

# MSCommNet

## Maine State Communications Network Project

### MSCommNet - A State Radio System to Meet the Modern Communications Needs of Maine's Agencies

MSCommNet is the radio communications project responsible for the deployment of the state radio network which will provide Maine agencies with dependable statewide communications with a mission to:

- Work with local municipalities to provide continued radio communication and interoperability
- Build a robust, reliable state radio network that is scalable to meet future radio communication needs
- Reduce development and operating costs
- Maximize existing state resources
- Enable the state to meet current and future federal communications mandates

#### MSCommNet Features

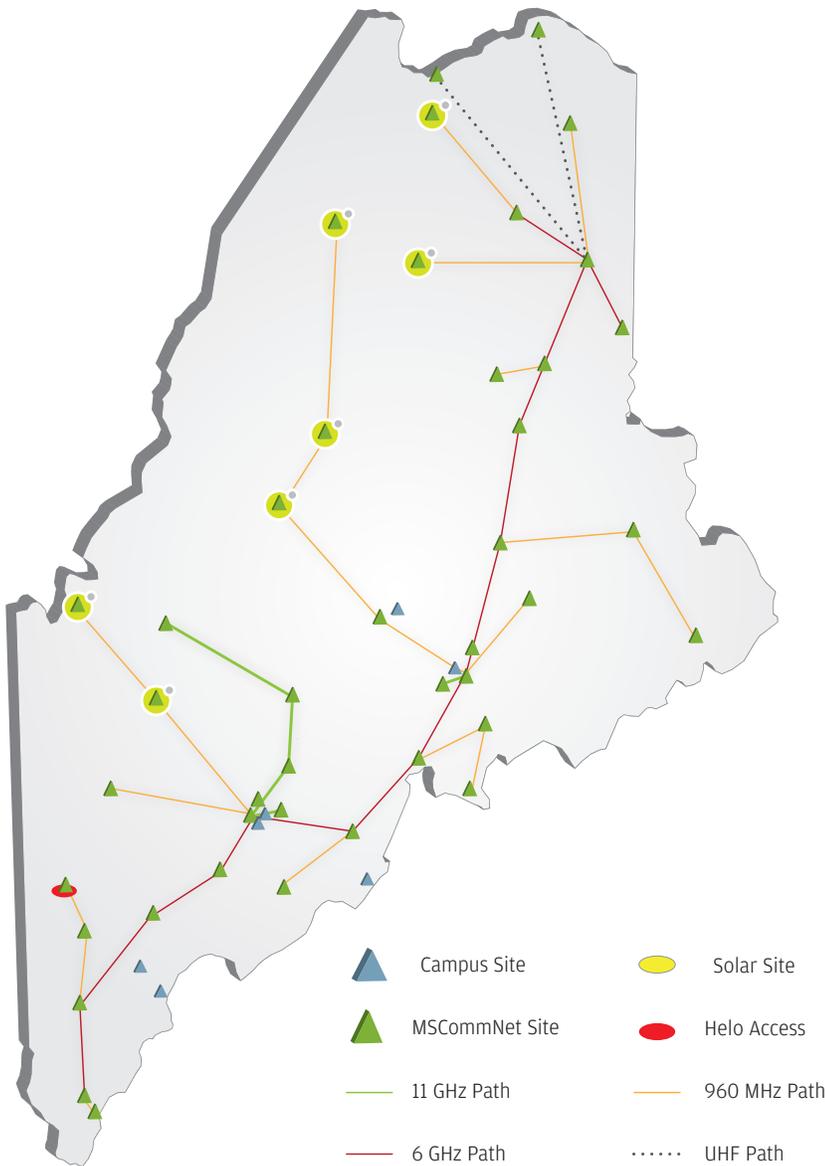
The state radio network will provide a variety of benefits for Maine's agencies including:

- Coverage - Improved ability to move around the state while connecting and communicating with state agency talkgroups without dispatcher intervention
- Local Control - Each state agency will be able to decide who can listen and speak on their talk group and can assign their own security settings
- Future Ready - MSCommNet will be built on a solid, flexible and highly interoperable infrastructure.

## Implementation Timeline



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### MSCommNet - Statewide Coverage

While details of the final design of the new state radio network are being completed, the state agencies' ability to communicate via radio will not be affected, and will likely improve. The map below shows the approximate locations of future tower sites for the state radio network.

### MSCommNet - Meeting the FCC's New Requirements

Similar to the recent digital television switch, the deployment of MSCommNet will prepare the state for a similar switch for public safety and public service communications mandated by the FCC<sup>1</sup>. The deadline for government radios and radio systems to make the narrowbanding switch is January 1st, 2013. MSCommNet will allow the state agencies' to fully comply with the FCC's new narrowbanding standards.

### MSCommNet - Partners in Building the State's Radio Network

The State of Maine Office of Information Technology (OIT) has selected Harris Public Safety and Professional Communications (PS&PC) to deploy MSCommNet, a Project 25 (P25)<sup>2</sup> VHF state digital radio system. P25 is a set of standards for public safety communications that have been developed by the TIA<sup>3</sup> and APCO<sup>4</sup> industry trade associations to standardize communications practices for public safety and government agencies and organizations. Working with Harris PS&PC are Jacobs Telecommunications, Radio Communications Management (RCM) Alcatel-Lucent and Syracuse Research Corporation.

1. FCC- The Federal Communications Commission is an independent government agency charged with regulating interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite and cable.
2. Project 25 (P25) refers to a suite of standards for digital radio communications for use by federal, state/province and local public safety and public service agencies in North America.
3. Telecommunications Industry Association is the leading trade association representing the global information and communications technology industry through standards development, government affairs and world-wide environmental regulatory compliance.
4. The Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) is the world's largest organization dedicated to public safety communications.