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Case Study－Glendale Police Department

Rugged Getac M-Series Laptops Chosen for the Demanding In-car
Requirements of the Glendale Police Department

Department Needs

- Upgrade patrol car fixed-mount computers and provide officers with greater mobility and flexibility.

- Find a more economical solution than permanently mounted computers.

- Provide officers the ability to move the computer to a position or place that is conducive to writing reports.

- Use equipment that can withstand 24/7 use and the extreme conditions of police patrol driving.

In-car computers have transformed the way law enforcement officers work by providing instant access to dispatch information, criminal history databases, and other critical tools that help free up the radio.

When Glendale Police Department decided to upgrade its mobile computing hardware, it chose the Getac M-Series. The larger screens and lower cost of the rugged laptop vs. fixed-mount systems combined with the ability for an officer to use the laptop for report writing made the rugged laptop the only choice.

Unlike the aging fixed-mount models they were replacing, the Getac M-Series units offered a docking station option that made it fast and easy to remove the unit from the vehicle.

"Ergonomically, it's not very comfortable or practical to sit in a patrol car and type a report," says Walter Calles, IT Manager, Glendale PD. "The
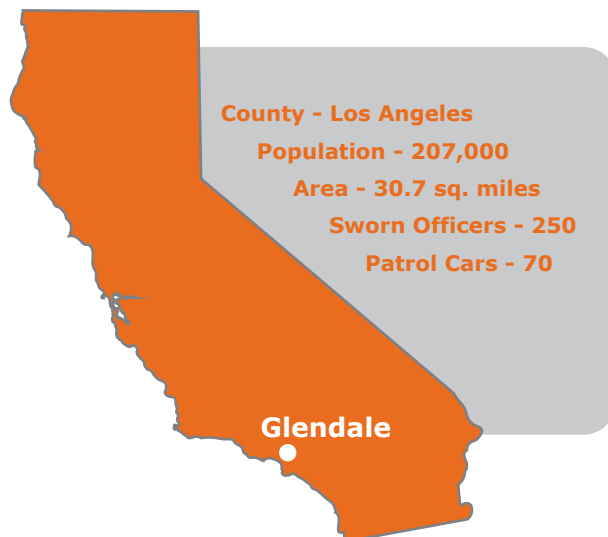
Getac docking station allows our officers the flexibility of removing the unit from the vehicle and working from a more comfortable or convenient location.

"What's really great is that they no longer have to come to the station to type up reports because the unit's wireless connectivity allows them to write their reports directly to the server from the field, which is where they need to be."

Today the department is working to switch their 900 MHz radio connection to Sprint's EVDO broad-band. They use Getac rugged computers for everything from e-mail, to criminal records checks, to CAD (dispatch software), to in-house records system, to BOLO (Be On the LOokout) and even to the county fingerprint database. Two of the city's cars are equipped with license plate recognition cameras and software, and 32 of the cars are being outfitted with in-car video cameras that will upload to the station via an 802.11g WiFi connection where the vehicles are parked.

The Glendale Police Department is definitely on the cutting edge of technology.

County - Los Angeles
Population - 207,000
Area - 30.7 sq. miles
Sworn Officers - 250
Patrol Cars - 70

Glendale

Getac