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Reports on FirstNet Analysis of 54 Responses to Device RFI Now Available to Public Safety and Early Adopters

Washington, D.C. -First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) General Manager Bill D'Agostino announced today that FirstNet has completed its analysis of 54 industry responses to its April 15, 2013, Request for Information (RFI) for wireless devices.

"Completion of the device RFI analysis signals significant technology progress for FirstNet," said D'Agostino. "The current industry offerings for 700 MHz Band 14 public safety users are now well defined, and we have compiled a near-term roadmap for devices coming to market. This step forward could help jumpstart design and production of LTE devices for public safety."

FirstNet is now disseminating reports on these RFI responses to the public safety community. These report summaries will be especially useful for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) recipients that enter into Spectrum Manager Lease Agreements with FirstNet. The RFI specifications are sufficiently detailed that the BTOP jurisdictions, which will have short-term needs to procure devices prior to the launch of the FirstNet data network, can use them to help define device requirements and can future-proof their device investments by staying consistent with FirstNet device strategies and directions.

The original FirstNet RFI was divided into two parts: 1) vertical offerings for public safety, such as in-vehicle routers and smartphones and 2) horizontal solutions, such as device management and application security environments. Roughly half of all respondents addressed one of these categories and about a third addressed both.

Read the full article at: <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/press-release/2013/reports-firstnet-analysis-54-responses-device-rfi-now-available-public-safety-and>