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## Palos Hills PD Investigates Portables, Chooses the Icom F4161

*from September 2008*

A message from Police Chief Paul J. Madigan on the Palos Hills (Ill.) Police Department website warns residents of the risk of urban crime seeping into the southwest Chicago-area suburb.

"We need to take action to find the best ways to address these concerns before serious problems begin," Madigan writes.

One way Madigan provides officers with the tools they need to do their jobs effectively and prevent an influx of urban crime is by investing in the latest communications technology from Icom America.

"[Chief Madigan] contacted me," says Jim Orsen of A-Beep, a Chicago-area two-way radio dealer and SMR operator. "He knew what he wanted."

What Madigan wanted was 27 Icom F4161 portables, which features built-in MDC signaling and optional 6.25 kHz digital technology. Slated for general, day-to-day operation, the radios also offer durable, water-resistant construction and 512 memory channels.

The new F4161 portables replace the department's aging Motorola HT1000 portables and go into service this month.

The F4161 portable is built on Icom's IDAS system. IDAS radios offer a flexible migration path from analog to digital and allow mixed-mode analog and digital operation on the same channel. Utilizing 6.25 kHz narrow-channel spacing, IDAS radios can also double channel capacity.

Like the majority of two-way networks in Illinois, the Palos Hills Police Department still operates in analog mode. But the option of migrating to



digital at a later date significantly influenced the department's decision to purchase the F4161 portable.

This is a common trend across the public safety vertical, Orsen says. "It depends on the market, but more and more public safety agencies are moving toward digital," he says.

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