SUCCESS STORY

Modernizing Fire Station Alerting Systems for Today's Data-driven Operations

How LA County Fire Improved the Performance, Reliability and Flexibility of their Fire Station Alerting System with Modern Technology



Los Angeles County Fire Department (LACoFD) modernized its Fire Station Alerting System to accelerate response times, improve crew readiness, and strengthen firefighter health and wellness. The new RMI FSA streamlines alerting, reduces delays, and delivers clearer, faster dispatch information.

Learn how a modern, data-driven platform replaced legacy hardware and gave LACoFD a faster, more reliable, and more flexible alerting system.

THE NEED

Legacy FSA Limitations and Operational Bottlenecks

LA County's legacy fire station alerting (FSA) system was a proprietary, hardware-heavy system built around relays, batteries, inverters, and a commercial PA system. Dispatch alerts were transmitted via two-tone radio signals that triggered lights, tones, and eventually opened the speaker for voice dispatch.

While functional, the system lacked customization, scalability, and speed. Paging tones transmitted over radio created delays — especially when multiple stations needed simultaneous alerting.

To support its growing operational demands and improve emergency response effectiveness, LACoFD sought a modern FSA solution designed to enhance speed, flexibility, and long-term scalability.

LACoFD Operational Requirements

- **Instant, simultaneous alerting** across multiple stations
- **Station-level customization** for tones, lights, and apparatus-specific notifications
- **Shorter response times** through streamlined alert workflows
- **Future-ready architecture** that could evolve with new technologies

THE SOLUTION

FSA Modernization Through RMI's FSA



To modernize their FSA, the Department turned to RadioMobile, Inc. (RMI) as their trusted technology partner. RMI had recently completed a successful deployment of a new mobile data Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) system for the Department's 1,300 emergency vehicles. Building on that success, RMI collaborated closely with operations personnel to design, test and deliver a fully customizable RMI Fire Station Alerting System (FSA).

The solution was purpose-built to support the Department's unique requirements, enabling faster alert delivery, greater station-level flexibility, and seamless integration with existing workflows and communications infrastructure.

> *"We built the system around their exact operational needs, and as new requests surfaced, we integrated those too. It was a genuinely collaborative process,"*
> – Jim Moore, CEO of RMI

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THE SOLUTION (continued)

Data-Driven Alerting and Station-Level Customization

The resulting FSA system uses modern data communications to improve response times and deliver station-specific customization. When the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system sends an alert, RMI FSA instantly converts it into a data signal and routes it through the county's Land Mobile Radio (LMR)-based data network. RMI's Station Control Unit (SCU), paired with the MDC-based Command Desk Terminal (CDT), initiates the configured alert sequence for each station.

> *"Responders no longer waste time deciphering screens. RMI FSA delivers instant clarity, cuts valuable seconds off turnout, and makes station operations more efficient."*
> – – Jim Moore, CEO of RMI

The system's alerting capabilities include escalating tones, targeted lighting, and text-to-voice dispatch containing incident type, responding units, and critical details. The radio voice channel opens automatically for ongoing communication. Apparatus equipped with RMI's SCU Software receive the dispatch simultaneously, ensuring crews have the information they need as they leave the station.



Key Features of RMI FSA

- **Fully programmable lights and tones** tailored to station needs and incident types
- **Apparatus-specific alerting** (engine, truck, battalion chief, medic unit, specialty apparatus)
- **Dorm-room-specific notifications** so only required responders are alerted
- **Integrated dispatch details** displayed on station and apparatus MDCs
- **Text-to-speech alerting** for clear voice delivery of dispatch information
- **IP alerting** to support network-based alert delivery and system expansion
- **Automated bay door operation** to help streamline apparatus departure
- **Remote vehicle starting** to prepare apparatus before crews enter the bay
- **Automatic shutoff** for kitchen gas appliances to improve station safety during emergency response
- **Rip-and-run printer output** with first directional turns to provide crews with quick printed routing guidance. "Responders no longer waste time deciphering screens," says Moore. "RMI FSA delivers instant clarity, cuts valuable seconds off turnout, and makes station operations more efficient."

THE RESULTS

Faster Turnout and Improved Operational Efficiency

RMI FSA has improved overall response efficiency by reducing the time between dispatch initiation and crew mobilization. Instead of relying on slower, sequential tone-based alerting, the system delivers data-driven alerts simultaneously to the appropriate station, apparatus, and personnel. Crews receive clearer incident information faster, including incident type, responding units, and critical dispatch details, helping them dress out, gather the right equipment, move to the correct apparatus, and leave the station with greater confidence and less delay.

> *"The right crews get up, grab the right equipment, and roll out faster than ever."*
> – – Jim Moore, CEO of RMI

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FUTURE-READINESS

A Platform Built for Expansion and Emerging Technologies

> *"Every project we have done with RadioMobile has been a total win. Their products are great, and the support is top notch."*
> – Scott England, LACoFD's telecommunications systems consultant engineer

RMI FSA's modern, modular architecture allows LACoFD to adopt new capabilities as they become available. The platform supports rapid over-the-air software updates across multiple stations, enabling faster deployment of enhancements and bug fixes without manual intervention.

RMI continues to work with the department to integrate additional peripheral devices and finalize installation of next generation station control unit systems. This ongoing work, together with the platform's modular design and update capabilities, ensures it remains ready for future operational expansion.

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"Every project we have done with RadioMobile has been a total win," explains Scott England, LACoFD's telecommunications systems consulting engineer. "Their products are great, and the support is top notch."



ABOUT RMI

RMI provides technology solutions for fire and EMS agencies, specializing in fire station alerting, apparatus tracking, and operational connectivity. RMI's solutions connect dispatch centers, fire stations, and field personnel to support faster, more coordinated emergency response.

Built around speed, reliability, and interoperability, RMI's technology is designed to work with agencies' existing systems and infrastructure while supporting evolving operational needs.

Through software-driven capabilities, system integration, and ongoing support, RMI helps fire and EMS agencies maintain operational readiness, improve visibility across their operations, and access the information they need when seconds matter most.

Explore fire station alerting for your department. Talk with our team: 858-444-1330 | radiomobile.com

RMI RadioMobile Inc. — Trusted Provider of Mission-Ready Technology for Fire & EMS

www.radiomobile.com
8801 Kenamar Drive, San Diego, CA 92121
858-444-1330

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