



NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY TELECOMMUNICATIONS COUNCIL



For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE

NPSTC Emphasizes Public Safety Need for Seamless Cross-Border Communications in Presentation to U.S. Department of State

(Littleton, Colorado, January 25, 2008)—The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) met with the U.S. Department of State on January 24, 2008, to discuss public safety telecommunication needs on the southern and northern borders.

Ralph Haller, NPSTC Vice Chair, made a presentation to the State Department to raise the awareness level of the State Department and its Wireless Advisory Committee about the unique needs of public safety along our borders.

The presentation emphasized the need for seamless cross-border communications and interoperability to allow for common and coordinated responses to border events. Mr. Haller stressed the need for “cross-border agreements with Canada and Mexico in the 700 MHz spectrum because all licensing is at a standstill without such agreements.” He also stated that ‘*Above 30 MHz Agreement*’ with Canada needs to be refined to minimize the number of U.S. border applications that are denied by Canada.

Although there are differing issues to be resolved with the two countries, the resolution of border issues is essential for national security and requires seamless interoperability across borders, the equitable distribution of spectrum, and interference resolution procedures.

Visit www.npstc.org to view Mr. Haller’s State Department presentation and related documents on border issues.

NPSTC is a federation of organizations whose mission is to improve public safety communications and interoperability through collaborative leadership.

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