



# **Statewide Interoperable & Emergency Communications Board Meeting**

**Albany, New York  
March 27, 2012**

# **Welcome**

## **Jerome M. Hauer**

*Commissioner*

*NYS Division of Homeland Security &  
Emergency Services*

# **Review of Enabling Legislation**

**Thomas McCarren**

*Counsel*

*NYS Division of Homeland Security  
and Emergency Services*

# *Purpose*

New York State County Law, Article 26, Section 717, originating from the 2010 New York legislative session created the Statewide Interoperable and Emergency Communication Board.

New York County Law, Article 6-A, Section 328, charged this Board with the following powers:

The board shall assist local governments, service suppliers, wireless telephone service suppliers and appropriate state agencies by:

- facilitating the most efficient and effective routing of 911 emergency calls;
- Developing minimum standards for public safety answering points; promoting the exchange of information, including emerging technologies; and
- encouraging the use of best practice standards among the public safety answering point community.

# *Membership*

- 25 Members – Chaired by Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (Director of OIEC)
- Appointees --7 Governor; 5 Assembly; 5 Senate
- Ex officio--7 State Agency members (DCJS; DSP; DMNA; DOT;DOH; OFT; DHSES)
- Term – 4 years
- Quorum – Majority of members then in office
- Experience – Shall have experience with interoperable and emergency communications issues.

***Overview of  
Statewide Interoperable  
Communications Grant  
Round 2***

**Robert M. Barbato**

*Statewide Interoperability Coordinator*

*Director, NYS Office of Interoperable and  
Emergency Communications*

# Statewide Interoperability Communications Grant

- A competitive grant funded by state cellular surcharge revenue. Intended to help counties improve ability for first responders to communicate with each other and create a network of regional partnerships and systems that will include State agencies.
- **Round 1 -- 2010-11**                      **\$20 million**
- **Round 2 – 2011-12**                      **45 Million**
- ***Round 3 – 2012-13***                      ***75 million***

# Statewide Interoperability Communications Grant

- Year 1 -- 2010-11 \$20 million
- 3 Categories
  - A – Narrowband/National Interop Channels
  - B – PSAP Consolidation/SOPs
  - C – Expanding/developing systems
- 45 Counties responded/58 applications submitted
- \$69.5 million in requests for funding
- More partnerships/consortiums forming
- “*Interop Coordinators*” role among counties is developing

# ***Funding***

- **Interoperable Emergency Communication Program (supported by the State Public Safety Communications Account) has \$45 mil available**
- **Per statutory amendments in 2011**
  - **\$36 mil dedicated for further development of statewide interoperable communications for public safety – SICG (Statewide Interoperable Communications Grant)**
  - **\$9 mil dedicated for proposals relating to Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) operations – PSAP Grant**

# ***Grant Description***

- **SICG** will consist of combination of several categories, targeting different areas of public safety interoperable communications development
- **PSAP Grant:** PSAP operations, consolidation, and improvements--including deployment of next-generation technologies

# ***SICG Components***

- **Improve interoperable communications through developing, expanding or consolidating large-scale, regionally-focused LMR systems for public safety use among two or more counties supporting multi-jurisdictional and multi-discipline, including State agencies**
- **Improve Governance structure, Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), TICPs, Strengthen Training and Exercise Programs to promote efficient interregional communications, interoperability, cooperation and overall first responder readiness**

# ***SICG Objectives***

- **Improved collaboration** with first responder agencies among all levels of government
- **Expand consortium/regional partnerships** inclusive of multi-jurisdiction, multi-discipline, intergovernmental (State/local/NGO) stakeholders
- **Operating procedures** in counties, between counties and agencies
- **Implementation and use of National Interoperability and State Mutual Aid channels**

# ***SICG Direction***

- Measurable outcomes/performance how award improves/achieves capability and interoperability in the region/between regions
- Conform to standards, guidelines and mandates for proposed spectrum use; technology and operational protocols
- Plan for sustainability and compatibility with broader objectives and other investments in on-going, or future interoperability initiatives
- Aid county public safety organizations in fulfilling NECP Goals

# ***SICG Eligibility***

- County Government
- Active member of, or demonstrated commitment to, a regional consortium
- Accessibility for other jurisdictions and levels of government, utilizing standards based technologies
- Submitted Capabilities and Performance reports for NECP Goal 2
- NIMS compliant

# ***SICG Permissible Costs***

- Equipment, Infrastructure and Technology
  - *NOTE change: Subscriber Equipment, only when such equipment is a part of the larger project and technology implementation*
- Planning, Administration and Deployment Costs

# ***SICG Preferred Expectations***

1. National Interoperability Channels
2. Governance and SOPs
3. Communications Infrastructure
4. CASM (Communications Assets Survey and Mapping tool) and TICP (Tactical Interoperable Communication Plan) update and utilization

# ***Overview of NYS Success with NECP Goal 2***

**Toby Dusha**

*Outreach Coordinator*

**Larissa Guedko**

*Radio Engineer*

*NYS Office of Interoperable and  
Emergency Communications*

# ***NECP Goals***

- **DHS OEC released the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) in July 2008** to establish goals and priorities for improving:
  - Interoperability
  - Operability
  - Continuity of Communications
- **NECP Structure:**
  - **3 goals** establish a baseline for interoperable emergency communications and set performance matrix
  - **7 objectives** identifying priorities
  - **92 milestone** activities

# ***NECP Goals***

## **Timeline to demonstrate successful Response Level Emergency Communications:**

- **Goal 1** – By 2010 – 90% of Urban Area Security Initiative Areas (UASIs) within one hour
- **Goal 2** – By 2011 – 75% on non-UASI jurisdictions within one hour
- **Goal 3** – By 2013 – 75% all jurisdiction; significant events within three hour

# ***NECP Goal 2***

**By 2011,**

**75 % of non-Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdictions are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within one hour for routine events involving multiple jurisdictions and agencies.**

# ***NECP Goal 2***

## ***Importance***

- **NECP Goal 2 focuses** on demonstration of emergency communications by all counties
- **Awareness** of the current state of interoperability
- **Identification** of areas of progress and additional needs and **development of plans**
- **Ability** of local, State and Federal governments to **target resources and assistance** to where support is most needed

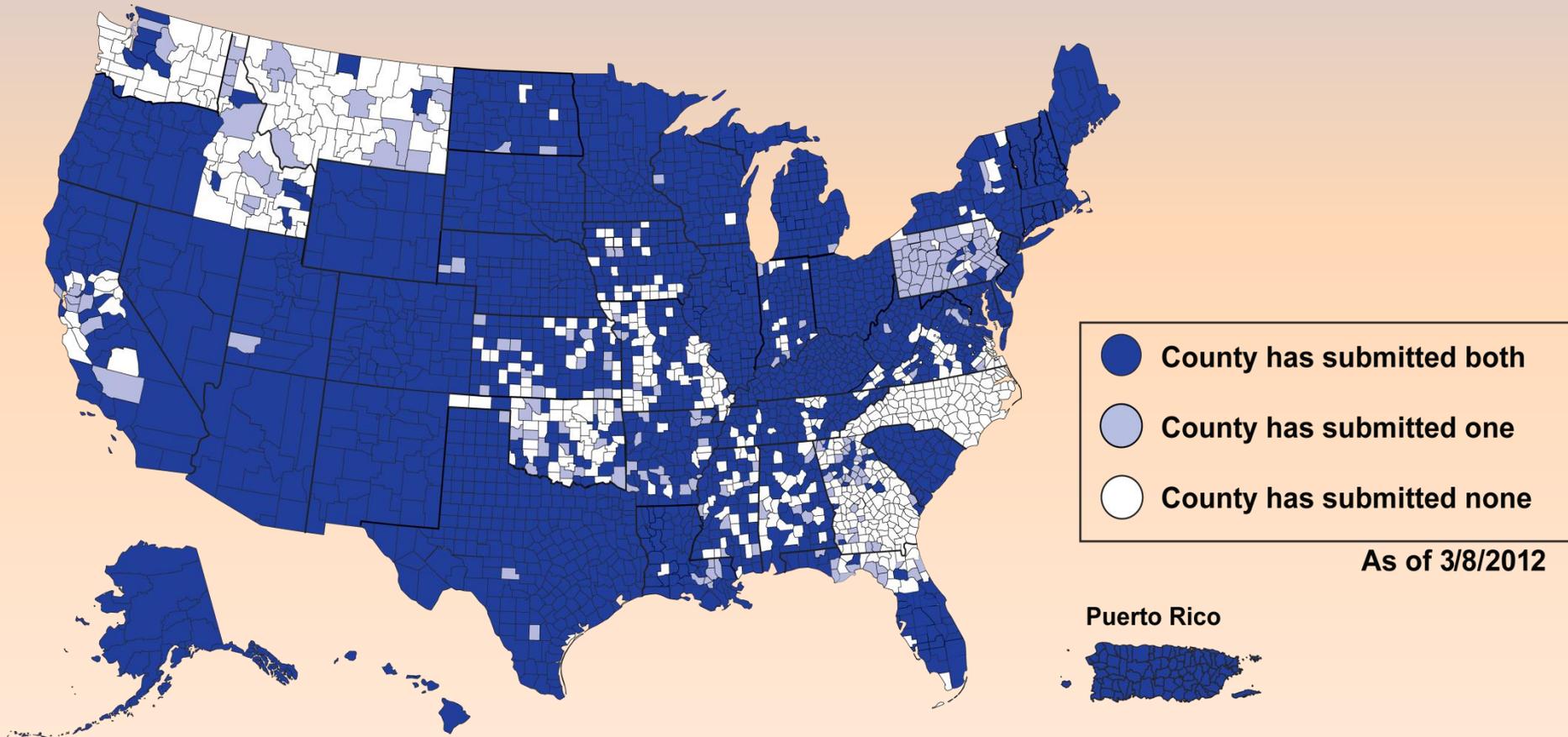
# ***NECP Goal 2***

## ***Data Collection***

- **Two types** of information collected:
  - **Capabilities** – based on elements of the SAFECOM Interoperability Continuum
  - **Performance** – response-level incident data, focuses on operational leadership to communicate, manage resources, and make timely decisions during *incident, exercise, or planned event*
- **Self-assessment** data from counties submitted to Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC), then forwarded to DHS OEC

# *Nationwide Submissions*

- Goal 2 data as gathered by Federal DHS



# ***NECP Goal 2***

## ***New York State Results***

- Total Counties in NY: 62
- Counties Submitted Reports:
  - Capability: 60 (97%)
  - Performance: 59 (95%)



# Interoperability Continuum



<b>Governance</b>	Individual Agencies Working Independently	Informal Coordination Between Agencies	Key Multi-Discipline Staff Collaboration on a Regular Basis	Regional Committee Working within a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan Framework
<b>Standard Operating Procedures</b>	Individual Agency SOPs	Joint SOPs for Planned Events	Joint SOPs for Emergencies	Regional Set of Communications SOPs
<b>Technology</b>	<b>DATA ELEMENTS</b> Swap Files	Common Applications	Custom-Interfaced Applications	One-Way Standards-Based Sharing
	<b>VOICE ELEMENTS</b> Swap Radios			
<b>Training &amp; Exercises</b>	General Orientation on Equipment and Applications	Single Agency Tabletop Exercises for Key Field and Support Staff	Multi-Agency Tabletop Exercises for Key Field and Support Staff	Multi-Agency Full Functional Exercises Involving All Staff
<b>Usage</b>	Planned Events	Localized Emergency Incidents	Regional Incident Management	Daily Use Throughout Region

Limited Leadership, Planning, and Collaboration Among Areas with Minimal Investment in the Sustainability of Systems and Documentation

High Degree of Leadership, Planning, and Collaboration Among Areas with Commitment to and Investment in Sustainability of Systems and Documentation



Early

Intermediate

Established

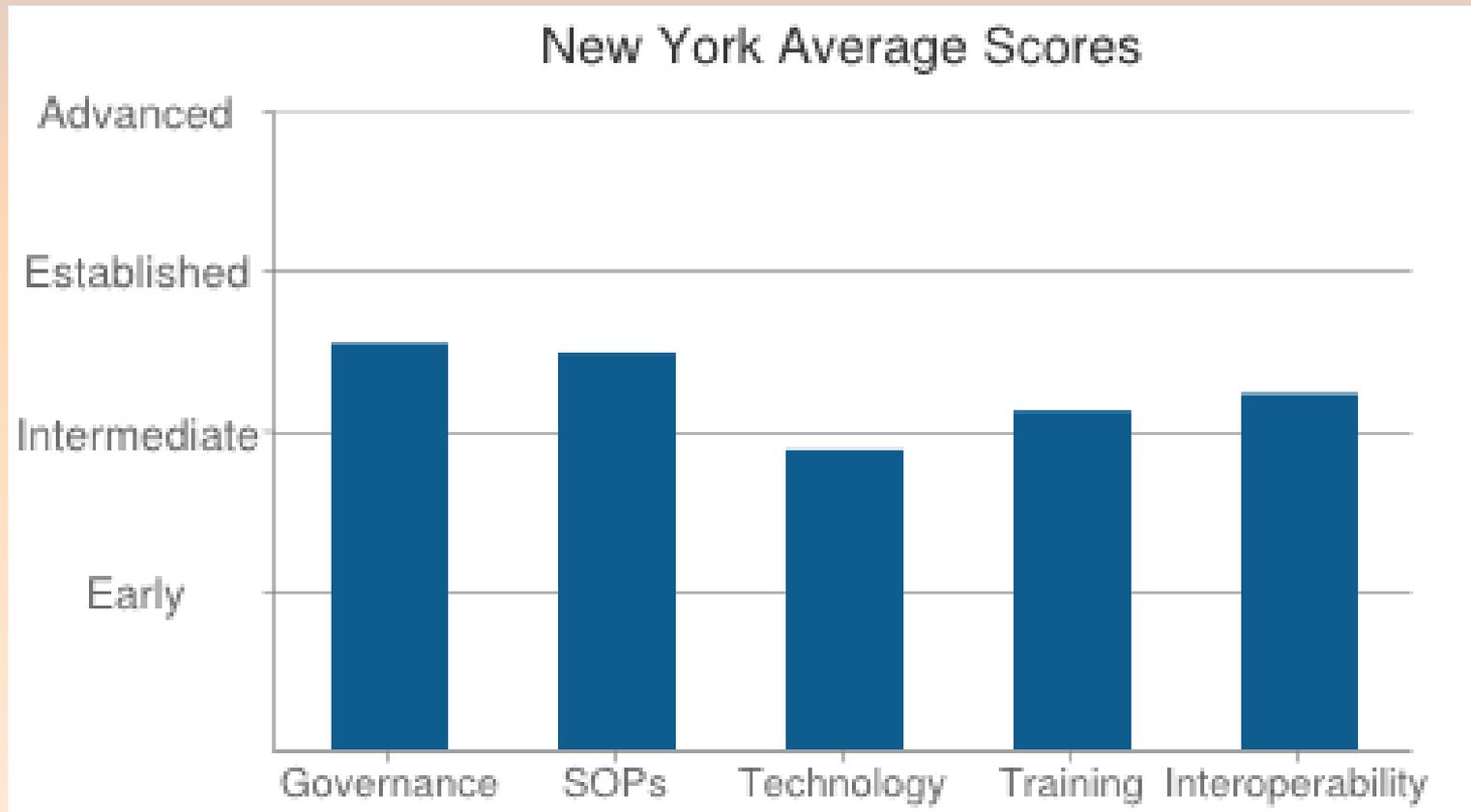
Advanced

**STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT**

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

## *New York Average Scores*

**Chart graphics are based on the number of evaluations submitted, not number of counties**



# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

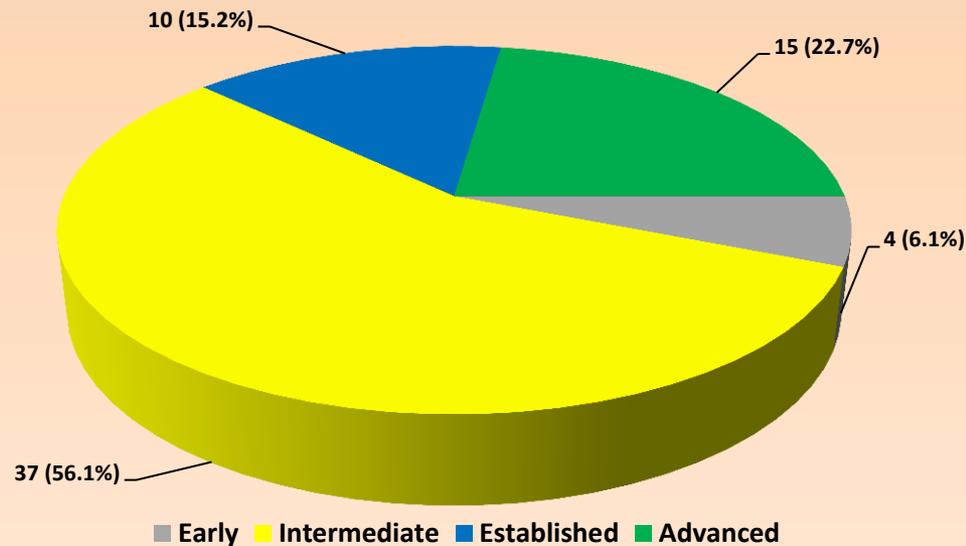
## *New York State Results*

- Each jurisdiction's optimal level of interoperability is based on its **unique needs** and characteristics
- Appropriate level of interoperability for some jurisdictions may not be at the most advanced level
- Each jurisdiction's stakeholders should pursue interoperability strategies that support achievement of the **appropriate level of interoperability for that jurisdiction**

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

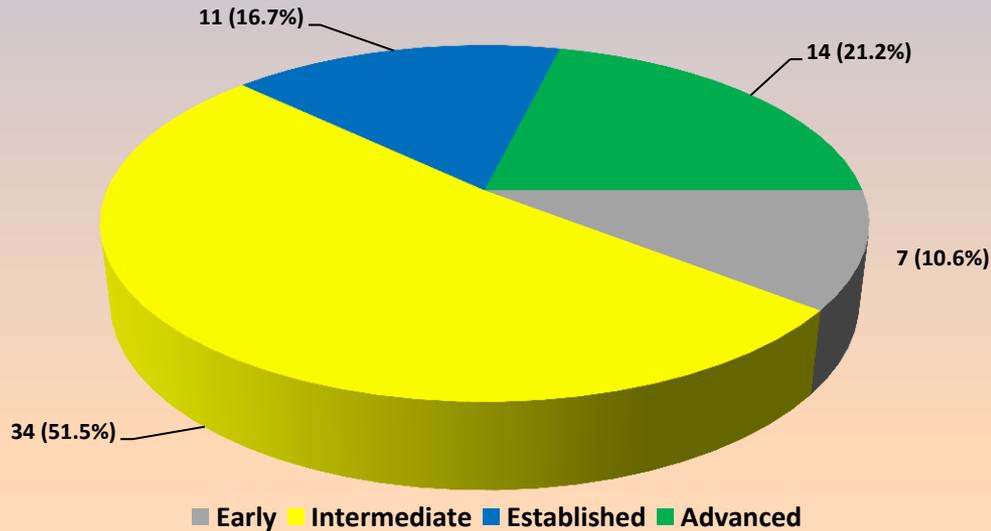
## ***Governance Capabilities Evaluation***

- Governance bodies carry out interoperable communications planning and coordination
- Results show governance structures exist, but in many cases have not been formalized



# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

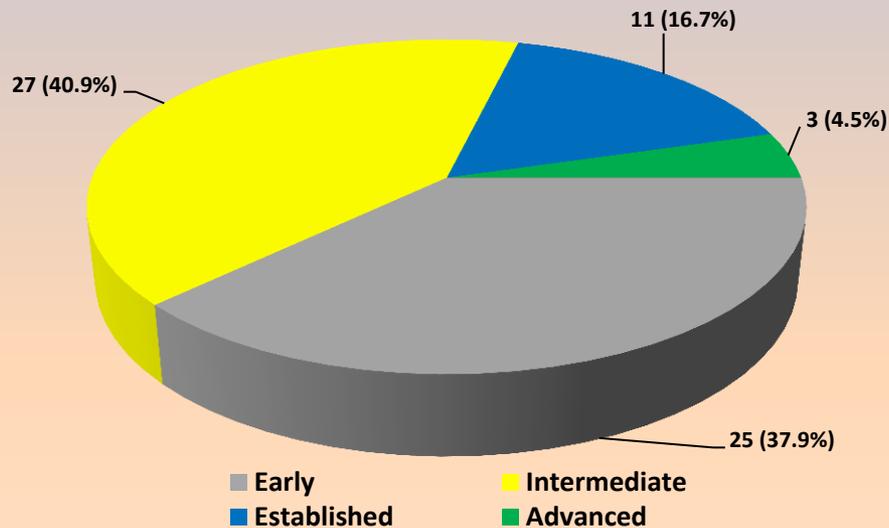
## ***Operating Procedures Capabilities Evaluation***



- Aside from major metropolitan areas, many localities have not developed SOPs that address interoperability
- Depending on the locality, SOPs may address interoperability only as it applies to centralized dispatch, channel allocation, establishing patches to surrounding jurisdictions, or interoperability between disciplines within the same locality

# *NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities*

## *Technology Capabilities Evaluation*



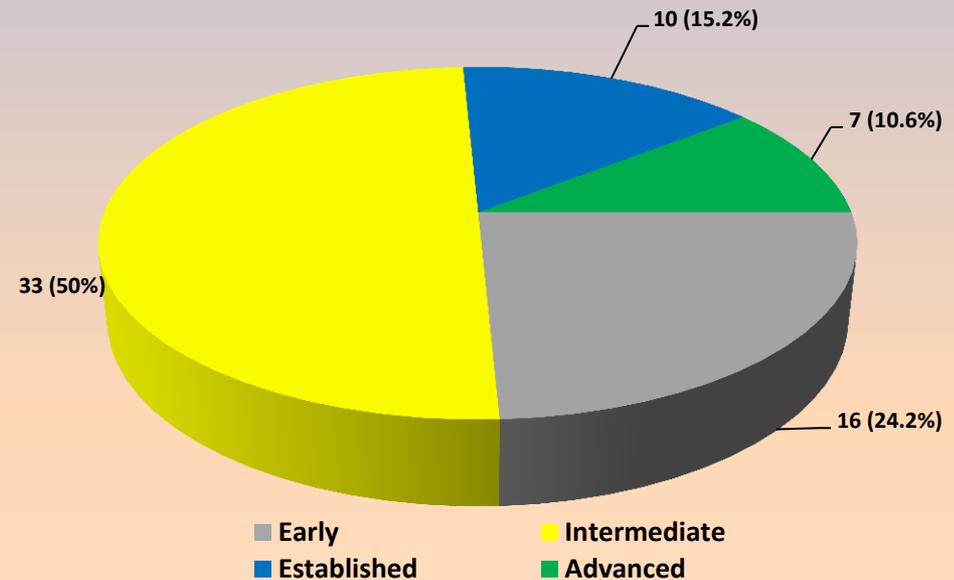
- Technical interoperability ranges from superior to adequate in metropolitan areas and from adequate to poor in least-populated locales

- The identification, integration, and support of legacy systems are critical in achieving the State's interoperable communications vision

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

## ***Training and Exercises Evaluation***

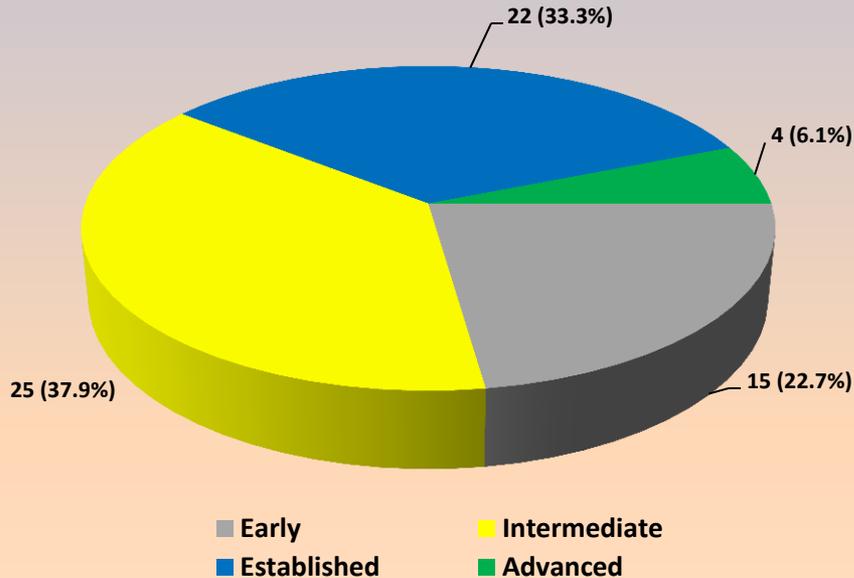
- Training and exercises are one of the key areas for successful emergency responses
- Multi-agency full-scale exercises are still in the evolving stages in NYS counties



- Most counties do not conduct exercises on a regular basis
- DHSES coordinates various state, federal, and local governments/agencies through a series of conferences and training events

# *NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities*

## *Role of Interoperability Evaluation*

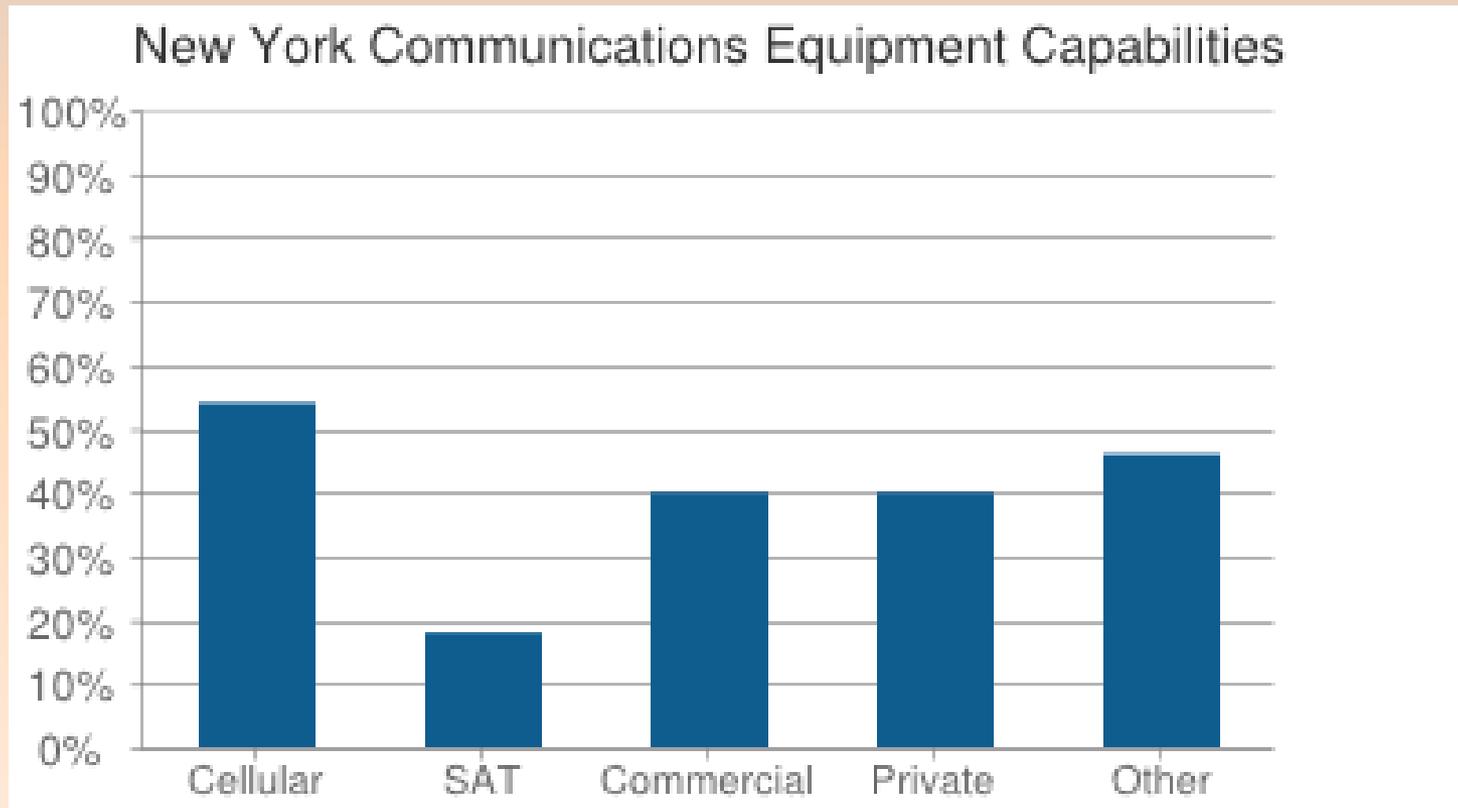


- Interoperability is a daily necessity between agencies in each locality
- Majority of counties use interoperability solutions in a limited fashion for day to day communications
- In heavily populated areas, cross-jurisdictional personnel routinely respond to traffic accidents, fires, and other incidents on a daily basis
- In smaller communities, the need for interoperability is primarily event-driven
- In larger communities, flood-prone communities, and communities that experience heavy lake-effect snow and ice, interoperability is driven by major incidents, as well as by predictable events

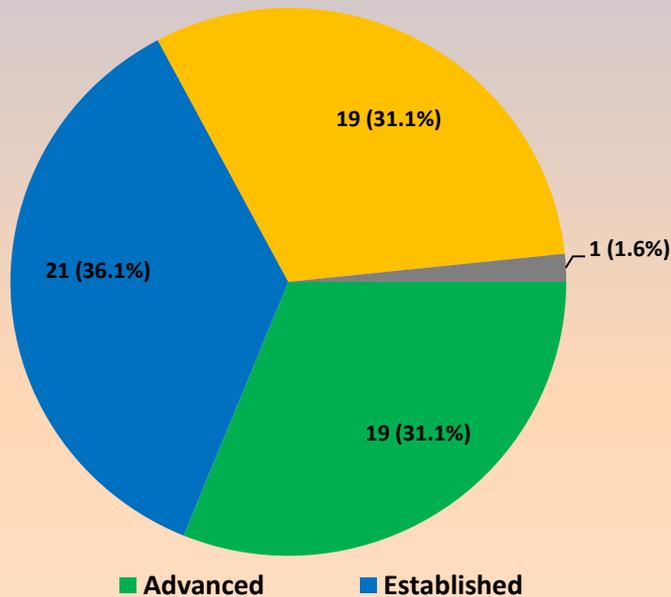
# ***NECP Goal 2 - Capabilities***

## ***Communication Equipment Evaluation***

Use of communication technologies, other than LMR, during emergency responses



# ***NECP Goal 2 - Performance Demonstration Level***

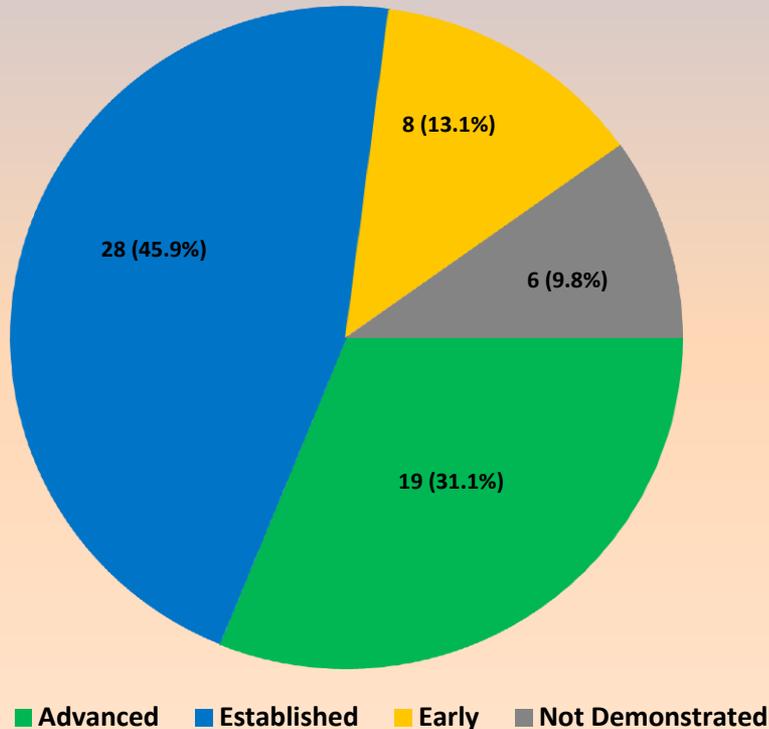


- All but 1 county demonstrated different levels of acceptable performance

- Focus on 3 key areas:
  - Common Policies & Procedures
  - Leadership Roles & Responsibilities
  - Quality & Continuity of Communications

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Performance***

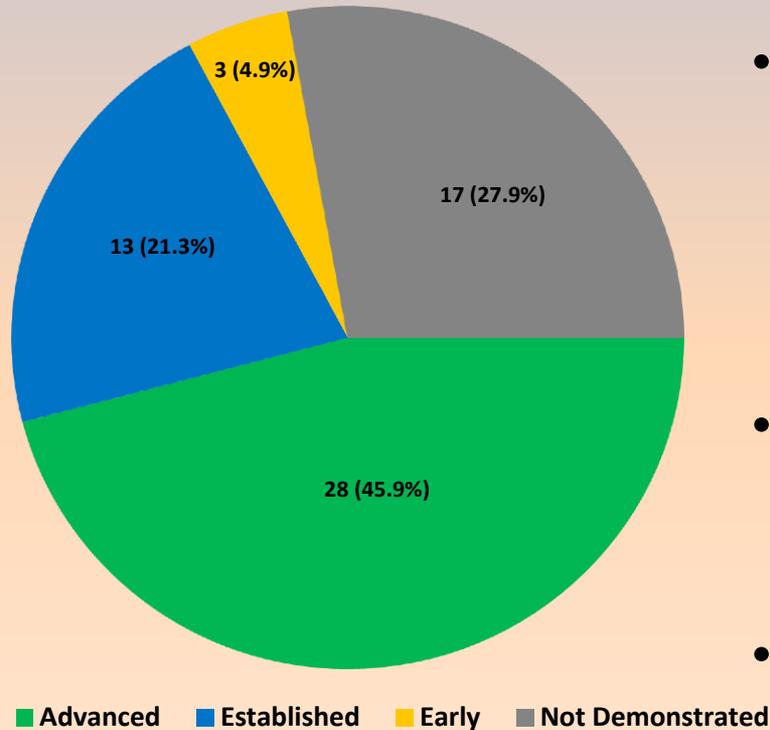
## ***Common Policies and Procedures***



- Most counties demonstrated some communications planning using established policies and procedures, whether documented or ad hoc
- Lack of familiarity with Incident Command System (ICS) Forms
- Lack of Tactical Interoperable Communication Plans (TICPs)

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Performance***

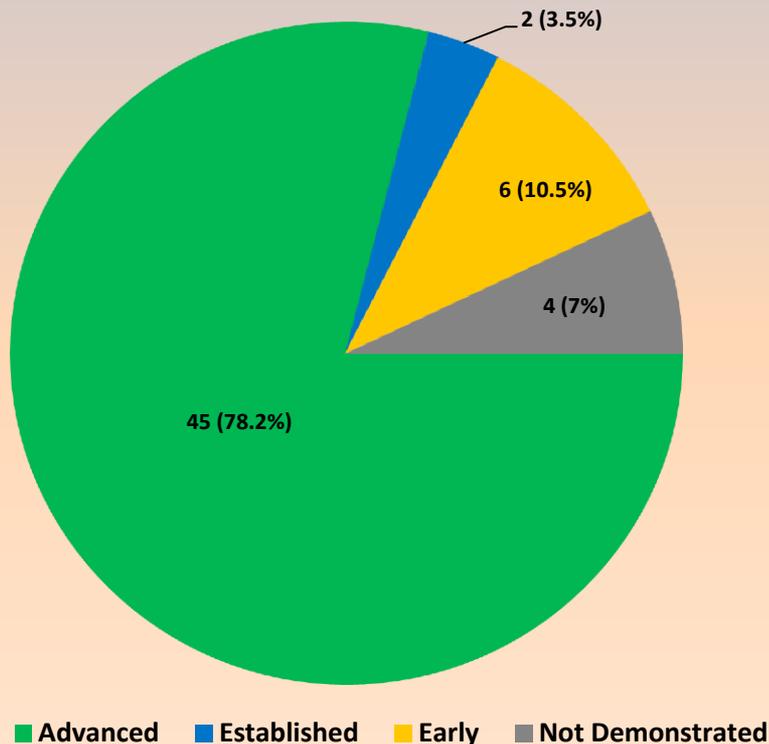
## ***Responder Roles and Responsibilities***



- Over 45% of Operational leadership was able to manage resources and make timely decisions without communications impediments
- Close to 30% of counties could not demonstrate effective organization of roles and responsibilities
- COML positions or COML roles and responsibilities were not carried out during event/exercises

# ***NECP Goal 2 - Performance***

## ***Quality and Continuity***



- Most counties demonstrated advanced level of Quality and Continuity
- Communications systems were effectively utilized and backup solutions were available if needed
- Operational leadership provided adequate resource management

# *Next Steps*

## *Focus Areas:*

- SOPs
- Interoperability Channel Implementation
- Training and Exercise
- Goal: 100% participation

# ***The Next Goal***

## ***NECP Goal-3***

**By 2013,**

**75% of all jurisdictions are able to demonstrate response-level emergency communications within three hours, in the event of a significant incident as outlined in national planning scenarios**

- **The exact plan, process, and reporting tools for Goal 3 are still in the development stage by DHS OEC**

***Overview of  
Public Safety Wireless  
Broadband***

**Matthew R. Delaney**

*Radio Engineer*

*NYS Office of Interoperable and  
Emergency Communications*

# Public Safety Broadband

- President signed legislation in February that included a nationwide wireless public safety broadband (PSBB) system
- A national authority, known as FirstNet, will be established under the NTIA to procure the network
- \$7 Billion is set aside from spectrum auctions for network construction
- Procurement timeframe is not specified, however the initial procurement does not need to wait for spectrum auctions

# Public Safety Broadband

- After FirstNet has conducted its procurement, it will present New York State with the results and the State will be given the option to opt-in or opt-out
  - If the State Opts-in, the construction will be managed and paid for by FirstNet
  - If the State Opts-out, it must conduct its own procurement within 180 days, must receive Federal approval, and may apply for Federal funding (not guaranteed)

# Public Safety Broadband

- The FCC has assembled an interoperability committee to establish the standards for the national network, a process that will occur over the next 90 days
- After the interoperability committee has made its recommendation to the FCC, the FCC will modify and/or forward to FirstNet
- FirstNet is governed by a board, consisting of both public and private representation
- DHSES is currently reviewing FirstNet process
- Stakeholder groups such as NPSTC and APCO are working on developing use cases and user requirements.

***Participation of the Communications  
& Interoperability Working Group***

**Robert M. Barbato**

*Statewide Interoperability Coordinator*

*Director, NYS Office of Interoperable and  
Emergency Communications*

# ***Purpose and Goals of the CIWG***

- **Subject matter expertise** emphasizing tactical, operational, and strategic interoperability
- **Best practices** for interoperability, within & between regions; identifying measurable outcomes/performance; and planning for long-range sustainability
- **Voicing the needs, requirements, and expectations** of the public safety and emergency management communities
- **Clarify technical needs, standards, impact** of mandates, and evolving technologies

# *Objectives*

- **Counsel** the Commissioner, DHSES leadership, and SWIC on communications to help improve emergency management
- **Analyze** issues, draft initiatives for policy development and inclusion in the SCIP
- **Build consensus** among regions, disciplines, jurisdictions
- **Develop** proposals on technical & operational matters for SIEC Board considerations/recommendations

# ***Workgroup Priority Topics***

- Regional Partnerships
- National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP)  
Goals
- Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICPs)
- Radio Spectrum/Licensing
- Interoperability Channels/Channel Plan
- Northern Border Issues
- Evolving Technologies
- Training and Exercises

# ***Regional Partnerships***

- The framework for multi-disciplinary jurisdictions to work together across a region
- The number active regional consortiums increased from 9 to 15 during 2011
- Consortiums range from 2 to 10 counties; with 4 counties being the median amount per consortium

***OIEC Contact: Toby Dusha***

# Adoption of Schedule for Future Meetings

May 9

September 12

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

November 28

Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Services  
1220 Washington Avenue, Building 7A  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Training Room  
Albany, New York 12242

***Thank you for attending***