

# ALERT BULLETIN

AB 2025:23/6-3

11/13/2025

2283400

**TO:** Airport Manager, Tampa International Airport, (TPA), FL, FAA (ATM TPA TRACON, AJW-19)

**INFO:** FAA (AAS-1, AVP-1, AVP-200, AFS-260, AFS-200, Director of Air Traffic Operations ESA South), A4A, AAAE, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, ATSG, EAA, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NAFI, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

**FROM:** Becky L. Hooey, Director  
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

**SUBJ:** TPA ATC Radio Reliability

We recently received ASRS reports describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the following:

ASRS received a report from a TPA TRACON Controller describing the failure of their two operational frequencies. Communication was reestablished after a delay using a hand held radio. Reporter stated this is an ongoing issue and is affecting the safety of their operations.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at [becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov](mailto:becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov).



Aviation Safety Reporting System  
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



## ACN 2283400

### DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence	202509
Local Time Of Day	0001 to 0600

### PLACE

Locale	TPA.Airport
State	FL

### AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - TRACON	TPA
Make Model Name	Commercial Fixed Wing
Operating Under FAR Part	121

### AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT Y

ATC / Advisory - TRACON	TPA
Make Model Name	Any Unknown or Unlisted Aircraft Manufacturer

### PERSON 1

Function - Air Traffic Control	Departure
ASRS Report Number	2283400

### EVENTS

Anomaly	ATC Issue - All Types
Anomaly	Ground Event / Encounter - Ground Equipment Issue
Detector - Person	Air Traffic Control
Result - Air Traffic Control	Provided Assistance
Result - Air Traffic Control	Separated Traffic

### NARRATIVE 1

At approximately XA:46 I noticed that I was starting to lose my frequencies 118.8 and 125.3. I could hear that I would click to make a transmission but was not coming out. I made a comment at the radar room about losing frequencies. I took action and attempted my standby and main receivers, switched jackets, and even tried the PET-2000. No luck with any of them. At XA:47 I lost it all. The Supervisor that was in charge of the operation came over and attempted to make a transmission on the PET-2000 with a handheld but no joy. Aircraft X could not hear him nor I. Immediately after that as a team we scrambled to stop TPA and PIE departures until we could get the situation under control. I tried to call the Center but once again my headset was not working. The Supervisor was eventually able to have the handheld headset and make transmissions. With my assistance I was telling him who to climb, turn, descend and switch to the Center. This situation was all very chaotic, stressful, and unnecessary. At XA:50 I told PIE to tell Aircraft Y to make it a full stop due to radio issues. I took over from the Supervisor at that time using the handheld headset which started working until he could get me another headset. Nonetheless the damage had been done. I eventually migrated to working with my new refurbished headset. This is not the first time we have had issues with the frequencies going out or the different sectors we are having issues with.

Fix our equipment! Everyday we are coming to work and are having to be dealing with equipment and frequency issues. Currently we have one or two frequencies that we used on a daily basis on standby because the main does not work. When we plug in to work the sector it is not normal to have to switch sides on the jackets because they start giving us issues and cannot transmit to the aircraft. It is just unsatisfactory to come to work and have to deal with these conditions on a daily basis.

## SYNOPSIS

TPA TRACON Controller reported losing all the frequencies, standby and main receivers, and the back-up radio, and stated this has been a recurring issue that needs to be fixed.