

**Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission**  
**MSWIN**  
**Governance Policies and Procedures**

Subject: Encryption	Number: 05052011
Adopted Date: May 5, 2011	Effective Date: May 5, 2011

**1.0 Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for encryption of PTT devices and talk groups.

**2.0 Background:**

- 2.1 The Mississippi Wireless Communication Commission (WCC) is implementing a statewide survivable, reliable, interoperable wireless communication system known as the Mississippi Wireless Information Network (MSWIN).
- 2.2 The MSWIN is equipped with over-the-air rekeying (OTAR) capabilities allowing authorized encrypted PTT devices (subscriber units) to be rekeyed over the air without physically touching the device. Encryption keys must initially be loaded locally with a 'Key Loader'.
- 2.3 Vendors may offer proprietary encryption software in their equipment as a no-cost option. The proprietary nature of the software will not allow the use of the over the air re-keying feature or interoperability with other vendor's devices in the encryption mode.
- 2.4 The use of vendor specific proprietary encryption software limits users' choices for PTT devices and other equipment to that vendor.
- 2.5 The WCC has adopted the AES encryption software as the preferred system encryption software and discourages the use of vender proprietary encryption software.

**3.0 Procedure:**

- 3.1 The user must notify the MSWIN Liaison of the user's desire to encrypt the operation of PTT devices.
  - 3.1.1 The notification shall include the number of talk groups, the type of encryption, and the device identification.
  - 3.1.2 The user must state if encryption will be operator selected or the talk groups will be in encrypted mode full-time.
  - 3.1.3 Non-AES encrypted devices must be programmed for operator selection only.
- 3.2 Special event talk groups shall not be encrypted.