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Radio telephony communication for airside safety operators

21 – 25 December 2026
Düsseldorf (Germany)



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Introduction

Radio communication is a critical element in airport operations, especially in environments where ground operations, airside teams, safety units, security personnel, and ground handling teams depend on fast, accurate, and disciplined communication. In sensitive areas such as the apron, runway surroundings, aircraft movement zones, and ground service areas, a single unclear message can lead to operational delays, field incidents, or direct safety risks.

This course focuses on developing professional radio communication skills for airport and aviation environments. It covers radio communication fundamentals, standard phraseology, message structure, radio discipline, read-back techniques, communication under pressure, emergency communication, and coordination between operational teams.

The course is structured over one week in a clear and practical sequence. It begins with the foundations of radio communication in airports, then moves into standard protocols and approved phraseology. It then focuses on communication in high-risk airside environments, emergency and crisis communication, and finally professional performance improvement through simulations, evaluation, and continuous communication development.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the fundamentals of radio communication in airport operations.
- Apply standard radio communication protocols in aviation environments.
- Use clear, concise, and professional phraseology during field communication.
- Reduce communication errors that may affect operational safety.
- Improve message clarity in ground operations, safety, security, and handling activities.
- Apply correct message sequencing during radio communication.
- Use confirmation and read-back techniques to reduce misunderstanding.
- Manage radio communication during aircraft and ground equipment movements.
- Communicate effectively in airside, apron, and high-risk operational areas.
- Handle radio communication during emergencies and critical incidents.
- Strengthen coordination between operations, safety, security, and emergency response teams.
- Improve active listening, message control, and communication under pressure.
- Follow compliance and safety procedures related to airport radio communication.



Course Outlines

Day 1: Fundamentals of Radio Communication in Airports

- The importance of radio communication in airport and aviation operations.
- The role of communication in ground operations, safety, security, and handling activities.
- Types of radio communication equipment and their operational uses.
- Principles of clear, concise, and accurate radio messages.
- Common communication errors in airport field operations.
- Radio discipline rules and professional communication behavior.

Day 2: Standard Protocols and Approved Phraseology

- Using standard aviation-related terms and professional radio language.
- Structuring radio messages in the correct sequence.
- Managing message priority during normal and busy operations.
- Applying confirmation and read-back techniques correctly.
- Avoiding ambiguity and misunderstanding in multicultural and multinational environments.
- Practical exercises on preparing and delivering structured radio messages.

Day 3: Communication in High-Risk Airside Environments

- Radio communication during aircraft movements and ground equipment operations.
- Managing communication in airside, apron, and aircraft movement areas.
- Coordinating between ground operations, safety, security, and handling teams.
- Handling interference, weak signals, overlapping messages, and unclear transmissions.
- Identifying communication risks that may lead to operational incidents.
- Case studies on aviation and airport incidents linked to weak communication.

Day 4: Emergency Communication and Crisis Response

- Radio communication protocols during emergencies and critical situations.
- Transmitting critical information quickly, accurately, and calmly.
- Controlling stress and maintaining message clarity under pressure.
- Managing radio channels during emergency response operations.
- Coordinating with safety, security, emergency response, and operational control teams.
- Practical emergency scenarios and field communication simulations.



Day 5: Professional Radio Communication and Continuous Improvement

- Building a culture of safe and disciplined communication in airport operations.
- Evaluating radio communication performance within operational teams.
- Using indicators to measure radio communication effectiveness.
- Identifying gaps in message clarity, timing, response, and compliance.
- Applying continuous improvement practices to communication performance.
- Advanced simulation exercises covering normal operations, high-risk situations, and emergency scenarios.

Why Attend this Course: Wins & Losses!

- Improve radio communication accuracy in airport operations.
- Reduce operational risks caused by unclear or incomplete messages.
- Strengthen coordination between ground operations, safety, security, and handling teams.
- Enhance safety performance in airside and apron environments.
- Develop professional communication skills required in aviation operations.
- Improve response quality during emergencies and critical incidents.
- Build stronger radio discipline and message control under pressure.
- Support compliance with communication and safety procedures.
- Improve active listening and confirmation techniques.
- Increase operational efficiency by reducing delays and repeated communication errors.

Conclusion

The Radio Communication Skills for Airport Operations course provides a practical framework for improving communication accuracy, safety, and coordination in airport environments. It focuses on the essential skills required to use radio communication professionally during normal operations, high-risk airside activities, and emergency situations.

The program follows a logical one-week structure. It begins with the fundamentals of airport radio communication, then moves into standard protocols, approved phraseology, message sequencing, and read-back techniques. It then addresses communication in airside and apron environments before focusing on emergency communication and crisis response. The final day brings the course together through performance evaluation, continuous improvement, and advanced simulations.

By the end of the course, participants will be able to manage radio communication with greater confidence, clarity, and discipline. The course supports safer airport operations, stronger team coordination, better emergency response, and improved professional communication standards across aviation operational environments.

