



# **HAMNET**

## **Amateur Radio Emergency Service of the SA Radio League**

### **Amateurs as Professionals**

**What has my attitude got to do with it?**

In a word everything. It is even more important than your radio skills. The attitude of some amateur radio operators leaves much to be desired. Your knowledge in emergency communications is not as important as your attitude during emergencies or when assisting other agencies, etc.

Your technical ability will enable you to do a good job of communicating. But your attitude will determine the success of the overall Amateur Radio effort. The operator who brings a "know it all" or "I will show you just how good I am" attitude will only hamper the relations with the agency or organization. Although we are called amateurs, it does not imply that our efforts are amateurish and anything less than professional. "Professionalism" means getting the job done efficiently - with the minimum of fuss.

Your job is to meet the communication needs of the agency

The people we will be "serving" - remember that word - are professionals that have seen far too many people that are more interested in impressing someone than in getting the job done.

No matter who we serve we are there to solve their communication problems. Do whatever you can to accomplish that goal, and avoid becoming part of the problem.

You will impress them far more by being quiet and doing your job in the best way possible. Results without interference of the agency/organization people, will cement relations with Hamnet.

**Remember the following:**

Experience is the worst teacher; it gives you the test before giving the lesson.

Hams are independent people and they are volunteers. The attitude among a few hams is that 'volunteers do not have to take orders.' That is absolutely correct. We do not have to take orders, however when you volunteer your services as an emergency communicator, you agree to accept and comply with the reasonable orders and requests from the 'agency'. but if you are not ready to follow instructions, you may want to do something other than be a Hamnet member

**Please consider:**

- Attitude: manner, feeling, position, with regard to a person or thing,
- Service: the act of helpful activity, help aid,
- Positive: explicitly stated, or expressed.

or more simply stated, A commitment to help others.