



Product:

Itronix GoBook

Application:

Mobile police officers

Itronix Solution Delivered

- Ultra-rugged GoBook's provided Tarrant County Sheriff's office with computers that stand up to heat, dust, humidity and abuse
- Integrated wireless makes communications seamless for officers and dispatchers

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Itronix designs, manufactures and deploys mission-critical wireless, rugged computing solutions that maximize the productivity of mobile workers.

For more than 15 years, Itronix has worked extensively in the utilities industry. Today, the company works with roughly 90% of the largest utilities in the United States, as well as organizations in the commercial field services, telecommunications, government, public safety and EMS markets.

More information about Itronix and its products are available at www.itronix.com

Itronix Case Study:

TARRANT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

SITUATION: A Sheriff's Department puts the police station in the patrol car

With 1.3 million people and 35 municipalities to protect, Tarrant County Sheriff's Department needs every one of its 500 officers on the road, not behind a desk.

PROBLEM: Inefficient communication tools

Too often the burdens of paperwork kept this Texas community's finest tied up, processing reports or waiting for key information. Car-based messaging systems, while helpful, just weren't fast enough to move lots of data, or move it quickly.

An Itronix Solution

All that changed when Tarrant County purchased 45 Itronix ultra-rugged notebook computers. Tough enough to stand up to Texas dust, heat and humidity, the Itronix notebooks also offer a Sierra Wireless Cellular Data Packet Data (CDPD) SB300 radio modem—with 19.2Kbps bandwidth—fast enough to transmit reports and link to databases, right at the scene of the crime.

"We're trying to give the officer the ability to develop a work product from a laptop like any other office worker on a desktop," says Lt. Rob Durko, director of communications with the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department.

Results: A mobile police station

With the Itronix solution, officers now connect wirelessly to local, state and federal databases over the 800 MHz radio network. They can take notes at the scene, even fill out reports and transmit them to the central office for processing, all from the patrol car. By the time they take the suspect to the county jail, most of the paperwork is already on file—and the officers can get back on the street faster, where they need to be.

The Itronix notebooks have been so successful the department wants to eventually have up to 200 in operation.

"No one realized the potential," says Durko, as he describes how members of the Auto Theft Taskforce take the notebooks—weighing only 6.9 pounds—with them to junkyards to check vehicle identification numbers on wrecked cars. County commissioners also see potential for use by probation officers, constables and fire department crews. And, because Itronix wireless computing is fast and "always on," it can support integrated networks—which has Tarrant County dreaming big.

Besides connecting patrol officers in the field and the office, an integrated network can link police departments across the county, even municipal governments and court systems. That way, notes taken by officers at the scene can be accessed by other agencies as the case proceeds. Currently, the Tarrant County Sheriff's Department is consolidating its records management and dispatch system to servers compatible with other departments and jurisdictions. According to Lt. Durko, this will allow each department to hold on to its own files, yet still share information.

For now, Lt. Durko and Tarrant County officers are enjoying the speed and convenience of the Itronix solution. The 10.4-inch non-glare screen is touch-sensitive and the glow-in-the-dark keyboard keeps officers productive day and night. The Sierra Wireless communications card is small and light, yet perfect for the sometimes-harsh Texas environment.

And Lt. Durko is thrilled with Itronix's service. "When Itronix says that they're going to deliver, they deliver," he said. "Itronix makes the absolute best computing product we've ever used. We could not serve Tarrant County as well as we do without them."

Tarrant County Sheriff's Department knows that the best place for its officers is on the job. With the help of the rugged, wireless Itronix notebooks, officers quickly get their paperwork "over and out"—so they can be where they're needed most.