

PRESS OFFICE

17 June 2008

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Cumbria Constabulary links up to the Scottish Intelligence Database

** Fighting crime with ABM's covert policing and intelligence management systems**

Cumbria Constabulary has become the latest police force to connect to Scotland's Intelligence Database.

As part of its commitment to tackling serious and organised crime, the Constabulary has invested in the system to increase its access to intelligence from Scottish police forces.

Cumbria experiences cross border traffic with criminals moving from Scotland to England through the county. Linking with the database and being able to securely and more easily access information from Scotland will enable the Constabulary to assess the level of risk in relation to criminal activity.

Chief Inspector Lee Johnson from Cumbria Constabulary CID said: "This link with the Scottish Intelligence Database will enable us to improve the speed of access to intelligence on the trafficking of drugs and the movement of the proceeds of crime to and from Scotland.

"The system will also provide us with a wider intelligence picture that increases our ability and opportunity to track and attack organised crime and will save time and increase efficiencies by removing some paper based processes. It will also search automatically for information without the need to send requests and await a response."

ABM's technology will be used to ensure safe information sharing and increased efficiencies in the management of Cumbria Constabulary's covert policing operations.

The Constabulary will become significantly more time efficient through the electronic management of its surveillance operations. Instead of using paper processes a police officer will be able to make an application for a surveillance operation, gain authorisation on it and receive review and renewal reminders when it is due to run out – all at the push of a button.

Similarly, Cumbria Constabulary will be able to reduce time-intensive paperwork by managing all requests for accessing and analysing an individual's communications data, as required under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act (RIPA) 2000, in one automated system.

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To complete the automated management of covert policing, Cumbria Constabulary will also upgrade to a new version of ABM's covert human intelligence source (CHIS) management, where the Constabulary has successfully experienced benefits around the effective management of intelligence sources for some years. Significant benefit will be realised through the integration of CHIS management with COPS and Telecoms.

Ch Insp Johnson added: "Abmpegasus is a proven system that has been successfully used by other police forces and can demonstrate best value. Linking the covert policing management technology -- COPS, Telecoms and CHIS management -- on the Abmpegasus platform, will provide us with a complete covert intelligence picture that will effectively manage risk, share information and ultimately tackle crime."

-End-

Notes to Editors/Reporters

About ABM

ABM is a leading supplier of criminal intelligence IT, developing best of breed solutions in partnership with customers to meet the unique requirements of the law enforcement market. ABM's intelligence-led applications are national standard compliant and work from a single data source enabling customers to gain substantial time saving and financial benefits. Its 180 law enforcement customers worldwide include internationally renowned organisations such as the Metropolitan Police Service, New York Police Department (NYPD) and Western Australia Police. For more information, visit ABM at <http://www.abm-uk.com>

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