

Where do the good ideas come from?

In this column, we offer our readers the opportunity to learn about — and benefit from — some of the cutting-edge technologies being implemented by law enforcement colleagues around the world.



Ribcraft Delivers Boats to Philippines Presidential Security Group

Ribcraft announces that it has recently completed in-country commissioning exercises for a fleet of Ribcraft 7.8s that were delivered to the Philippines Presidential Security Group earlier this year.

The crafts will be used by the Presidential Security Group to detect, identify, and disable potential threats in the vicinity of the Presidential Palace, located on the Pasig River in Manila. Under the contract, Ribcraft directed final commissioning and postdelivery inspections in the Philippines in March.

The all-black boats—with blacked-out hulls, tubes, consoles, frames, and antennas—are designed not only to destroy potential threats to the palace but also to intimidate vessels from approaching. Intended for rapid response, the 25-foot, 10-inch Ribcraft 7.8s are outfitted with twin 150-horsepower Honda four-stroke outboard motors. With this power configuration, the boats easily reach speeds in excess of 45 knots.

Designed to be extremely durable, stable, and responsive, Ribcraft boats, with their heavy-duty Hypalon tube and deep V hull, are excellent platforms for maritime interdiction and antiterrorism missions.

According to the purchasing agent for the Presidential Security Group, Allen Sy, "The Ribcraft 7.8s are the best we've seen as to workmanship, performance, and reliability."

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Honeywell Imaging Technology Automates and Improves Indiana's Law Enforcement Ticketing Process

Honeywell announces that the Indiana State Judicial Technology and Automation

Committee (JTAC) has developed an Electronic Citation and Warning System (eCWS) using the Honeywell Imaging and Mobility 4600r 2D Image Scanner as its primary scanning device.

Indiana state law enforcement agencies are implementing a fully automated system for ticketing expected to extend through to all judicial branches. With the new system, law enforcement officers can scan the barcode on the back of a license, capture an image of the front of the license, and scan the barcode on the vehicle's registration. Currently, all warnings and citations are handwritten, then entered manually into the system. The eCWS was designed with the help of officers and was developed to meet specific on-the-job needs. The system is designed to cut down on the overhead associated with handwritten citations and will ultimately link several government and law enforcement agencies together in one system.

Through the scanning technology, ticket fields are automatically populated with license and registration information. Officers can then print and issue the ticket on the spot. The information is entered automatically into a central database that can be accessed by courts as well as appropriate state and federal law enforcement agencies. Offenses and appropriate court information are automatically printed on the ticket, eliminating manual data entry, reducing administrative work, and ensuring timely and accurate information.

"With 600 Indiana law enforcement agencies writing more than 700,000 citations a year, we needed a system that eliminated the need to handwrite tickets, decipher less-than-perfect handwriting, and have multiple agencies inputting the same ticket data over and over again," said Mary L. DePrez, director for trial court technology, Indiana Supreme Court.

"These tickets are court documents, and having a uniform ticket populated with the most accurate, up-to-date information allows us to better track dangerous drivers and ensure that violations by commercial drivers are promptly reported to state and federal law enforcement."

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Montreal Police Service Selects Niche Records Management System

Niche Technology is pleased to announce that it has won a competitive bid to provide the Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal (SPVM), Canada's second largest municipal police service, with an integrated police information records management system (RMS). Niche's RMS will replace the SPVM's 16-year old legacy systems and will be implemented for all of the organization's 4,600 users, including over 4,400 officers.

The SPVM has spent several years developing the specifications and requirements for a project to use cutting-edge technology to support the agency's policing services to the city and people of Montreal. Known as IDP2, the project aims to improve the quality of service to the citizens of Montreal; give employees the tools to achieve the SPVM's objectives; and implement a strategic system to manage police information.

The system will support the management of nearly half a million cases per year and around 10 million transactions. The SPVM expects savings of C\$4 million by the third year of the project and C\$30 million over a 15-year period.

"The IDP2 Project is the most important change and technological project of the history of the Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal," says Yvan Delorme, SPVM director. "This shows its importance for our organization."

The SPVM has selected Niche RMS as the principal off-the-shelf software product for IDP2, after competitive in-depth evaluations of functional capabilities, technology, and vendor track records. This included several days of hands-on, scenario-based tests from real-life situations. ♦

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