

W H I T E P A P E R

Modernizing Primary Crash Alerting Systems

IP-Based Crash Phone Technology for Today's Regulatory Environment



In Partnership With



www.skycomglobal.com | www.xopnetworks.com

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The Problem

Crash phones save lives. When an aircraft emergency is declared, the crash phone instantly connects the tower, fire stations, command posts, and medical teams all at once. Seconds matter, and the system must work every time.

Most crash phone systems in service today were built on analog copper technology decades ago and have gone end-of-life. They rely on single points of failure—one copper pair, no backup power, no remote monitoring, and no way to verify the system is working until someone picks up the handset. When a component fails, nobody knows until it's needed. These aging systems can't be managed, can't be audited, and can't scale as airfield operations grow.

Regulations and Compliance

Three standards now define what a crash phone system should look like:

- **14 CFR Part 139** — The federal regulation. Requires alerting equipment for immediate ARFF (Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting) notification. The first ARFF vehicle must reach the runway midpoint within three minutes of the alarm.
- **FAA AC 150/5210-7E (March 2024)** — Mandatory for airports receiving AIP or PFC funding. Requires a dedicated, standalone system—no piggybacking on admin phone systems. Calls for full redundancy, fault tolerance, QoS traffic marking, SNMP device monitoring, and visual indication of which stations have joined the call.
- **NFPA 1225 (2022)** — The technical standard. Requires dual independent power sources with 12 hours of battery backup, automated fault monitoring with supervisory alerts, and annual testing with documented results.

The Solution: SkyCom + XOP Networks RFCS

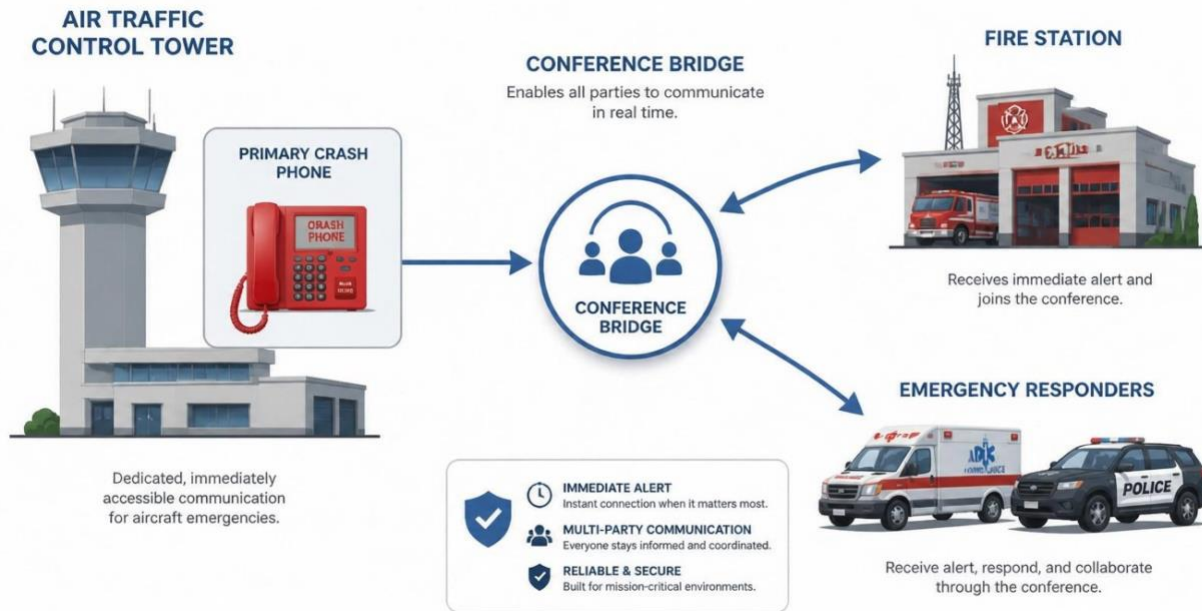
Sky Communications and XOP Networks have partnered to deliver a turnkey, IP-based crash phone solution built on the [XOP Ringdown Firebar Conference System \(RFCS\)](#). Pick up any master station and every connected endpoint rings and joins a live conference—automatically, in under two seconds. No dialing, no relay calls, no delay.

SkyCom handles the full project lifecycle—site survey, network design, procurement, installation, and training—while XOP provides the RFCS platform and 24×7×365 support from their Dallas NOC. Together, the partnership delivers a complete, compliant crash phone system from design through ongoing operations.

Key capabilities:

- Cisco 8300 router platform—DoDIN Approved Products List, JITC-certified conference software
- Dedicated, isolated network per FAA mandate—not shared with airport IT
- Scalable from small airfields to 96+ stations across any number of buildings
- PA paging, IP strobe lights, call recording (90–180 days), and failover to cell/landline
- Real-time visual status showing which stations are on the call
- SNMP monitoring, TLS/SRTP encryption, web-based administration

XOP has deployed over 102 RFCS systems globally, including 42 military installations.



Proven in the Field

Sky Communications recently delivered a 15-station RFCS deployment at a joint-use military airfield in the National Capital Region—nine buildings, dedicated fiber backbone, 10-gigabit aggregation, PA integration at fire stations, and full compliance with FAA, NFPA, and DoD cybersecurity requirements. SkyCom managed the entire project from site survey through handoff to XOP's 24×7×365 support with two-hour response SLAs.

Who We Are

Sky Communications, Inc. is an authorized XOP Networks integrator with nearly 30 years of experience in government and enterprise communications. Cisco Premier Integrator Partner. Certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE). Active security clearances. We deliver turnkey crash phone solutions—design through ongoing support—across DoD, FAA, federal, state, and local environments.

XOP Networks, Inc. is the OEM behind the RFCS platform, with two decades of mission-critical alerting and conferencing systems deployed worldwide. XOP provides direct 24×7×365 support from their Dallas NOC with critical-priority SLAs and remote diagnostics.

Get Started

If your airfield is running a legacy crash phone—or planning a new installation—we can evaluate your current system against the latest FAA and NFPA requirements and scope a compliant solution.

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