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VIDEO

Evidence Equipment

Video evidence is an ever-increasingly important part of police investigations. If a picture is worth a thousands words, then a moving picture with sound showing a judge and jury precisely how a suspect committed a crime, or admitted to it after the fact, is worth a million words. Many video evidence technologies exist on the market today, with new items being released on a constant basis. Here is a product worthy of serious consideration by any police department, large or small.

A Digital Eye on Interrogations

It makes sense to video record, systemize and manage interrogations, and to do it as effectively as possible. To help the process, Microception Inc., located outside Atlanta, GA, has invented a digital interrogation recording and management tool called VideOversight™. When connected to a department's local area network (LAN), VideOversight's distributed recording architecture enables

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authorized users to view live, record and playback interrogations from their desk, with the ability to provide audio instructions to the interrogator in real time. It will even support dual camera feeds at the same time, from the same room. VideOversight then automatically archives all of the video in a central server at the department, making it available over the LAN for later review and for export to external media for use in court.

VideOversight also lets authorized

users store, retrieve and share interview recordings and associated electronic media, i.e., digital crime scene photos, documents, spreadsheets and notes, in online case files. The system has a search function with the ability to do full text search on notes. Users can flag important video segments with a descriptive note and jump directly to that point in the video with a mouse click.

For safety's sake, VideOversight uses double recording redundancy, with the video being saved on the interview room's DVR, plus an archive server and on CD/DVD. The video's authenticity is verified during recording using a Secure Hash Algorithm (SHA) of the U.S. Digital Signature Standard. Finally, you can add as many users as you like to VideOversight because it comes without a per-user license fee.

"The electronic recording of custodial interrogations and investigative interviews is a powerful and efficient law enforcement tool," said Karl Parandjuk, Microception's president. "Coupled with sound policies and procedures, video can protect the rights of defendants while ensuring a factual presentation of evidence, making it a persuasive tool for prosecutors and juries alike. VideOversight is the latest, most advanced offering in this field."

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