

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Theresa Adams Lopez
(310) 732-3507

PORT SECURITY GRANT WILL IMPROVE INTERAGENCY COMMUNICATIONS



425 S. Palos Verdes Street

San Pedro, CA 90731

Tel: 310/732-3508

After 5:00 p.m.:

310/732-3500

SAN PEDRO, Calif. - Today the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners cleared the way for improved interagency communication by formally accepting \$281,325 in Round Four Grant Funds from the Transportation Security Administration for the Communications Interoperability Project. The Port will contribute an additional \$93,775 to complete the project.

This project centers on an Intelligent Interconnect System (IIS), which acts as a radio frequency "translator", tying together the disparate radio systems of the many law enforcement and government agencies involved in securing Port operations. These agencies and first responders include the ports and cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California Highway Patrol and federal agencies. In simple terms, this means that when all these agencies come together in an emergency situation, they can talk to one another.

"This system will take us into the next generation of integrated security operations, and we are very excited at the avenues this system opens for us," said Ron Boyd, Chief of Los Angeles Port Police. "To have effective multi-agency security operations, we need to be able to communicate with our counterparts at different agencies quickly and clearly, and this system is key."

Features of the IIS include a voice system gateway and radio frequency link, integrated to provide interoperability across multiple systems and frequency bands, providing user-to-user voice communications. Grant funds will also be used for the purchase and integration of satellite phones into the system.

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