



For Immediate Release
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North Wales Police Force Wins "Best Use of Technology" Award at Orange National Business Awards

FORCE WINS FOR CONSOLIDATION AND MOBILITY INITIATIVE

LONDON, UK - North Wales Police (NWP) and Niche Technology are delighted to announce that the force has won the Best Use of Technology Award at last night's Orange National Business Awards. It won the accolade due to the successful consolidation of 45 systems into Niche RMS (records management system), followed by the implementation of a mobile computing system incorporating RMS and Blackberry technology. The initiative drove front line effectiveness and a savings of more than £1m over three years.

The system combining Niche RMS and Blackberry mobile technologies allows officers to access the force's computer systems remotely where it counts most - on the street. It has been so successful that more than 1,000 officers are now using the handheld devices. The results are increased officer visibility, productivity and arrests.

"We are pleased that North Wales Police's mobility project has been recognised as one of the UK's best technology projects, illustrating the force's position at the forefront of technology in this country," says Aled Eynon, Business Change Manager on the BlackBerry project.

"North Wales Police and its technology initiative are very deserving of this prestigious award and we were pleased to

be working with them," says John James, Director of Operations and Business Development for Niche Technology Inc. "The objective was to deliver the strategic objectives of mobility and self-service for operational officers, in line with real benefits and efficiency for the force - clearly this has been achieved."

In winning this award, North Wales Police demonstrated effective use of business technology in creating a significant and exploitable competitive or operational advantage in a business area. Evidence was required of a well thought-out and executed strategy, addressing not only the deployment of the technology, but also its effective uptake by employees and stakeholders.

Niche Technology, Inc., based in Winnipeg, Canada, is one of the world's leading suppliers of operational policing systems. Ten UK police forces are currently using Niche RMS: North Wales, South Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire, Hampshire, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Northern Ireland and Wiltshire.

A leader in recognising excellence in UK business achievement, innovation and success, the National Business Awards is the UK's most sought-after business accolade and is referred to as the "Business Oscars."

ABOUT NICHE TECHNOLOGY AND NICHE RMS

Niche Technology is a privately owned company incorporated in Canada and the UK, specializing in law enforcement software. Niche Records Management System (Niche RMS) is used by more than 75,000 sworn officers worldwide, and current implementation projects will see that number rise to over 100,000. The system is being used to create efficiencies and improve performance across a range of operational policing functions. Niche RMS is currently used by over 50% of Canadian police officers; 27% of UK police officers in 12 forces; 20% of Australia's police officers; and is now in production use in the US. Eight of the 25 largest police services in the English-speaking world have selected Niche RMS as their core operational police system. For more information, go to www.nicherms.com.

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