



city of AUSTIN

communications & technology management

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TO: Rob Byrd
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From: Robert Turner, General Manager for CTECC
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RE: Aaron Brown

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I am writing to make you aware of some really great work that Aaron Brown has done for the Austin Regional Intelligence Center. In short Aaron came up with a design that is now paying great dividends for the Austin Regional Intelligence Center.

First some background; the Austin Regional Intelligence Center (ARIC) project is a partnership between Austin Police Department, Austin ISD Police Department, Georgetown Police Department, Pflugerville Police Department, Round Rock Police Department, San Marcos Police Department, Hays County Sheriff, Travis County Sheriff and Williamson County Sheriff. These ten agencies came together to develop and implement a consolidated data set of crime records for central Texas. Of course all the agencies are using different source systems (Records Management Systems, aka RMS) and have slightly different business processes, terminology, etc.

Starting in 2008, Aaron was tasked with developing an architecture that was: vendor neutral, leveraged national standards, provided the maximum amount of data and could be expanded and extended. This strategy that Aaron developed ensured that the data and thus the day to day operations ARIC could continue to function even in the event of a vendor change. This strategy also positioned ARIC to grow capabilities as changing conditions warranted. In developing this strategy, Aaron worked with CTM security, CTM networking vendors and ARIC personnel in a collaborative effort.

Because of the recommendations that Aaron made, the Austin Regional Intelligence Center is now able to implement a repeatable process for adding crime records data from our partner agencies. We are using a national standard, N-DEX (National Data Exchange) developed and supported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that allows us to ingest data from any law enforcement agency in a vendor neutral way that also allows us to share this data following need to know and right to know practices with other law enforcement systems.



In addition use of the N-DEx standard has positioned ARIC to accept data from corrections data sources which are a very valuable information source when working to develop leads for criminal cases. N-DEx also includes other areas of public safety, so if the mission of ARIC expands, we are able to easily establish and utilized data from other public safety systems.

Another recommendation made by Aaron is also paying great dividends; the selection of Oracle RAC as our database platform. This choice provided high availability, high reliability and more importantly has given us the ability to migrate other APD databases from stand along servers or instances into a reliable, dependable environment.

The best part of these choices is that these systems just run. We don't have much downtime, we don't have unexpected freezes, we don't have restarts, everything just runs. This level of reliability gives our customers good confidence that they can rely on these systems at all times.

As we move closer to having a production system, we are very pleased with the end results; results that are directly attributable to Aaron's good work.

