



FirstNet®



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Booth #13103**

IAFC's Annual Conference & Expo

FRI 2016



FIRE-RESCUE INTERNATIONAL

What Is FirstNet?

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) will provide emergency responders with the first high-speed, nationwide broadband network for public safety. The network will allow first responders to reliably access and use mobile data applications where and when they respond.

The public safety community came together to press Congress to pass legislation establishing a reliable, dedicated, and nationwide high-speed network for public safety. The creation of FirstNet answered that call and fulfilled the last standing recommendation of the 9/11 Commission. When implemented, the network will provide more robust, interoperable, and effective emergency communications nationwide.

FirstNet and the Fire Service

As a firefighter, the right tools improve incident response and personnel safety. Fire departments rely on data applications to provide computer aided dispatching, mapping tools, patient care reporting systems, and information to support hazardous materials response. During emergencies or large planned events, however, congestion on commercial networks can make these data sources unreliable. In remote areas, poor coverage can make these tools unavailable.

Whether sending images of wildland fires or downloading building plans, FirstNet will provide fire service personnel with improved coverage and priority access. Additionally, the FirstNet network can better enable you to connect across agencies, track assets and personnel, share images and video, and use mapping applications that share lookout positions, escape routes, safety zones, and water sources.

FirstNet Will Complement Radio Networks

The launch of the network will provide mission critical, high-speed data services and non-mission critical voice to augment the voice capabilities of today's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) networks.

Innovation to Support the Fire Service

Improved Rural Coverage

Improving coverage in rural and remote locations is a FirstNet priority and part of our Congressional mandate. We are addressing rural coverage from multiple approaches, including ways to deploy the network in places where coverage may be difficult, such as high-power towers that can cover more rural space with less total infrastructure, as well as deployable and satellite solutions.

Indoor Location Services

Fire personnel who work in urban environments often face the challenge of responding in large buildings and underground structures such as subways and parking garages where communications systems can be compromised. Incident commanders need to be able to track personnel and first responders need to communicate wherever incident response takes them.

A critical need for the fire service is to improve location services on the vertical axis within a building or other structure. Although it is a complex issue, FirstNet is exploring ways to provide what is known as “z-vector” or “z-axis” or “3-D Geolocation” services for public safety personnel through research efforts at its technical headquarters in Boulder, Colorado. A new generation of location technology could collect altitude data from smartphones, tablets, dongles, and other devices to not only enhance emergency response efforts, but spur innovation as industry looks to develop solutions.



True Priority

The FirstNet network will be custom-built for public safety and will guarantee priority access, meaning first responders will no longer compete for resources on commercial networks.

The FirstNet Timeline

FirstNet is in the process of evaluating responses to its Request for Proposal. The goal is to create a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership that serves public safety and deploys the FirstNet network quickly and cost effectively. FirstNet aims to make an award in November of 2016 and then move rapidly to present each governor with a plan to deploy the network within a state or territory in 2017. FirstNet service will begin to be available by 2018.

How to Get Involved

Reach out to the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) within your state or territory. A list of SPOCS with contact information is available at FirstNet.gov.

Learn more through our website or by contacting FirstNet.

Prepare your agency for FirstNet by participating in Consultation Task Teams to inform network operations and sharing technical, operational, budgeting, and procurement requirements with FirstNet.

Social Media



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/first-responder-network-authority-firstnet->



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