



Most citizens are concerned about reports of police and fire radio systems being unable to communicate with each other. This occurs when public safety agencies operate on different systems, as is often the case. In an era when information is virtually at our fingertips, it is not unreasonable to expect that police, fire and emergency response agencies can and do talk to each other – especially during emergency operations.

There really is no excuse for letting this interoperability problem persist. We can and we must fix it promptly. The solution is called communications interoperability, and public safety officials at all levels have spent much of the last decade hammering out the standards for achieving interoperability. A suite of standards, known as Project 25, has been widely supported by local, state and federal public safety organizations, as well as by the private sector.

We
Can Talk

The Time Is Now

Project 25 is the interoperability standard supported by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the International Association of Fire Chiefs, among many other groups. Isn't it time we provided funding to enable first responders and law enforcement officers to better serve the public?

- Support Project 25
- Support interoperability
- Support your local community

Project 25 is a suite of American National Standards and other documents developed by TIA, which defines interoperable communications equipment that can be used by first responders. Also see <http://www.project25.org>

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) is an American National Standards Institute-accredited standards development organization. TIA represents 1,000 member companies that manufacture or supply the products and services used in global communications. Visit <http://www.tiaonline.org> for more information.



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Interoperability

What Is Interoperability?

Very simply, interoperability allows people from different agencies and/or communities to talk directly to each other using radio communications. Project 25 is a communications standard that allows this to happen.



The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) is proud to have partnered with the public safety community to create these standards.



Having developed an approach that has been widely supported, we call upon Congress to provide the funding to upgrade public safety radio equipment to meet an agreed upon standard, Project 25.

Support Project 25 Implementation

Federal budget resources are scarce and Congress may be tempted to delay funding that addresses the full scope of the interoperability problem. TIA strongly supports the continued implementation of Project 25-based systems and urges Congress to do the same.

Invest In Our Communities

The Project 25 standards have been supported by major organizations representing public safety. Systems built to Project 25 standards are in operation around the United States and more are being installed each year.

Committing substantial federal resources to complete the process of achieving interoperability via the Project 25 standards will enhance our ability to create a safer homeland. The President and Congress should provide the funding to enable hundreds of state, local and federal agencies to talk and share information.



The lack of public safety interoperability has been known for decades.

Communities that have faced disaster realize quickly that the ability for police, fire and EMS to talk directly to each other via radios can save lives.

Project 25 is a platform that enables different agencies to communicate instantly ... at the switch of a button.

**We
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Project 25 is supported by:

- Association for Telecommunications and Technology Professionals Serving State Government (NASTD)
 - Association of Public Safety Communications Officials – International (APCO)
 - International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
 - International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC)
 - National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
 - American Association of Railroads (AAR)
 - Department of Defense
 - Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
 - Federal Law Enforcement Wireless Users Group (FLEWG)
- and others.