

Office of the SWIC Newsletter



Message from John T. Stevens, Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) & Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for FirstNet in NH



It has been said that every winter has its spring and there has been no other spring that we have looked more forward to with such optimism as the spring of 2021. 2020 certainly presented us with unparalleled challenges, but we can also say that through these challenges came an amazing amount of innovation and success. The pandemic with all the tragedy that resulted, came individual commitments and dedication that truly tested our resolve. To those citizens that we lost, our hearts are broken, but to the lives that were saved, we are forever grateful.

It has been a year since the pandemic has occupied our everyday thoughts and lives. In times of crisis comes tremendous responsibility to address the issues that will improve the quality of our lives. Public Safety throughout the state has remained steadfast in its commitment to the citizens of New Hampshire and as we begin to administer the vaccine, a sense of normalcy will begin to return. The summer of 2021 will hopefully be a time of celebration.

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) in 2021 remains committed to enhancing interoperability communications through innovation and modernization certainly in times such as a pandemic. No more evident of this is the recent proliferation of the Mutualink platform statewide. Not only is New Hampshire the most connected state in the country, New Hampshire is now a proving ground for the newest prototype of their technology. Case in point is the Mass Vaccination Site at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway with air monitoring technology that was connected via the network. Along with the on-site communications network that was created to include visual monitoring throughout the complex, Mutualink was able to monitor the Air Quality Index (AQI) which was essential when administering vaccines under the tent with sixty cars at a time potentially with motors running. In combination with the Capital Area Hazardous Materials Response Team, collaboration existed with increased data that provided for a unique and an established air monitoring network that examined and scrutinized the ongoing environment for carbon monoxide poisoning. This Mutualink sensor although still in development, will in the future provide an opportunity for in-building monitoring for a myriad of antigens that would be immediately reported back through the Mutualink network at the local dispatch center. As we continue to knock at the door of innovation, New Hampshire because of its proactive posture remains in the forefront for this next generation technology now and in the future. What must be acknowledged however, is the tremendous efforts made by the State and local governments to come together in a time of crisis, such as this pandemic, and orchestrate an event such as the Mass Vaccination Site with the commitment of the New Hampshire Motor Speedway and provide for the citizens of the state the opportunity to be vaccinated. The SIEC recognizes the tremendous effort made by all involved and wishes to congratulate those who have and will in the future provide this opportunity to keep New Hampshire protected.



Beyond the pandemic, commitments continue to be maintained and advanced through the SWIC's Office to promote interoperability statewide. Quarterly meetings with AT&T's RAN Team and FirstNet work to produce increased FirstNet coverage throughout the state. Although much work has been accomplished, there is still much work to be done. As we begin to close out the first five years of this development, we now must concentrate on years six through ten. What are our expectations and what are the goals to be achieved by 2027. It is anticipated that the goals defined will be with your contribution. Discussions for New Hampshire's FirstNet future will involve meetings within each county in 2021 that will identify areas that require additional coverage. A survey will be sent to public safety representatives throughout the county in anticipation of these meetings. It will be those voices that express their opinion that will ultimately design the infrastructure build plan for the continuing five years.

Additionally in 2021, because of the success of New Hampshire's FirstNet experience and our continued collaboration and cooperation with FirstNet/AT&T, the FirstNet Executive Board has expressed an interest to meet here in New Hampshire, November 8-10, 2021. FirstNet promoted this meeting because they wish to meet personally with New Hampshire's Public Safety Officials that have achieved this success. More details regarding this event will be advertised in the coming months, but please mark your calendars for this tremendous opportunity to meet with FirstNet Board members.

Interoperability meetings have continued in 2021 with the New Hampshire Tactical Officers Association, the New Hampshire State Police AT&T's Pilot Project, the pursuit of Radio Reprogramming, monthly SIEC Executive Management Group Meetings, monthly SIEC Working Group Meetings, Interoperability Police Recruit Training at PSTC, Mutualink Online Training offerings, Mutualink Exercise opportunities, TERT Rally scheduled for May 21st, 2021, FALLCOM anticipated October 1st, 2021, along with the following trainings be offered; COMT Class – July 19th-23rd, 2021, COML Class – September 13th-17th, 2021, ICS300 Class – (TBD), Drive (coverage) Testing – May/June 2021. If you, or someone from your department/organization wishes to take advantage of one of these [current course offerings](#) please make notification to the following address expressing the candidate's interest: NHSWIC@dos.nh.gov.

In the spirit of the aforementioned classes, the SIEC wishes to acknowledge and congratulate the following individuals for completing the program's certification:

Chief Keith Gilbert, Capital Area Mutual Aid Fire Compact– Communications Leader (COML)

John Marcel, Communications Leader (COML)



Robert Erskine, New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications – Communications Technician (COMT) & Information Technology Service Leader (ITSL)

Lastly, as it concerns this spring edition of the newsletter, AT&T will be demonstrating the “Compact Rapid Deployable” (CRD) at the Hanover Public Safety Complex on April 13th, 2021 at 9:30am. For those interested departments/organizations/individuals, please inform us of your anticipated attendance by submitting the names to the NHSWIC@dos.nh.gov address. As the name applies the CRD is a rapid deployable platform that can be attached to the back of an SUV (like a bike rack) and brought quickly to an area that needs increased FirstNet coverage. The CRD is a portable cell tower that generates FirstNet cellular and Wi-Fi coverage and can be described as “your very own cell-on-wheels”.

Spring of 2021 will bring an enthusiasm which hasn't been felt for many years, in hopes for a somewhat normal summer. We must however, be cognitive of the safety protocols that have brought us to this juncture and remain vigilant in our concerns for public safety. We will remain optimistic that we will once again meet in-person and share in the mindset that has increased interoperability beyond whatever we imagined just a few short years ago. On behalf of the SIEC, I wish you all well and God Speed.

Sincerely,
John T. Stevens

NH Rolls Out Statewide Community Response Network | *By GCN*

Public safety agencies, public safety answering points, hospitals, colleges and universities in New Hampshire can now securely share data, voice and video on-demand.

The True Interoperability solution developed by Mutualink, a company specializing in interactive multimedia interoperability, provides an encrypted, statewide carrier-agnostic network that dynamically bridges a variety of agency radio and voice communications systems, including land mobile radio, LTE, video and data. It works across terrestrial, commercial LTE, public-safety broadband and satellite networks and enables peer-to-peer sharing of real-time video from any video source, including from internal surveillance systems, wearable cameras, drones and smartphones.

A multimedia push-to-talk application that operates like a radio over wireless mobile networks allows True Interoperability users to send and receive real time video. The MM-PTT application can also be linked to an agency's existing radios system, as well as to other partner agencies' radios when needed, company officials said.

The deployment will enhance New Hampshire's COVID-19 pandemic response efforts and is the first statewide deployment in the nation, the company said in a statement.

"The New Hampshire Department of Safety has long recognized the capability of this communications platform," Commissioner Robert Quinn said. "To be able to partner with Mutualink in providing True Interoperability for not only our public safety communities statewide, but to the critical infrastructure that has united in response to this pandemic has been an amazing opportunity."

The core capability will allow expansion beyond public safety applications and will position New Hampshire to leverage future smart city, 5G and other technologies, the company said on its website.

<https://gcn.com/articles/2021/02/24/new-hampshire-community-safety-network.aspx?m=1>

Danbury First Responders Get Connectivity Boost from New FirstNet Cell Site *By First Responder Network Authority*

What's the news? Danbury's first responders are getting a major boost in their wireless communications thanks to the FirstNet network expansion currently underway by AT&T. We've added a new, purpose-built cell site— located in the Ragged Mountain area. This new site is giving first responders on FirstNet – America's public safety network – access to always-on, 24-hours-a-day priority and preemption across voice and data.

Why is this important? We consider FirstNet the most important wireless network in the country because it serves our first responders. And unlike commercial networks, FirstNet provides real, dedicated mobile broad-band when needed. To ensure AT&T and the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet Authority) are putting coverage and capacity where first responders need it most, the FirstNet build is guided by direct feedback from state and public safety officials. This helps ensure New Hampshire's responders connect to the critical information they need – every day and in every emergency. In particular, AT&T and FirstNet collaborated with the Sununu Administration to bring much needed coverage to areas of New Hampshire.

What are the benefits to first responders? Building upon AT&T's current and planned investments in New Hampshire, we're actively extending the reach of FirstNet to give agencies large and small the reliable, unthrottled connectivity and modern communications tools they need. These sites were constructed using Band 14 spectrum, as well as AT&T commercial spectrum. Band 14 is nationwide, high quality spectrum set aside by the government specifically for FirstNet. We look at Band 14 as public safety's VIP lane. In an emergency, this band – or lane – can be cleared and locked just for FirstNet subscribers. That means only those on the FirstNet network will be able to access Band 14 spectrum, further elevating their connected experience and emergency response.

How does this help Danbury residents? This new infrastructure will also help improve the overall coverage experience for AT&T wireless customers in Danbury. Residents, visitors and businesses can take advantage of the AT&T spectrum bands, as well as Band 14 when additional capacity is available.

What is FirstNet? FirstNet is the only nationwide, high-speed broadband communications platform dedicated to and purpose-built for America's first responders and the extended public safety community. Shaped by the vision of Congress and the first responder community following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, FirstNet stands above commercial offerings. It is built with AT&T in public-private partnership with the First Responder Network Authority – an independent agency within the federal government. The FirstNet network provides public safety with truly dedicated coverage and capacity when they need it, unique benefits like always-on priority and preemption, and high-quality Band 14 spectrum. These advanced capabilities enable FirstNet to help fire, EMS, EMA law enforcement, and 9-1-1 save lives and protect their communities.

What people are saying:

Owen Smith, President, AT&T New Hampshire

“New Hampshire's first responders deserve reliable coverage across the state to help them effectively and efficiently address incidents. And with FirstNet, that's exactly what they're getting. We have a responsibility unlike any other network provider, and couldn't be more pleased to support the public safety mission by bringing New Hampshire's first responders – and residents – greater access to the connectivity they need.”

Edward Parkinson, CEO, FirstNet Authority

“FirstNet is a dedicated broadband platform for public safety, by public safety. We worked hand-in-hand with the New Hampshire public safety community to understand their needs for the network. And this new site is a prime example of how that input and feedback is becoming reality. We look forward to supporting New Hampshire's first responders' use of FirstNet to help them save lives and protect our communities.”

<https://firstnet.gov/newsroom/press-releases/danbury-first-responders-get-connectivity-boost-new-firstnet-cell-site>

Have a news story you'd like us to feature? Drop us a line.

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CRD™ for FirstNet®

A Compact Rapid Deployable for FirstNet® Users

The CRD™ for FirstNet® is an AT&T FirstNet deployable cell tower. It generates an area of FirstNet Cellular and Wi-Fi coverage, virtually anytime and anywhere. Your very own Cell-On-Wheels (COW) can be deployed by a single person, within minutes, wherever needed!

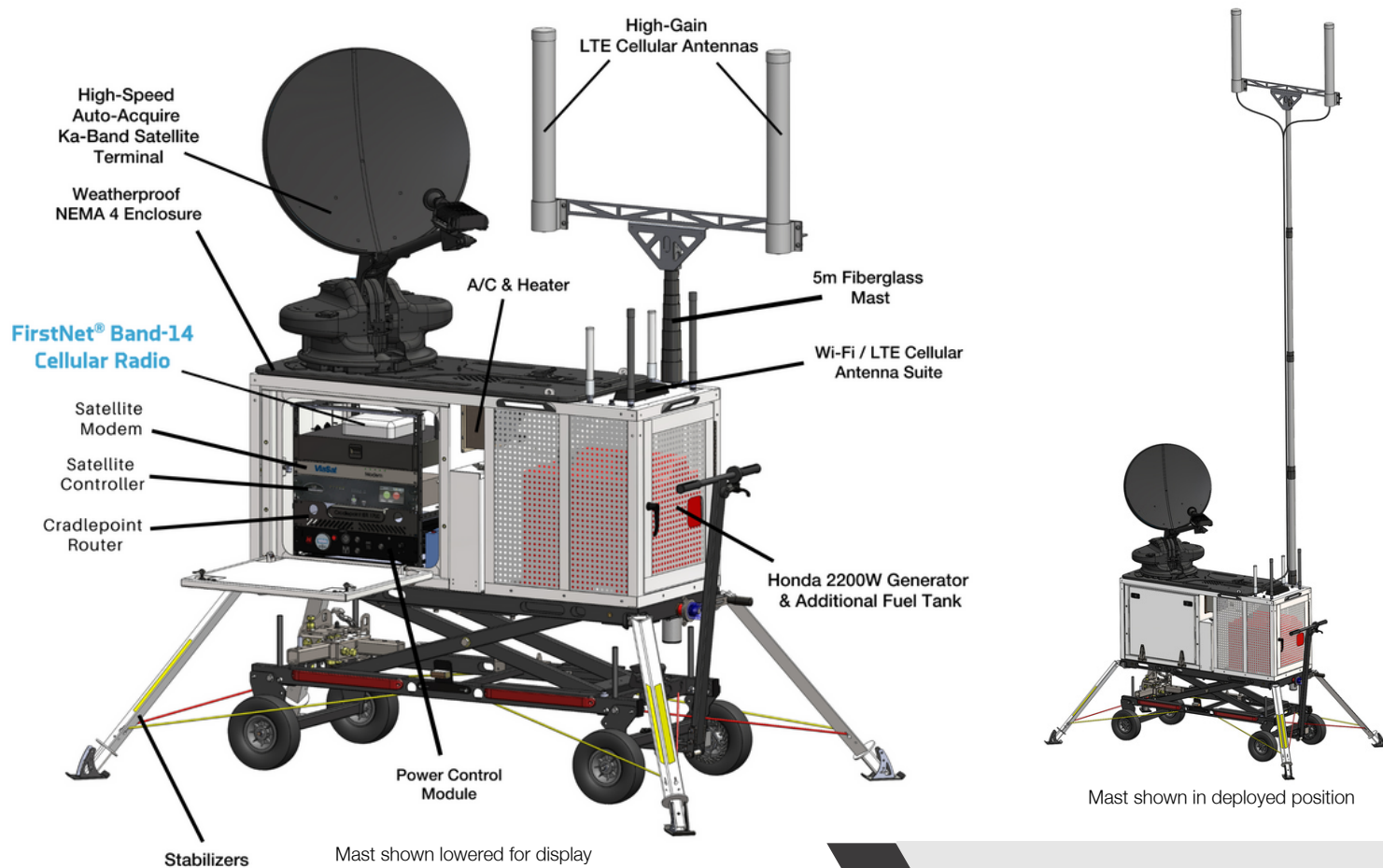
- FirstNet Cellular Range up to 1/2 Mile
- High-Speed Satellite Internet
- Wi-Fi Range up to 1000'
- Weatherproof & NEMA 4 Compliant
- FirstNet Ready™ Router
- Rapid Deployable, Single Person Setup <7 minutes
- Rolls Through Standard ADA Doorways
- Deliverable by Helicopter



CRD™ for FirstNet®

**We are Internet & Cellular Connectivity.
Virtually Anytime, Anywhere.**

- Fully-Functional FirstNet® COW
- Connects You to the Cloud
- Single Person Deployment
- Critical Emergency Response Tool
- 60 Hour Run Time Before Refueling
- Operates in -22° to 122°F (-30° to 50° C)
- High Speed Satellite Internet
- Fits Through Standard ADA Doorways
- Keeps Agencies Running During Outages
- Easily Transports on any Trailer Hitch
- All Users Can Make Calls via Wi-Fi Calling



**For More Information
Contact Your AT&T
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