

April 26, 2004

To: National Fire Directors, National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC)

From: Stephen M. Jenkins, Chief, National Interagency Incident Communications Division (NIICD)

Subject: P25 Digital Radio Equipment – Fire and Aviation

As chartered by the NIFC National Fire and Aviation Directors, the National Interagency Incident Communications Division's Electronics Engineer, Branch of Communications Maintenance and the Branch of Communications Operations have been involved with the testing and evaluation of state-of-the-art P-25 digital (multi-mode) land mobile radio (LMR). The compliance testing follows the TIA-102 Standard (Project 25 Standard) and is also compliant with the additional operational requirements of the federal fire and aviation community. It has been our charter to perform the necessary tests and evaluations of these radios and to make a recommendation as to which radio(s) meet the minimum requirements for use in the federal fire and aviation community.

There are currently three portable radios (the RACAL 25, the EF Johnson 5100, and the Motorola XTS-5000) and one aircraft radio (Technisonic TDFM 136) that have completed this testing and have been fire certified. As of Friday, April 23rd a fourth portable (handheld) has been fire certified, that radio being the Relm BK DPH 5102X. This radio is on the DOI radio contract and has been approved by the Forest Service for purchase from the DOI contract.

Additional P-25 compliant radios will be tested and evaluated over the next several months. If you have any questions concerning the DOI testing/contract, the NIICD field testing, or specific questions about P-25 digital (multi-mode) radio equipment for fire and aviation, please feel free to contact Stephen German, Electronics Engineer, @ 208-387-5720.

/s/ *Stephen M. Jenkins*