

National Association of State EMS Officials



(project / workgroup) Strategic Plan Priorities and Strategies 2013

- ▶ Agency and Vehicle Licensure Committee
- ▶ Air Medical Committee
- ▶ Communications Technology and Systems Committee
- ▶ Domestic Preparedness Committee
- ▶ EMS Education Agenda I-Team
- ▶ Government Affairs Committee
- ▶ Highway Incident & Transportation Systems Committee
- ▶ Mobile Integrated Health - Community Paramedicine Committee
- ▶ Rural EMS Committee

Mission

The **Communications Technology & Systems Committee** of the National Association of State EMS Officials is committed to enabling state EMS systems to be aware of and utilize state of the art communications technology and systems (all voice, video, and other data types) and to help represent the national EMS community in all venues where EMS, emergency medical dispatch (EMD), public safety and medical communications technology and systems are planned, enabled, and implemented.

How We Will Achieve This

NASEMSO provides a communications technology advisor to staff this Committee, serve the needs of the Chair and Committee members, and to assist in an advisory capacity to four other national EMS associations with which NASEMSO has had close, long-term relationships. The Committee Chair and Advisor participate in all major public safety communications venues and report on developments to the Association membership through a list-serve. They have developed an EMS communications working group within the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) to continuously consider EMS communications priorities and means for their implementation through the various public safety communications agencies, organizations and other venues.

Background

Public safety communications, which are central to the function of EMS systems, are planned, developed, arbitrated and implemented at many governmental levels, in many meeting venues, and by many agencies or organizations. NASEMSO realized over ten years ago that having separate member liaisons to this multiplicity of communications planning foci left the Association without effective representation or a clear picture of public safety communications development as a whole. By establishing a staff member as the communications technology advisor, and sharing him with other associations, NASEMSO has become the preeminent national EMS community leader in public safety communications in the U.S. Its leadership in establishing the EMS communications workgroup in NPSTC replaced a similar effort served by ComCare, a group which disbanded fey years ago.

Activities to Date (optional)

The Communication Technology and Systems Committee has been very active in its representation of EMS at the national level and in keeping NASEMSO membership and other partnering EMS associations informed of public safety communications key issues, developments and opportunities. This has been effectively, the work of the Committee Chair and the communications technology advisor employing a working group of the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council and calling meetings of the Committee at the annual meeting as and on an ad hoc basis.

Key Issues and Challenges (optional)

Many

NASEMSO strategy and planning are categorized under three strategic goals:

Leadership refers to the role of state EMS offices as “lead agencies” for EMS as well as thoughtful leaders in public policy development.

Systems Development refers to the role of state EMS offices in the development of effective systems of emergency medical care.

Performance Improvement is the process of continually reviewing, assessing and refining practices to improve outcomes.

Communications Technology and Systems Committee Strategic Priorities 2014

(These should be goals and outcomes the group seeks to achieve. They should action statements and will become SMART objectives in the corresponding pages below)

The **Communications Technology and Systems Committee** supports **Leadership** through:

- **Strategic Priority #1:** To **inform** state EMS officials with continuous, timely updates of news, opportunities, and events in the EMS, medical and public safety communications realms so that they may, in turn, be prepared to inform and lead affected parties within their own EMS systems. Utilizing Communications Technology Advisory staff, EMS/EMD, public safety, and medical communications media (e.g. Urgent Communications, National Public Safety Telecommunications Council sources) will be reviewed on at least a weekly basis. Relevant news will be disseminated to either the appropriate NASEMSO Council list or the NASEMSO Communications Interest list or both.
- **Strategic priority #2:** To **represent** discipline of EMS and its national community within all venues where EMS/EMD, public safety, and medical communications technology and systems are planned, enabled, and implemented. By utilizing Communications Technology Advisory staff and Committee leaders and members, and by encouraging the participation of other national EMS associations, we will promote and facilitate national EMS community representation within all venues where EMS/EMD, public safety, and medical communications technology and systems are planned, enabled, and implemented. Based on opportunities identified in SP #1, coalitions of national EMS associations may be formed to address specific issues (e.g. as occurred around the D Block and FCC processes in recent years).

The **Communications Technology and Systems Committee** supports **System Development** through:

- **Strategic Priority #3:** To **facilitate** the NPSTC EMS Working Group as an active source of EMS communications system development concepts and to distribute these concepts to FirstNet, SafeCom, NPSTC the Federal Communications Commission and other agencies and organizations best suited to promote their implementation. Committee Chair or advisory staff will chair this Working Group and coordinate its agenda to achieve these outcomes. They will

then communicate the developed concepts to the appropriate organizations and agencies through the NPSTC process. The Working Group will meet on at least a quarterly basis, and more often while developing work product.

The **Communications Technology and Systems Committee** supports **Performance Improvement** through:

- **Strategic priority #4:** To utilize the NPSTC EMS Communications Working Group to **assess** the adequacy of EMS communications technology development in the U.S. **and to make recommendations** to appropriate organizations and agencies to make improvements that it identifies as being needed. The Committee Chair or advisory staff will chair this Working Group and coordinate its agenda to achieve these outcomes. Based on opportunities identified in SPs #1 - #3, states (collectively, or as identified for special attention on an individual basis) will be encouraged to participate in EMS/EMD, public safety, and medical communications planning, enabling, and implementation processes such as state interoperability governing boards (SIGBs), state interoperability executive committees (SIECs), statewide EMD and other dispatch coordination processes, and state bodies created to coordinate with the FirstNet system development effort. Communications Technology Advisory staff and Committee leadership will promote and facilitate these efforts.

Strategic Priority 1

Inform

Activity	Lead	Timeline	Status
Activity 1.1 – Review public safety communications media and provide regular updates through NASEMSO and communications list-serves as appropriate.	McGinnis	Ongoing	
Activity 1.2 – Attend and provide public safety communications technology updates and reference materials at midyear and annual NASEMSO meetings.	McGinnis/Patrick	Spring and Fall	
Activity 1.3 – Disseminate summaries and recommendations from meetings attended to membership and copy. to COTR	McGinnis/Patrick	Ongoing	
Activity 1.4 Collect and share public website examples of successful state EMS leadership in 9-1-1 and communications coordination.	McGinnis	Ongoing	

Activity Log

This is a CAP 1 – Task 2 activity.

date	activity	who	notes

Strategic Priority 2

Represent

Activity	Lead	Timeline	Status
Activity 2.1 - Attend national level public safety communications planning processed	McGinnis/Patrick	Ongoing	
Activity 2.2 – Maintain liaison relationship with such groups as FCC, DHS, NPSTC, APCO, NENA, FirstNet (and its Public Safety Advisory Committee).	McGinnis/Patrick	Ongoing	
Activity 2.3 – Committee and staff attend meetings on wireless and “Next Gen” E9-1-1 system development and report to membership. Coordinate with HITS Committee activities.	McGinnis/Gainor	Ongoing	

Activity Log

This is a CAP 1 – Task 2 activity.

date	activity	who	notes

Strategic Priority 3

Facilitate

Activity	Lead	Timeline	Status
Activity 3.1 – Chair NPSTC EMS Working Group and facilitate meetings with NPSTC staff.	Patrick	Ongoing	Patrick is chair, meetings held throughout 2013.
Activity 3.2 – Reassess EMS communications needs based on applications deemed useful in next five years.	Patrick/McGinnis	Ongoing	First reassessment complete. Will start next round in 2014.
Activity 3.3 – Communicate work product to appropriate organization.	Patrick/McGinnis	Ongoing	First report published through NPSTC and directed to FirstNet in 2013.

Activity Log

date	activity	who	notes

Strategic Priority 4

Assess and make recommendations.

Activity	Lead	Timeline	Status
Activity 4.1 – Facilitate NPSTC EMS Working Group meetings to assess status of EMS communications system development and state and national levels.	Patrick/McGinnis	Ongoing	
Activity 4.2 – Issue recommendations based on Working Group Findings.	McGinnis/Patrick	NASEMSO Annual Meeting, 2014	

Activity Log

date	activity	who	notes

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