MARCS IT Policy
Minimum Requirements for P25 Compliance on the MARCS Statewide Public Safety Communication System

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1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to define the rules and regulations concerning the eligibility, security, distribution and utilization of APCO P-25 compliant radio devices on the MARCS/IP Statewide Public Safety Communication Network.

2.0 Scope

This policy, and the rules and regulations set forth herein, apply universally for all radio devices sold/purchased for use on the MARCS/IP Statewide Public Safety Communication System.

3.0 Background

The MARCS/IP Statewide Public Safety Communication Network is a Motorola VoIP, Project 25 Phase 1 compliant public safety communication system. Project 25 (P25 or APCO-25) is a suite of standards for digital radio communications for use by federal, state/province and local public safety agencies in North America, enabling radio devices from various manufacturers to communicate with each other for purposes of interoperability. In order to remain P25 complaint, MARCS herein outlines minimum requirements for radio devices to be placed on the MARCS/IP Statewide Public Safety Communication Network.

4.0 Minimum Requirements

4.1 All voice radio devices (e.g. - portable, mobile, remote control station) shall operate on the MARCS/IP P-25 digital trunked 700/800 MHz system, including seamless inter-zone roaming. The roaming requirement includes affiliation into different zones upon activation of the radio from the “off” position.

4.2 All devices shall adhere to P-25 standards.

4.3 All devices shall operate on the 700 MHz and 800 MHz frequency range.

4.4 The device provider/manufacturer must guarantee, in writing, the device’s successful performance on MARCS/IP, or provide a full refund to the purchaser.

4.5 The device provider/manufacturer must provide a system security protocol (i.e. – system key) allowing MARCS and MARCS only to activate the devices on the MARCS/IP Public Safety Communication Network.
4.6 Vendors must provide MARCS with operational radio units from production, and demonstrate the unit’s capabilities as outlined above, prior to making the units available to MARCS/IP subscribers. This provisioning shall include all necessary hardware, software and cabling to allow MARCS to program radios on an ongoing basis.

5.0 Prohibitions

To facilitate point 4.0 f above, the technical staff at MARCS will assist prospective vendors and/or manufacturers in seeking compliance by programming the MARCS system into production version test devices. Consequently, vendor representatives may have limited access to MARCS/IP security keys.

Any unauthorized sharing or copying of MARCS Public Safety Communication System data, including system key information, other security codes, hexadecimal identifiers and/or any related documentation; publicizing of the said data; or other unauthorized use of the MARCS/IP secure footprint is expressly prohibited.

6.0 Enforcement of Violations

Alleged violations of these rules shall result in thorough administrative and/or criminal investigation by agents of MARCS and/or authorized criminal justice representatives.

Proven violations of these rules shall result in MARCS administrative disciplinary actions, up to and including restriction or termination of MARCS participation, and/or prosecution pursuant to ORC 2913.04, or other appropriate charges found in the Ohio Revised Code.

7.0 Effective Date

This policy has been approved by the Ohio MARCS Steering Committee on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 and is effective until further notice.

8.0 Revision Date

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