

Salamander Accountability Equipment Software Sustainment Cap

Fact Sheet

As of September 1, 2014 there is a software sustainment agreement between the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) and Midwest Card and ID Solutions (MCID) that covers the software maintenance of all Salamander accountability equipment (mobileExpress, RapidTAG, Command, Mobile ICS) in the State of Kansas. This means that software maintenance cost will no longer be the responsibility of the equipment owner. This agreement is for software maintenance only and does not cover any hardware maintenance that is available for printers or mobile ICS (PDA) units. Further, this agreement covers all political subdivisions of the State of Kansas, but does not cover private industry.

A political subdivision is any municipality, agency or subdivision authorized to levy a tax or certify a levy of tax, on tangible property and other entities enumerated in Kansas law. Political subdivisions include, but are not limited to:

- Airport authorities
- Cities and municipalities
- Community-based mental health centers
- Counties
- County hospital districts
- Drainage districts
- Groundwater management districts
- Housing authorities
- Metropolitan transit authorities
- Port authorities
- Public building commissions
- Rural water supply districts
- School districts
- Townships

The software maintenance provides three essential services: available updates to equipment, connectivity to InterTRAX Exchange for real-time incident viewing via the internet, and 24/7/365 software support. Having these services available to all ensures equipment interoperability and fosters accountability success.

Cost

Currently within the State of Kansas there are more than 240 pieces of electronic accountability equipment owned by political subdivisions. Using the state contract pricing at the beginning of the year with MCID the cost for software maintenance totaled \$176,500 annually. MCID then reduced the software maintenance cost for Command and rapidTAG resulting in an annual sustainment cost of approximately \$126,000. This new software sustainment cap agreement with MCID further reduces the amount limiting the States cost to \$70,000. This is a 60% decrease in annual software maintenance cost when compared to last year's sustainment cost.

During the January Regional Council Coordinating Committee (RCCC) meeting, MCID presented to the council the cost to sustain "regionally purchased" equipment that **was not currently** under software maintenance. The cost totaled \$46,868 for FY15. This cost would not guarantee the interoperability of

all equipment statewide, but only those purchased by Homeland Security (HLS) funds. The new cost with the sustainment cap is \$21,475, equaling a 54% decrease from the cost presented to the RCCC in January and covering all equipment regardless of how it was purchased.

Previously it was stated that the annual software maintenance cost is capped at \$70,000, yet this year's cost is only \$21,475. This is because of HLS payments previously made to MCID for software maintenance during the duration of the cap agreement. These payments are credited towards the cap amount annually.

Benefits of Cap Agreement

- Software maintenance cost are significantly reduced
- Software maintenance cost are capped and will not increase with new equipment purchases
- Software maintenance is available to all political subdivisions regardless of the funding used to purchase the equipment
- Guaranteed interoperability of all equipment statewide and an increased interoperability with surrounding states
- No renewal cost for lapsed software maintenance (80% of software cost; i.e. to renew lapsed software maintenance on a Command unit the cost would be \$3,196 instead of the annual software maintenance cost of \$996). This brings all equipment current and avoids a large cost to do so for lapsed maintenance agreements.

Helpful Things to Know

Current software versions

RapidTAG: 4.2.0.5

Mobile ICS: 4.0.2.0

Mobile Express: 4.1.0.3

Command: 4.2.0.5

To check the current version of your software go to the Help > About menu. If you do not have the latest version contact MCID technical support center (816-221-0620 or 800-587-1490) to receive the newest.

Why is it important to update?

- New Desktop Operating Systems may not be compatible with earlier versions.
- You may be missing out on some great features and functionality.
- Interoperability with newer formats requires the new enhancements.

Summary

All Salamander accountability equipment (mobileExpress, RapidTAG, Command, Mobile ICS) owned by political subdivisions of the State of Kansas are covered by software maintenance.

With software maintenance you are entitled to software updates, interTRAX Exchange connectivity, and 24/7/365 technical support.

This cost is paid by the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and the current agreement is for the next three years.

The sustainment cap amount is not to exceed \$70,000 and will not increase with new purchases. Payments previously made with HLS funds for software sustainment during the agreement duration are credited against this amount annually. The cost for fiscal year 2015 is \$21,475 with applied credits.

The cap agreement will save more than \$168,000 over the next three years and allows the interoperability of all equipment statewide.

If you have any questions concerning the software cap agreement please contact:

Bryan Murdie
Kansas Division of Emergency Management
785-274-1890 (desk)
785-221-7992 (cell)
bryan.d.murdie.nfg@mail.mil

Please check current software version of equipment and contact MCID to update!