Public safety communications are changing for the better. Now first responders can collaborate with others beyond mission critical radio networks from any location, on any device. Access is secure, ubiquitous and affordable, so agencies can maximise the value of their existing investments whilst leveraging the capabilities of the latest broadband technologies. The future of safety is more than better equipment. It’s equipping those who keep us safe differently.

The reality is, government funding is shrinking and public safety agencies are focused on leveraging their existing IT investments to spend less and achieve more. Officials say they want to collaborate with adjacent departments and neighboring agencies, but simply don’t have the necessary capabilities or budget to deploy entirely new systems.

In North America more than 50 percent of Public Safety agencies are embracing an element of bring-your-own-carrier (BYOC) and bring-your own-device (BYOD) to work, supplementing existing Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems and extending communications beyond their private networks. This is a trend set to be followed by the rest of the world. This is creating a need for new ways to communicate across multiple networks. Not only the mission critical TETRA and P25 networks they depend on, but analog and digital commercial LMR, public and private LTE cellular, Wi-Fi and more.

How can public safety agencies connect different users, disparate networks and diverse devices affordably, so their teams can communicate and collaborate effectively?

CONNECTING EVERYONE ON ANY DEVICE AND NETWORK AFFORDABLY
What public safety agencies are discovering is a powerful, proven way to connect their people, in the field or in the office, so they can share information securely, reliably and in real-time — no matter the network, carrier or device.

From two-way radios to smartphones, laptops to landlines, tablets to rugged handhelds, they can use the devices they already have and the networks they already subscribe to and talk to first responders and agencies outside their current communication system. Wherever their personnel are, whatever they do, work group communication solutions let them connect with simple, secure, affordable push-to-talk (PTT).
ENHANCING THE RADIO NETWORK AND EXTENDING ITS VALUE

This game-changing software capability is so effective, it has been deployed by government agencies, the military, including special operations forces, and public safety agencies around the world for more than ten years.

Developed specifically to improve communications between individuals and teams using different equipment, a key capability of WAVE Work Group Communications is to enable seamless, real-time interoperability between disparate radio systems for enhanced collaboration and situational awareness. And, just like radio networks, security is iron-tight, voice is encrypted, and, matching the reliability of the underlying network, it provides the robustness commensurate with the needs of non-Mission Critical usage.

IMPROVING EVERYDAY EFFICIENCY WITH EVERYWHERE CONNECTIVITY

When public safety agencies extend the reach of first responders beyond the radio system, they can seamlessly connect to broadband networks and other radio systems. They give those who can’t or don’t carry a radio, but need to occasionally interoperate, a choice — whether a senior police officer in PTT communications with local government colleagues or an undercover agent who must blend in with the crowd. And they increase efficiency by ensuring that those without radios can collaborate with secure PTT communication.

SAFETY IS WHAT YOU CAN’T SEE. EXPERTISE IS WHAT YOU CAN’T OVERLOOK.

How can your agency make the most of technology? Look to a globally-trusted partner to navigate the process with you, from mobilising devices to managing networks. For nearly 90 years, Motorola Solutions have listened, learned and innovated with public safety agencies worldwide. We know how to fully integrate their next generation solutions and services because we have worked with them, side by side, to serve their mission critical communication needs.

With our exceptional expertise in smart public safety applications, world-recognised LMR systems and game-changing networks like LTE, we can unify communications, increase collaboration, improve efficiency and make the city a safer place for everyone.

For more information on how Motorola is helping public safety agencies work better, smarter and faster through next generation technology, visit motorolasolutions.com/wave.

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The WAVE Desktop Communicator turns an industry standard Windows PC into a PTT console with pre-configured channels, a dial pad, presence/mapping and texting capabilities.

WAVE Mobile Communicators turn ruggedised custom handhelds and consumer-grade smartphones into secure, multi-channel PTT devices.

SOURCES
1. 2014 Motorola Solutions Public Safety Industry Survey