

Network priority for security and first responder staff



Security and first responders are vital functions that need priority access in and around venues

Security staff and first responders' communication goes beyond the needs of fans and businesses

What is new: The connectivity requirements for security staff and first responders at major events grow with the type and size of the event.

Why it matters: Security and first-responder efforts at pinnacle events reached 20 cities in Canada, Mexico, and the US this year.

Venue security: A mix of human security staff and equipment, including surveillance cameras and drone detectors. Reliable communication within the group is vital, especially to proactively prevent incidents and for larger unplanned movements of visitors.

EMTs: Planned to serve athletes and move around visitors where they are and to specific aid locations. Communications between the two latter teams are essential for quickly getting the moving force to visitors in need and for the interactions between the mobile team and stationary aid locations. EMTs plan for a higher level of readiness at warm-weather events.

Law enforcement: The third major staff category is law enforcement. The role and the number of staff required vary between sports.

Inter-agency communication: The larger the event is, the higher the demand gets for communication in between agencies at various levels.



The number of staff dedicated to security and well-being grows significantly with the size and importance of an event

Secure Event Assessment Rating (SEAR): The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has defined five tiers for security assessments at major events. The two top levels (1 and 2) involve federal and inter-agency support in planning and execution of the events.

Large public safety undertaking: FirstNet prepared for the soccer tournament this summer by investing \$430 million over three years to support 300+ agencies across 140 venues in the 11 US host cities. The effort involved more than 2,000 different network enhancements in total.

Security professionals: A large category of staff, operating security gates and bag screening at entry and throughout the venue. These security professionals are vital to managing large flows of people in real time. One security professional per 150 visitors is a rule of thumb, but numbers vary widely depending on the specifics of an event.

Agencies engaged during: EMTs care for athletes and visitors in the event of emergencies. Uniformed law enforcement can range from 300 for a regular-season football game to double that for the big soccer tournament. With a typical split-half inside and half outside the venue.

Bottom line: Security staff and First responders have the highest communication requirements in and around venues. In addition to high requirements, it is important that communication solutions span all involved agencies consistently.



1.) [Fact Sheet: What are Special Event Assessment Rating \(SEAR\) Events?](#) Department of Homeland Security

2.) [FirstNet and the summer of soccer: Putting public safety first](#), June 15, 2026

3.) [Big events, bigger risks: How teams keep large events safe](#), Security Magazine, February 3, 2025

4.) [The systems that can fail: Six vulnerabilities to address before major events](#), Police1, November 21, 2025.

Status Quo

Bespoke wireless networks for security and first responder staff

Bespoke wireless networks for security staff and first responders

No integration/coordination of communication capabilities between different first responder agencies

Take a Step

Universal mobile connectivity for security and first responder staff

Communication between security staff and first responders with standard smartphones.

Universal connectivity over mobile networks without distinction between fans, businesses operating at venues, security staff, and first responders.

Build Momentum

Dedicated networks capabilities for security staff and first responders

Dedicated mobile network solutions for security and first responder staff.

Purpose-built mobile devices match the needs of different user profiles.

Dedicated networks/slices with tailored characteristics to serve each profession active at the venue.

Dimensioned to match the difference in size and communication patterns between different agencies.

Lead Change

Dynamic allocation of differentiated connectivity

A common mobile infrastructure for fans, business operations, security staff, and first responders in and around venues

Security and first responder staff requesting venue connectivity on demand, and priority in emergency situations.



ERICSSON

<https://www.ericsson.com/en/5g/fan-experience-sports-entertainment>