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SA Police buys Canadian

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SOUTH Australia Police (SAPOL) has bought a \$13.3 million Canadian computer system to manage its operational police records, the third Australian police service to do so.

Niche Technology's Records Management System (RMS) will replace the force's ageing systems.

"SAPOL recognized that their legacy mainframe applications would become unworkable within 10 years and after an exhaustive procurement process identified Niche RMS as the commercial off the shelf (COTS) program with the best potential to replace the majority of their mainframe applications," the Canadian company said in a statement this morning.

The South Australian government approved the expenditure of Aus \$13.3 million for Stage One of the replacement, known as Program Shield, which will roll out Niche RMS to support SAPOL's Custody Management process and the Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act (SOCCA).

"The implementation of Niche RMS provides an opportunity for SAPOL's program team to undertake an examination of current business processes and identify opportunities for improvements and efficiencies through business process re-engineering," the company said.

Niche Technology is a privately owned company incorporated in Canada and the UK, specializing in law enforcement software.

Niche Records Management System is currently used by more than 50 per cent of Canadian police officers; 27 per cent of UK police officers in 12 forces; 20 per cent of Australia's police officers and is now in production use in the US.