

Public Safety's Interoperability Lifeline: The Common Air Interface (CAI)

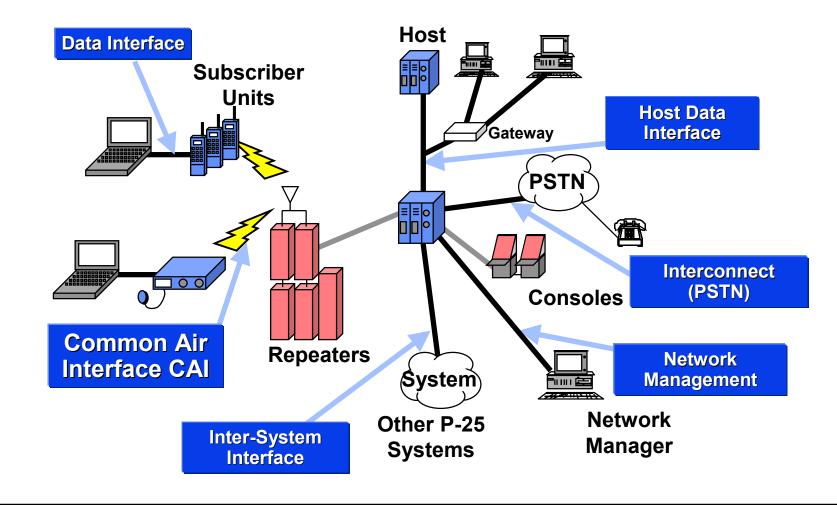
Ray Bartik, President Motorola Amateur Radio Club of North Texas

25-26 January 2001 Public Safety's Interoperability Lifeline: The Common-Air-Interface (CAI)



Project 25 System Interfaces

The CAI is one of 6 standardized interfaces for Phase I of Project 25.





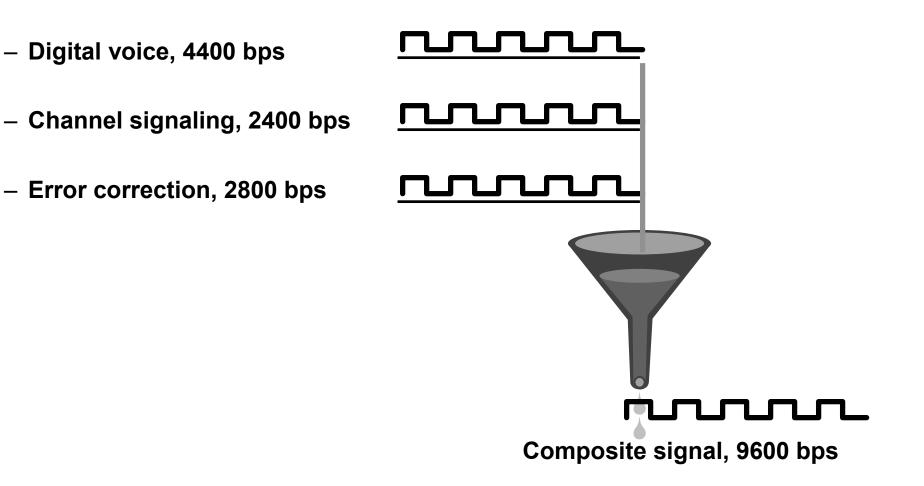
Common Air Interface (CAI)

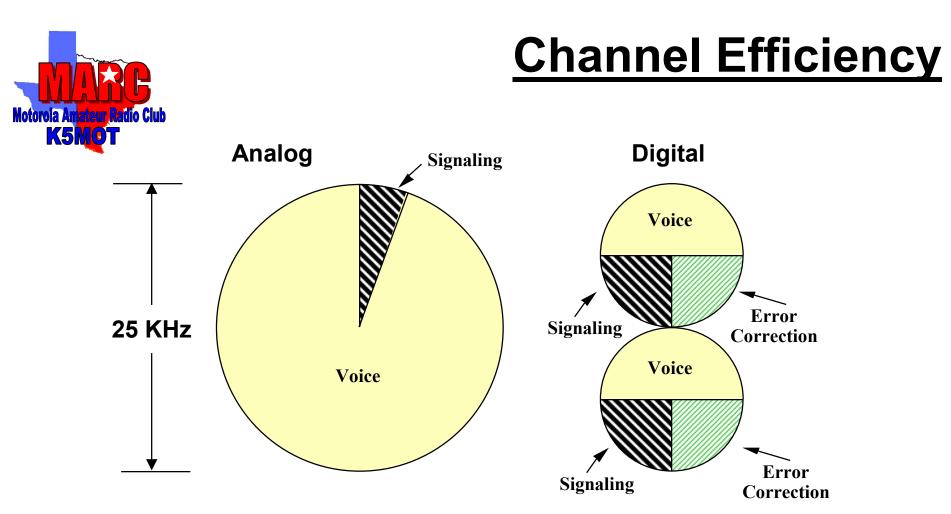
- Bandwidth. 12.5 kHz
- Channel Bit Rate . . 9.6 kbps
- Modulation QPSK-c
- Channel Access . . . FDMA
- Frame Format Includes error correction
- Vocoder IMBE

(Improved Multi-Band Excitation coder for voice)



Aggregate Data Rate



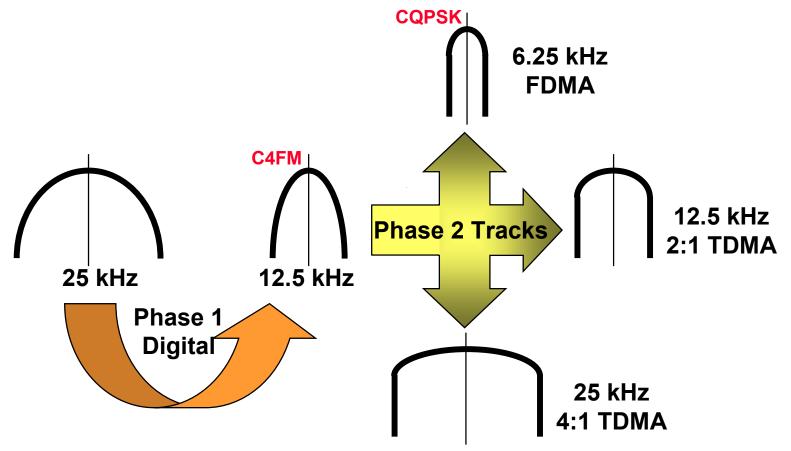


In the band width where <u>one</u> typical analog channel currently resides, with limited signaling, and no error correction, <u>two</u> Project 25 digital channels with expanded signaling and error correction can coexist.





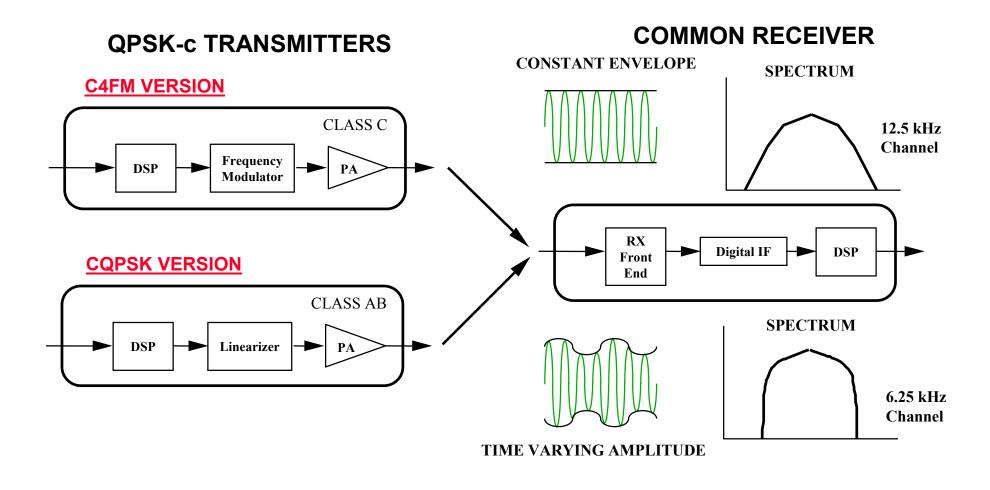
Migration from 25 to 12.5 to 6.25 kHz or equivalent

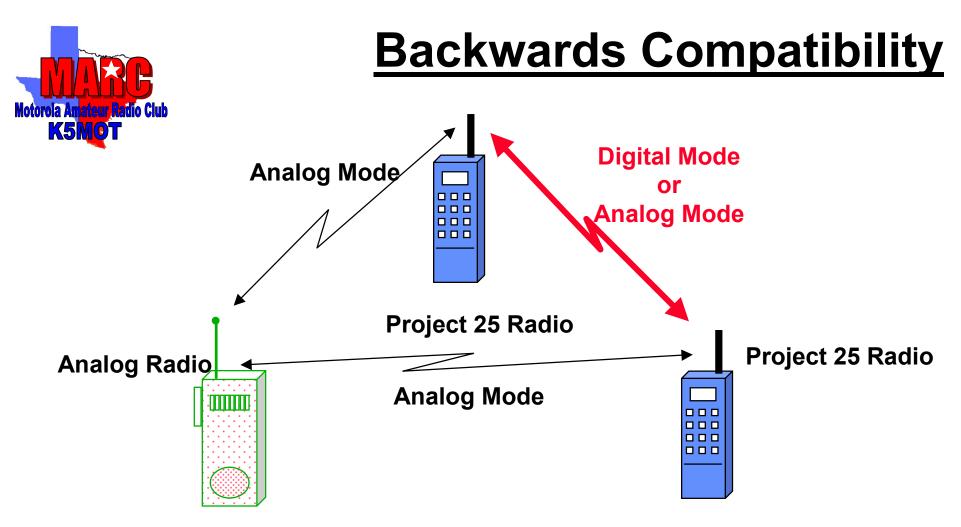




QPSK-c 6.25 kHz Migration

One Receiver for both Phase 1 CAI in 12.5 kHz and Phase 2 in 6.25 kHz FDMA.





Project 25 radios communicate in analog mode to older analog radios, and either digital or analog modes with new Project 25 radios.



Standard Signaling

	Analog	Project 25
	FM Systems*	Systems
Unit ID	Proprietary	Standard
Talk Group ID	Proprietary	Standard
Network ID	Proprietary	Standard
Emergency	Proprietary	Standard

Project 25 standardizes important and useful identifiers.

* Conventional and APCO 16 Trunked Systems



Defined Services

Feature	Analog	Project 25
	FM Systems*	Systems
Call Alert	Proprietary	Standard Option
Selective Call	Proprietary	Standard Option
Selective Inhibit	Proprietary	Standard Option
Status / Message	Proprietary	Standard Option
Radio Check	Proprietary	Standard Option
Interconnect	Proprietary	Standard Option
Mobile Data	Proprietary	Standard Option
Encryption	Proprietary	Standard Option
And much more		

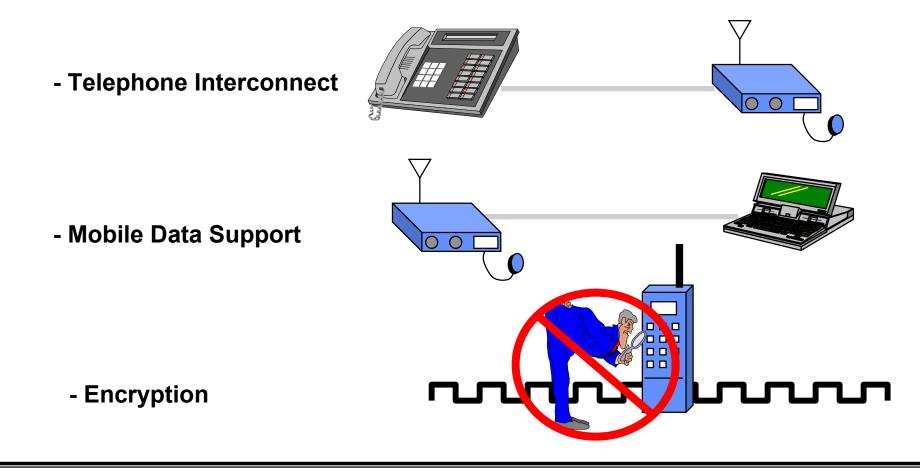
Project 25 standardizes important and useful signaling features

* Conventional and APCO 16 Trunked Systems

Overlay Sub-Systems



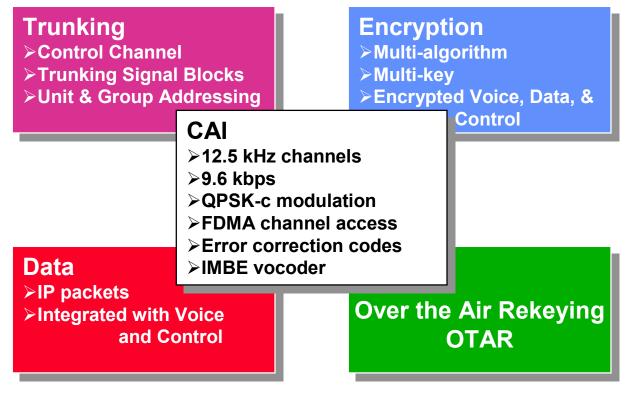
Project 25 has defined the parameters for overlay subsystems, as options at the user's discretion, including:



Air Interface Elements



K5MQT The CAI integrates and combines all other aspects of the radio system such as trunking control, encryption, data, and over-the-air-rekeying.

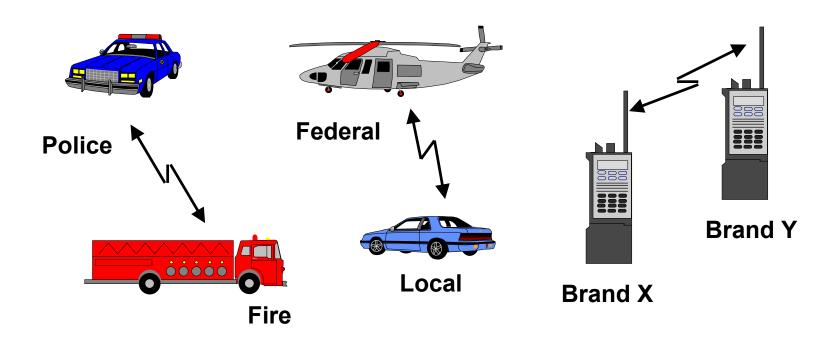


Project 25 CAI Impact



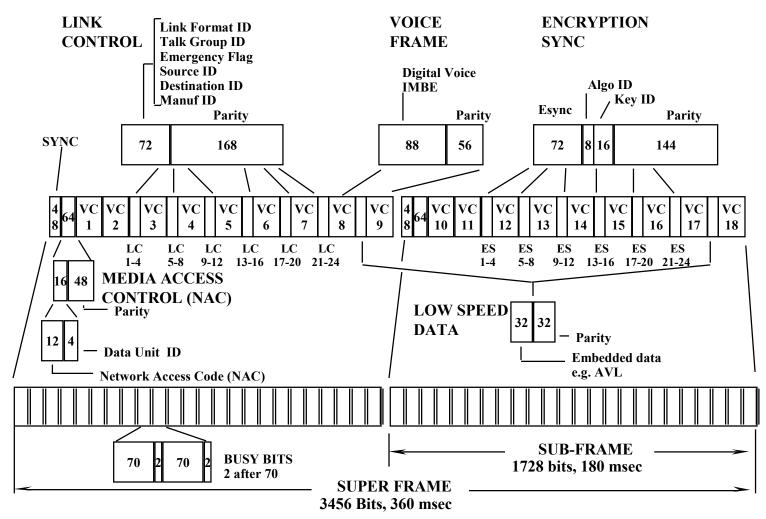
• Ability To Meet In The Air

- Interoperability between agencies
- Interoperability between vendors





Project 25 CAI Format



Conclusion



- The Common Air Interface (CAI) defines the radio interface for Project 25 systems.
 - 9.6 kbps air rate

12.5 kHz channels, migrating to 6.25 on FDMA Track of Phase 2 QPSK-c modulation, includes C4FM and CQPSK Frame formats for voice, data, and control IMBE voice encoder

- 16 million Unit IDs (24 bits)
- 65 thousand Talk Group IDs (16 bits)
- Trunking Control and Encryption are included.





Equipment used in Demo

- Motorola Quantar Repeater
- Spectra mobile
- XTS 3000 portable



APCO 25 Equipment in Amateur Radio

- MARC has used APCO 25 equipment since August of 2001
 - First repeater in operation in Fort Worth (147.320)
 - Second repeater in operation in Dallas area in May
- Advantages of Digital voice repeaters
 - improved voice clarity
 - No background noise on voice
 - Increased effective range
 - Allows "talk groups" on a single channel
 - Narrow channel spacing allows more channels
 - Less susceptibility to interference on adjacent channels
 - Same repeater can support analog and digital modulation





