medications.
- A multi-tool like Gerber or Leatherman or a Swiss Army knife. Get a good one. Lesser brands are not reliable. Any special size tools your radio uses like tiny screwdrivers, etc.
- A basic first aid kit
Typical Go Kit

picture Courtesy KE7HLR
Go kit examples

- Antenna
- Power Source
- Computer
- Sound Interface
- Radio

N4CZ – Go Kit
Go kit examples

Radio
HF/VHF/UHF

Computer

Sound Interface

Antenna Tuner

Antenna

Power Source

Radio-HT
VHF/UHF

N4CZ – Go Kit
Go kit examples

K4TTZ – Go Kit

Kelley Johns K4VPZ, Wayne Reed K4TTZ, and Jessica Rasche (Crisis Services) operate at Crisis Services of North Alabama
Go kit examples

KM4CJ– Go Kit

- Antennas
- Power Source
- Sound Interface
- TNC
- Computer
- Radios
  - HF/VHF/UHF
Go kit examples

From the Web
Go kit examples

Michael Fontana N1RFD
Go kit examples

From the Web
Go kit examples
Go kit examples

Kenwood TS-50
30M HF APRS

Kantronics KAM
Dual-Port TNC
30M HF APRS &
2M VHF APRS

Kenwood TM421
UHF (EchoLink)

Kenwood TM221
2M (APRS)
Ultimate Go-Kit
Not So Ultimate Go-Kit
KM4CJ Go Kit Details – Front
KM4CJ Go Kit Details – Front

Major Components

- Audio Mixer
- AC Power Conditioning/Distribution
- Yaesu FT-2900
- Yaesu FT-7900
- PK-88 TNC
- SignaLink USB
- USB Hub
- Speaker
- GPS Antenna
- ICOM IC-2820H
- FLEX 3000
- Speaker
KM4CJ Go Kit Details – Back
KM4CJ Go Kit Details - Back

Major Components

- Antennas
- Power Gate Battery/Power Mgt
- EXT/BATT Switch
- AC Power
- DC/AC Inverter
- USB FireWire Cables
- AC/DC Power Supply
- Battery Cable
- Battery 75Ah
- Power Distribution
VHF/UHF Antennas
Deployment Examples

ARES/RACES SET 2012
Red Cross

ARES/RACES SET 2013
Red Cross
Deployment Examples

ARES/RACES Deployment Exercise 2014
Blossomwood Elementary School
Go kit is an integral part of my shack
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Questions?