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South Wales Police's New All-in-One Technology
Replaces Outdated Systems

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES – South Wales Police (SWP) have completed the installation of a new police information system that Supt. Richard Lewis, the officer in charge of the project, believes will lead to a reduction in crime and a feeling of increased security for the area's 1.3 million people.

Final implementation of the system, called Niche Records Management System (RMS), was completed on June 13th, replacing the separate systems the force has traditionally used with one system that unites their three regional offices. With one password, SWP's 3,500 sworn officers will now be able to access one central location containing all the force's details on case and custody.

SWP will add new Niche RMS features later this year, putting their crime and intelligence systems on the system so that officers can access information such as license plates, missing persons, vehicle recovery and even suspicious behaviour that may not have warranted an arrest.

As officers become familiar with the system, improved access to the force's collective intelligence will allow them to use information more efficiently, reducing the length of investigations and allowing them to solve crimes faster.

Ultimately, Supt. Lewis believes, the adoption of Niche RMS will lead to a reduction of crime and administrative cost savings for the police.

"Frankly, officers will spend less time engaging bureaucracy and more time on patrol," he says. "It will make us more effective, and I suggest the outcome will be a reduction in crime."

The Niche information management system also gives the force the capacity to provide timely updates to crime victims, giving them clear, unambiguous information. "People will feel safer," Lewis says.

Other Niche RMS benefits include decreased training time as officers only have to learn one system instead of many, and an increase in environmental friendliness, as they no longer need to print out as much paper due to all files being stored electronically.

Officer safety is also improved, as the dispatch team now knows immediately if an individual is a previous weapons offender, for instance.

All previously recorded information is being transferred onto the system, with 186,000 individual records being added.

Niche Technology, Inc., based in Winnipeg, Canada, is the world's leader in police information management. Niche software is used by 80 police agencies around the world. By July, 10 police agencies in the United Kingdom will have installed Niche RMS. North Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire, Hampshire, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Northern Ireland are already using the Niche system, and Wiltshire have just completed their Niche RMS launch.