

PERF/Lockheed Martin Collaboration: Exploring the Future Technology Needs of Law Enforcement

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PERF Study Objectives

1. Understand operational needs of LEAs
2. Identify and prioritize a list of technologies to develop for LEAs
3. Identify barriers to the introduction of technology in the LEA community
4. Identify the key tech stakeholders within LEAs & note their requirements/ acquisition strategies for tech so industry can better meet their needs



Study Methods

- Literature review on police technology
- National Survey (w/ 300 LEAs)
- Focus group / 2-day workshop
  - Commanders, supervisors, detectives and analysts over two-day workshop
  - 55 representatives from 29 LEAs



Top 5 Highest Priority Operational Needs of LEAs

- Managing calls for service (guns, gangs & drugs)
- Crime analysis and information-led policing
- IT and database integration
- Prevention and investigation of street crime
- Hiring and retention of police officers



Examined 52 types of LEA Technology

- Identification technology
- Sensors and surveillance technology
- Crime analysis/mapping tech
- Training related to technology
- Records management/data sharing
- Communications/dispatch/interoperability
- Weapons/equipment/robotics/tactical



Current top impact technologies identified at workshop

- Wireless access in patrol cars
- Use of force computer simulators
- Fingerprint readers
- Conducted energy devices (Tasers)
- Body armor

Current top impact technologies identified at workshop for next 3-5 years

- DNA testing equipment
- Integrated databases
- Computer-aided dispatch w/ GPS on patrol cars
- Inter-agency radios
- Video surveillance networks
- Greater use of Geographic/GIS software
- Investigative software (data mining software)

Promising Technologies for just the Next 3-5 Years and Beyond

- Predictive modeling
- Real-time crime monitoring centers
- Patrol car cameras
- Personal audio/video equipment (worn by officers)
- Aerial surveillance equipment (e.g., drones)
- Computer-based training and simulators
- Software for victimization risk analysis
- 911 systems w/ adv text/voice capabilities

Widely used technologies that may need replacement in coming years

- Night vision devices
- Use of force simulators
- Video surveillance equipment
- Special purpose vehicles
- Mobile command centers









Barriers to Technology Acquisition and Use in Law Enforcement

- Financial constraints
- Training, skills, and project mgmt
- Partnership
- Leadership, mission, and culture
- Impediments to information sharing
- Understanding best practices
- Other political/economic/legal Issues