

Loudhailer - technical information

New policy number: **258**
Old instruction number: **D070:a2**
Issue date: **21 October 1999**
Reviewed as current: **13 October 2023**
Owner: **Assistant Director, Property and TSS**
Responsible work team: **Fleet Liaison Engineering and Equipment Team**

Contents

1 Introduction 2
2 Description 2
3 Safety precautions..... 3
4 Operating instructions 3
5 Maintenance and testing..... 4
6 Defects..... 5
7 Associated material 5
Document history..... 6

1 Introduction

1.1 This policy describes the loudhailer carried on PL's, FRU's and Fireboats and explains its operation, maintenance and testing.



LFB image id 205350

2 Description

2.1 There are two models of loudhailer in service with LFB: the Director 1356 series 1 and series 2. They both have the same function (their differences are covered in this policy).



Comparison between Series 2 (left) and Series 1 (right)

LFB image id 226555

2.2 Technical details:

		Series 2
• Power output:	6 – 10 watts	15 – 20 watts
• Effective voice distance:	250m	350m
• Effective siren distance:	300m	450m
• Operating temperature range:	-10°C to +25°C	-10°C to +45°C
• Weight:	1.2kg	1.5kg
• Dimensions (length / horn diameter):	315mm / 180mm	320 mm / 210mm
• Battery life: intermittent use – voice:	8 hours (approx.)	36 hours (approx.)
• Battery life: intermittent use – siren:	30 minutes (approx.)	90 minutes (approx.)

- 2.3 The series 1 is powered by 8 x AA size alkaline batteries (POMS-V1171) whereas the series 2 is powered by 6 x C size alkaline batteries (POMS-V1836).
- 2.4 Manufactured from fire-retardant shatter resistant, ABS plastic resin.
- 2.5 The loudhailer has a detachable wrist strap.
- 2.6 The loudhailer should always be stowed/carried in its own bag. (POMS - S9893) when not in use.



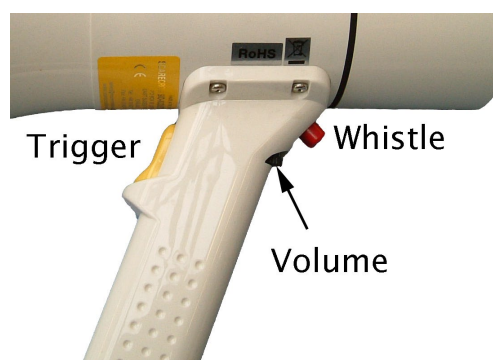
LFB image id 205352

3 Safety precautions

- 3.1 Appropriate level of PPE to be worn at all times when operating this equipment.
- 3.2 The Loudhailer must **never** be operated directly towards people close by, and great care must be taken not to actuate the unit close to another person's ears.
- 3.3 When testing, point the unit downwards, preferably towards a non-reflective sound absorbing surface.

4 Operating instructions

- 4.1 Adjust the volume control to a low volume setting (the volume control is a black rotating switch, marked zero to ten, and can be located on the rear surface of the unit handle). The volume can be adjusted as high as necessary, but care should be taken to avoid acoustic feedback.
- 4.2 Place one hand through the wrist strap and grasp the operating handle. The microphone should be held between one and two centimetres from the mouth (any variation in this distance may result in poor sound quality or insufficient amplification).
- 4.3 A trigger switch, coloured yellow, is located on the front surface of the operating handle. Simultaneously gripping the trigger and handle will enable voice amplification. To switch the unit off, release the trigger.



LFB image id 205354

- 4.4 The unit is also fitted with a **signalling whistle**. This is actuated by pressing the red button located on the rear surface of the operating handle. When the whistle switch is pressed the whistle will sound regardless of the volume control setting. Releasing the switch stops the whistle sounding. If the trigger switch is pulled whilst the whistle is sounding, the whistle will stop and voice amplification will be actuated.

5 Maintenance and testing

- On acceptance
- After use
- Monthly

5.1 Visually inspect the loudhailer for any signs of damage.

5.2 If required, the loudhailer and bag can be cleaned by using a slightly damp cloth to wipe the exterior surfaces and further cleaned using a dry cloth.

5.3 The loudhailer is not waterproof. Should it become wet, it must be wiped dry with a clean cloth.

5.4 The loudhailers operation should be tested and batteries changed as necessary.

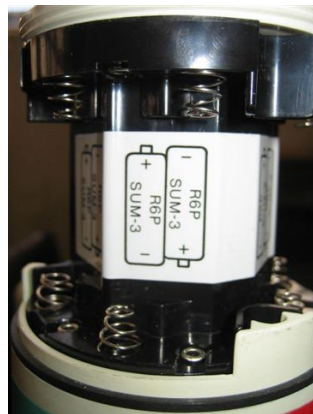
5.5 To change batteries:

- (a) The unit microphone assembly forms the battery compartment cover. To access the battery compartment, turn the cover anti-clockwise (the direction of opening is marked on the surface of the cover).



LFB image id 205353

- (b) Depending on model, place 8 x AA size (series 1) or 6 x C size batteries (series 2) into the housings within the battery compartment, ensuring that the polarity markings of the cells match those indicated on the unit.



Series 1 Battery compartment

LFB image id 226556



Series 2 Battery compartment

LFB image id 226557

- (c) Always take care not to mix different brands or batches of batteries.
- (d) When changing the batteries, change all of them at the same time.
- (e) To replace the battery compartment cover, turn the cover in a clockwise direction (do not over tighten).

- 5.6 Dispose of the batteries correctly, by recycling as per LFB's latest guidance.
- 5.7 If batteries are changed annotate the test card accordingly.
- 5.8 Tests to be recorded on Standard test card F426.

6 Defects

- 6.1 The loudhailer is a Category B item under the vehicle and equipment contract.
- 6.2 Defects should be reported on POMS part numbers:

- Loudhailer S9695
- Bag for loudhailer S9893
- Battery, industrial, AA, LR6 1.5V, ID1500 V1171
- Battery, 1.5V, LR14, C cell, alkaline V1836

7 Associated material

- 7.1 To be read in conjunction with the following material where necessary:
 - Policy number 213 – Control of noise at work
 - Policy number 598 – Provision and use of work equipment
 - Policy number 643 – Hazardous waste disposal procedure
 - Policy number 707 – The control of infectious diseases policy
 - Policy number 724 – Appliance inventories and operational readiness
 - Policy number 985 – Operational safety management - knowledge skills and competence – NOG
 - Policy number 1000 – Fire contaminants

Document history

Assessments

An equality, sustainability or health, safety and welfare impact assessment and/or a risk assessment was last completed on:

EIA	24/08/2020	SDIA	H - 12/10/2023	HSWIA	02/09/2020	RA	
-----	------------	------	----------------	-------	------------	----	--

Audit trail

Listed below is a brief audit trail, detailing amendments made to this policy/procedure.

Page/para nos.	Brief description of change	Date
Page 5, para 6.1	Under cover of F.47 to Radio Workshop detailing the fault removed. - Replaced by (via POMS)	03/03/2009
Throughout	Policy reviewed as current. Major changes made throughout. Please read to familiarise yourself with the content.	19/01/2011
Page 1	Responsible work team changed from Engineering Fleet and Equipment Team to Fleet Liaison Engineering and Equipment Team. The company AssetCo replaced with Premier FireServe.	29/10/2012
Throughout	Premier FireServe has been updated to 'the service provider'.	13/11/2012
Section 7	Section 7 added.	09/01/2014
Section 3 and 4 Section 4 and 5 Para 5.6	Section 3 and 4 swapped so that safety precautions precede operational instructions. Information regarding battery change moved from section 4 to 5. Battery recycling information added.	08/04/2014
Page 6, Assessments.	SIA updated, full SDIA not required.	16/06/2014
Page 6	Subject list and FOIA exemptions tables updated.	18/11/2014
Throughout	Minor amendments made throughout document, please read fully to familiarise yourself with the latest version	05/06/2017
Page 1	Owner title changed to reflect the changes in organisational structure and governance due to the abolition of the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority.	27/03/2019
Last page	SDIA date updated.	30/10/2019
Throughout	Policy reviewed as current with no changes made.	04/09/2020
Throughout	Cross references updated.	27/06/2022
Throughout Section 7	Policy reviewed as current with the following changes made: Reference to PN1000 added. SDIA updated.	13/10/2023

Subject list

You can find this policy under the following subjects.

Probation	Equipment – operational
Loudhailer	Technical information

Freedom of Information Act exemptions

This policy/procedure has been securely marked due to:

Considered by: (responsible work team)	FOIA exemption	Security marking classification