

FirstNet Push-to-Talk (FNPTT) Announcing software release 4.5

Our public safety customers expect new technology to improve upon existing technology. For group communications, this means you require mission critical broadband push-to-talk to do everything that land mobile radio offers, but better. With Release 4.5, FirstNet Push-to-Talk continues to meet customers' needs for a familiar LMR experience with enhanced situational awareness that only LTE can deliver.

Talkgroup enhancements

Priority scanning	Stop overwhelming call chatter by limiting the number of talkgroups that users can monitor and participate in. Prioritize transmitting on one 'high priority' talkgroup which can also be mapped to the PTT hard key. Talkgroup scanning allows an administrator, or users (with permissions), to define a talkgroup scan list (up to 8 talkgroups). Users can enable/disable the scan list from the PTT application. Note that scanning does not disable Emergency and Home groups, nor affect incoming 1:1 or ad hoc group calls.
Zone-based groups	LMR zones correspond to specific geographic areas and are created for efficient management and organization of radio resources. Admins can map talkgroups to new zone-based groupings to mimic jurisdictional boundaries that agencies are conditioned to use. Users will hear a voice announcement or audible tone when they switch between zones (switching disabled when talkgroup scanning is active).
Fixed talkgroup positions	First responders are conditioned to using fixed positions for their LMR channels on their two-way radios. Admins can map talkgroups to a fixed order for display in the client UI, or on devices that use mechanical dials to switch between talkgroups.
Panic button	Users can initiate a silent or 'discreet' talk group with a single tap of a programmable key or PTT accessory. When the 'panic button' is pressed, the talk group is opened and sends audio to listeners for a set time period. Any talkgroup can be designated as discreet (except streaming video), with admins assigning a single call originator per group.

Mutual aid enhancements

Mutual aid org name	Simplify your organizations display name for easier look-up by other organizations. "Organizational Entity Display Name" is the editable new field.
Mutual control unlicensed users	Applies to users passed from one agency to another via automated mutual aid request. Now admins can receive users from other agencies, with or without their associated FNPTT license. Unlicensed users can be granted a different license from the receiving agency, to ensure parity of service for the new user.

Admin tool: User management enhancements

User permission management	Updated section in the admin tool allows user permissions to be managed in bulk, rather than one at a time.
Bulk assign licenses	Admins can now assign multiple licenses to a single user at once.
Manage teams of users	Allows the admin to add/delete entire teams from talkgroups with a single click, not just individual users. Teams are established as 'sub-agencies' within the admin tool, with talkgroup affiliation applying to all individuals within that sub-agency.
ICAM user status	Admins can see user status provided by HALO ICAM, our user authentication management tool.

To take advantage of these new features, be sure to download the latest FirstNet PTT client from the App Store and Google Play. See firstnet.com/FirstNetPTT/devices to view all devices certified for FirstNet PTT.