S&T Stakeholders Conference

The Way Ahead

Dr. David Boyd
Director
Command, Control and Interoperability
Science and Technology Directorate

June 5, 2008

PARTNERING FOR A SAFER NATION
CID: User Needs Drive Initiatives

- The sessions reiterated the importance of the practitioner-driven approach that CID uses to develop current initiatives.

- It is imperative to continue to work with emergency responders to define requirements and build systems to meet those requirements.

- Interoperable communications will NOT be successful if driven by top-down mandates.
CID: The Human Element

As the Interoperability Continuum displays, technology is only one aspect that must be addressed to improve communications across agencies and jurisdictions. The following human elements, displayed in the Continuum below, were discussed during CID’s breakout session:

- Governance
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Training/Exercises
- Usage
Attendees and panelists discussed the following key findings:

- Non-proprietary interoperable systems, such as the multi-band radio, should be the standard and not the exception moving forward toward interoperability.

- Pilot studies are necessary to ensure a proposed solution meets users’ capability gaps and requirements. Pilots bridge the gap between an innovative idea and full deployment to the emergency response community.

- Moving forward, the ability to analyze, compress, and use large and complex data sets in real-time will be necessary for Federal partners and the emergency response community. CID’s Basic/Futures Research Program Area is currently working to address this issue.
CID: The Way Ahead

CID and S&T are working to support customer needs by:

- Addressing and minimizing capability gaps.
- Maximizing use of available funds.
- Increasing collaboration across S&T and DHS.