IACP TECHNOLOGY CLEARINGHOUSE

Law Enforcement Technology Program Survey

Projects:

- **Mobile Automated Field Reporting Systems (MARS)**
- **Transportation Operations Communications Centers**

Agency Name: Minnesota State Patrol

Technology Program Name: Mobile Automated Field Reporting System (MARS)

Contact Name: Captain Craig D. Hendrickson

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Total Sworn : 566

Total Civilian: 284

Technology Program Status: Pilot (Test) Program

How is data transmitted from the Field to the Station? Disk, Paper

How is data transmitted from the Station to State and Data Collection Authorities? Other

Funding Description: Federal Transfer Money

Hardware Manufacturers: Panasonic - Laptops, Pentax - In-Car Printers, Kodiak - Docking Stations, Trimble - GPS Receivers

Software Manufacturers: Officer Information Manager (OIM) - American Management Systems (AMS)

Program Narrative:

The purpose of the MARS project was to evaluate the use of electronic accident reporting technology in the field using laptops/MDC's. The Trooper was to collect the accident data and GPS coordinates at the scene, validate the data and then transmit the information electronically from the field to a station office to a district office and then to a central statewide database. ! A focus was that the officer could collect or input the information once and automatically populate other forms having same data fields. The pilot project tested: 1: officer efficiency in collecting data, accuracy of data collected, integrated data management and ability to incorporate other field based reporting areas, hardware to be used as both as mobile data computer and field based reporting, PC based system to capture data from the field units, capability of transmitting data from remote officers to central data base (expedite data processing via electronic submission).

Additional Concerns:

Pilot project was very successful. Troopers using the software are now very dependant on this type of technology. Not all Troopers have laptops as of yet. Supporting the technology and hardware from an Information Technology Support Staff has been very difficult to support due to lack of staffing increases. What we developing 4 years ago is still working in the field today. We are in the process of looking at a permanent solution.

Agency Name:: Minnesota State Patrol

Technology Program Name: Transportation Operations Communications Centers

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Total Sworn : 523

Total Civilian: 280

Agency Type: State Police

Technology Program Status: Permanent Program

Funding Description

Combination of state and federal funds

Hardware Manufacturers

Motorola: RF Network Sprint: Wireless Modems/service Cisco Network & Security Equipment Trimble: GPS Hardware MDC's: Panasonic CF 29 Printers: Pentex Docking Stations: Kodiak

Servers/Workstations: HP

Software Manufacturers

Intergraph Public Safety: CAD, MDC & RMS Microsoft server/desktop software Oracle Databases: CAD, MDC FoxPro Database: RMS Easy Street Draw: Officer Drawing Tool

Program Narrative

This program brings together the resources of the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to improve operations and the safety of the traveling public through the use of advanced technology tools. Several of the advance tools included the introduction of a statewide system and integration for CAD, Mobile and RMS. Provide for the statewide implementation of AFR (automated field reporting) system that is also integrated with CAD, MDC's and RMS. MDC's share data across RF, CDMA and satellite wireless across the state using the same MDC software. MDC's can also communicate state wide with CAD. MDC's are equipped with GPS/AVL.

Additional Concerns

Short and long term planning efforts are critical Well defined projects are essential. Manage scope creep. Researching vendors and technology to ensure you have the best vendors/ products to meet your short and long term needs There is more room for negotiation with vendors during these economic times Take the time to develop thorough vendor selection process & do your homework prior to signing the contract. It is worth the time & effort to develop strong contracts for your projects. It is also important to define when a project is complete.