

STARS Program Scope Statement
December 20, 2004

The Statewide Agencies Radio System (STARS) Program will facilitate the communications of 20 participating state agencies by upgrading the existing Virginia State Police land mobile and microwave radio networks. STARS will create an integrated, seamless, statewide, wireless voice and data communications system designed to meet the needs of these agencies. The system will be shared by agencies engaged in public safety, protection, and service; and will facilitate interoperability with and between localities at the county and city level. To accomplish this, the program will: increase capacity, upgrade the technology, and enhance coverage of the land mobile radio network; implement statewide law enforcement mobile data; and upgrade the technology of, and create disaster recovery alternate paths for the microwave radio network. Radio communications for the Virginia components of the National Weather Service's Integrated Flood Observing and Warning System (IFLOWS) network are also being upgraded as part of this program.

The subscriber equipment (such as mobile radios, portable radios, vehicular repeater systems, and mobile computers) will be replaced periodically as necessary and the infrastructure's technology can be updated if operationally required. Localities and federal organizations can be added as full-time STARS users/partners when appropriate. The STARS Program will provide participating agencies with a cost-effective systems approach that enables interoperability between federal, local, and Commonwealth government agencies.

Future procurement phases are expected to expand portable radio coverage where required; install wireless access points at VSP area offices and division headquarters to download large data files and update mobile computer software; and implement private 700 MHz radio wideband mobile data in selected areas.