

Season's Greetings from the SWIC's Office




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

Wishing You All a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Safe, and Healthy New Year

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) in 2023 continued to address the challenges of statewide interoperability through a transition of leadership. Outgoing Chairperson Tom Andross was presented the “Gavel” for his outstanding leadership while the Incoming Chair Chief George Feole assumed his responsibilities with the same vigor and initiative that he has always presented throughout his law enforcement career. Working Group Chairs also transitioned with Thayer Pronto assuming the Chair for the Operations Group, Rick Todd named Chair of the Radio Frequency Working Group, and Jon Goldman as Chair of the Data Communications Working Group. The Working Group Chairs will be presented with their “official letter of appointment” from Commissioner Quinn at the first SIEC Meeting in February 2024. It is these leadership positions that advance interoperability by addressing the challenges and issues presented statewide relating to both LMR & LTE while representing Police, Fire, EMS, State, County & local governments, non-governmental organizations, the Private Sector, and the New Hampshire National Guard. It is through their work that New Hampshire enjoys a statewide platform of success that advances next generation communications technology.

Engagement continues to be the criteria that motivates the SIEC. Understanding that our success has a direct cause and effect on the quality of interoperability communications statewide. Our mission is to serve the first responder community with the most efficient and effective communications technology available, making multi-discipline, multi-jurisdiction communications seamless certainly in a crisis, but more importantly on an everyday basis. If we need to be reminded, the tragic events that have been our experience in recent months should remind everyone that this is no time to pause in our efforts. This is just one of the many reasons why we, as a rural state, continue to urge the FirstNet Authority to





make a decision regarding future investments to include further infrastructure development. FirstNet connectivity is only as good as the coverage it can provide, for without coverage, it makes no difference in the number of applications offered. The SIEC acknowledges and commends FirstNet/ AT&T for the work that has been accomplished in the last five years, what has been achieved is extraordinary, but we also know that there is much more work to be done. We look forward to the challenge in 2024 by embracing this partnership and addressing the continuing needs of our Public Safety community.

In concert with the FirstNet initiative, the SIEC continues to drive and support the Mutualink project which has established New Hampshire as the most connected state in the country. Agnostic in its platform, Mutualink provides unparalleled connectivity across all spectrums anytime and from anywhere. Supported through the New Hampshire Department of Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Communications, Mutualink has grown in value as Public Safety and critical assets around the state understand the value of the platform.

As the year 2023 draws to a close, I would be remiss not to acknowledge all the work that has been directed and accomplished by the SIEC. To each person, I wish to express my heartfelt thanks for all that you have provided in support of this mission. The SIEC established by law in Chapter 21-P Section 21-P:48 within the Advisory Council on Emergency Preparedness and Security, the SIEC remains steadfast in its purpose and objective in providing Public Safety with efficient and effective, next generation communications technology. To all who share in this mission, I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Safe, and Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,
John

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Let's take a look back at what happened in 2023...

We welcomed new COMLs and COMTs



Sgt. Andrew Feole, COML



Zachary Powell, COMT



Josh Mann, COMT



Rob Farley, COMT

New Hampshire received 2 FirstNet Compact Rapid Deployables (CRDs)



New Hampshire marked the culmination of over five years of work improving coverage throughout the state for first responders with FirstNet



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