

RalliTrak

RalliTrak has been around for five years now in one way or another, and yet the concept is still misunderstood by some.

RalliTrak is quite simply a rally competitor's quickest and easiest method of calling for assistance or advising of retirement.

Like it or not, nobody can run or drive at the speed of light, and that's the speed a radio wave travels at.

With stage radio operators monitoring cars past their position and positively reporting their passage back to RalliTrak control, the location of rally cars within a special stage is more accurately known.

When they stop, their whereabouts can be tied down instantly to a smaller area, and the search begins more quickly.

Add into that, each competing car carrying a small handheld transmitter, which they can activate to advise the nearest RalliTrak radio operator that they have stopped or that they require help, all at the push of a button. Green for OK Red for SOS.

The RalliTrak stage operator's radio shows on its display screen, the competitor's number and the word OK or SOS, they will then speak with the crew and ask them a series of questions. Do they require assistance, is the stage clear, and is the warning triangle and OK/SOS board shown.

This information is then passed on to MSA 81 control for any further action to be taken. Crews



can, and have in the past reported accidents that other crews have had. Likewise marshals and spectators have used the RalliTrak handheld to summon assistance because the crew has been unconscious.

RalliTrak is not an elite club, it is not a replacement for MSA 81, and it's not competition to MSA 81 it's there to compliment it.

We are all aware that fewer and fewer people are available to marshal stages; RalliTrak is a way of providing more staff at an instant. There has been talk of asking crews to each bring a marshal to help with numbers. With RalliTrak every competing crew is a radio operator able to give information direct from the scene. The scene of their retirement or their accident or someone else's accident. So look at RalliTrak as providing a hundred plus radio crews to every rally. RalliTrak is the only way of reporting an accident without leaving that accident.

Of course all of this only works if someone is there in the stage to listen.

That's where you come in.



As I said earlier, RalliTrak is not an elite club. It is a group of volunteer's who like all other rally officials turn out because they love the sport. ***Nobody gets paid*** (contrary to popular belief). Yes some have black shirts with RalliTrak on, if you would like one, not a problem, simply come out on a few events and operate RalliTrak, and you can have one, and a few more events, have a fleece, etc.

Not an elite club but a group of likeminded people who feel that rally safety is paramount.

The equipment you would use for RalliTrak is provided for you, as is the training to use it.

By operating RalliTrak you are increasing the safety of any event you go out on, and you are not depleting that event of staff.

As a marshal or 81 radio operator, you can only supply information from your location. As a RalliTrak operator, you are able to marshal almost the whole stage as information comes to you, from the competitor via radio.

Competitors like RalliTrak, and we are all their for their safety, in a recent survey over 70% felt that RalliTrak was a major boost to special stage safety.

Organisers like RalliTrak because it stops stages being held to look for missing cars, keeping rallies running on time, and further and more importantly it makes stages safer.

In one incident, a competing crew running last but one car on the road had a serious accident, which left both crew in hospital for over a week.

They were down a banking out of sight of the road. The nearest radio was over a mile away.

Where was their help coming from without RalliTrak???

MSA Rallies committee are aware of RalliTrak and fully support its use.

Become a part of the future. Make motorsport safer. Be part of RalliTrak.

Contact Kate@rallitrak.com or 07837 011187 to offer your help.

Or call Pete Baker on 0845 4397120 or 07968 979946

We are out on all BTRDA rounds, all the remaining rounds of the BRC, plus the Severn Valley Stages and the RAC.

Please make this newsletter available to anyone who is actively engaged in motorsport.

As a radio operator, as a marshal, or as a spectator.

If you received this electronically please print it and take it to your next clubnight

Whether you are a radio controller or senior official please pass this on to any all persons you are in contact with.

Lets dispel the rumours about RalliTrak

Thank you for your time.
Pete Baker.