

## BREAK TAGS

Most of these tags have been used with great success in large public/emergency services nets. Here is how they work: Instead of saying "break" between transmissions during a directed net, the operator uses the word specified as a Break Tag without a call sign. ***They are to be used wisely***, as net control is directed to stop and turn over the net to the breaker. ***The message that follows a break should be as short as possible***. Definitions and use:

"ANSWER": Use **when you have the definitive answer** to a question currently being discussed on the air.

"QUESTION": Use **when the answer of a question can't wait**, for example, when the mayor is standing next to you and requesting you to get information using your radio.

"INFO": Use **when information needs to be transmitted rapidly but is not related to what is being said** on the air; for example, if an event that net control needs to know about is going to happen in the next few seconds or if waiting for the end of an exchange will negate the value of the information.

"PRIORITY": Use **to report an important but non-life threatening situation** such as a fender-bender that just happened.

"MEDICAL": Use **to report a minor medical incident that affects the operator in some way**, for example, having to leave his/her post for a few minutes to walk someone with a minor cut over to a med tent.

"EMERGENCY": Use **ONLY to report an ongoing life or property threatening or damaging incident**.

"YOUR CALL SIGN": Use as an indication that you have traffic that can wait and does not require the cessation of the ongoing exchange. This tag is an expectation to be put on hold and in queue for transmission.

"RELAY": Use **ONLY when you have correct information to relay to net control**.

## PROWORDS

Skillful use of prowords can significantly improve the efficiency of a net. All operators should be familiar with the proper use of the following standard prowords.

"OVER": Use **when a reply is required or expected**. This is the equivalent of "Go Ahead".

"OUT": Use **when no response is required or expected and your station is going off the air**.

"CLEAR": Same as "OUT". No reply is expected, but your station is staying on the air.

"ROGER": Use **when the transmission to you is RECEIVED AND UNDERSTOOD**. This DOES NOT MEAN YES!

"AFFIRMATIVE": Yes

"NEGATIVE": No

"SAY AGAIN": Use when you need something repeated.