



Oregon State Interoperability Executive Council

Adopted December 2, 2003

CJSD Grant Review Criteria: The Oregon Criminal Justice Services Division (CJSD) requested that the Oregon State Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) develop and forward recommended criteria with weighted values to be used as guidelines in allocating grant funds for interoperable communications equipment and systems. In concert with the SIEC's mission of statewide mission critical interoperable communications, at their December 2, 2003 regular meeting, the SIEC unanimously approved the following criteria and weighted point value for use in evaluating grant applications. The following recommended criteria are listed in their order of importance:

<u>Point Value</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
9	<p>(a) Connection of existing radio systems (with a five point bonus for multiple jurisdiction access) is the top priority of the SIEC.</p> <p>(b) The grant would maximize the actual implementation of interoperability systems and equipment within Oregon's public safety community.</p>
8	<p>(a) Connection of varied disciplines.</p> <p>(b) The SIEC's priority for grants is aimed at enhancing interoperability over the replacement of equipment.</p>
7	<p>(a) Enhancements to and/or completion of existing interoperability plans.</p> <p>(b) One measure is that multiple agencies or jurisdictions are actively involved in the specific grant request.</p>
6	<p>(a) That newly purchased radios, when installed, will actually contain FCC designated interoperability frequencies.</p> <p>(b) Applicants that build in the use by others of their own system or build in elements to accommodate interoperability with the rest of Oregon's public safety community should rate higher than those that propose only internal changes to their system or equipment.</p>
5	<p>(a) That applicant actually identifies, and will program the purchased radios with existing local Mutual Aid frequencies.</p> <p>(b) Applications that look to consolidate state communications facilities and that build in capacity to include local government should receive a high priority.</p>

- 4 Threat Level. The application is to be applied where threat levels against Homeland Security are highest:
- In high population density areas
 - In areas of significant amounts of critical infrastructure
 - In areas where hazardous materials or events are most likely to be found or to occur:
 - On major highways where transport normally occurs
 - On major waterways where transport normally occurs
 - Where multiple agencies have response duties
 - Where a HazMat occurrence would most affect the public and business
- 3 (a) Digital implementations that will use the Project 25 standards Common Air Interface to promote digital interoperability.
- (b) Analog implementations that will include an actual implementation of 12.5 kHz operational and interoperable channels. (c) Because of its higher inherent spectral efficiency, equipment that can use the Project 25 digital standards or that is migratable to use the Project 25 digital standards shall have a higher weight than other equipment has.
- 2 The recognition that secure, public safety communications should be a goal of Oregon interoperability and that digital equipment being purchased for law enforcement activities supports encryption.
- 1 The recognition that use of Project 25 digital technology aids the conversion to widespread use of high levels of encryption.

The SIEC concurred that extra points should not be allotted solely on the purchase of Project 25 (digital) standard, compliant equipment. While Oregon's public safety agencies are working toward a long-term interoperable solution that may include both analog and digital systems, the SIEC has identified specific short-term interoperable goals for which some analog equipment would continue to be appropriate. Some examples are equipment that is intended to operate on FCC analog interoperability channels, and equipment that can be either patched to or eventually migrated to Project 25 digital standards. SIEC only supports narrowband systems below 512 MHz to produce additional spectrum for all of Oregon's public safety agencies.

The SIEC further recommends that any grant application for communications equipment include a brief outline of the applicant's interoperability communications plan, the plans current status, and how this application enhances that plan.

Finally the SIEC strongly recommends that applicants comply with the Short Term Recommendations for Interoperability – Adopted August 5, 2003 and Revised December 2, 2003 attached hereto.

SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTEROPERABILITY

Released By: Jeff Johnson, SIEC Chair
Adopted: August 5, 2003
Revised and Adopted: December 2, 2003

Oregon SIEC recognizes that the short term recommendations below are only intended to start the journey toward universal public safety wireless communications interoperability for all of Oregon's public safety agencies. SIEC's adoption of the standards listed in this plan is a recommendation to facilitate interoperability and there is no intent or action of the SIEC to mandate such use. SIEC and the State of Oregon encourage Oregon's public safety agencies to develop interoperable communications systems that encompass all of the elements of public safety.

OREGON SIEC SUPPORTS:

1. All new, VHF and/or UHF systems (meaning below 512 MHz) shall be implemented using narrowband (12.5 kHz bandwidth) technology.
2. All agencies that intend to remain on VHF and/or UHF public safety systems in Oregon shall start a migration to meet FCC timelines for conversion to narrowband operation.
3. All new VHF and/or UHF portable or mobile radios purchased by public safety agencies in Oregon shall be narrowband compatible. This is consistent with existing FCC type acceptance requirements for equipment made for operations in FCC regulated radio spectrum.
4. To the extent that channel capacity exists, nationwide VHF and UHF interoperability channels should be programmed into every existing Oregon VHF and UHF public safety subscriber radio and shall be programmed into all new Oregon VHF and UHF public safety subscriber radio.
5. All VHF and UHF public safety subscriber radios in Oregon shall consider maximum utilization of narrowband bandwidths, and should consider the use of multimode technologies, and multi-band operation as these features become generally available.
6. Whenever a multimode, digital, subscriber radio is purchased, one digital mode shall be the Project 25 Common Air Interface.
7. All 9-1-1 dispatch centers in Oregon should add base stations and/or control stations on the VHF, UHF, and NPSPAC 800 MHz interoperable channels as are appropriate for use in any statewide supporting infrastructure.
8. Switches, or console patching, are strongly encouraged at 9-1-1 dispatch centers to allow connection of interoperable VHF, UHF, and NPSPAC channels to the operating channels within the center's range.
9. The OPEN and State Fire Marshal's VHF interagency channels should be converted to repeater operation in order to expand areas of coverage if compatible frequencies can be identified.
10. All 800 MHz public safety radios purchased in Oregon are to have the interoperable channels programmed into them. This is consistent with the FCC's existing NPSPAC rules.
11. Applicants are encouraged to add the use of NTIA, interoperable channels for interoperability with Federal agencies. This will require local interaction with Federal agencies for the needed permission to occupy these frequencies.
12. State and Local agencies should build communications facilities that include adequate environmental, seismic, emergency power, lightning and power surge grounding, and security elements that will maximize the ability to collocate communications facilities of public safety agencies. Such measures should be consistent with the goals of reliability and good engineering practice.