

## **Tech Trends**

**Roger Hixson, Technical Issues Director**

**[title] NG9-1-1 Progress – Where Do We Stand?**

**In this column for the last issue, I told a story about a deaf man named Robert who uses some of the features of the future NG9-1-1 and Emergency Communications systems in an emergency. My count of capabilities used in that story that either can't be done today, or are very cumbersome to do today, is 16 different features, made possible by an IP-based internetwork and NG9-1-1. So how are we doing on getting there?**

**The first issue of the NG9-1-1 architecture design, known as 'i3', will be completed by 2Q 2007, and will be a major input to the design work for the USDOT NG9-1-1 two year project leading to an NG9-1-1 'proof of concept' demonstration in 2008. Coordination with a number of Standards Development Organizations (SDOs) has been underway for some time; a second major international SDO coordination meeting will occur in April.**

**A sub-project to define requirements and characteristics for IP networks applicable to NG9-1-1 is also underway. We expect this to provide significant guidance to Public Safety and vendors on how to establish compatible IP networks, which is the first step toward preparation for NG9-1-1. We are aiming for availability in the March-April timeframe.**

**9-1-1 Center operations development around NG9-1-1 has started and will accelerate over the next few months. A big part of this will be the management methods for the NG9-1-1 related databases, including validation, routing control, data access and delivery control after the 9-1-1 call/message is received.**

**The USDOT NG9-1-1 contract has been assigned, and NENA is a partner in that contract. The NENA NG9-1-1 efforts and the USDOT NG9-1-1 project are mutually supportive and interactive, including a real world demonstration. That will lead to a full first application of NG9-1-1 on an appropriate IP network in a state to be determined. Information on this effort is also posted on the NENA website.**

**The NENA NG Partner Program continues to develop how NG9-1-1 enabling issues can be solved, such as funding, regulation and legislation, policy and jurisdictional roles among federal, state, and local levels, education and others. A review of funding topics discussed to date has been posted on the NENA website - see the NG Partner Program on the main page, then 'Funding Topic Summary'. A report on the 2005 program results is also posted, and the 2006 report will be available about the time this issue is delivered.**

**The NG9-1-1 Transition Planning Committee (joint Tech and Ops, and beyond) has been launched and will be producing transition plan material for the various NG9-1-1 stakeholder groups, in conjunction with NG9-1-1 development as it occurs. David Jones, Bill McMurray, Jim Goerke, and Bob Sherry are the leaders of this**

**Committee. We expect this Committee's results to be relevant to the objectives of the USDOT project, as well.**

**Much development and testing will be distributed among and following the above actions. NENA and many other groups definitely still have much to do, but serious progress has been made, and is accelerating.**

**More specifics are available through the NENA website under NENA NG9-1-1 Project on the main page.**