



Rapidly Deployable Communications for State and Local Government

Put Advanced Communications in the Field
When and Where They Are Needed

Cisco Rapidly Deployable Communications (RDC) provides government agencies with unified communications that include voice, video, and data over wired, wireless, mobile radio, and satellite networks. First responders can easily communicate and collaborate using the method that is best for them. Rugged, quick, and easy to set up, RDC is standards-based for collaborative communications, and offers maximum flexibility in disaster recovery response plans, incident management, and command and control.

Communication Challenges

A recent report by the Department of Homeland Security says that only 6 of 75 regions in the United States have high-priority communications that are efficient enough for effective communications during emergencies. Other areas lack mobile communications, cannot interoperate with other agencies, and are not prepared to deliver essential services during a disaster or other high-stress event. Whether they face a terrorism event, a natural disaster, or day-to-day tasks like crowd control, fires, police actions, and weather response, agencies must be able to cooperate and collaborate in order to deliver the needed public services. And communications is the critical link in the entire chain of command.

The Federal Communications Commission recently proposed a national radio system for public safety agencies that would be based on advanced IP broadband technologies. It proposed this step saying, "Not being able to communicate can hamper critical coordination among federal, state, and local emergency responders." By using a standards-based technology, the FCC hopes to break down not only communication barriers, but also the price barriers of proprietary systems.

The Benefits of Rapidly Deployable Communications

Cisco® has a solution that is rugged enough to work under even the most difficult conditions. Designed as a standards-based solution for integrated communications and efficient collaboration, Cisco® Rapidly Deployable Communications:

- Uses the IP standard mandated by the FCC, which gives government the ability to scale from groups of people to entire agencies and to take advantage of existing infrastructure investments
- Enables you to saturate an area with communications through wired, wireless, and satellite networks, giving you the flexibility to respond to known and unknown events to maintain public services
- Gives you the ability to communicate and operate on site, off site, and under adverse conditions to maintain continuity of government, and enables you to recover and reconstitute communications or to augment or scale existing capabilities
- Allows you to use multiple types of networks and provides the security of advanced encryption—in a scalable, cost-effective manner—as far as your communications network extends
- Provides a system that can operate from shore power like a fixed source, a mobile-command vehicle, a generator, or even a car battery
- Promotes faster, more efficient decision making by providing reliable access and shortening the communications loop

Solution Components

Cisco iComm (formerly IMICS) provides a solution architecture for instant, secure, mobile communications when and where you need them. It's easy to use, weighs less than 200 pounds, requires no more than 600 watts of power, and can be operational in less than 10 minutes. Capable of scaling for a whole agency, iComm includes IP telephony, analog phones, fax, voicemail, and radio. You can connect through wired, wireless, or satellite networks to extend the range of your fixed infrastructure to any area under any conditions. It's ideal for disaster recovery, as a replacement for affected communications infrastructure to maintain essential government services, or to augment existing capabilities. You can also use it to provide a mobile infrastructure for on-site communications.

Cisco Tactical Communications Kit (TCK) can provide tactical IP communications over wired, wireless or satellite networks in harsh conditions. With standard wireless up to 20 miles, it provides up to 36 IP phone connections and fax capability in a single kit. The suitcase-sized network in a box can run off a car battery, fits easily in an emergency vehicle, and is simple enough for one person with minimal training to set it up and operate it within 10 minutes.

Both products provide a unified communications system for voice, data, and images that can be invaluable for agencies responding to any type of catastrophe or crime. Giving first responders interoperability and mobility frees them to do their jobs more efficiently, even under the most difficult conditions.

Intelligent Networking

Rapidly Deployable Communications can easily extend an existing wireless network to remote or mobile locations. The satellite connection can also connect to existing wireless technology during an emergency. Or you can connect the iComm endpoints to existing IP systems. This flexible connectivity, combined with standards-based technology, gives you added options in more places and situations.

Why Cisco?

Cisco has more than 20 years of experience in networking. A two-time Frost and Sullivan Public Safety “Leadership in Technology” winner, Cisco offers the most comprehensive suite of advanced technologies in voice, video, data, and mobility in the industry. Cisco solutions can unify the entire chain of command over a standards-based IP platform—providing all of them with actionable information.

In local police departments and in global entities like Interpol, Cisco solutions are used to connect voice, video, and data communications. Cisco customers include public agencies from the world's largest cities—including New York and London—to the nation's smallest towns—like Cortez, Colorado, and Seal Beach, California. No matter what their size, mission-critical public safety networks depend on Cisco solutions. For example, Nlets—the International Justice and Public Safety Information Sharing System—runs on Cisco products. Nlets is the nation's largest public safety administrative network and connects more than 30,000 agencies to share such information as homeland security alerts, criminal history records, and interstate driver's license checks.

For More Information

To learn more about the Cisco Rapidly Deployable Communications solution or any other State and Local Government solution visit www.cisco.com/go/RDC or www.cisco.com/web/strategy/government/public_safety.html



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