

Interoperable Communications

Office of the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
Public Safety Communications Subcommittee

April 2016



COLORADO

**Division of Homeland Security
& Emergency Management**

Department of Public Safety

SWIC & PSCS

Products and Services

- Outreach to communications groups / committees
- Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) program management
- Policy development
- Agency interoperability analysis

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Products and Services

- Interoperability presentations
- Training coordination
- Point of Contact for Technical Assistance from the Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications (OEC)
- State contact for Integrated Public & Alert Warning System (IPAWS)

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Program Objectives and Priorities

- Digital Trunked Radio System (DTRS) Needs Assessment and Business Plan
- State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) update
- State Technical Assistance Workshops
- National Guard interoperability capability
- Has a seat on the HSAC and reports to the CO General Assembly

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Program Objectives and Priorities

- Statewide adoption of interoperability frequencies / naming conventions
- Expansion of 700MHz interoperability capability
- Inter Sub System Interface (ISSI) capabilities between disparate systems
- Tactical Interoperability Communications Plan (TICP) updates (Regions)

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Statewide Collaboration

- Identify additional potential members for Public Safety Communications Subcommittee (PSCS)
- Form partnerships with other communications groups (NG911, FNC/NPSBN/FirstNet, P25)
- Assist in development of plans, policies, procedures (Memoranda of Understanding, Inter-governmental Agreements)

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Statewide Collaboration: Regional Communications Committees

- Identify points of contact within all-hazards regions to establish new committees / identify existing committees
- Regularly meet with committees to update on SWIC and SCIP programs, initiatives, and issues related to interoperable communications

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Goals and Objectives

- Encourage routine use of mutual aid channels, patching, gateways, and encryption for all disciplines and jurisdictions
- Collect documentation (Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans [TICP], SOPs, best practices etc.)
- Develop and distribute model SOPs and best practices for Interoperable mutual aid communications

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Goals and Objectives

- Obtain Stakeholder buy-in for Interoperability solutions
- Research and evaluate emerging technologies that can be implemented into interoperable communications (e.g. NG911, NSBN, unmaned aerial vehicles)
- Identify regions in need of communications training committees and support those committees with educational materials and information on training oportunities

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Goals and Objectives

- Establish a repository for training materials, TICPs, and AARs
- Update and add communications curriculum currently hosted on CO.TRAIN and other sources
- Evaluate AARs from communications exercises to determine effectiveness and provide feedback to the regional committees and to the PSCS

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Goals and Objectives

- Participate in and promote in COML/COMT training, deployment, and completion of task books

- 1) Conduct COML/COMT training as needed/requested
- 2) Maintain a list of certified COMLs/COMTs statewide
- 3) Identify opportunities for completing task books and personnel shadow opportunities

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Goals and Objectives

- Maintain and use deployable interoperable communications assets
 - 1) Compile and maintain a list of assets and asset requirements
 - 2) Encourage use of assets in regular operations, planned and unplanned events, and training exercises
 - 3) Conduct annual survey of local agencies via All-Hazard Regions to assess interoperability capabilities

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Goals and Objectives

- **Outreach and education to key stakeholders**

- 1) Provide guidance on benefits and challenges of encryption
- 2) Provide guidance to agencies on benefits and challenges of ISSI
- 3) Educate agencies on available training through the National Interoperability and Information Exchange (NIIX), CO.TRAIN, and other sources

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Goals and Objectives

- **Outreach and education to key stakeholders**

- 4) Educate agencies on capabilities of available deployable communications assets including deployment requirements (information maintained in WebEOC)
- 5) Educate elected officials on current status and importance of public safety communications systems (including NG911, NPSBN, LMR)

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Goals and Objectives

- **Sustainable funding for cont'd operation, enhancement, and replacement for communications systems**

- 1) Conduct outreach and education to key public safety communications stakeholders about benefits and challenges of funding operable and interoperable communications
- 2) Explore methods for funding in support of the findings from the Needs Assessment and Business Plan from SB 14-127

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Thank You

This information and more can be found in the Colorado Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP).

For further, contact Roger Bishop, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) at 720-852-6603 or Roger.Bishop@state.co.us.

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