



Juarez City Police Department: GPS helps combat the costly problem of police corruption – while making the streets safer for people and cars alike

Challenge

Juarez City, Mexico’s fourth largest city, was battling the costly problem of police corruption. When citizens were detained for traffic violations, police officers would often ask for cash payments in lieu of issuing tickets. The city also faced the problem that, many officers were not covering their entire sector and would issue tickets only in specific areas. Additionally, response times by officers and medical teams to traffic accidents were long as there was no coordinated dispatch system. Lastly, the city had millions of dollars in outstanding traffic tickets with no effective way to collect the fines.



Solution

In response to these problems, LinksPoint’s partner company IData Wireless, S.A. de V.C created its award-winning iPatrol Wireless application suite. iPatrol relies on LinksPoint’s GPS application programming interface (API) and GPS receivers to add the location dimension to the overall solution. With iPatrol, law enforcement officers in Juarez City are now equipped with Symbol PPT 2837 wireless handhelds and LinksPoint’s GlobalPoint GPS receivers. During traffic stops, officers use the GPRS-integrated device to transmit their exact GPS location to the dispatch center, where stop locations and

durations can be monitored. GPS technology also supports more effective command and control as law enforcement vehicle locations are tracked via GPS. This ensures better coverage of each sector and enables location-based dispatch for police and medical teams responding to emergencies. The solution also provides wireless access to a vehicle information database, a national list of stolen vehicles and a database of unpaid traffic tickets.

Officers use portable printers to print the ticket for the current violation and include fees for outstanding violations. The driver has the option of paying on the spot using their credit card or debit card, ensuring timely payment to avoid late fees, eliminating the possibility of fraud, and increasing the collection rate for outstanding tickets.

In recognition of its innovation and excellence, this solution was awarded the 2004 Symbol Enterprise Mobility Solutions Award for Latin America.



Sample Violation Screen



Sample Stolen Car Alert

Benefits

- Monitoring the location of each officer at each stop reduces the opportunity for corruption
- In 6 months, the solution has helped Juarez recoup nearly \$3.5 million (USD) in overdue traffic tickets
- Since officers can collect the fees at the time of the violation, money reaches the city’s account more quickly.
- 20 stolen vehicles have already been recovered
- 200 warrants have been issued to repeat drunk drivers
- Less paperwork, enables officers to make a more dramatic impact on the streets each day
- Automated system eliminates data re-keying expenses and reduced errors
- Traffic accident response times are lower as dispatchers can now send the closest officer



For more information on iData Wireless and iPatrol, visit <http://www.idataw.com/> or email iData at alguzman@idataw.com