

Policy Statement

State of Iowa

Policy Name: Policy Statement supporting encryption on specific interoperable frequencies, channels and talkgroups on voice radio communications equipment and land mobile radio (LMR) systems for Iowa Public Safety and other affiliated communication suppliers or users	Policy#:	ISICS 2014-02.T
	Date Adopted:	09/24/2014
	Date Reviewed:	
	Version:	1.0

WHEREAS: The Iowa statewide interoperable communications system board (ISICSB) is established in Code of Iowa sections 80.28 and 80.29. ISICSB is charged to develop, implement and oversee policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications interoperability efforts at the state and local levels, and to coordinate similar efforts at the federal level, with the objective of overseeing operation of statewide integrated public safety systems, and establish, monitor, and maintain appropriate policies and protocols, expand, maintain and fund stakeholder education, public education, and official education programs to demonstrate value of short- term communications interoperability solutions, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB supports interoperability on interoperable frequencies, channels and talkgroups to mean cross discipline, and cross agency communications on interoperable equipment and land mobile radio (LMR) systems, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB supports interoperability in all frequency bands, channels and talkgroups for LMR communications systems and equipment providing real-time, interoperability through multiple means, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB supports open communications for all frequency bands, channels and talkgroups to provide effective and reliable inter-agency and intra-agency radio communications, consistent with current best practices and Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB acknowledges that there may be specific situations in which secure, encrypted interoperable communications may be necessary, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB understands that encryption, unless properly managed, can limit interoperable communications, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB supports continued development of a statewide, wide area LMR system as the states' interoperability platform, the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS), and recognizes the role of operational and interoperable frequencies, channels and talkgroups in a wide area LMR platform used as Iowa statewide voice radio interoperability solution, and;

WHEREAS: A significant segment of public safety radio users have requested secure, encrypted interoperability channels and talkgroups, and;

WHEREAS: A significant coalition of local, state and federal public safety agency users have already demonstrated their support for cross discipline interoperability in all bands on recognized interoperability frequencies, channels and talkgroups; Now therefore

NOW THEREFORE;

IT IS ISICSB POLICY:

That the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) hereby documents and publishes a policy of support for encryption only on specific interoperability channels and talkgroups in public safety LMR interoperable communications systems used in Iowa for public safety as defined by the ISICSB.