October 14, 2019

NG 9-1-1 GIS Data Project

Through its 2019-2021 Strategic Plan, the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) has directed MN DPS-ECN to 'create a statewide GIS dataset to support location-based routing for all current technology devices to 9-1-1 that will enable first responders to locate a caller with more speed and accuracy'.

PSAP and GIS personnel will be responsible for gathering and submitting their local jurisdiction's GIS data such as road centerlines, emergency service zones, and site/structure address points. This project will be conducted in phases (Community Name Validation, Street Name Validation, Address Validation, etc.) with a target completion date of Q4 2021.

An interactive map depicting the current project status for each jurisdiction within the region can be accessed at:

https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ecn/programs/911/Pages/interactive-gis-status-map.aspx

This is an extremely important initiative for the evolution of the 9-1-1 program and I encourage the members of the region to continue dedicating the resources necessary to ensure that the GIS data collection and validation efforts stay on track.

NG 9-1-1 GIS Project Resources:
Questions, concerns, or requests for technical assistance should be directed to one of the NG 9-1-1 GIS project team members:
- Project Lead: Norman Anderson at norm.anderson@state.mn.us or 651-201-7559
- Central ESB Region: Curt Carlson at curtis.carlson@state.mn.us or (651) 201-2497
- Southwest ECB Region: Akiko Nakamura at akiko.nakamura@state.mn.us or 651-201-7558
- South Central ECB Region: Hollie Kim at hollie.kim@state.mn.us or 651-201-2496
- Southeast ECB Region: Hollie Kim at hollie.kim@state.mn.us or 651-201-2496

CAD-to-CAD Interoperability Project

The majority of PSAPs in Minnesota do not currently have the ability to share CAD event information with neighboring jurisdictions. This lack of interoperability can complicate response efforts during incidents that cross PSAP boundaries and/or require mutual aid resources from neighboring jurisdictions.

The Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB) has recognized the need to address the interoperable data challenges that Minnesota PSAPs currently face. Through its 2019-2021 Strategic Plan, the SECB has directed the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Communication Networks (MN DPS-ECN) to evaluate the feasibility of implementing a statewide CAD-to-CAD information sharing solution.

To accomplish this task, MN DPS-ECN is seeking stakeholder input to:
- Identify jurisdictions that may be interested in sharing CAD event information with neighboring PSAPs.
- Identify the desired features, functions, and specifications of a CAD event information sharing solution.
- Select a vendor to implement a state funded and supported CAD-to-CAD interoperability solution that will be made available to PSAPs in all seven of the state's ECB/ESB regions.

- Define the governance process, SOPs, and best practices for utilizing this technology to improve CAD event information sharing capabilities between jurisdictions.

<u>Webinar: CAD to CAD "Public Safety Without Borders" Saves Lives</u>
Central Square Technologies recently published a webinar that discusses their CAD-to-CAD Interoperability software offerings. The webinar can be accessed at:

<div align="center">

http://lp.centralsquare.com/IMAGINE-recorded-sessions.html

</div>

Cross Border LMR Interoperability

In 2019, members of the Southeast ECB Region began discussing cross-border LMR interoperability issues with their Region 2 public safety partners in the State of Iowa. These discussions have evolved into formal meetings that are held on a quarterly basis to discuss opportunities for improving LMR communications between border jurisdictions. In 2020, MN DPS-ECN hopes to expand these discussions to include members of the South Central ECB Region, the Southwest ECB Region, and Iowa Region 3 jurisdictions. MN DPS-ECN would also like to initiate similar meetings between members of the Southwest ECB Region, the Central ESB Region, and South Dakota public safety agencies. To accomplish these goals, we will need the support and engagement of the ECB/ESB regions. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information regarding how your region can assist with these initiatives.

Several ECB/ESB regions are in the process of developing plans for conducting training and exercise activities intended to support cross-border LMR interoperability capabilities. Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Jim Stromberg and the MN DPS-ECN Regional Interoperability Coordinators (RICs) are working closely with regional stakeholders and training contractors to facilitate these efforts. For more information regarding these initiatives, please feel free to contact me.

Statewide Interoperability Coordinator Jim Stromberg and the MN DPS-ECN Regional Interoperability Coordinators (RICs) are also developing a draft "Minnesota Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Interstate Interoperability Best Practices Guide". Please feel free to contact me if you would like to assist with this project.

LTE to LMR 'Bridging'

There are a number of technology solutions (hardware and software) available to connect wireless devices to the ARMER system. Representatives from the SECB LMR Committee, Interoperability Committee, and Wireless Broadband & Applications Committee are being tasked with vetting this technology and developing standards to ensure that reliability, interoperability, security, and system performance issues are properly addressed.

NOTE: Implementation of this technology will require an ARMER participation plan amendment.

Comments, questions, or concerns regarding LTE to LMR bridging should be directed to:
- ARMER Program Manager Jim Stromberg at 651-201-7557 / james.stromberg@state.mn.us
- Wireless Broadband Program Manager Melinda Miller at 651-201-7554 / melinda.miller@state.mn.us

Wireless Broadband Performance Evaluation

The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) recently published a case study titled "Beyond Signal Strength: Measuring Performance of Public Safety Mobile Broadband Networks". This document provides useful insight into the criteria that public safety agencies should consider in evaluating the performance of the various wireless carrier options available to them. The report can be accessed at:

<div align="center">

https://www.policeforum.org/assets/FirstNetCaseStudy.pdf

</div>

NECP 2019 Update

The National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) is the Nation's strategic plan to strengthen and enhance emergency communications capabilities. The U.S. DHS Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) worked with over 3,500 Federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial public safety agencies and organizations to develop the NECP. As a result, the updated NECP addresses the current gaps within emergency communications and promotes the innovation and integration of new technologies, while considering their associated risks. In addition, it provides guidance to drive the enhancements of the Nation's emergency communications capabilities.

The 2019 update to the NECP was released on September 25, 2019. A copy of the plan and other related documents can be accessed at:

https://www.cisa.gov/publication/2019-national-emergency-communications-plan

Regional Planning Efforts

The MN DPS-ECN Regional Interoperability Coordinators (RICs) are working with several of the state's ECB/ESB regions to develop multi-year plans to improve interoperable public safety communication capabilities within their region. The planning process includes the engagement of various stakeholders who will work together to identify the regions needs/priorities for future grant projects, training/exercise activities, and STR/COMU resources. For more information regarding these initiatives, please feel free to contact me.

2020 Regional Training and Exercise Activities

Several ECB/ESB regions have begun developing their 2020 training and exercise plans. To ensure that the SECB/ECN grant funding allocated to support regional training and exercise activities is utilized in an efficient and effective manner, each ECB/ESB region is encouraged to discuss their plans with neighboring regions and the MN DPS-ECN Regional Interoperability Coordinators (RICs). Proactive collaboration and/or coordination across regional boundaries will help avoid duplication of effort and reduce unnecessary spending as we work to provide high-quality training, exercise, and professional development opportunities to elected officials, senior leaders, telecommunicators, emergency responders, and other stakeholders across the state.

Upcoming Events

Regional Leadership Meetings:

MN DPS-ECN hosts 'Regional Leadership Meetings' to bring key stakeholders from all seven of the state's Emergency Service Board (ESB) and Emergency Communications Board (ECB) regions together to participate in high-level discussions related to public safety communication programs, projects, and initiatives.

Monday, October 28, 2019 - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- o Location: MnDOT Conference Center (3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud)
- o Discussion Topics: Regional Grant Planning / 2020 PSCC Planning

Monday, January 27, 2020 - 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
- o Location: MnDOT Conference Center (3725 12th Street North, St. Cloud)
- o Discussion Topics: TBD

ARMER Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise:

MN DPS-ECN, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Emergency Communications Division (ECD), Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP), is hosting an ARMER Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise. This exercise will discuss the

various cybersecurity issues facing modern day radio systems and their associated dispatching and end user equipment.

- Date/Time: Wednesday, November 6, 2019 - 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Location: Stearns County Emergency Operations Center (807 Courthouse Square, #73, St Cloud)
- RSVP Information: Contact ARMER Program Manager Jim Stromberg at 651-201-7557 or james.stromberg@state.mn.us.

Resources

MN DPS-ECN:

The MN DPS-ECN leadership, program managers, and Regional Interoperability Coordinators are available to assist and support the members of the ECB/ESB regions and other stakeholders with their public safety communication projects and initiatives. Please feel free to contact me if you would like assistance with these activities or have questions or concerns that you would like addressed.

> **Steve Tait**
> Regional Interoperability Coordinator (RIC)
> (Central, Southwest, South Central, & Southeast Regions)
> E-Mail: steven.tait@state.mn.us
> Mobile: 612-221-6636

Wireless Carriers:

MN DPS-ECN maintains strong relationships with representatives from the primary wireless carriers serving Minnesota's public safety community. Vendor specific comments, questions, or concerns regarding the wireless carrier services available to public safety agencies can be directed to:

ATT FirstNet	**Verizon Wireless**
Shane Olsen	Dave Kleyman
FirstNet State Outreach & Consultation	Government Account Manager
E-Mail: so273v@att.com	E-Mail: david.kleyman@verizonwireless.com
Mobile: 612-417-8915	Mobile: 612-590-3680

Websites:

- MN DPS-ECN:
  - https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ecn/Pages/default.aspx
- Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB):
  - https://dps.mn.gov/entity/secb/Pages/default.aspx
- Regional ECB/ESB:
  - http://mnecb.org/