



Face Recognition for Law Enforcement

Face Recognition technology is designed to identify a person using distinguishing facial traits. It has become one of the most promising and powerful technological developments for the law enforcement agencies to address the issues of identity in the booking, release, and criminal investigation processes.

It's a tool that complements deputies' training and judgment and reduces costly delays that can occur when attempting to ascertain a suspect's true identity.

Mobile Identification System (MIS)

Identify Suspects in the Field. Expedite Investigations.

A significant number of law enforcement encounters occur with individuals that lack acceptable identification. Law enforcement officers use their judgment and training in these instances to determine whether the suspect should be further questioned and investigated. This situation is costly for law enforcement and may inconvenience innocent people in the effort to find the individuals with criminal records who are attempting to evade the law.

Combining face recognition and wireless technologies, MIS is designed to provide deputies with the ability to verify an individual's identity in the field.

CASE STUDY: PINELLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IN FLORIDA IS UTILIZING FACE RECOGNITION TO IMPROVE LAW ENFORCEMENT

Identifying Uncooperative Suspects with MIS

Many times deputies in the field are presented with questionable credentials, no credentials or false identity information by suspects. With the MIS solution, deputies can capture an individual's image with a digital camera, place the camera into a docking station in the patrol car and through wireless communication to the PCSO's existing image database, and conduct a face recognition search to determine if the individual has been previously arrested. As a result, deputies can immediately determine if an individual being questioned has a prior criminal record and make a necessary arrest on the spot.

On September 11, 2004, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) deputies responding to a disturbance call found an uncooperative suspect who provided what turned out to be false name and date of birth, which made it impossible for deputies to identify the suspect through traditional measures.

Subsequently, the PCSO officers used MIS, powered by the leading face recognition technology, to quickly identify the 27-year-old female, who was wanted on two felony warrants. Upon being confronted with the positive photo match, the suspect confessed to her true identity and was subsequently arrested and booked at the Pinellas County Jail.

Since the implementation of the technology in over 50 patrol cars in a year timeframe, PCSO conducted over 100 arrests in the field.



MIS Workflow

Law enforcement officer takes digital image of suspect with an off-the-shelf digital camera.

Officer places the camera into a docking station within the patrol car or remote site and with the push of a single button transfers the image to the laptop.

The image is then enrolled into the system for searching against the facial database.

MIS downloads, saves, creates a facial image template, searches an image database, and returns a match gallery to the patrol car laptop with a single button click.

The officer identifies the facial matches returned from the search.

The officer retrieves and compares demographic information for the individual such as names given in prior encounters with law enforcement.



MIS Benefits

- Enhances officer's safety
- Saves officer's time
- Helps prevent false arrests
- Incorporates face recognition for reliable identification
- No special training required to use the system

MIS Specifications*

Software	Hardware
FaceEXPLORER	Laptop PC
MIS software	Digital Camera
Camera Drive software	Camera Docking station
Internet Explorer 6.0	Wireless communication
Windows® XP or Windows® 2000	

* Specifications subject to change without notice