



## Rugged Laptop Computers Keep Long Beach Police on the Move.

**The Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) has a lofty mission—to become California's safest large city. Meeting an objective of that magnitude takes considerable planning, hard work, and the efficient use of technology. A critical component of the department's success is a fast, reliable communications system that keeps patrol officers, detectives, and investigators connected, whether on the road or back in the office.**

### Challenge

One of the initiatives that LBPD has undertaken to help accomplish its mission is the replacement of its aging mobile data capture system.

LBPD uses laptop computers to dispatch calls to officers via computer-aided dispatch (CAD), as well as to file field reports. But with outdated mobile computers hardwired to each vehicle, LBPD was required to take an entire vehicle out of service each time a mobile computer failed, reducing the number of vehicles available for police operations. In addition, the aging mobile computers lacked the capability to consistently run new law enforcement applications, including a required CAD upgrade.

It was also important for LBPD to standardize on a single platform so laptops could be managed easily and swapped out for repair or maintenance, as necessary. Furthermore, a standard configuration would accommodate car model differences from one model year to the next.

### Solution

GTSI conducted a complete needs analysis to determine the best solution to meet LBPD's need for fast, reliable mobile communications. Based on the department's unique requirements, GTSI designed and developed a bundled mobile data capture system. The standardized system consists of a Panasonic PDRC screen and keyboard installed on a console in the front of the vehicle within easy reach of the officer, and a ruggedized Panasonic Toughbook laptop computer mounted in the trunk.

Built to meet stringent police equipment standards, the Toughbook laptop computer withstands the shock, vibration, and other environmental conditions typical in a tough police car environment. And a sealed CPU ensures that no dust or air can get inside the computer to create damage. Integrated into LBPD's existing wireless network, the system includes global positioning system (GPS) capability and is adaptable to any CAD environment.

LBPD deployed the laptop computers into 278 squad cars for on-the-move capability and installed additional units in non-vehicle locations for back-office support.

### Result

Today, LBPD's new GTSI mobile data capture system operates 24/7, supporting three shifts of officers per police car each day. The standardized configuration has enabled LBPD to reduce downtime and to easily switch equipment for maintenance or repair, minimizing the impact to police operations. In addition, the required CAD upgrade enabled by the new system streamlines police dispatch capability.

The system also allows LBPD to maximize limited police car space by employing a space-saving screen and keyboard and stows the laptop computer out of the officer's way in the trunk.

Compatible with the 802.11g wireless standard, the new system enables high-speed wireless updates

while police cars are at the station for shift change. This timesaver allows the department to load software updates to police cars without physically touching the computer and with minimal user interaction.

GTSI offers a clear upgrade path to accommodate future enhancements and ensure the most up-to-date technology, adding further value to the new solution.

While LBPd currently keeps the laptop systems locked with police vehicles, the force also has the option to assign specific laptop computers to individual officers who could remove them at the end of each shift.

Working in close collaboration with LBPd, GTSI staffed the project with extra installers to complete the installation ahead of the planned 60-day deployment, with all patrol vehicles outfitted within 40 days. LBPd carefully orchestrated the installation schedule to ensure sufficient police car coverage on the road at all times.

By reducing downtime, standardizing the configuration of its mobile units, and using rugged, space-saving equipment incorporated with the latest technology, LBPd has taken important steps to strengthen its force and keep more police cars on the road—ultimately helping to keep the city of Long Beach safer.

**For more information contact  
GTSI Corp. at  
800.999.GTSI,  
visit [GTSI.com](http://GTSI.com) or  
email us at [Mobility@GTSI.com](mailto:Mobility@GTSI.com)**



GTSI Corp. is the first information technology solutions provider offering a Technology Lifecycle Management (TLM) approach to IT infrastructure solutions delivered through industry-leading professional and financial services. GTSI employs a proactive, strategic methodology that streamlines technology lifecycle management, from initial assessment to acquisition, implementation, refresh, and disposal. TLM allows government agencies to implement solutions of national and local significance quickly and cost-effectively. GTSI's certified engineers and project managers leverage strategic partnerships with technology innovators. These experts use proven, repeatable processes to design, deploy, manage, and support simple to complex solutions, to meet governments' current and future requirements and business objectives. GTSI is headquartered in Northern Virginia, outside of Washington, D.C.

©2007 GTSI Corp. All rights reserved. GTSI and GTSI.com are registered trademarks of GTSI Corp. in the United States and other countries. (OCT2007)