

NYSTEC has extensive program management and engineering experience assisting state and local governments with developing Interoperable Communications (IC) plans, and with acquiring and implementing interoperable communication networks. Developing an IC plan requires strategic, technical, and operational components. We have a proven track record in this multidisciplinary undertaking and have assisted our clients with:

- ▶ Strategic planning and positioning
- ▶ Defining solution vision and scope
- ▶ Performing stakeholder value analysis
- ▶ Evaluating system architecture
- ▶ Conducting radio system / network design and validation
- ▶ Spectrum engineering and management
- ▶ Vendor analysis and acquisition services
- ▶ Fleetmapping and dispatch-center design and consolidation
- ▶ Development of training and operational procedures



Interoperable communications planning and implementation involves three critical components:

- ▶ Governance
- ▶ Technology integration
- ▶ Alignment with local, state, and federal initiatives and grant programs

Governance

Governance structures exist at varying levels throughout disciplines, agencies, jurisdictions, municipalities, counties, and states. Disparate, ineffective structures for interoperable communications are best approached through a unified governance body that is practitioner-driven and comprised of a multidisciplinary team. NYSTEC's consultants and engineers are experienced in forming, coordinating, and facilitating the activities of IC governance bodies, including:



- ▶ Statewide Administrative Agencies (SAAs)
- ▶ Statewide Interoperability Executive Committees (SIECs)
- ▶ Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASIs)
- ▶ Regional Planning Committees (RPCs)
- ▶ Public safety industry groups including the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO), the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), and Industry Canada (IC)

NYSTEC assisted state agencies with securing resources, planning, and implementing the Department of Homeland Security Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program, including a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP); Investment Justification (IJ) portfolio; Strategic Technology Reserve (STR); Tactical Interoperability Plan (TIP); and Regional Interoperability Taskforces.

Supplemental to NYSTEC's work with Regional Planning Committees, we also support state and metropolitan areas with the 700 MHz and 800 MHz National Public Safety Planning and Advisory Council (NPSPAC) and 4.9 GHz RPC plan development and implementation. These efforts include

leading and coordinating interregional, interstate, and international public safety communications initiatives in governance, policy, and technologies. For more than a decade, NYSTEC has also served as subject matter experts to APCO, NPSTC, and the Radio Advisory Board of Canada, and works regularly with the FCC on governance, technology, and regulatory matters.



Technology Integration

The second critical component in achieving interoperable communications is the integration of technology and systems. This requires establishing interoperability across all frequencies and systems, both legacy and new. NYSTEC's proven integration process offers a structured yet adaptable approach to investigate and document existing (As-Is) communications assets and define future (To-Be) solutions. An all-inclusive inventory of critical communications assets is integral

to the As-Is phase of integration. Inventory development aids in defining baseline objectives to ensure that resources are applied efficiently and critical interoperability gaps are closed.

NYSTEC's practical experience in technology integration and asset-inventory development includes using the Communications Asset and Survey Mapping (CASM) tool. NYSTEC is experienced in all facets of CASM data integration to develop an all-inclusive inventory of communications assets, including:

- ▶ FCC licenses
- ▶ Channel plans
- ▶ Infrastructure and subscriber equipment

Additionally, NYSTEC has utilized CASM to produce and analyze:

- ▶ System inventory reports
- ▶ Interoperability matrices based on communications assets and system configuration
- ▶ System optimization reports (to eliminate unnecessary assets)
- ▶ What-If analysis reports and compatibility reports



NYSTEC consultants have worked with many project stakeholders to elicit, structure, document, define, and validate To-Be solutions. We currently assist numerous government agencies at the state, county, and local levels with designing solutions that meet stakeholder needs, wants, and expectations while adhering to applicable standards, regulations, and controls.

Alignment with Initiatives and Grant Programs

The third critical component in achieving advanced yet cost-effective interoperable communications is the alignment of state and local initiatives and grant programs with those undertaken at the federal level. Given NYSTEC's successful track record in assisting government agencies with securing resources, and with planning and implementing state and federal initiatives and grant programs, we have an in-depth understanding of the requirements, technical terms, and conditions of the programs, and how to position our clients to achieve maximum benefit from their investment.

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