



U.S. Virgin Islands

PSIC Federal Award: \$856,907

(Awarded September 30, 2007)

Summary

PSIC Investment Justification	Federal Funds
Deployable Communications Systems – Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)	\$234,412
Mobile and Handheld Radios	\$144,495
New Channels	\$415,000
All Hazards and Emergency Communications Training	\$40,000
Management and Administration (M&A)	\$23,000
Statewide Planning	-
Total PSIC Award	\$856,907

Pass Through: The U.S. Virgin Islands, as a U.S. Territory, did not have a pass-through requirement.

Strategic Technology Reserve (STR): The U.S. Virgin Islands allocated \$234,412 to its STR Investment.

Investments

Deployable Communications Systems – Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)

Federal Amount:	\$ 234,412
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 234,412



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The U.S. Virgin Islands is prone to tropical storms that may damage primary communications systems and also includes some unfavorable terrain where dead spots can limit the ability of public safety officials to effectively coordinate an emergency response. This Investment will provide the Territory with a self-contained, deployable repeater and communications system supported by backup generators, portable masts and towers. This Investment will benefit 23 key public safety and response agencies, including fire and law enforcement. This Investment satisfies the PSIC Program requirement to develop and implement an STR that is pre-positioned, deployable, and able to re-establish communications when critical communications equipment is damaged or destroyed.

Mobile and Handheld Radios

Federal Amount:	\$ 144,495
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 144,495



100%* Acquisition & Deployment	0% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The territorial agencies in the U.S. Virgin Islands are heavily dependent upon a single communications system operated by individual agencies. Many agencies are unable to communicate with one another during interagency operations unless they are operating on two or more radios. The Territory is currently building a very high frequency (VHF) trunking system that will enable interoperable communications and will be capable of handling all emergency response agencies and first responders. The expected outcome will be a single network that provides reliable interagency communications yet enables individual agencies to maintain a level of autonomy. This Investment will procure Project 25 (P25) trunked radios for the police, fire, emergency medical services, rescue agencies, and Port Authority, as well as the Department of Parks and Recreation, to assist in the Territory's effort to attain a single network and maintain autonomy where needed.

New Channels

Federal Amount:	\$ 415,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 415,000



95%* Acquisition & Deployment	5% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

The U.S. Virgin Islands currently has one frequency to accommodate 2,300 public safety responders, which does not provide the necessary capacity to function sufficiently during a period of increased usage. In addition, due to the lack of mutual aid and individual agency tactical channels, there is a saturation of traffic on primary responder channels. This Investment will provide five additional interoperability channels to increase system capacity across the Territory, enabling the Territory to manage larger and multi-site incidents and create a new level of interoperability and spectrum efficiency.

All Hazards and Emergency Communications Training

Federal Amount:	\$ 40,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 40,000



0%* Acquisition & Deployment	100% Training & Exercise	0% Planning & Coordination
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**Percentages include both Federal and non-Federal Match funds.*

Communications training overall is deficient in the Territory. The Virgin Islands will provide a Communications (COML) class, an Incident Command class, a Dispatcher class, and an Interoperability Overview class for all public safety personnel. The expectation is that by the end of the PSIC period of performance, all first responders in the Territory will be trained to Territory standards based on agency needs.

PSIC Administration and Statewide Planning Costs

Management and Administration (M&A)

Federal Amount:	\$ 23,000
Non-Federal Match Amount:	\$ 0
Total Project Cost:	\$ 23,000

The Territory was allowed to retain up to three percent of the total PSIC award for costs associated with the administration of the Territory's PSIC Investments. The M&A costs could include hiring full-time or part-time staff or contractors for grant management services related to reporting, monitoring and audit compliance, and associated travel and meeting expenses.

Statewide Planning

Federal Amount	\$ 0
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The Territory was allowed to retain up to five percent of the total PSIC award for Statewide Planning costs associated with the incorporation of the PSIC criteria into the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP). The Statewide Planning period of performance was April 1, 2007–December 3, 2007, with the submission of the SCIP. The U.S. Virgin Islands, however, chose not to allocate its PSIC funds in this manner.
