

Radio Communication and Border Issues



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Radio Communication and Border Issues

- Public Safety's reliance on radio communications
- Life Line for First Responders
- Interference is dangerous

Radio Communication and Border Issues

- Interference within U.S. carefully managed
- Spectrum allocation carefully coordinated
- Public Safety works with regulatory agencies

Radio Communication and Border Issues

- Border areas represent challenges
- Arrangements between neighboring nationals
- Protocols are in place

Radio Communication and Border Issues



Graphic of complex border in Great Lakes (MI) area

Radio Communication and Border Issues

- Changes in Public Safety spectrum include:
 - 4.9 GHz
 - VHF and UHF (below 512)
 - 800 MHz
 - 700 MHz (TV channels 60-69)

800 MHz Rebanding



March 2, 2004 - Mesquite, TX. When emergency personnel arrived, their 800 MHz radios were inoperable due to interference caused by Nextel transmissions from the pictured tower.

Radio Communication and Border Issues

800 MHz Rebanding

- Current interference in U.S. caused by interleaving commercial/Public Safety channels
- FCC mandated solution separates Public Safety channels
- Band plan different along borders and requires approval from Canada and Mexico

Radio Communication and Border Issues

800 MHz Rebanding

- 800 MHz rebanding time sensitive
- Interoperability is impacted
- Homeland security issues

Thank You!

- Any questions?
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