

Will your radio system work in 2013?

Land mobile radio (LMR) systems -- the two-way radios most often used to communicate with fleet vehicles -- have been mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to **change from 25 kHz radio channels to narrowband 12.5 kHz channels by January 1, 2013.**

The FCC narrowbanding rules affect all operators of radios that use channels between:

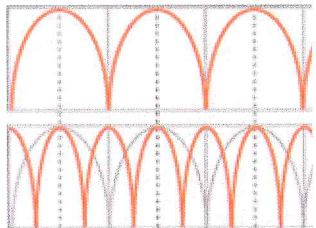
- 150 and 174 MHz
- 421 and 512 MHz

Radio systems that do not meet these Federal requirements face possible:

- loss of radio communications
- substantial FCC fines
- revocation of FCC licenses

These new rules affect many, including:

- State and local public safety systems
- Transit operators
- Paratransit operators
- School buses
- Taxicabs and limousines



Legacy
25 KHz

Narrowband
12.5 KHz

Figure 1: Narrowbanding allows additional channels to exist in the same spectrum.

Will your new 2011 and 2012 radios work on your current system?

To phase in the narrowbanding rules, beginning January 1, 2011, the FCC will prohibit manufacture or importation of new equipment that operates on 25 kHz channels. This means that new radios purchased in 2011 may not work on older systems that are still using wideband. This will also reduce the availability of new equipment for legacy radio systems.

More Narrowbanding Information

Department of Justice, "Understanding FCC Narrowbanding Requirements", at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/topics/technology/communication/fcc-narrowbanding.htm#key>

National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC), "Narrowbanding", at <http://www.npstc.org/narrowbanding.jsp>

Federal Communications Commission "Tech Topic 16: Narrowbanding Public Safety Communication Channels" at <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/techtocps/techtocps16.html>

For questions, contact the Joint Council on Transit Wireless Communications at: transitwireless@gmail.com

The Joint Council on Transit Wireless Communications

The Joint Council on Transit Wireless Communications is a newly formed organization devoted to the promotion of wireless communications information sharing among passenger surface land transportation providers, including public transit, paratransit and non-emergency medical/ senior citizen transport, taxicabs, limousines, and school buses.

Our mission is "to assure that the transit industry wireless communications needs are continuously met through information sharing."

Visit us at: <http://TransitWireless.org>

Contact us at: transitwireless@gmail.com

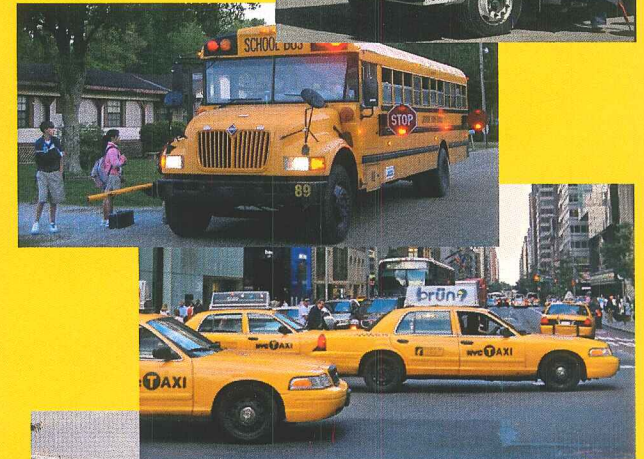
Join us to be kept informed on wireless communications, and to help us provide a collective voice for addressing transit and related industries wireless communications needs.



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Are You Ready?

Is your radio system ready for the Federal mandated channel width changes -- narrowbanding?



Don't lose your radio contact!

Determine the Actions Needed to Assure Your Radio Communications

