

Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network
UPDATE
May 27 , 2009

This is an update on the activities of the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network (PPSTN) Project. This project is jointly managed by the Government of Saskatchewan (Office of the Fire Commissioner), the RCMP and SaskPower.

Ongoing communication with users will continue through the CPSP website, public meetings, conferences and events by the User development Team – Rick Galloway (Radio Project) Gerry Schreimer (EMS) and Ken Dobra (Fire).

The PPSTN is a Public Safety Grade P25 system designed and operated specifically for Public Safety and Public Service users. It is a VHF Trunked system that supports multiple talk groups at the local, regional and provincial geographical areas with over 200 tower sites across the province.

Other features of this system are as follows:

- The system is only available to Public Safety and Public Service users.
- Designed as a 'mobile radio system' providing coverage targets of 97% area reliability on major and secondary roads.
- Portable, on street, radio coverage target of 90% area reliability in most cities, towns and villages where possible.
- Provides interoperability between agencies and disciplines.
- Local VHF frequencies can be installed in the radio equipment, but local agencies are responsible for licensing of local VHF frequencies.
- Both group calls and Individual calls are supported.
- Multiple approved makes, models and vendor products are expected to be available.
- Over The Air Programming (OTAP) of terminal equipment. Programming 'pushed' to the devices.
- Terminal equipment will be pre-programmed with user profiles and talk groups prior to delivery..
- Mobile repeater site trailers can be deployed to support the network.

Terminal Equipment Costs and User Fees:

- Depending upon the U.S. exchange rate, each radio will cost approximately \$5,000. In order to help offset these costs, a bulk purchasing program for approved radio equipment is being considered.
- Each radio will cost approximately \$89 per month to operate. However, a user fee rate structure has not yet been established and many options are still under consideration.
- Major purchase of radios will occur in early 2010. Municipal authorities and agencies should establish budgets accordingly.

What you need to do to get ready:

- Determine the number of radios you will require to operate on the new system and ensure that funding is in place.
- Ensure that your dispatch service provider will be migrated in advance. (will be required to ensure continuity of dispatch service delivery)
- Local agencies, regional group and provincial groups are encouraged to contact us to discuss talk group and interoperability requirements. The “Getting Ready” questionnaire can be downloaded from the website to begin the process.
- Once internal migrations strategies have been discussed and agreed upon, communicate those strategies to us to ensure they can be accommodated.

Migration to the new system

- The majority of public safety user migration is expected to occur between April 2010 and Dec 2010.
- Earlier migration, in some areas of the province, may be possible in some circumstances.

FleetNet Radios

- As SaskPower migrates their users onto the new system, they have graciously agreed to loan their decommissioned FleetNet user equipment to CPSP to assist those public safety agencies who have an emergent need for FleetNet radios.
- These ‘loaner’ radios can be provided to mitigate communications issues until agencies can be migrated to the new system.
- Radios will be ‘loaned’ on a priority basis and must be returned when migration occurs.

Please check the website at <http://www.cpsp.gov.sk.ca/ppstn> for future updates or contact 1-866-953-3693, Fax- 306-953-3697, or email PPSTN@gov.sk.ca.