

## First for Fife F&RS



**Fife Fire and Rescue Service, the first to benefit from the Scottish Executive's programme for communications technologies**, has unveiled its new major incident command unit (ICU) as part of a £5m investment of more than £5m in new rescue equipment and facilities. Developed in partnership with coachbuilder, Cebotec, and technology supplier, Excelebrate Technology, the ICU will play a major role in improving the management of major incidents and achieving interoperability with other emergency services.

**Sepura has developed an intelligent software application to help police officers carry out 'stop and account' operations more swiftly and efficiently.** Developed for its SRH and STP TETRA radios, the application transforms required ethnicity data into a Short Data Application message, whilst also sending GPS location and time stamping directly to a central database. Officers' operational status is automatically updated on the radio display so that they know, just by looking at the screen, the latest status communicated to the control room. [www.sepura.com](http://www.sepura.com)

**Steria has signed a 10-year, circa £45m contract with the Independent Police Complaints Commission to provide ICT and telephony services.** IPCC chief executive, Jane Furniss, says, the contract "provides us with modern ICT and critical business systems" that are "crucial to the ongoing restructuring and development of the organisation and will underpin" work being done to provide greater frontline resources.

**Indico Systems has unveiled its latest straight-to-server digital recording system for use within the criminal justice sector.** Indico Streaming Server has been used successfully in Scandinavia and is now being offered on a trial basis to selected UK police forces. [www.indicosys.no](http://www.indicosys.no)

**Strathclyde Police has gone live with the Snext generation of covert policing technology from ABM.** Abmpegasus enables Strathclyde to have a more centralised view of its entire covert intelligence estate, in addition to enabling valuable covert intelligence to be passed directly to the Scottish Intelligence Database.

## Leicestershire goes rugged

**Leicestershire Constabulary has implemented 300 Panasonic CF-19 Toughbooks to provide officers in the field with 24-hour access to exactly the same information as their colleagues in the station.**

Fast and reliable wireless data connection frees officers from having to make journeys back to base to complete time-consuming paperwork – comparable to maintaining up to 200 officers on publicly visible duty per year according to the constabulary. Chief superintendent Jason Masters described the roll out as, "The biggest step forward in police communications since the introduction of the two-way radio forty years ago".



Officers can now access resources including internal websites, crime records, intelligence logs, command and control logs and update information in real-time whilst in their vehicles.

**Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service has asked Clarity Information Solutions to use Active Navigation to clean up and reorganise all its unstructured electronic information.** Prompted by the need to retrieve information quickly in response to FoI requests plus information security, version control and network storage issues, Staffordshire has already identified storage savings of up to 100GB from deleting duplicate and redundant data.

**North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service is set to save a minimum of £50,000 through a new five year contract with North Yorkshire broadband organisation, NYnet.** The contract, valued at £354,000, will involve the migration of 15 fire service sites in North Yorkshire onto the NYnet network – providing double the bandwidth of the previous supplier.

**Audit Scotland says that contingencies planning is being hindered by shortcomings in information sharing,** including different definitions as to what comprises an emergency, despite guidance in the Civil Contingencies Act, and use of different document security systems. These are in place for the Scottish Government, police forces and NHS boards, but not for some local authorities and fire and rescue services. [www.audit-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk)

**Surrey Police is implementing an enterprise-wide information management system from Memex.** All key police business functions will be joined under one platform that will ultimately link all recorded information and intelligence across the force - which includes Memex's core Intelligence, Crime, plus Case and Custody solutions.

## Scottish police to get own gazetteer

**The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (ACPOS) is creating a centralised address gazetteer for use by all Scottish police services.**

Deputy chief constable Tom Halpin, ACPOS National Command and Control Project Executive, said that the award of the contract to create this resource was, "a key part of the wider ACPOS business change programme and represents groundbreaking improvements for the Scottish police service.

"The new system will help us to identify precise locations and allocate the best equipped and nearest police patrol."

Lothian & Borders Police, on behalf of the eight Scottish police forces and the Scottish Police Services Authority, is overseeing the project which will see the creation, implementation and use of a definitive national location gazetteer detailing every property and the location of all police 'incidents' in Scotland.

A partnership led by Buying Solutions prime contractor, Infotech Enterprises,

and partners GGP Systems and Infoshare, will compile data from each of the eight police forces, Point X's Points of Interest dataset and Experian's QAS Names. Matching, cleansing and validation will be done by Infoshare against a primary dataset from One Scotland Gazetteer (OSG) - which is made up of address data from the 32 Scottish councils. GGP's gazetteer management software will be used to give officers web-enabled access to the system across Scotland and integrate with the new national Control & Command system.

