

# **State and Local Government**

# Table of Contents

<b><u>State and Local Government</u></b> .....	1
<u>Software enabled communications interoperability for all participants is achievable today, independent of agency hardware choices and is an order of magnitude less expensive to acquire and operate than hardware only upgrades.</u> .....	1

# State and Local Government

The need for fast, accurate, and dependable information sharing and collaboration between State and Local Government agencies is always highlighted when disaster strikes. Yet most fire, police, medical, rescue, public health and non-profit organizations utilize different radio systems, from multiple manufacturers, running on separate frequencies – all of which can hamper communications efforts. Communication failures or inadequacies caused by weather, earthquakes or other natural and man-made disasters hinder the best efforts of those that respond to them.

**Software enabled communications interoperability for all participants is achievable today, independent of agency hardware choices and is an order of magnitude less expensive to acquire and operate than hardware only upgrades.**

With limited government funding available to support local or large scale State-wide interoperability projects, the inevitable truth is that only software can deliver on the promise of widespread communications interoperability – hardware based solutions are just too expensive and too limited in capability to meet the challenge. Only software can offer an immediate and fully inclusive solution to the problem of communication interoperability and at a fraction of the cost of proprietary hardware alternatives.

Hardware centric solutions to communications interoperability are enormously expensive to acquire and maintain, are proprietary in nature and typically deliver benefits only to a small group of users directly involved in the project. Wider interoperability is seldom achieved with first responders and supporting agencies outside of the specific funding, resulting in little more than a localized radio system upgrade. By leveraging standards-based software, WAVE delivers interoperability for everyone regardless of their current communications technology, is massively scalable to accommodate new participants, and is future-proofed to accommodate next-generation hardware systems as they become available.

First responders, law enforcement agencies and other rapid-response and support groups continue to seek cost-effective solutions to communications interoperability. Deployed by the US Army and other large scale State-wide interoperability projects, WAVE enables the effective management of disparate devices, users and user policies to create a single, secure and highly scalable unified communications environment.