

TACTICAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATION PLANS

The Department of State Police (MSP) and the Department of Information Technology (DIT), working with public safety agencies statewide have developed a State of Michigan (SOM) Tactical Interoperable Communication Plan (TICP) that meets the requirements of Sec. 226.

Currently, the Michigan Public Safety Communication System (MPSCS) membership consists of approximately 1180 local agencies, 20 state agencies, and 12 federal agencies. These areas of the state have achieved interoperability through the MPSCS. In emergency or planned events, the remaining areas of the state achieve interoperability through a variety of other methods recognized as national guidelines. These methods include:

- 1) Swap Radios
- 2) Shared Channels
- 3) Gateways
- 4) Shared Systems

Both MSP and DIT/MPSCS maintain a cache of loaner radios available for use during emergency situations to achieve interoperability. They are stored at three locations across the state and are available for immediate deployment. Using the “Swap Radios” method, the criteria for interoperable communications has been met statewide.

Every county and city (with an emergency management program) in the state has at least one MPSCS radio provided through the MSP Emergency Management and Homeland Security Division with all special event talkgroups. Additionally, the MPSCS has established 42 gateway system patches between state and local/regional stand-alone radio systems.

Currently, state and local agencies are using the Communication Asset Survey and Mapping tool (CASM) to inventory their current state of radio interoperability to fulfill the requirements of the 2006 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) for Regionalization and developing a TICP. This Federal requirement is due to be completed by May 2008 to receive continued funding.