

CONNECTIONS

The Newsletter of Electronic Engineering

Spring 2006

Dallas County Patrolling with New Hi-Tech Mobile Data System

Law enforcement officials have always looked for ways to use technology to help enhance their ability to respond to and prevent crimes in the communities they serve.

Now, more than ever before, wireless technology is changing the way they work.

In Dallas County, the Sheriff's Department recently embraced the latest wireless technology,

available through Electronic Engineering. It gives their deputies real-time access, within their cars, to information about people, property and vehicles, using Motorola's Premier MDC Select Software, AirMobile and a Message Switch.

"Ten year's ago, this kind of upgrade wouldn't have been nearly the necessity it has become for our department," Dallas County Sheriff Brian Gilbert said. "The growth of our county has increased the level of calls to the dispatch center. We were to the point we were going to have to add more dispatchers if we didn't go this route."

Today when Dallas County Sheriff's deputies stop a vehicle, they are able to enter the license plate number into their wireless touch screen laptop to obtain information about the vehicle and driver. Plus, get up-to-the-minute information on a driver's license status, arrest warrants, and more. This gives them first hand knowledge of a potential criminal or dangerous situation before they ever make contact with the individual.

Once they obtain the driver's license information and scan it, they can quickly query the Iowa Department of Motor Vehicles and federal databases, including the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) - all in a matter of seconds without having to radio the dispatch center.

"Normally our deputies would have had to retrieve the information from the dispatch center. By adding this equipment, they are able to obtain more information and the process is much quicker," Sheriff Gilbert said "eliminating numerous radio transmissions."

The AirMobile portion of this upgrade will eventually allow deputies a means to simply and securely upload reports at the end of a shift, change their current unit status or be notified of a new call. That way, everyone on duty will be up-to-date on all emergencies taking place. In fact, deputies will be able to review the list of dispatches and then view the details of a selected incident. Including assigned units, weapons, and

Install features:

- State, NLETS, NCIC access
- Single-entry multiple checks
- Emergency broadcast messaging
- Day/night color schemes
- Single keystroke fast-key support
- Text-to-voice
- Messaging
- Chat
- Embedded Internet Explorer controls



vehicle and premise information.

"Dallas County Sheriff Brian Gilbert has always put the safety of his deputies first and foremost," said Bill Cronin, Executive Vice President of Electronic Engineering. "That was his focus when we started working together a number of years ago and it was the driving force that lead to this project. Incidentally, the Dallas County Sheriff's Department is the only law enforcement agency in the state using the Motorola

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Product Spotlight

Motorola RAZR

Crafted with eye-catching metals and sporting a supremely slim form, the Motorola RAZR gives you the ultimate in mobile connectivity and style.

Features:

- Vcast video
- Ultra-thin design
- MotoSpeak advanced speech recognition
- Bluetooth® wireless technology
- 1.3 Megapixel camera/video

*Available in Silver and Pink at some locations.



A Letter From The President



A recent event just happened as this issue of our newsletter went to press that has been a topic for nearly three years. It is the settlement of the protracted lawsuit between RIM (Research in Motion) the maker of the Blackberry wireless devices and NTP Inc., holder of certain patented operating procedures.

At almost every gathering I attended last year, someone usually asked, "what did I think was going to happen, and is my Blackberry going to stop working." While I don't believe I am that good of a prognosticator, I told everyone that things would be fine, and they need not worry about their (beloved) devices. As it turned out, I was right on target with this eventual outcome. I wish I were as good with my stock investments!

I figured a recap about the basis for my predictions, might be interesting to many. The basis of the argument was that RIM had used a process in its Blackberry operating system that was developed by NTP. NTP had patented this process, but had not developed any use for it, and had not sold the rights to use this process to RIM. RIM believed that the process that they used was independently developed, and no royalties were due NTP.

Several decisions in the courts went in NTP's favor, though the US patent office leaned toward RIM since you generally have to use patented products and process, and not just develop them. The stakes were large, RIM had offered \$500 million to settle, and NTP wanted \$1 billion.

I simply felt that this was a very high stakes poker game, with both sides having a chance at victory. Yet as with most high stakes games, the down side was huge. A work around had been developed by RIM, but the

retrofit cost and the soft cost of customer satisfaction would be great. NTP who did not have a single use for this patented process could win the war, but lose the battle. RIM might escape without paying a dime, if they stopped using the process. I reasoned that NTP could not risk losing everything and RIM could not hold out as this lawsuit had become everyday conversation and was impacting sales. Neither company could afford victory, as the cost of defeat was too great.

The lawsuit was settled last week, with a payment of \$612.5 million paid by RIM for complete access to the process. Maybe I can be as successful with a prediction about the 2008 presidential election!

Thanks for your business, and we'll talk to you next quarter.

Cellular Telemarketer Solicitation is False

Despite the various warnings you've been hearing about cell phone companies releasing cell phone numbers to telemarketers, no such thing is about to occur. In fact, you don't even need to register your cell phone number(s) with the national "Do Not Call" registry.

This misunderstanding grew out the proposed creation of a wireless directory assistance service. Because they take seriously the privacy of their customers, every major cell phone company has said they would not support a wireless directory assistance service.

Electronic Engineering Locations

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Des Moines (515) 283-1100 | 1100 Keo Way (800) 343-3998 | Mason City (641) 423-6818 | 608 S. Delaware (800) 343-2688 |
| Ames (515) 232-5385 | 2220 E. Lincoln Way (800) 343-7718 | Mt. Pleasant (319) 385-7650 | 126 N. Main Street (800) 458-2355 |
| Cedar Rapids (319) 364-1900 | 1900 6th Street S.W. (800) 762-0795 | Omaha (402) 346-5123 | 13704 P Street (800) 315-3579 |
| Davenport (563) 322-0981 | 1354 W. 4th Street (800) 322-0981 | Sioux City (712) 258-5234 | 500 W. 20th Street (800) 243-3756 |
| Fort Dodge (515) 576-2411 | 2411 5th Avenue S. (800) 343-3405 | Waterloo (319) 235-5556 | 750 Ansborough (800) 365-9702 |
| Marshalltown (641) 752-0778 | 913 Iowa Avenue E. (800) 345-2540 | | |

Mt. Pleasant Office Customizes Fire Vehicle

Electronic Engineering in Mt. Pleasant recently completed installation on a new command vehicle for the Burlington, IA, Fire Department. The two-week long project took a regular Chevy Tahoe and turned it into a command center, complete with three pullout workstations in the rear of the vehicle.

“Not only was the new command center needed by our community to make us compliant with the latest National Incident Management System (NIMS), which was established by the Secretary of Homeland Security,” Deputy Fire Chief Dave Luers, of Burlington F.D. said. “It will allow us to more efficiently respond to big emergencies.”

Additionally, the new vehicle has green lights on the top to identify its presence so that all public safety personnel will quickly recognize the command center. Since the vehicle goes to the scene of every fire, building and floor plans, manuals and other information is easily accessible via a file cabinet stored in the pullout command center.



Equipment installed:

- VHF mobile two-way radios in the front and back of the vehicle
- UHF Repeater
- Scanners
- Light bars
- Mobile phones
- File cabinets
- Magnetic dry erase boards
- Air packs
- Thermal imaging gear
- Additional mass casualty equipment

Dallas County Patrolling with New Hi-Tech Mobile Data System, cont.

Premier MDC Data System which speaks volumes to the level of commitment to safety that Sheriff Gilbert has for his deputies.”

Once the equipment was purchased, Electronic Engineering’s professional installers went to work outfitting the fifteen Sheriff’s cars. The laptops took two weeks to mount and install and involved a unique mix of specialists, including IT experts and Motorola employees who assisted in all employees’ training.

“We’ve always been a fan of Motorola and Electronic Engineering, and when we were evaluating our mobile data options, we wanted a partner who we knew we could count

on after the install,” Sheriff Gilbert said. “Our experience has always been that if we have a problem, someone from Electronic Engineering will be out here to fix it right way and that’s a big deal to us.”

Electronic Engineering has been providing communication technology to law enforcement agencies throughout Iowa and Nebraska for more than 25 years. Our EMS+One experts have been focused on delivering rugged, reliable, mobile intelligence that is dependable, no matter what the situation. We understand a lot is riding on each deputy’s ability to make quick, smart decisions.

Strong Paging Coverage Expands Again

This spring, Electronic Engineering will hit a milestone with its “Beeper People” paging service. A network that started with 42 tower sites in 1993, will soon reach 160 sites! That means paging coverage that blankets Iowa and also carries beyond our borders to eastern Nebraska and parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Missouri.

Recent tower additions in Iowa include a site that covers the town of Panora as well as Lake Panorama. A contract has also been signed for a tower site in Tabor, IA, which is expected to be installed in April 2006.

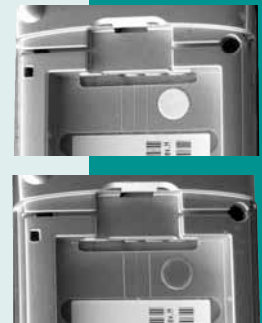


EECo Tech Talk

It all comes down to a white dot. It’s a new tool by cell phone manufacturers to speed up the process of knowing whether your phone has suffered moisture damage, possibly voiding your cell phone warranty.

On newer model cell phones, a white dot, or a white dot with a purple X on it, is called the “watermark”. It’s located inside, on the back of the phone. Some manufacturers even go a step further and put a white dot on the phone battery. If the phone has come into contact with moisture, the watermark turns red or pink. A red dot is not always a phone death sentence, but it saves time and takes the hassle out of knowing what’s wrong with your phone. It’s also a good case for cell phone insurance.

These watermarks can be found on newer Motorola phones and most LG, Samsung and Audiovox models.



Electronic Engineering Employee Profile



Name: Marty Delperdang

EE Location: Sioux City

Job Title: Communication Consultant

Job History: I started in Human Resource Management for Nebraska Savings & Loan during graduate school at University of Nebraska. Since then I've been a sales rep. for Investors Diversified Services, a government market rep. for Motorola C&E, a Midwest Sales Rep. for

L&R Communications, an account rep for Joe Morten & Son - a local insurance agency in Sioux City and Nebraska. In September of 2001, I joined Electronic Engineering.

My first real job: For most people who know me, they'd laugh to hear I was doing carpentry work, of all things, during the last two summers of high school. My overly patient boss was eventually able to teach me what end of the hammer to hold, but that's about as far as it went. It was quite obvious sales work, of some type, was my calling.

Recent accomplishments: I'd like to think it's the trust and confidence that's been built and solidified over the years between Electronic Engineering and our many valued customers.

The toughest part of my job: Trying to match and maintain, the incredible level of expertise and professionalism displayed by the people I'm proud to be associated with, both in our branch and corporate wide.

Someone I admire: If I looked up the word

"family" in the dictionary, I'd see my Grandma Dorá's picture under it, as it meant that much to her. I also look up to the men and women in our military as well as anyone involved with law enforcement and/or fire and rescue work. These people truly make a difference in all our lives.

About my family: My wife of 36 years, Marcy, who is a finance secretary at the So. Sioux City (Nebr) High School, and the unofficial finance manager for me and our three children, Travis, Amber, and Courtney, all of whom live in Sioux City, and, all of whom managed to get married within a 14 month period of each other. What finances – there's none left!

Can You Guess the Year?

- Goodyear Blimp flies for the first time?
- Don McLean's "American Pie" #1 song
- President Nixon visits Communist China

Think you know the year? Email your answer to contest@connectingyou.com.

Every correct entry received by April 30th will be placed in a drawing for a chance to win a \$100 gift certificate from Electronic Engineering.

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Looking for short-term commitment?

(I'm available.)

Ask Electronic Engineering about two-way radio rentals.

Need two-way radios for an event or upcoming job, but don't want the long-term commitment of a purchase? Ask Electronic Engineering about Motorola two-way radio rental packages. They're a great way to get ultra-reliable, high quality communications without getting hitched.

Two-way radios are ideal for:

- Events
- Security
- Hotels
- Golf courses
- Youth sports
- Agriculture

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