

# ARFF Ringdown Update – CCFR Station 3

## Purpose:

To repair and modernize the legacy ARFF ringdown system within Capital City Fire/Rescue's Station 3.

## What is the ARFF Ringdown:

A dedicated analog phone line connects the FAA Tower, Flight Services, CCF/R Station 3 and the Dispatch Center at the Juneau Police Department. This line is utilized by the FAA whenever an aircraft or airport emergency occurs. When the FAA picks up the phone, it immediately rings on the overhead speakers at CCF/R's Station 3 and on a phone line at the Dispatch Center for Juneau Police Department.



## Why do you need a ARFF Ringdown at Station 3:

Per 14 CFR § 139.319 Aircraft rescue and firefighting: Operational requirements (h)(2)(i),

*Within 3 minutes from the time of the alarm, at least one required aircraft rescue and firefighting vehicle must reach the midpoint of the farthest runway serving air carrier aircraft from its assigned post or reach any other specified point of comparable distance on the movement area that is available to air carriers, and begin application of extinguishing agent.*

The alarm produced at CCF/R's Station 3 from the ARFF Ringdown line provides an immediate alert to personnel and a response is initiated from the station. Crews are able to listen to FAA personnel describe the emergency as they get in the apparatus and respond.

### ATTACHMENT #3

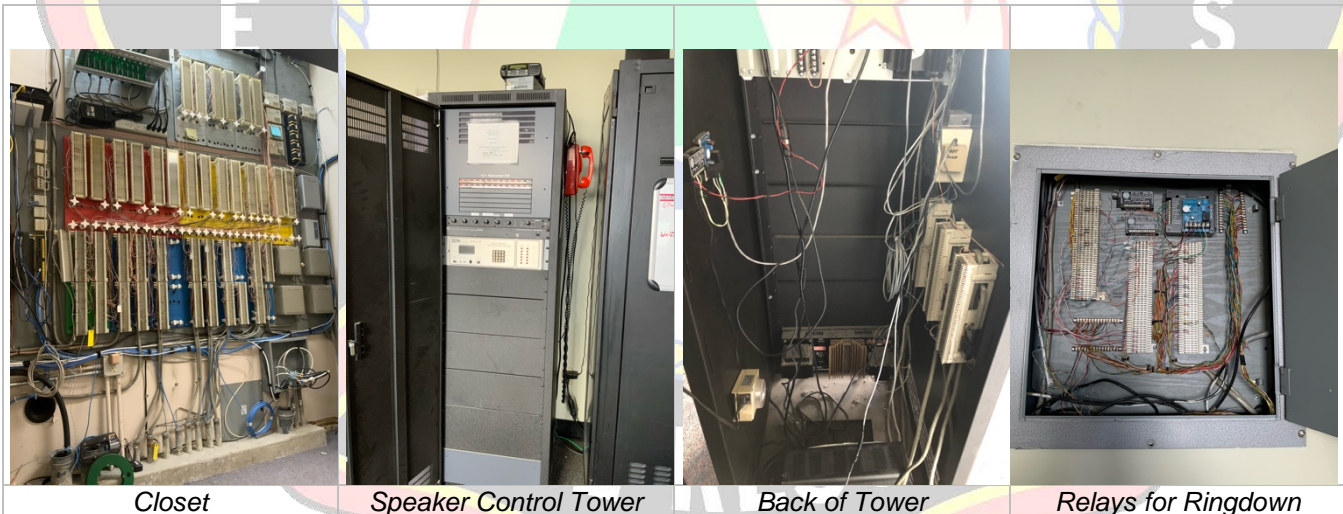
When Dispatch picks up the line, they need to ask questions to ascertain what the emergency is and provide the required response. Once the Dispatcher has the requisite information, they utilize the Phoenix G2 Station Alerting System and radio paging to alert personnel to the emergency. This process takes valuable response time. Without the ringdown system alerting Station 3, personnel won't know there is an emergency until Dispatch pages them.

#### Why is there a problem:

The existing system speaker system (Valcomm) was installed in the building when the building was constructed in 1976. This speaker system has been patched and repaired by numerous individuals with numerous organizations in the past 44 years.

Over the years and repairs, the system has evolved into something that no one can repair. This is due to complexity, antiquity and inavailability to purchase replacement parts. The ringdown system "goes out" or fails approximately two to three times a year. When the system fails, CCF/R, JPD IT, ACS and Alcan work collectively to try to get it functional again. The last time the system failed (May-June 2020), the system remained not functional for approximately four weeks.

Each time the system fails, there is an expense to pay ACS and Alcan to attempt to repair the system. This expense is compounded by the problems listed above.



### ATTACHMENT #3

#### Proposal:

In 2017, Capital City Fire/Rescue installed a Phoenix G2 Station Alerting System in the two career-staffed stations. The station alerting system utilizes new led light speakers and a variety of displays throughout the stations to alert personnel. Due to the complexity of the install, lack of expertise available, and the fragility of the legacy ARFF ringdown system, it was not feasible to connect the ARFF ringdown to the station alerting system.

The frequency of failure of the existing ARFF ringdown system necessitates a significant change in the system. Fundamentally, there are two major problems with the current ringdown system. 1) the analog phone line/system connecting the FAA tower, flight services, CCF/R and JPD Dispatch is marginally functional per JPD IT, Alcan and ACS; and 2) the output or speaker system within CCF/R's Station 3 is failing with increased frequency. This proposal addresses the latter.

Alcan Electric installed the station alerting system for CCF/R and have first-hand knowledge of the ARFF ringdown. Alcan has stated they can modernize and repair the ARFF ringdown circuit within CCF/R's Station 3 and connect it to the existing station alerting system. In doing so, the system will be monitored and be able to be altered and/or repaired by CCF/R, JPD and Alcan personnel. This proposal does not address repairing/modernizing the main analog phone line and system between the locations.

Alcan Electric has researched the project and submitted a budgetary proposal of \$22,400 to complete the work. They will work with ACS, CCF/R and JPD to ensure success of the proposal.



Respectfully,

Chad Cameron