

MARS stations will be conducting DOD COMEX 19-4 from 3 NOV through 17 NOV 2019. MARS stations will be working to achieve a high level of coordination with Amateur Radio and to facilitate Amateur Radio stations reception of a digital 60 meter DoD broadcast.

There are four phases to the COMEX. MARS stations will interact with the amateur community during Phase Three (6 November 1201Z through 17 November 0300Z) and Phase Four (17 November 0301Z through 17 November 0330Z for the DoD Digital Broadcast and 17 November 0331Z through 18 November 2359Z for 60 meters).

Phase 3 is characterized by on-going Amateur Radio coordination and support. MARS at Region, State and Local levels will interface directly with Amateur Radio clubs, organizations and individually to facilitate two way information flow. Phase 3 includes individual MARS members providing individual Amateur Radio operators technical support to receive DoD broadcasts using Mil-STD Serial PSK.

Phase 4 follows DoD voice and text broadcasts, and focus on county status reports and other information products. MARS stations will reach out to amateurs on 75, 60 and 40 meters, VHF and UHF bands, primarily making use of existing Amateur Radio nets, except on 60 meters where MARS will be available for Amateurs to call.

Mars operators will coordinate in person and/or telephone technical support sessions to install, configure, tune and test the MS-DMT software at Amateur Radio stations. They will conduct two way Plain Text (PT) tests with Amateur Radio using MIL-STD 188-110A Serial PSK waveform on 60 meters. Note that the 300 baud symbol rate restriction in 47CFR 97.307(3) does not apply to Amateur Radio use of the 60 meter band, and the Serial PSK waveform conforms to 2K80J2D when transmitted as audio through a 2.8 KHz Single Side Band filter. This is an unencrypted version of the software.

All amateurs are reminded the MS-DMT software using data mode M110A is only permitted on the 60 Meter amateur band. It is not to be used anywhere else or you will be in violation of FCC Part 97.

The software is available at the following URL:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1pYDj7kQbm-QAyY4RPtx0dOXKohjaEjq9>

