

OWIN AWARDS A AND E CONTRACT

15 July 2009 - The Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network (OWIN) and Black & Veatch, one of the world's largest engineering, consulting and construction firms, are joining forces.

OWIN recently awarded the contract for architectural and engineering services, which will be provided by a project team working out of the firm's Lake Oswego offices. Black & Veatch will be responsible for designing and building infrastructure for the upgrade of the state's public safety radio system at hundreds of sites in Oregon.

"The success of the OWIN project depends on the people with whom we contract and bringing Black & Veatch on board is an important step towards a successful project," said OWIN Director Lindsay Ball. "We're encouraged that Black & Veatch managers acknowledge the importance of putting Oregonians back to work."

"The OWIN Project will dramatically increase communications reliability and efficiencies for Oregon's emergency responders," said Martin Travers, President of Black & Veatch's Telecommunications Division. "We have the capability to rapidly deploy engineering, site acquisition and construction experts to meet the challenging project timelines in an environmentally positive manner while accounting for future communications demand growth."

The Oregon Legislature, in its just-completed session, authorized \$347 million in funding for the OWIN Project. "That's quite a statement of confidence from a legislature that is more involved in this project than is the case in other states," said Ball.

OWIN has been charged by the Legislature with consolidating the radio systems of four major state agencies (Transportation, State Police, Corrections and Forestry) and building an interoperable statewide public safety wireless network for those agencies as well as cities, counties, special districts, federal and tribal governments. It is currently projected that the network will be operational by December 31, 2012.

Black & Veatch is an employee-owned global infrastructure company founded in 1915 in Kansas City, Missouri. It has annual revenue of \$3.2 billion with 9,500 employees worldwide including 100 employees in its regional offices located in Lake Oswego, Oregon.

Websites: <http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/OWIN/> <http://www.bv.com/>