



Alaska Land Mobile Radio System Development of a Statewide Concept of Operations and Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans for Federal, State and Local Agencies

TICP Development: June 2006 – December 2006
TICP Validation Statewide: January 2007 – May 2007

The major focus of this activity will be coordination with the Department of Defense (DoD), the Alaska National Guard, other non-DoD Federal agencies, the State of Alaska and local government entities in the development of a Concept of Operations (CONOPs) and Tactical Interoperable Communications Plans (TICPs) for first responders in Alaska. The Concept of Operations document will define the span of control for stakeholders (who's in charge) and will describe the process for escalation from local to State to Federal control and the process whereby control is returned to the State and to the local responders.

TICPs will be developed to address responses to the 15 all hazards scenarios covering the 5 major regions in Alaska. In addition, the Computer Asset and Survey Mapping (CASM) Tool developed under ICTAP will be used to collect interoperable equipment data and used (in part) to prepare the TICPs. All related CASM tool support, quality assurance of data, and a gap analysis of regional interoperable communications equipment needs will be collected in the system. TICP update and maintenance processes will be documented along with automated TICP report generation requirements.

Once the CONOPs and TICPs have been developed, tabletop communications exercises will be conducted. After Action and planned improvements reports will be prepared and reviewed with the affected stakeholders. All documents will be developed in such a way that future exercises and incidents can be measured against the baseline defined in these plans, thereby facilitating continuous interoperability improvement.

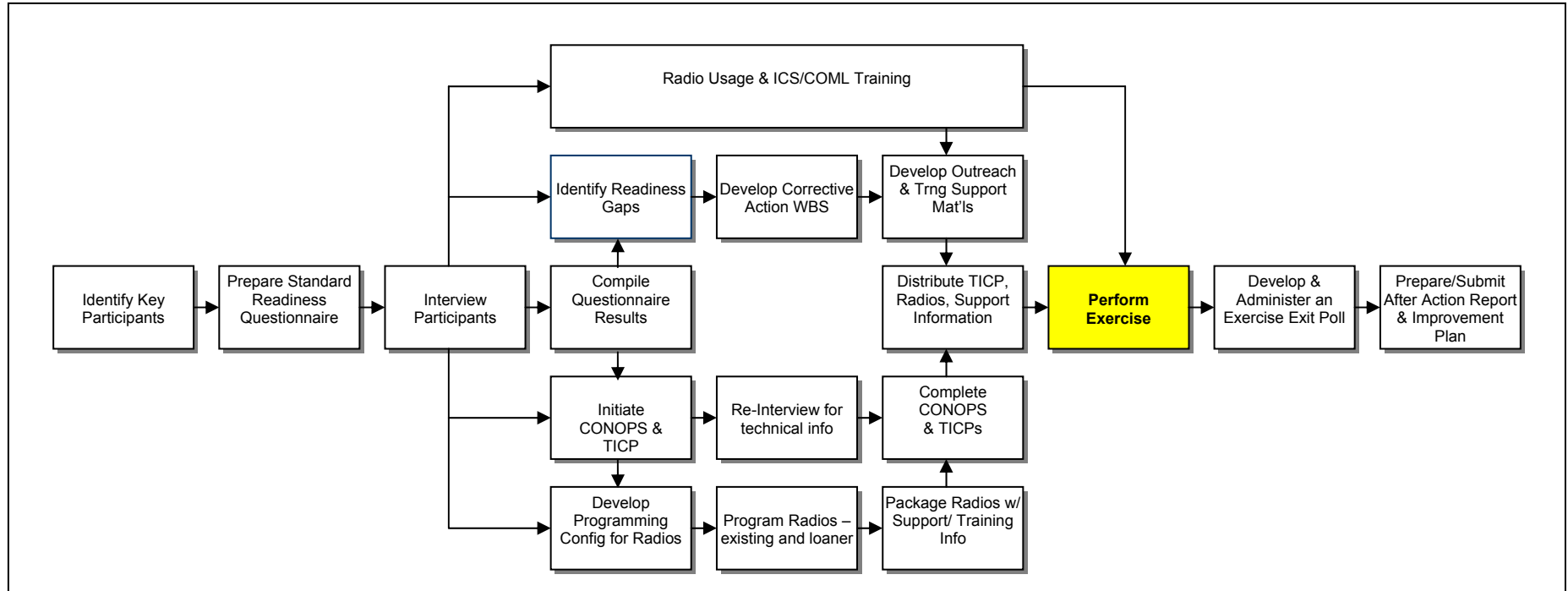
Finally, outreach, training and education on how to use the CONOPs, the TICPs and the CASM tool will be provided. We believe this is a critically important task. We have learned from experience that the best plans will be ineffective without the understanding and buy-in from the first responder community. This will not be a separate activity. Rather, it will be woven into all the tasks to ensure that these plans are not only executed, but that they are understood as well.

Following these activities, a Communications Readiness Assessment for Alaska Shield 2007 will be performed using the Step By Step Readiness Assessment Methodology that is described on the following page. This will involve developing an exercise-specific CONOPs and validating the statewide TICPs within the context of a full scale functional exercise. Once again, After Action Reports will be developed to document both successes and areas to be improved upon in future exercises and operations.

STEP BY STEP

Support & Training for Exercise Preparedness Baselined Yearly

Readiness Assessment Methodology



Elements of a Typical Readiness Assessment

Interviews

Prepare a standard communications interoperability readiness questionnaire, identify key exercise participants, conduct interviews and compile results

Gap Analysis

Document communications interoperability readiness gaps, develop a corrective action work breakdown structure (WBS) and provide exercise planners/managers with Gap Analysis results for subsequent exercise improvements

Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP)

An equipment and capabilities inventory (i.e. swap radios, gateway, shared channels and/or shared system), includes standardized **technical** policies and procedures for tactical interoperable communications

Concept of Operations (CONOPS) –

Operational Plans/Procedures/Protocols

Present a brief overview of the exercise, goals and objectives, exercise scenario(s) and a basic explanation of the interoperable communications requirements and how they will be demonstrated during the exercise

Outreach and Training Support

Develop and distribute exercise overview and communications interoperability capabilities

Distribute Support Equipment and Information

Provide recipients with adequate time to review and understand requirements (8-10 working days prior to the start of the exercise)

Conduct/Evaluate Exercise

Exercise Evaluations are necessary for a process of continuous improvement and should be performed by a neutral party

Develop and Administer Exercise Exit Poll

Conduct post exercise interviews with key participants

After Action Report/Improvement Plan (AAR/IP)

Under HSEEP, After Action Reports and Improvement Plans are prepared