

Lewis County, WA Public Safety Agencies Deploy GoBook® VR-1 Notebook



Products and Services:

Itronix GoBook VR-1

Application:

Mobile patrol officers/public safety

Solutions:

- Integrated wireless capabilities, including GPS, enable officers to spend less time on reports and more time on patrol
- Car mounted semi-rugged laptops stand up to vibration, heat, and humidity

Overview: Lewis County, comprised of approximately 79,000 citizens, is made up of 10 jurisdictions: Lewis County Sheriffs Department, and the cities of Centralia, Chehalis, Morton, Mossyrock, Napavine, Pe Ell, Toledo, Vader, and Winlock. The county invested new funds from the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP), a subsidiary grant of homeland security funds that is distributed among all 10 jurisdictions, to purchase a new mobile computing system for its law enforcement vehicles.

Problem: Each Lewis County jurisdiction relied on its own independent equipment and worked with disparate vendors. Lewis County needed a solution to connect all city police departments together with the sheriff's office, and to deploy the same technology throughout. They also needed to be able to connect to department databases in real time – a critical factor for officers when gathering information before engaging in a potential crime scene. Officers were finding themselves spending too much time on paperwork and commuting back to headquarters to write and print reports. This was valuable time they could be spending on patrols.

Itronix Solution: Turning Lewis County patrol vehicles into mobile offices using the vehicle ready GoBook VR-1.

Patti Prouty, Director of Lewis County Central Services, said the VR-1 met their requirements for a laptop that was rugged enough to withstand in-vehicle and extreme weather conditions, and had superior built-in wireless capabilities, a lighted keyboard and an easy-to-read touch screen for easy input while on-the-move.

Representing a major shift from paper to an electronic system, the GoBooks allow officers to write and file reports, review maps, view a dispatch screen to see where other officers are located, look up driver's license and criminal information, and conduct many other functions that increase job efficiency. One Lewis County city official estimates that by reducing the number of required trips to and from police headquarters, two hours a day will be saved by each officer – time that can be devoted to policing neighborhoods.

"We are very pleased to partner with Lewis County and support their mobile computing needs with the GoBook VR-1 notebook," said Matthew Gerber, senior vice president of product line management for Itronix. "Lewis County represents many organizations who may not need a fully rugged product, but whose work force can benefit from a cost-effective, semi-rugged product that is built to withstand extreme temperatures and ongoing vibration – conditions that ultimately wreak havoc on commercial laptops."

Results: The GoBook VR-1 has provided Lewis County with the mobile office they have been needing.

When the deployment is complete, more than 60 police officers' cars will be outfitted with the GoBook VR-1, floor-mounted with swivels for best ergonomics. The county uses Cingular's EDGE network and a frame circuit managed by the Department of Information Services in Olympia. This WWAN connectivity through Cingular enables officers to connect to department databases in real time.

"The Itronix GoBook VR-1 Notebook has enabled our law officers to shift from being radio-based, to having a mobile office in their vehicles so they can spend more time on patrol and less time processing paperwork," said Patti Prouty. "With the notebook's integrated wireless capabilities, officers are now able to do work from their vehicles, such as write and print reports, which previously had to be done at department headquarters. In addition, we've incorporated the Internet, GPS, imaging and other types of applications into the patrol cars to truly make them mobile offices."

Lewis County has also deployed the system into its Community Development department, with plans to branch out into other areas of the county in need of mobile technology, such as inspections and appraisals.

For more information contact:

Itronix Corporation

800-441-1309

509-624-6600

sales@itronix.com

www.itronix.com

