

January 6, 2006

Dear Illinois Public Safety Official:

On June 28, 2004, I sent you a letter announcing the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) was offering a STARCOM21 (800 MHz) control station or mobile radio to every police, fire, emergency management and public health agency, as well as, dispatch centers throughout the state. As I advised previously, STARCOM21 is the wireless voice radio system being implemented statewide by the State of Illinois and is open to all government agencies in Illinois. The system offers the possibility of interoperability among all of the public safety disciplines.

I'm pleased to report that over 1,300 public safety agencies in Illinois requested a STARCOM21 radio in response to the 2004 survey. As of December 30, 2005, over 90 percent of these radios have been deployed and wide area trunking has been achieved in multiple regions throughout the state.

I have been made aware that the installation of the radios has resulted in a number of questions from public safety agencies. The purpose of this letter is to address some of the most frequent questions we have received regarding the STARCOM21 project.

Question: When will the remaining STARCOM21 radios be installed?

Answer: Motorola will complete all standard mobile and control station radio installations by March 31, 2006.

Question: Who is responsible for costs associated with the installation of the STARCOM21 radio?

Answer: There is no cost to the public safety agency if Motorola performs a basic installation of the STARCOM21 radio. However, if the recipient requests a custom installation, those additional charges will be the responsibility of the receiving agency.

Question: Can public safety agencies procure additional STARCOM21 radios?

Answer: If your agency wishes to purchase additional radios for day-to-day operations, you are welcome to contract with Motorola under separate agreement. Dave Lander is the Motorola STARCOM21 sales contact, and he can be reached at (309) 663-6004 or email at David.Lander@Motorola.com.

Question: Can an agency still request a STARCOM21 radio from the ITTF?

Answer: All of the funds for the STARCOM21 project have been allocated by the ITTF. If an agency failed to respond to the 2004 survey, and are not schedule to receive a radio, they should put their request in writing to me no later than February 1, 2006. Requests will be filled in the order they are received, if additional equipment becomes available.

Question: When does the free prepaid access to STARCOM21 system end?

Answer: The radio, as well as five years of basic access to a statewide communications system, was provided by the ITTF at no cost to local agencies and departments per the established operating guidelines. After five years, the cost for basic access will be \$100 per year per radio. The ITTF and Motorola agreed to delay the beginning of the five-year basic access to the date Illinois achieves "wide area trunking." This means the five-year prepaid basic access period will begin when all 186 STARCOM21 sites are operational.

Question: When will the STARCOM21 system be fully operational and in "wide area trunking?"

Answer: Motorola is targeting to have the STARCOM21 system complete and available for operational use by the State of Illinois by December 31, 2006. Motorola will allow ITTF-purchased radios to operate on STARCOM21 sites that are operational and in "wide area trunking" in advance of the targeted operational date. Sites will be phased in and it is anticipated that these sites will be available in advance of the projected operational date. The ITTF will regularly make available a system map, developed by the Motorola Project Team, to update public safety agencies on the status of the project.

Question: When does the warranty period begin for the STARCOM21 radio received by my agency?

Answer: The radio warranty will begin upon full Homeland Security Region (HSR) activation. An HSR is considered activated when the STARCOM21 sites that are required for the applicable HSR applicable region are operational and in "wide area trunking." Motorola will notify ITTF when an HSR region is considered activated. The warranty period will begin for the radios operating in that region at that time. An additional 4 years of service after warranty is provided by ITTF through Motorola.

Question: What are the charges associated with the monitoring of the statewide STARCOM21 announcement talk group?

Answer: The statewide STARCOM21 announcement talk group can be monitored free of charge by any agency that has a STARCOM21 radio. The free basic access provided by the ITTF includes:

- Notification of change to the Homeland Security Threat Advisory System from the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
- Monthly statewide tests
- Exercises (quarterly, or approved in advance by the STARCOM21 Systems Operations Manager)
- Notification from the SEOC about incidents
- Communications en route while responding to an incident

Question: Can a public safety agency receive a portable radio instead of a mobile or control station?

Answer: Public safety agencies were asked to select a STARCOM21 mobile or control station through the ITTF survey. Portable radios were not offered because of uncertainty regarding their coverage area. Motorola was unable to guarantee reception in non-urban areas.

Question: What is the charge for public safety agencies to utilize the STARCOM21 system for ongoing responses to an incident?

Answer: Agencies utilizing the STARCOM21 system for ongoing responses to an incident will be directed to another talk group and may incur radio charges for every 30-day period that the STARCOM21 radio is utilized for the incident response.

Question: What is the cost to public safety agencies after the free basic access period?

Answer: After five years, the cost for basic access will be \$100 per year per radio.

Question: What talk groups were established for the STARCOM21 system?

Answer: Motorola has established a statewide STARCOM21 announcement talk group that includes all public safety agencies in the state. Additionally, Motorola established a separate talk group for each of the 19 Homeland Security Regions, as well as, three disaster response talk groups where regions and/or counties could be linked. Talk groups have also been established for the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System, Illinois Emergency Services Management Association and public health. The ITTF is currently working with Motorola to establish a separate talk group for the Chicago/Cook County Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Information on the availability of this talk group will be made available to the members of the Chicago/Cook County UASI at a later date.

Question: What is the statewide interoperable plan for the selection and use of the STARCOM21 radio by public safety agencies?

Answer: The Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and ITTF Communications Committee are currently developing protocols and procedures for the selection and use of the STARCOM21 radio during an event, as part of the statewide interoperability plan. The ITTF Communications Committee has representation from a multi-jurisdictional group of subject matter experts from public safety agencies. IEMA and the associations for public safety agencies will circulate information regarding the protocols and procedures when they are completed.

Question: Is there training available on the use of the STARCOM21 radio?

Answer: At the time of installation, Motorola will provide the receiving agency with documentation on the use of the STARCOM21 radio. Motorola is preparing a training program in collaboration with the ITTF for user operation. Details regarding the training will be announced at a later date.

Question: If our public safety agency purchases additional STARCOM21 radios, can we get the ITTF talk groups installed on these units?

Answer: Yes. Public safety agencies can have the ITTF talk groups installed in the radios they purchase.

Question: How can I receive additional information regarding the STARCOM21 project?

Answer: Additional information regarding STARCOM21 can be found at the following Web site:

- www.ileas.org

Thank you for your continued support of Illinois' homeland security program. Because of your dedication, hard work, and efforts, Illinois is widely recognized as a national leader in homeland security preparedness.

Sincerely,



Mike Chamness
Chairman
Illinois Terrorism Task Force