



**Virginia Department of  
Emergency Management**

**Communications Strategic  
Reserve**

# VDEM Overview



- VDEM's Strength is multi-faceted:
  - **Trained Personnel** – personal knowledge, skills, abilities
  - **Communications** – no single points of failure / interoperability
  - **Planning and Analysis** - exercise and evaluation of plans
  - **Logistics** (EMAC, SMA, Commercial Contracting)
  - **Operational Capabilities** (ESF's)

# VEOC Interoperable Communications



- Voice Over Internet Protocol
- Conference Call Systems
- Alerting/Warnings/ Notifications
- Crisis Management Software Systems
- ARCA/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services
- Technical Support Unit (TSU)
- Mobile Command Post (MCP)
- Strategic Cache Resources

# Communications and Technology



- **Radio Cache**

- Located in Chesapeake, Fairfax, Harrisonburg, Lunenburg, and Montgomery
- Have multi frequency capability
- 300 to 500 portable radios
- 200 cell phones with push to talk capability
- Has access to ALL national and state interoperability channels

Type	5	4	3	2	1
Portable Radios	25-100	101-200	201-300	301-500	501+
Protocols	P25, Trunking	P25, Trunking	P25, Trunking	P25, Trunking	P25, Trunking
Radio Gateway	NA	NA	1	1+	1+
Land_Based Comms	NA	NA	NA	Mobile Tower/Trailer	Mobile Tower/Trailer
Terrestrial Comms	NA	NA	NA	Consider Voice/data	Consider Voice/data
MOU	Regional	Statewide	Statewide	Statewide	Statewide
Deployment	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours	2 hours



# Communications and Technology



- **Technical Support Unit**
  - Audio Gateway
  - Capable of various radio bands including Public Safety, Marine, Aircraft, and State Agency Radio System (STARS)
  - Satellite voice and data communications capable
  - Can be a WiFi hotspot or interface into a Local Area Network
  - Full Amateur Radio Suite
  - Can provide streaming video from incident
  - Mobile/generator capable



# Communications and Technology



- **Mobil Command Post**

- Interoperable Gateway Device
- Satellite voice and data interoperability
- Video conferencing capable
- Geospatial Information System Data Integration Capable
- Mast camera and lighting to provide “real time” video feeds
- 12 Work Stations for Command/Control Activities



# Timelines and Future Items



- Continue working on Statewide Communications Plan with input from all partnerships
- Implement training of personnel (WebEOC, VIPER, Tabletop Exercise, Communications Functional Exercise)
- Increase capability of strategic radio caches

# Deployments



Recent deployments of the Virginia Strategic Reserve include:

- All radio caches participated in training exercises across Virginia.
- Harrisonburg cache deployed for mutual aid interoperability in Virginia and West Virginia for missing person search and the active shooter search with Pulaski county.

# Deployments



- Strategic Reserve provided assistance with interoperable communications during Hurricane Irene in Isle of Wight Co, Brunswick Co, and prepared for deployment to the Eastern Shore.
- Strategic Reserve established interoperable communications for the 2011 Virginia Special Olympic Games, Harborfest and Riverfest.

# VDEM Contact Information



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