

FIRE SERVICE RADIO NEWS

July 2012



2012 MAFC Conference In Pictures

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SPONSOR
OF THE MAFC
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
& TRADE SHOW**

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The Pembina Triangle Mutual Aid District and Winkler Fire Rescue hosted this year's MAFC Conference and AGM in Winkler from June 7th to 9th. The conference theme was "Communications".

Congratulations to the host committee for organizing a successful and enjoyable event.



Above:
Outgoing MAFC President Garry Bell presents a Life Membership to Gary MacGregor of Gimli Fire Rescue.

Below:
Chris Kalansky and Garry Klassen, the conference organizers from Winkler Fire Rescue.



Below:
A great meal was served at the Saturday night banquet, sponsored by Alcom, at the Heartland Inn.



Below & Left:
At the Winkler Arena a wide selection of fire apparatus from various manufacturers was on display as part of the trade show.



Manitoba Firefighters can now apply for these special license plates.
See your Fire Chief for more information.



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When Lightning Strikes - Don't Let This Happen to You!

This image is all that remains of the coaxial connection from the antenna feed line to the jumper cable on a base station radio after a lightning strike.



What Happened?

This event occurred during the month of May 2012. There was a direct lightning strike to the antenna mounted on a 68 foot tower. There was no lightning protection on the antenna coaxial cable and the tower legs were not grounded.

What Were The Results? Major Damage!

The high energy of the lightning strike destroyed the base station radio equipment, melted the antenna and vaporized the RG58 coaxial jumper cable. The high heat required to do this damage could easily have resulted in a fire on the premises.

There was approximately \$4500.00 worth of damage and the customer experienced over a week of downtime to replace the antenna, coaxial cable and radio equipment.

Lightning struck!

What Can You Do To Prevent This From Happening To You?

Proper grounding in antenna systems is an important factor that is often overlooked. Lightning protection is an inexpensive addition to your communication system that could save you time and money should your system ever suffer a lightning strike. If you have a tower, make sure that it is properly grounded. Install a lightning suppressor to your antenna feed line and have it grounded by a professional electrician.

To ensure your equipment is protected from all sources of damaging impulse energy it is important to also use power line and telephone line protectors.

Check your equipment and make sure it is properly grounded.

SUMMER SALE

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