



**NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Service Regulation

ROY COOPER • Governor
MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary
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NC OEMS VIPER MEDICAL NETWORK INFORMATION UPDATE

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Overview

The VIPER Medical Network (VMN) is a subnetwork of the NC VIPER System. VIPER continues to improve, evolve and upgrade to increase capabilities and capacities. As technology changes, it becomes necessary to improve and upgrade with these changes. As a healthcare partner, we want to keep you apprised of these changes.

VIPER Medical Network (VMN)

The VIPER Medical Network (VMN) remains the primary medical radio system used throughout the state. NC OEMS administers all the VMN talk group (channel) assignments, as well as, individual radio system ID assignments for use of the system. The VMN radio equipment provided by OEMS and installed at your location was originally provided to your organization under grant funding and became your property, subject to the terms of an agreement, executed at the time of installation. Under this agreement your organization is obligated to maintain the equipment in good working order. As such, much of this equipment, has reached the “end of life” or “EOL” with Motorola, the manufacture of this equipment. Essentially this means the equipment can continue to be utilized, subject to the below milestone dates. Therefore, it is recommended, that your organization budget and plan for future replacement of this equipment, to ensure capability is maintained with compatible equipment. NC OEMS will not provide replacement or upgrades for your equipment. This notice is being provided for informational and planning purposes only.

Important VIPER Milestone Dates

VIPER has established a plan, over the next 5 years, to migrate to a P25 Phase II (or TDMA capable) system. This migration plan will effectively double the number of voice paths available to users of the system. To accomplish this, milestone dates have been established by VIPER:

- January 1, 2020- Any new ID activation request must be for radios capable* of P25 Phase II (TDMA) operation.
- January 1, 2022- Any new ID activation request must be for radios ready** for P25 Phase II (TDMA) operation.
- January 1, 2025- All radios operating on the VIPER system (new or old) must be P25 Phase II (TDMA) operational as the system will start the transition to P25 Phase II operation.

*-capable is defined as having the ability to be made (flashed) to operate in P25 Phase II (TDMA) mode

**-ready is defined as being able to operate and being programmed for P25 Phase II (TDMA) mode

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Affected Equipment

With the establishment of these milestone dates, several makes, and models of legacy VIPER radios will require replacement or flash upgrades by January 1, 2025. Here are some of the more popular affected radio units:

No new ID activations on VIPER, after 1/1/2020, must be replaced by 1/1/2025

- Motorola XTS1500, XTS2500 and XTS5000 series portables (no TDMA operation)
- Motorola XTL1500, XTL2500 and XTL5000 series mobiles (no TDMA operation)
- Motorola XTL based console base system (no TDMA operation)

These units are capable of P25 Phase II (TDMA), but may require a flash upgrade by 1/1/2025

- Motorola APX series portables and mobiles

For additional information or guidance, contact:

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