Hamradio Emergency Communication Group Luxembourg

When all else fails... hamradio still works!

Content

To our future partners

The use of emergency communication on short-wave amateur radio bands, VHF and UHF bands and satellite amateur radio bands, in all modes of operation amateur radio transmissions necessary to guarantee emergency communication and during emergency exercises. emergency communication...

EmCom is a non-profit association founded by various Luxembourg associations active in the field of amateur radio station operation in Luxembourg, including *Radioamateurs du Luxembourg, a* non-profit association that was established in 1937 and represents the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg at the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), which has its headquarters at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
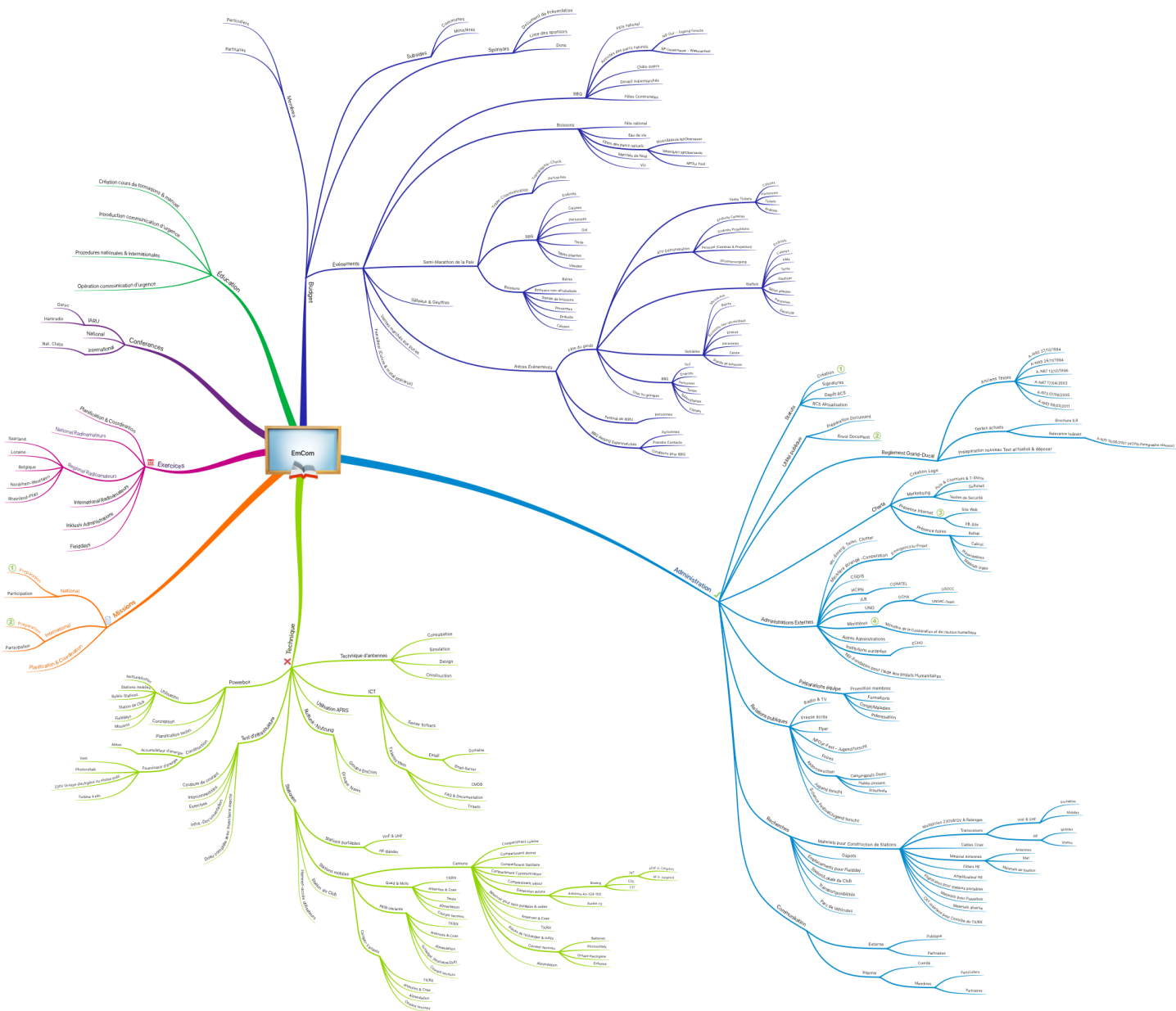
We wanted to work together within the national associations on disaster preparedness and emergency communications, both because there is strength in numbers and to broaden our respective objectives.

This federation of clubs brings added value to public players called upon in the event of major force events, in terms of the deployment of emergency communications via this single point of contact between amateur radio associations.
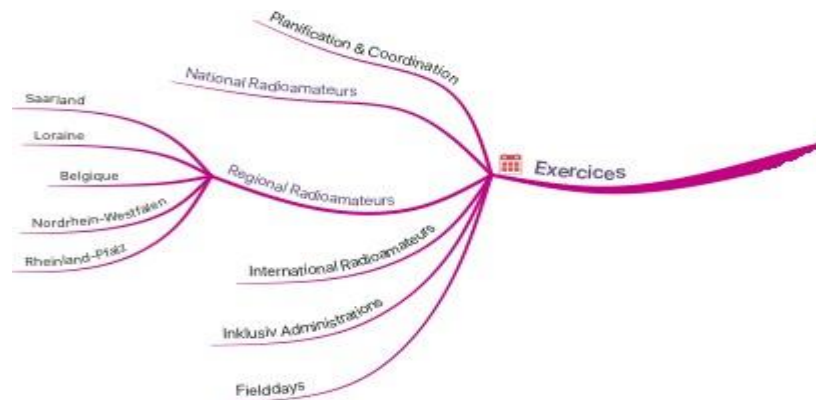
In my capacity as a member of working groups dedicated to emergency communication within the IARU, our association intends to support national public bodies with their know-how and expertise in this area. This support will be both technical (eg.EmCom's role will not only be to support the development of self-sufficient communications equipment suitable for use in disaster situations, but also to provide human resources (e.g. participation in national exercises, training, presentations and the development of teaching materials and procedures in accordance with IARU-ITU guidelines). On the other hand, EmCom will incorporate lessons learned from national exercises to meet the needs of public authorities.

Our association also has an educational vocation, enabling all interested amateur radio operators to combine radio with emergency communication (EmComm) and disaster preparedness (EmPrep), and to educate the general public about the basics of radio communication in emergency situations (e.g. also with non-technical means and the recycling of available materials). By creating these capacities in civil society, a significant additional contingent of resources will be created to re-establish a functional community in a post-disaster situation.

Paul Hetting
Président

Presentation of the project

The project leaders, who come from various well-established national associations rooted in the operation of amateur radio stations in all modes, came up with the following roadmap for the EmCom association during preparatory meetings:
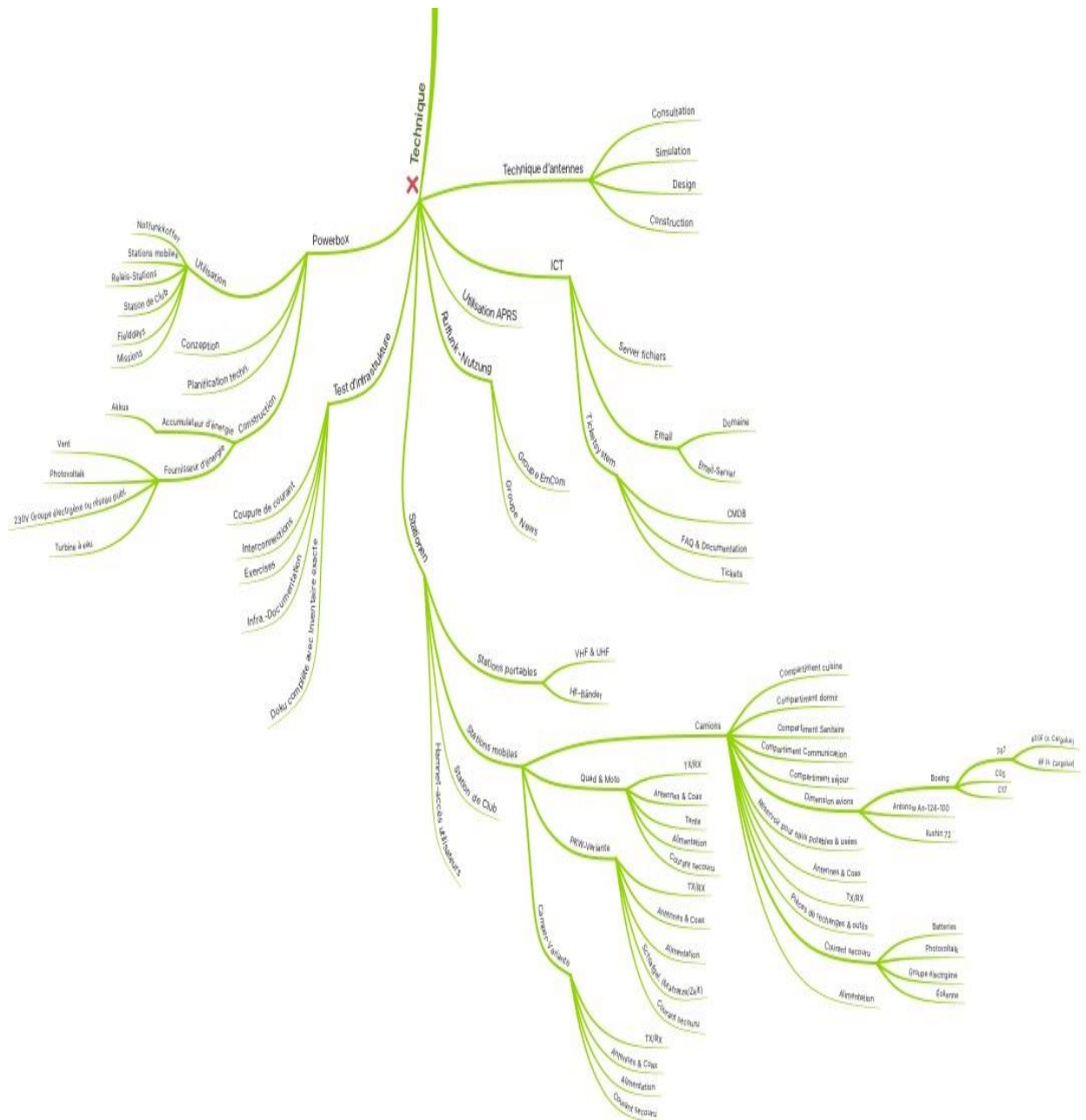
Given its purpose, the association's main activities will be as follows:

- EmCom is dedicated to taking part in national and international emergency communications exercises on the amateur radio bands, in order to refine its technical experience and use it for the education and training of its members.

- EmCom helps to develop and maintain emergency radio communication with equipment, interested members and technical expertise.
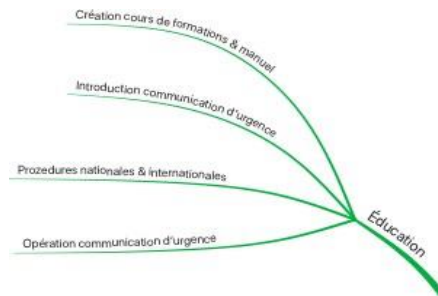

- EmCom is open to national amateur radio associations wishing to get involved in emergency communications and offers the associations that are represented, via its infrastructure and equipment, a platform for tickets, such as
tools for managing the infrastructures of the clubs represented and also for communicating reports on emergency communication exercises and communication missions.

In this way, EmCom federates all but one of the national amateur radio clubs. As a result, EmCom has become the benchmark for the most diversified and comprehensive access to transmission modes and bands, being able to rely exclusively for Luxembourg on a network of transmission relays resilient to Internet outages.

- EmCom is dedicated to research into antenna technology and has extensive expertise in the simulation, design and construction of specific antennas.

- EmCom supports its member associations in the field of their infrastructure, for good documentation and also supports the technical testing of their products. infrastructure.

- EmCom undertakes to contribute to the regulation of the framework conditions for emergency communication by actively contributing their skills and dedication to the competent authorities and the various administrations and ministries concerned.

- EmCom also provides demonstrations to the relevant government departments and ministries and other international institutions, and undertakes to participate in the following activities
volunteer to organise exercises in collaboration with these public authorities, as well as all other organisations in the field of emergency communications.

- EmCom will be offering training courses for people interested in its areas of expertise, as well as raising awareness among the general public.

Financing

Current financial position

- Subsidies for associations represented at EmCom
- Membership fees
- In-kind contribution of equipment (technical equipment and use of the ^{Hamnet1} network)

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[1] *Hamnet is the high-performance successor to packet-radio, an Intranet without any Internet connection (in principle), based on TCP/IP protocols and automatic stations ensuring data transfers across regions and countries. The HAMNET network should be seen as the nervous system that will link existing and future radio systems, enabling the circulation of content, digitised flows, commands and information at high speed and over long distances by means of computer data transfer. The Hamnet network of the RL and ADRAD is accessible to EmCom. The latter is*
functional even in the event of an Internet or power cut. EmCom's backbone network is therefore the only network that is absolutely independent of the availability or otherwise of the telecommunications network in Luxembourg.

Sources of income

- Organisation of fundraising activities at events
- Use of surplus materials, recovery, reconditioning and upcycling
- Donations: these may include equipment, materials, the provision of premises, voluntary work, the provision of services, sponsorship, legacies, etc.
- Income for services rendered
- Municipal and ministerial subsidies

Accountability

By virtue of Article 33 of its Articles of Association, EmCom undertakes to file its accounts annually with the competent body provided for by law, in this case the *Luxembourg Business Registers*. The use of funds is fully transparent.

Operating costs

EmCom does not pay its members a salary. All work is carried out on a voluntary basis. Certain funds are, however, necessary to guarantee the functionality of the EmCom network and to optimise it. All funds raised by the association will be reinvested in EmCom projects.

Operating costs currently consist of fixed administrative costs, such as subscriptions for radio call letters specifically dedicated to the association, costs of registration fees, and other costs associated with organising and participating in emergency communication events, as well as promoting and educating people about EmPrep and EmComm.

Short-term costs will be structural, such as establishing HQs with EmPrep and EmComm equipment storage in strategic locations. The equipment available thanks to private contributions from members will need to be upgraded periodically, and it may even be necessary to acquire additional equipment in order to improve the resilience of the EmCom network. Following the example of Notfunk in Germany, Bears in Belgium and EmCom in Italy, around EUR 40,000 will be required to acquire a basic autonomous mobile device. There are also plans to increase the use of renewable energy sources by acquiring portable wind turbines and boosting the quota of solar panels to recharge *off-grid* components*.*

Public and promotional campaigns

International cooperation

Member of the IARU Region 1 Emergency Communication working group - participating in GAREC (Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications).

EmCom maintains excellent relations with our European and international counterparts, e.g. through working meetings at amateur radio gatherings such as the annual HamVention in Friedrichshafen, the SaarCon or the Funktage in Kassel.

Public authorities

EmCom is in contact with the authorities and public bodies concerned with EmPrep and EmCom. The association offers a contingent of resources to support them in their missions.

Public utility

The not-for-profit organisation EmCom has all the necessary elements to be able to claim public utility status. An application to this effect is currently being submitted to the Luxembourg government.

Public awareness project

EmCom will also be focusing on a wider communications campaign (periodicals, posters, leaflets, events, social media and YouTube content, etc.).

Field day

This is an annual or biannual exercise widely encouraged by the IARU for the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in remote and difficult-to-access environments without the availability of the usual energy resource, electricity, and in the absence of means of communication other than the amateur radio link.

To measure the effectiveness of communications exercises, it is customary to organise a form of competition where not only the skill of the Field Day participants is put to the test, but also the quality of the facilities and the performance of the equipment. EmCom will hold its next deployment exercise during a *field day* organised in September 2019 at the Ligne Maginot.

**EmCom LX
RCS N°F12453**

**When all
else fails!**

**Better prepared
= less risk**

Partnership opportunities

Possible forms of partnership

1. Partner in service or kind
   For example, transport, insurance, materials, premises, accommodation and supplies.

2. One-off or project partner, sponsor
   Different budgets depending on the nature of each project.

3. Major/exclusive/structural partner
   Coverage of the full amount sought or of a limited amount
   consequently. Involvement in all activities and, where appropriate, invitations to participate in decision-making (membership of the Board of Directors, participation in working meetings, etc.).

Benefits for our partners

Visibility

- Logo or space reserved for the sponsor on all promotional documents: association newsletter or other publication, posters, leaflets, invitations, admission tickets, website, social media content, etc.
- Logo on advertisements (web, radio or TV).
- Involvement in the press campaign: invitation and speaking slot at the press conference, mention in the press release and press kit.
- On-site presence (sign, banner, stand, etc.)
- Presence at the inauguration: speaking slot

Public Relations

- Guided tours, evening events, participation in events for the sponsor's guests.
- Invitations to previews or other official events.

Internal communications

- Articles and photos in association publications
- Participation in one or other activity or training course
- Involvement of certain members of staff in setting up the project
- Authorisation for the sponsor to use the association's logo in its communications
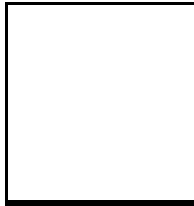- Services offered in the EmPrep and EmCom context
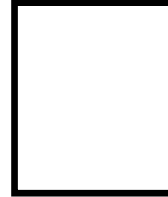
Contact Information

Paul Hetting
Chairman
LX1HP
Tel +352 691661807
lx1hp@rlx.lu

Philippe Lutty
Vice-Chairman
LX2A

Jean-Marie Juchemes
Treasurer
LX1JH

Jean-Luc Brach
Secretary
LX1JBL/F4HYP

Contact

EmCom A.s.b.l.
56, route de Bastogne
L-9512 Wiltz (Luxembourg)
Tel +352 691 66 18 07
Mail emergency@rlx.lu
Facebook - EmCom LX