![SDI Systems Definition Inc. logo]

SDI Granted U.S. Patent For Innovative First Responder Accountability System and Method

(April 8, 2014) Systems Definition, Inc. (SDI), an innovator of firefighter accountability systems and software, was granted a patent by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office for the "System and Method for Mayday, Rollcall, and Personnel Accountability," forming the basis for SDI's First Responder accountability software applications.

SDI's innovative applications enhance and improve firefighter accountability using a combination of radio messaging and push-to-talk actions with aggregated sensor data, such as SCBA and RFID, along with fire department unit and firefighter data. The applications focus on enabling command personnel at incidents to rapidly determine firefighter status for firefighter accountability and safety activities.

U.S. patent number 8,698,631 was awarded to SDI founder and President Frank Briese and to SDI Senior Software Engineers Brendan Adams and Dale Meisenbach as inventors of the unique accountability system and methodology. This invention addresses approaches to track, display, and interact with radio PTT/messages, fireground asset/sensor data, and department unit and member data.

Mr. Briese said, "SDI's approach to First Responder accountability is conceptually different. We work on ways to provide command personnel with intuitive, superior tools to assist fireground accountability and safety activities. This shifts the focus from outdated manual accountability techniques that require too much time to accomplish or that require burdensome actions by firefighters. With our background in Department of Defense research and efforts with FDNY [New York City Fire Department], we fully recognize that First Responders involved with life and death activities cannot be expected to contend with complicated software. Our goal is to simplify accountability."

SDI's accountability applications encompass various Mayday/Rollcall Application (MRA) releases augmented by the firm's EasyStaff® cloud-based roster and asset application. MRA encompasses a family of applications built for and used in:

- Fire Department New York City (FDNY) Electronic Fireground Accountability System (EFAS): FDNY was an early adopter of SDI's innovative methods and uses the EFAS application in Division and Battalion Chief vehicles and transportable cases to provide rapid on-scene accountability and emergency alert reporting.

- APX™ Personnel Accountability Application (APAA): SDI partnered with Motorola Solutions, Inc. to provide the APAA software for conventional fireground operations. Combining advanced capabilities of the APX P25 portable radios with SDI's APAA software creates the next-generation accountability platform. SDI is working with Motorola to develop a powerful APAA-based solution available to trunked radio system users in late 2015.

SDI is a privately held small business located in Alexandria, VA, serving government and private industry with innovative software applications and technical services. SDI's First Responder applications are well-proven to support critical accountability and safety efforts. Visit http://www.systemsdefinition.com and http://www.firegroundaccountability.com for additional information.

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PATENT ABSTRACT:

A system and method are disclosed for applying multi-layered identification techniques to associate live fireground Asset information (e.g., handheld radio messages, breathing apparatus status data) to identify incident personnel and provide graphical, prioritized Rollcall, personnel accountability, and emergency alert reporting to incident commanders and other personnel. In one aspect, the system may capture, display, and store routine and emergency alerting messages and data received at incidents from handheld radios and other Assets, associate that information with other data to specifically identify first responder personnel, and provide an automated and prioritized Rollcall and personnel accountability report based on received transmissions. The system has applicability for fire departments and fireground usage, as well as other first responders, military personnel operations, and other organizations needing to account for on-scene personnel.

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