

Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program

Connecting Public Safety Users on Every System

by Mark Tesh Project Manager, Portable Products For decades, public safety agencies have been purchasing, implementing and using equipment developed by different manufacturers and struggling to communicate during day-to-day activities and large-scale emergencies. With this in mind, the federal government agencies stepped in to help through development of the Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program (P25 CAP).

Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program

P25 CAP is a voluntary program managed in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) and a coalition of emergency responders and communications equipment manufacturers, which certifies vendor radios to operate reliably on other vendors' mission-critical communications systems. To complete the P25 CAP compliance process, manufacturers' radios must be tested for performance, conformance and interoperability on different vendors' system, using laboratories recognized through a rigorous and objective assessment process based on internationally accepted standards. P25 equipment suppliers must then release summary test reports and suppliers' declarations of compliance based on this testing.

Harris has more products with P25 CAP Declarations of Compliance than any other manufacturer

Harris Supports P25

As a leading supplier of mission-critical communications, Harris is a major supporter and promoter of these standards. In May 2009, Harris' Compliance Assessment Lab in Lynchburg, Virginia, was formally approved to test equipment and technology for P25 compliance according to the DHS OIC standards. The laboratory is one of only eight facilities approved to join the P25 CAP.

Harris has also taken on a number of leadership roles throughout the industry by filling positions such as the vice-chairmanship of TIA Committee TR-8, Mobile and Personal Private Radio Services; Chairman of subcommittee TR8.12 Two-slot TDMA; Vice-chair of TR 8.21 intrinsic safety; and Chairman of TR-8.17 RF exposure.

Certified Harris Radios

Harris' portable and mobile radios have been certified to meet these standards. In fact, the Harris P5400 800 MHz P25 portable radio was the first radio to complete the compliance process set by the P25 CAP.

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P25 Certified Products

Harris has more P25 Radios certified by the P25 CAP than any other manufacturer. For the full list of certified radios, go to the FirstResponder website: <u>www.firstresponder.gov</u>.

Harris Unity [®] Mobile XG-100M	Harris P5400 Portable
Harris Unity XG-100P Portable	Harris P5500 Portable
Harris XG-25 Portable	Harris P7300 Portable
Harris XG-75 Portable	Harris MASTR [®] III Base Station/Repeater
Harris XG-75 Mobile	Harris MASTR V Base Station/Repeater

Communication in Every Condition

In addition to meeting industry standards, Harris products also meet military specifications to provide dependable connections in every situation. Combining the Industry's leading technology, best experts, and in-depth knowledge of secure communications technology and requirements, Harris solutions provide the crucial advantage of information superiority.

U.S. servicemen and women returning home from the military know from experience that their Harris radios will answer the call when they need it most.

Connecting Users on Any System

Harris has been selected to implement a number of statewide systems across the U.S., including systems throughout Maine, Florida, Vermont, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Oregon. While these systems utilize Harris communication equipment, many statewide systems built by other manufacturers have already approved Harris radios for use, while others have implemented and are currently using the technology. This is exactly why the P25 CAP compliance program was established. Agencies no longer have to select a system and be locked into the system manufacturer's equipment. They can now choose between standardized alternatives, based on features and values.

In addition, when the time comes for agencies, cities, counties or states to upgrade their legacy communication systems, whether it be to meet modern industry and federal standards, fulfill the requirements of integrating voice and data, increase communication system capacity or enhance interoperability with surrounding communities, the Harris technology will provide users with a gradual migration process. Users will significantly reduce the "downtime" experience as they will be able to communicate on both the legacy system and the new technology from their interoperable radios.

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Resources

<u>FirstResponder: Home Page</u> <u>FirstResponder: P25 CAP Resources</u> <u>First Responder: P25 CAP Grant-Eligible Equipment</u>

About the Author

Mark Tesh is a product manager at Harris Corporation. Mr. Tesh has held many electrical engineering managerial positions dating back to 1985. Mr. Tesh has a Bachelor's of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Florida Atlantic University.

About Harris Corporation

In public safety and professional communications Harris is a leading supplier of *assured communications*[®] systems and equipment for public safety, federal, utility, commercial and transportation markets—with products ranging from the most advanced IP voice and data networks, to next-generation, secure public safety-grade LTE (Long-Term Evolution) solutions for voice, video and data applications, to industry leading multiband, multimode radios. Harris has more than 80 years of experience in public safety and professional communications and supports over 500 systems around the world.



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