S&T Stakeholders Conference

The Command, Control and Interoperability Division Addressing Customer Requirements through the Multi-Band Radio Project

Tom Chirhart
Spectrum Manager
Command, Control and Interoperability
Science and Technology Directorate

June 4, 2008

PARTNERING FOR A SAFER NATION
Challenge on the Frontlines

Emergency responders—police officers, fire personnel, emergency medical services—need to share vital voice and data information across disciplines and jurisdictions to successfully respond to day-to-day incidents and large-scale emergencies.

Responders often cannot talk to some parts of their own agencies—let alone across cities, counties, and states. Ineffective communications risk the lives of responders in the field, and can mean the difference between life and death for those awaiting help.
Practitioner-Driven Approach

• A successful strategy for improving command and control and interoperability must be based on user needs and driven from the bottom up.

• Advocates a unique, practitioner-driven governance structure

• Benefits from the critical input of the emergency response community and from local, tribal, state, and Federal policy makers and leaders.

• Resources are aligned with user needs.
Multi-Band Radio Project