

CASE STUDY: LAW ENFORCEMENT

BOCA RATON POLICE EXPERIENCES RELIABLE MOBILE COMPUTING FIRSTHAND



Mobile computing solutions play an integral role in police departments across the country. The prevalence of mobile computing solutions has helped officers nationwide work more effectively and safely. Officers in the field regularly find themselves in situations where reliability and secure access to data from their PC can mean the difference between life and death, thereby increasing the need for reliable performance in mission-critical environments.

For the Boca Raton Police Services Department (BRPSD) in south Florida, mobile computing solutions have played a major role in the staff's ability to perform their duties and keep their community safe. The department was an early adopter of the technology, as one of the first in the state to mount mobile computers in their vehicles more than 15 years ago.

For the last five years, officers have used fully-rugged Panasonic Toughbook® computers, including the Toughbook 19 and 30, in a variety of capacities throughout the force. The Toughbook 30 is a fully-rugged mobile PC built for lightning-quick processing and wireless connectivity. It has an all-weather design and a shock-mounted, removable hard drive in a stainless steel case. The Toughbook 19 is a fully-rugged convertible notebook PC that can be transformed to a handwriting-friendly tablet PC.

Toughbook laptops are engineered from the inside out to perform in extreme environments, withstanding drops, shocks and excessive dust or water with no disruption to the laptops' operation. Even during such treacherous conditions as hurricanes Katrina, Wilma, Gene and Francis, the BRPSD reported zero failures with their Toughbook laptops.

The BRPSD has expanded the field usage of its fully-rugged Toughbook notebooks to include the agency's boats and motorcycles, regularly exposing them to spraying salt water and constant vibrations but reporting no equipment failures.

For everyday police activities like filling out arrest reports and writing tickets, pen and paper is quickly becoming a thing of the past. As a result, losing data through a laptop failure can significantly hamper an officer's productivity and access to critical information.

CHALLENGE

The BRPSD needed durable and reliable mobile computers that could withstand the harsh environments that law enforcement officials face, while still keeping data secure and accessible.

SOLUTION

The fully-rugged Toughbook 30 and 19 were deployed because of their all-weather designs, shock-mounted removable hard drives, wireless connectivity and lightning-fast processing speeds.

RESULT

In the field, the Toughbook 30 and 19 were unbeatable, keeping officers connected by allowing them to file arrest reports and parking tickets without pen or paper. And the 30 even survived a car fire and the subsequent fire department hosing.

Panasonic ideas for life



THE RUGGED ORIGINAL.

There are several ways to find out more about Panasonic's full line of Toughbook laptops for law enforcement:

Call: 1.888.357.1107

Email: toughbooklawenforcement@us.panasonic.com

Visit: panasonic.com/toughbook/lawenforcement

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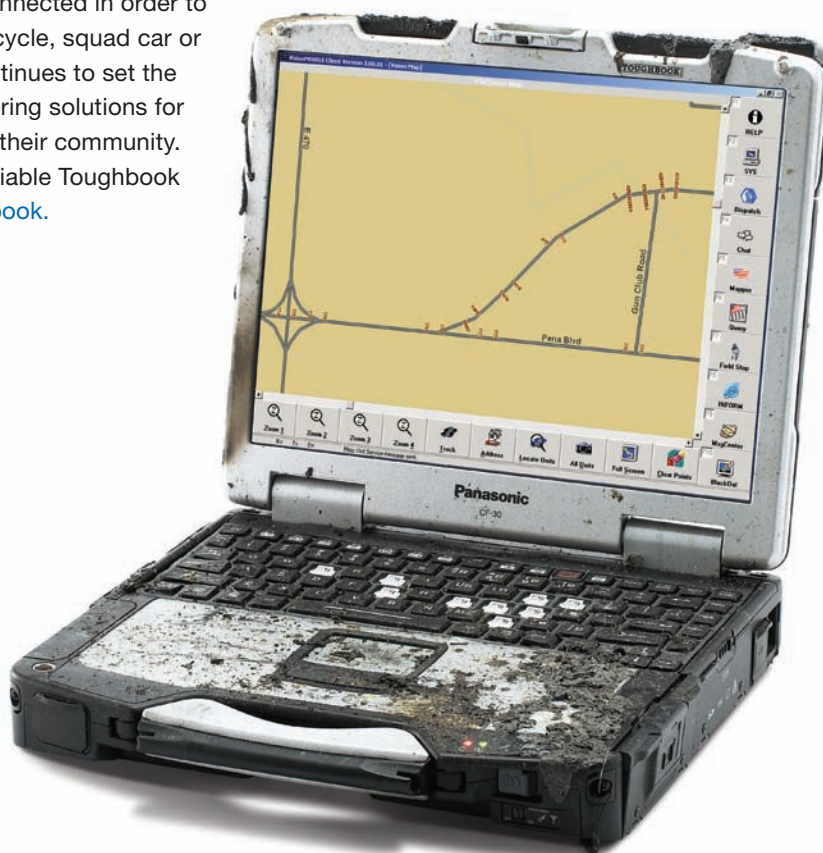
A recent incident showed the BRPSD how well-protected their important data was inside a Toughbook® 30. On the way to a call, a patrol officer's car hit an electrical pole and sparked a serious fire. While the officer escaped unharmed, the same could not be said for her vehicle. After spraying water for 90 minutes firefighters were able to put out the flames, but not before almost everything inside was destroyed. Digging through the charred vehicle, firefighters found the Toughbook notebook and handed it to BRPSD network analyst Joe Morweiser for inspection.

"I was stunned to see that the Toughbook 30 was still on and operating, with the screen still showing the details of the call our patrol officer was answering," said Morweiser. "The laptop never shut down throughout the whole fire, and was still going strong after firefighters had salvaged it out of the car."

The Toughbook 30 successfully withstood a burning vehicle and an hour and a half of spraying water to extinguish the flames. Even though much of the exterior had melted, including the interior of the keyboard and touchpad, "the hard drive compartment inside was completely clean and unharmed, and the battery remained operational," said Morweiser.

Following the incident, Morweiser was able to place the old hard drive in a new unit, allowing the officer to continue seamlessly accessing her data.

Police officers in the information age need to be constantly connected in order to capture and record important data. Whether on a boat, motorcycle, squad car or on foot, every aspect of Panasonic Toughbook notebooks continues to set the standard for durability and reliability when it comes to engineering solutions for police departments, fire and EMS workers to effectively serve their community. To learn more about how your department can benefit from reliable Toughbook mobile computing solutions, visit www.panasonic.com/toughbook.



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