

Public Safety *IT*

FIRE * POLICE * EMS * JUSTICE * COMMUNICATIONS

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TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY

PSIT *Insider*

CASE STUDY

Operation Virtual Shield

The city of Chicago's Office of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC), in conjunction with IBM, Firetide, and Genetec has successfully implemented one of the most advanced city-wide intelligent security system ever conceived. The engagement is a part of Chicago's Operation Virtual Shield, which encompasses one of the world's largest video security deployments.

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COMM & INTEROP

Shared systems governance

Shared systems governance, for example, where a sheriff's radio system may also be used by a county probation office, has been and still is primarily a means to meet the growing cost of communications. In 2008 and beyond, the growth of such systems for public safety communications will lead to a great change in expectations of their governance and management.

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STANDARDS

A new strategy

Crossflo Systems Inc. will provide

Tackling the many levels of radio interoperability

By James Careless

Radio interoperability is one of those monolithic terms; one that suggests that everyone has to be using the same radios on the frequency, or else.

But in truth, radio interoperability is a multi-leveled solution. It can be as granular as making sure county fire and police can talk to each other, or as large as ensuring intercommunication between federal, state, and local agencies continent-wide.

Faced with this kind of scale, it's no wonder many police commanders find the interoperability topic one that they'd rather ignore. After all, as mind-boggling and horrendous as 9/11 was, what happened in New York City is an exception, rather than the rule. "Why should we go all-out to ensure widespread interoperability when our departments only ever





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