



Preparing for Interoperability & Mutual Aid Operations

February 21, 2007

Slide 1



- ❑ **David Buchanan** comes to the TA from the County of San Bernardino in California where he spent more than 30 years in the public safety wireless telecommunications sector. David is the key resource that assists with licensee communication and facilitates issue resolution in the 800 MHz Reconfiguration Program.
- ❑ **Elaine Ayensu** comes to the TA with experience in organizational change, communication and technology. Elaine is a Consultant for the TA who assists in the facilitation of Outreach Strategy and Event Management.

Introduction





Microsoft Live Meeting – How To

- Question & Answers
- Moods
- Full Screen – Small Screen
- Scroll Bar
- Phones
- Reentering the Meeting
- PDFs



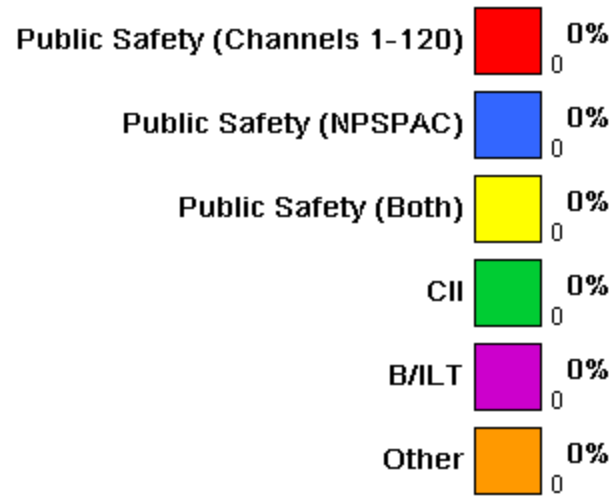
Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this module, participants will:

- Gain a better understanding of how to plan for the continuity of Interoperability and Mutual Aid operations during reconfiguration
- Receive guidance on what to expect and why proper planning for Interoperability is so important
- Receive general recommendations and will have the opportunity to address questions and concerns

To which of the following groups do you belong?

Polls are open.



[Poll 4]



Agenda

- Reconfiguration Progress
- Interoperability Overview
- What Do I Need to Do to Prepare?
- Funding for Interoperability
- Interoperability Coordination Between Agencies
- Interoperability Poll
- Your Right to Get Help
- Helpful Hints for Interoperability Planning
- Available Resources
- Contact Information



Reconfiguration Progress

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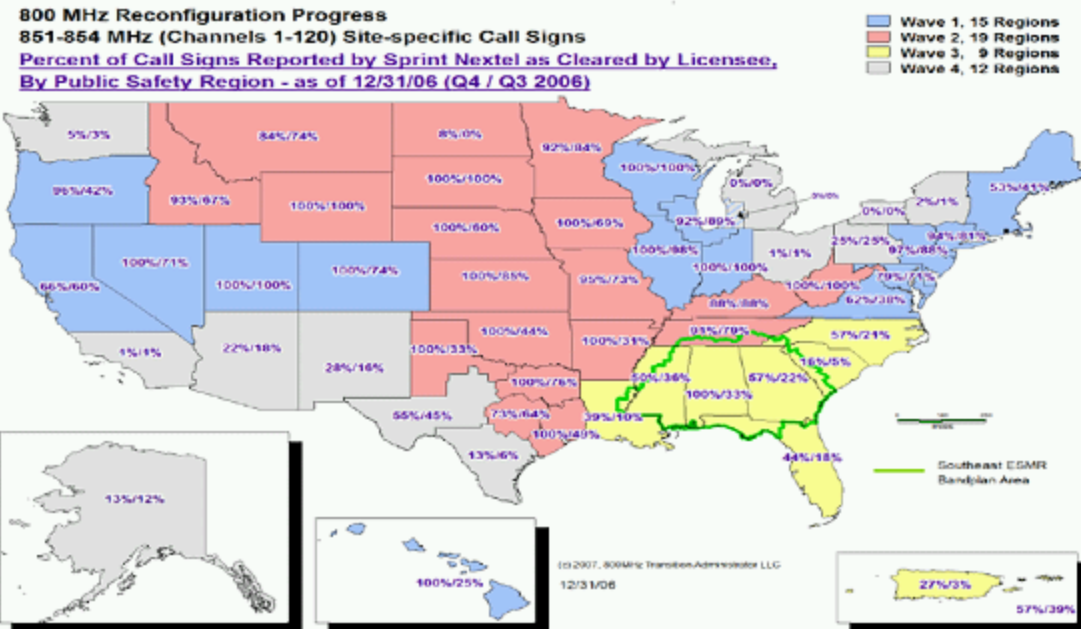
Areas of Progress

The 800 MHz band reconfiguration program has seen significant progress in the following areas:

- Substantial continued progress in clearing Channels 1-120
- Significant overall Public Safety engagement in the program and leverage of educational opportunities to facilitate progress
- Many licensees are effectively moving forward with planning activities
- Recent FCC order to allow information sharing among Public Safety licensees
- Effective negotiation of FRAs during mediation



Channels 1-120 Clearing



As of December 31, 2006, Sprint Nextel is reporting that physical reconfiguration is complete for 70% of all non-border area Channel 1-120 FRAs.



Schedule Status

WAVE 1							
	Freeze Start/PN Date	Request for Planning Funding (RFFP) Deadline	Start of Voluntary Negotiation Period	End of Voluntary Negotiation Period	Start of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Freeze
Channels 1-120	May 27, 2005	N/A	June 27, 2005	September 26, 2005	September 27, 2005	December 26, 2005	February 8, 2006
NPSAC	December 30, 2005	July 17, 2006	February 1, 2006	April 30, 2006	May 1, 2006	October 31, 2006	December 14, 2006
WAVE 2							
	Freeze Start/PN Date	Request for Planning Funding (RFFP) Deadline	Start of Voluntary Negotiation Period	End of Voluntary Negotiation Period	Start of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Freeze
Channels 1-120	September 2, 2005	N/A	October 3, 2005	January 2, 2006	January 3, 2006	April 2, 2006	May 12, 2006
NPSAC	June 30, 2006	August 1, 2006	August 1, 2006	October 31, 2006	November 1, 2006	January 31, 2007	March 15, 2007
WAVE 3							
	Freeze Start/PN Date	Request for Planning Funding (RFFP) Deadline	Start of Voluntary Negotiation Period	End of Voluntary Negotiation Period	Start of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Freeze
Channels 1-120	December 2, 2005	May 15, 2006	January 3, 2006	April 2, 2006	April 3, 2006	July 2, 2006	August 14, 2006
NPSAC	October 2, 2006	November 1, 2006	November 1, 2006	January 31, 2007	February 1, 2007	April 30, 2007	June 12, 2007
WAVE 4							
	Freeze Start/PN Date	Request for Planning Funding (RFFP) Deadline	Start of Voluntary Negotiation Period	End of Voluntary Negotiation Period	Start of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Mandatory Negotiation Period	End of Freeze
Channels 1-120	June 2, 2006	August 14, 2006*	July 3, 2006	October 2, 2006	October 3, 2006	January 2, 2007	February 14, 2007
Channels 1-120 Border Areas	June 2, 2006	August 14, 2006*	July 3, 2006	October 2, 2006	October 3, 2006	April 2, 2007	May 14, 2007
NPSAC	January 2, 2007	February 1, 2007*	February 1, 2007	April 30, 2007	May 1, 2007	July 31, 2007	September 12, 2007

Freeze Information: The freeze on applications extends 70 miles outside of the affected NPSAC region(s) into adjacent regions that may be in a different Wave. The TA has used the FCC's guidance to calculate the freeze dates, however, only the FCC's Public Notice announcing the start of the voluntary negotiation period and the freeze start and end dates for each Wave/Stage will be definitive. The dates provided by the TA are approximate and for general guidance only. Licensees should not rely on the TA calculated freeze dates to determine the last possible day for filing an application prior to the start of an application freeze for a given wave.

* Licensees with delayed frequency proposals will be notified of an alternate RFFP deadline, described in the FPR cover letter.



Interactive Q&A

TA Contact:

Phone: 1-888-800-8220
Website: www.800TA.org
Email: comments@800TA.org

FCC – 800 MHz Reconfiguration:

Website: <http://800MHz.gov>



Interoperability & Mutual Aid

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Interoperability Overview

- ❑ In general, Interoperability refers to the ability of emergency responders to work seamlessly with other systems or products without any special effort. Wireless communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of emergency response officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time, when needed, and as authorized
- ❑ Licensees are responsible for planning for the continuity of Mutual Aid operations during the reconfiguration of their systems and throughout the rebanding period; proper planning and identification of systems is critical in order to allow for continuous operations amongst these systems during reconfiguration
- ❑ The TA will work with licensees and with Sprint Nextel to help coordinate interoperability solutions to preserve public safety communications during reconfiguration



What Do I Need to Do to Prepare?

To successfully define your proper system environment and prepare for reconfiguration the following steps are critical:

1. Understand your options per the TA Mutual Aid and Interoperability Fact Sheet
2. Determine all agencies operating on your licensed system
3. Determine other systems programmed into your subscriber equipment
4. Determine use of NPSPAC or other mutual aid channels
5. Define your requirements for minimum disruption and document the optimal solution
6. Communicate and agree upon the solution with Sprint Nextel and with all agencies operating on your system programmed into your subscriber units



Funding for Interoperability

In situations requiring funding for interoperability planning and implementation:

- Individual licensees and/or a Lead Agency should negotiate and reach an agreement with Sprint Nextel regarding these costs. All costs must be included in a Planning Funding Agreement (PFA) or a Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement (FRA) and must be approved by both Sprint Nextel and the TA. If using a Lead Agency include an Interoperability Letter or Agreement signed by each licensee in the Group to accompany the PFA and/or FRA.

- Given the variety of legal structures and arrangements that apply to interoperability groups, funding vehicles need to be flexible. At a minimum, any expenses for regional coordination need to be identified by an individual licensee and/or a Lead Agency as separate line-items in a PFA or an FRA

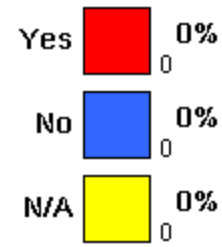


Interoperability Coordination Between Agencies

- ❑ Some agencies that share communications have formed interoperability an group and have chosen a “Lead Agency” to address regional coordination, planning, and implementation activities associated with the Interoperability system
- ❑ Other individual licensees may elect to coordinate on their own for Interoperability and Mutual Aid continuity through reconfiguration
- ❑ Whether incurred by a “Lead Agency” or an individual licensee, reasonable and prudent expenses associated with these efforts should be agreed to with Sprint Nextel
- ❑ The TA recommends each Interoperability group designate one “Lead Agency” to lead the effort to plan for Mutual Aid and Interoperability continuity during reconfiguration. The “Lead Agency” will be the focus of and will be responsible for the coordination of Mutual Aid continuity for the group during reconfiguration

Do you know agencies that are rebanding their Mutual Aid channels?

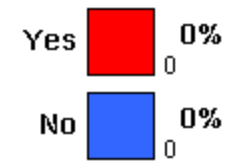
Polls are open.



[Poll 2]

Have you reached out to them?

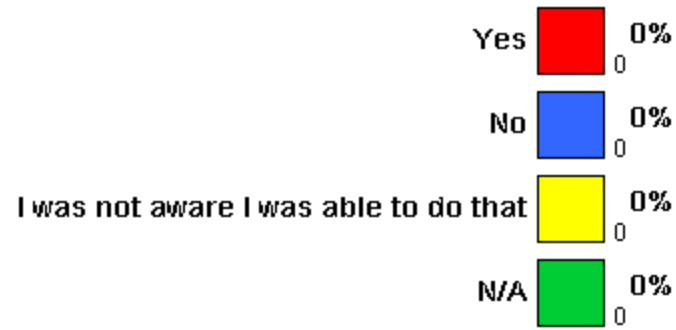
Polls are open.



[Poll 3]

Are you working with other licensees in your geographic area?

Polls are closed.



[Poll 1]



Your Right to Get Help

The TA will be available to assist Licensees throughout the interoperability planning process by:

- Facilitating communications between Sprint Nextel and licensee groups
- Publishing best practices identified by licensee groups
- Assisting groups to start the planning process and to contact Sprint Nextel



Helpful Hints for Completing Interoperability Planning

- Start early – especially if you have many interdependencies with other systems and need planning funding
- Contact the TA as soon as you have questions or concerns
- Keep accurate and detailed records of the planning process



Interactive Q&A

TA Contact:

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Email: comments@800TA.org

FCC – 800 MHz Reconfiguration:

Website: <http://800MHz.gov>



Available Resources

Utilize Available Resources

- TA Online Reference Guide – Also known as the “Reconfiguration Handbook,” this extensive resource covers topics from planning for reconfiguration through implementation. Go to <http://www.800TA.org/org/default2.asp>

- TA Mutual Aid And Interoperability Fact Sheet – http://www.800ta.org/content/PDF/reconfiguration_materials/Updated_Interoperability_Fact_Sheet.pdf

- TA Fact Sheets - http://www.800TA.org/content/documents/reconfig_materials.asp

- TA Webinars - <http://www.800TA.org/content/news/events.asp>



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Contact Information