



Chapter 6

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation for the purpose of this document employs a multi-dimensional strategy. First, Illinois' implementation strategy addresses the near term, i.e., how its SCIP will be introduced to the user community and the methodology being used. Secondly, the implementation plan outlines what Illinois must do on a long-term basis to sustain today's achievements in interoperability for future intrastate stakeholders, its multi-state partners, and the national users.

Implementation Responsibility

Leading the implementation plan is Illinois' full-time Statewide Interoperability Coordinator or SWIC (see Section 2.3) who is responsible for administering Illinois' SCIP, monitoring its applicability, and reporting to the governance body (the SIEC) on issues related to the plan.

Educating Practitioners and Policy Makers

The SIEC is responsible for providing updates and educational training, as necessary, to senior policy makers in Illinois state government for the purpose of familiarizing those officials with interoperability issues and their impact on public safety practitioners. Issues regarding funding, sustainability of services, and the expansion of interoperability in both government and non-government sectors require support at the highest level of state government. The SIEC, as the exclusive governance body, is the appropriate group to liaison with these officials on behalf of Illinois' public safety community.

Performance Measures

As outlined in Chapter 5, the ITTF Communications Committee established the following goals for the State of Illinois to support the interoperability vision and mission.

GOVERNANCE

Goal 1

Illinois' Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee will align working groups using the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum as a model.

Goal 2

Illinois will assist counties as they populate the CASM tool with applicable interoperable communications systems, inventory resource assets, and identify technology gaps to ensure statewide interoperable communications capabilities.

Goal 3

Illinois will judiciously administer funds allocated for interoperable communications by adopting interoperability standards, to include a process for procuring non-standards based equipment when appropriate.

Goal 4

Illinois will work with the Chicago/Cook County UASI to ensure smooth integration of the statewide and UASI TICP to increase public safety agency collaboration and expand communications interoperability.

Goal 5

Illinois, through education and outreach workshops, will provide a TICP template to county government to ensure local tactical plans are aligned with the statewide TICP and the SCIP.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**Goal 6**

Illinois, through the SIEC, has established several methods for creating interoperability. The STARCOM 21 Oversight Committee will establish guidelines for granting permission for bridges, gateways, or patches to access the STARCOM 21 interoperability platform.

Goal 7

Illinois, through the SIEC, will develop standard operating procedures for interoperable communications which will be incorporated into all state, regional and county tactical plans.

TECHNOLOGY**Goal 8**

Illinois will research standards-based equipment to ensure public safety practitioners are aware of compliant equipment for procurement using federal and state funds.

Goal 9

Illinois will develop, sustain, and enhance its Strategic Technology Reserves (STRs) to provide interoperable communications for both governmental and non-governmental entities.

Goal 10

Illinois will support the development, expansion, and use of Project 25 systems which operate in or interoperate with 700/800 MHz bands via voice, data, and/or video signal.

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

Goal 11

Illinois will comply with national standards in the training of a cadre of communications personnel in the appropriate skills, knowledge, and abilities to maximize interoperable communications at all levels of government.

Goal 12

Illinois will work with the Chicago/Cook County UASI to demonstrate compliance with NECP Goal 1.

USAGE

Goal 13

Illinois will provide field liaison/administrative support related to interoperability issues to both governmental and non-governmental entities.

Goal 14

Illinois shall take a position of exceeding the NECP goals in all areas where practical.

Progress towards the achievement of the goals, objectives, and strategic initiatives associated with the SCIP is monitored by the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator who is required to provide periodic updates to the SIEC on the measurements used to gauge that progress. Specific performance measures and/or critical success factors are purposely not articulated in Illinois' SCIP to allow those persons, agencies, or organizations responsible for the execution of the goals, objectives, and initiatives to develop these unique criteria, promoting ownership of each particular facet and an inclusionary stake in the success of the overall plan.

The Illinois Terrorism Task Force provides information about interoperability grant activities and the progress of the state's movement towards achieving its interoperability vision in its annual report which is available to any interested party via its website. The SIEC provides its own summary of activities related to the SCIP in its annual report to the Governor's Office, and the various mutual aid associations provide periodic updates to their public safety members via website postings and mailings.