EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

This document establishes a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan for the State of New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Department of Safety worked with the Radio Interoperability Committee and local agencies throughout the state to complete the SCIP. This plan covers the entire state and is intended to document both the operational aspects of our existing interoperable communications resources as well as our strategic vision moving forward. NH runs major communications for all state, county, and local first responders through a P-25 compliant VHF high band system. This system resulted from a signal promulgation study in consideration of the distances and the topography in NH.

The creation of a SCIP was a requirement of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS), Office of Grants and Training (G&T), 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program.

For the purposes of the SCIP, New Hampshire has included all agencies that are considered likely responders to a major incident, in recognition of the importance of interoperable communications and uniform response protocols between all local, county, state, and federal agencies that operate within the region. The guiding force for the New Hampshire SCIP is the DHS Interoperability Continuum. We believe that this plan will position our state for further advancement in all aspects of emergency communications. The lanes of the Benefits:

- Reusable and scalable
- Leverage and reinforce the infrastructure for other purposes
- Replication in other states

Overall Problem the SCIP, in conjunction with the PSIC, will resolve:

- Finalize the completion of the integration of the fractured, fragmented, and non-redundant voice information sharing system.
- Full project will increase efficiency, public safety, and First Responder supported by continuing efforts already begun to ensure and validate reliable voice communications in consideration of: Spectrum Efficiency-MOUs and frequency planning by our State in place across all levels allows for better use of the spectrum by adopting the NPSTC standard nomenclature to allow all parties to know and understand frequency usage to address who has primary access to what spectrum in the event of a disaster. Additional efficiencies will be gained by increased VHF trunking.
- NH will continue to use mobile (and fixed) gateways and P-25 compliant equipment to gain access to other frequency bands as required.
- Strategic Technology Reserve: Fixed Asset Redundancy allowing capability to re-establish communications when existing critical infrastructure is damaged or destroyed (does not exist in Statewide microwave system currently)