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State of Minnesota Awards Federal Engineering a Contract for VHF Interoperability Frequency Plan

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA, June 28, 2010 — The State of Minnesota has awarded Federal Engineering, Inc. (**FE**) a contract to provide the Department of Public Safety (DPS) with technical and professional assistance in the development of a VHF Interoperable Frequency Plan (Frequency Plan).

"The primary focus of this project is to establish plans for the use of interoperable frequencies subsequent to the FCC narrowbanding mandate of January 1, 2013, when all VHF and UHF frequencies will be required to operate in a 12.5 kHz bandwidth. Since existing interoperability frequencies are currently being used in a wideband configuration, the Frequency Plan will identify any unique operational challenges that may be required in the transition to narrowband operations," stated **FE's** President Ronald F. Bosco. He continued: "The project will build upon the VHF/UHF Frequency Planning Study previously completed by DPS. The final product will be a VHF Interoperable Frequency Plan that outlines the future use of VHF interoperable frequencies by public safety agencies operating in Minnesota and, to the extent possible, will provide guidance as to the use of various VHF interoperability frequencies with neighboring states, federal agencies, and Canadian provinces."

Scott Wiggins, the State's manager of the ARMER Program and Director of the Division of Emergency Communication Networks, added, "Because this project deals with the practical and operational use of existing and new VHF interoperability resources for non-ARMER users, stakeholder involvement through Minnesota's Regional and Statewide governance structure will be integral to the overall success of the project."

FE provides a wide range of land mobile radio analysis, design, procurement support, and implementation management services for public safety, public service, transportation, and energy systems. The firm also provides security analyses, disaster recovery planning, strategic assessments, product analyses, market research, and business planning services in telecommunications and related fields.

As a nationwide communications systems planning and design firm, Federal Engineering develops voice, data, and video networks for a wide range of end users, including organizations in the aerospace, energy, finance, education, publishing, and computer services fields. In addition to its private sector work, **FE** has completed hundreds of communications projects for 30 state governments, as well as numerous local and federal government clients. **FE's** certified independence ensures that clients receive objective, unbiased consulting services that are not influenced by any particular technology, product, vendor, or approach.

Federal Engineering, Inc. • 10600 Arrowhead Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030
Phone: 703-359-8200 • Fax: 703-359-8204
Contact : Larry Keller • Email: lkeller@fedeng.com