

IACP TECHNOLOGY CLEARINGHOUSE



Law Enforcement Technology Program Survey

Agency Name: Charleston Police Department

Technology Program Name: Laptop and Palmtop Projects

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Agency Size: Total Sworn - 253; Total Civilian - 136

Agency Type: Municipal Police

Technology Program Status: Permanent Program

How is data transmitted from the Field to the Station? Wireless

How is data transmitted from the Station to State and Data Collection Authorities? By sync and over TCP/IP

Funding Description: This project was funded by the National Science Foundation

Hardware Manufacturers: Laptop - [Compaq Armada 1700](#); Pager - [Blackberry RIM 850 & 952](#)

Software Manufacturers: PacketCluster - [Aether Systems](#); IForce - [VisionAir](#)

Program Narrative: Charleston Police Department had started the Mobile Computing in 1998. Its function was to provide the patrol officer with the ability to access the CAD/RMS databases and NCIC. Also, it allows the shift supervisor the ability to monitor his/her officers location and the type of calls that he/she is on at all times. The mobile computing was provided by Cerulean Inc. which is now part of Aether Systems.

In 2001, Charleston P.D. kicked off its new innovative technology, the Palmtop computer. At the test phase, Charleston PD officers were able to use the RIM (Blackberry) pager size computer to access the NCIC information with extremely fast (2.5 seconds) return on data. Officers were also able to email each other. The program was designed by a company named VisionAir.

Additional Concerns: