

Media Advisory

CFB Esquimalt commissions Mass Notification System

January 29, 2015 - Esquimalt, B.C. - Department of National Defence / Royal Canadian Navy

CFB Esquimalt has recently installed a Mass Notification System that will require contractor trials during the first week of February.

CFB Esquimalt covers a large area and personnel work in a wide variety of locations including outdoors, in ships, vehicles or workshops. This system will be invaluable during an emergency for communicating important information to our employees, contractors and those visiting our facilities.

As the sound from these sirens cannot be confined to our property, media assistance is requested to provide information to local residents so they are not unduly alarmed or concerned by this new system.

WHEN: Monday 2 February to Friday 6 February, intermittently between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

WHERE: Dockyard, Naden and Work Point

The speakers, mounted on tall poles, are designed to survive an 8.0 magnitude earthquake. They are currently located in Dockyard, Naden and Work Point with the possibility of extending the system to West Shore properties such as Colwood, Albert Head and Rocky Point in the future.

The system can be programmed to provide a variety of warnings including hazardous material emergencies, environmental threats, tsunami evacuation and increases to our security posture.

Four different siren tones will be used: test tone (alternating tone); evacuation tone (low to high to low tone); shelter in place tone (repeated blast of single tone); and the all-clear tone (similar to Westminster chime). Audio files are available on the Maritime Forces Pacific website.

Except for monthly tests, the system will only be activated if a real emergency has been determined by our 24/7 operations staff. Tests will take place at 11 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Public Service Announcement reminders will be issued in advance of these one-minute tests.

- 30 -

Associated Link:

<http://www.navy-marine.forces.gc.ca/en/about/structure-marpac-units.page>

Media Contact:

Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt Public Affairs

Phone: 250-363-7060

Email: cfbesquimalt@outlook.com