CommPort™ System Comes Through for New Jersey Force



Solve your communication challenges by customizing your Motorola two-way radio for greater performance with the CommPort Integrated Microphone/Receiver System.



Situation

"The CommPort System works best in two distinctly different environments," said Sergeant Brian Farrar of the Franklin Township (NJ) Police Department.

"When it's really noisy, CommPort helps get the message through when it's hard to hear. Then, on the other hand, CommPort works really well when you want to be below-the-radar, say on surveillance or at a traffic stop when you're checking for outstanding warrants."

"You never miss a communication, and there is no need to repeat a message," Farrar added.

The sergeant was referring to Motorola's miniature microphone/receiver system that, when connected to a two-way portable radio, greatly enhances public safety communications. The CommPort Integrated Microphone/Receiver System makes it possible to hear and speak under some of the most adverse conditions. The CommPort System's advanced voice processing technology and miniaturized electronics deliver both enhanced voice communications capability and comfort to users of two-way radio equipment.

According to Sergeant Farrar, the Franklin Township Police Department first purchased a CommPort System in the late-1990s to be used by the bicycle patrol. After "a few years" during which the bike patrol "experienced good luck with CommPort", several additional systems were purchased for use by detectives for discrete communications while on surveillance.

Over the course of time, Farrar noted, several more CommPort systems were purchased to support the communications of this 115-person department responsible for a 47 square mile jurisdiction of 60,000 persons in Central New Jersey. All use the backbone of a Motorola trunked system supporting a mix of several hundred Motorola XTS 3000TM portable and ASTRO® Digital SPECTRATM mobile radios.

CommPort contains a miniature microphone and receiver that connect to a Motorola two-way radio and fasten securely to the ear. Unlike bone conduction or boom mic technology, the CommPort System picks up sound waves as they cross the face and enhances voice clarity under high noise conditions with proprietary DSP technology. The miniature receiver system delivers clear and private audio to the open ear without blocking hearing of environmental sounds.

Quick Snapshot

Features

- Provides sharp two-way communication.
- Functions under high noise conditions.
- Private listening only you hear the messages you receive.
- Designed to perform under the most severe conditions.
- Resilient to rain, heat and dust.

Industry Focus

- Firefighters
- Public Safety Professionals



(continued)

There was one fire that stands out. The sergeant on the scene was the only one with a CommPort earpiece. "With the noise level being dominated by sirens, fire noise, yelling and so on, this sergeant was also the only officer who could receive and relay messages."

Sergeant Brian Farrar
Franklin Township (NJ) - Police Department

"The CommPort is a good product. It's versatile enough so that a patrol officer can do his job in emergency situations while at the same time a detective can be unobtrusive and still stay in touch."

Sergeant Brian Farrar Franklin Township (NJ) Police Department.



NTN1723A - CommPort Integrated Microphone/Receiver System

NNTN4186A - Commport Integrated Microphone/Receiver, with Body PTT

Eventually the department, under the guidance of Chief Craig R. Novick, started utilizing CommPort during regular patrols throughout the township that is located near New Brunswick. Farrar, who supervises the department's communications division, decided to test the utility of CommPort in a broader, force-wide application when compared to traditional hand-held speaker microphones.

No one thing really spurred this idea. It was a combination of fire calls and car accidents on top of the needs of the detective bureau.

There was one particularly tough fire turnout that does stand out. The sergeant on the scene was the only one with a CommPort earpiece.

"With the noise level being dominated by sirens, fire noise, yelling and so on, this sergeant was also the only officer who could receive and relay messages. I guess you could say that was the catalyst," Farrar stated.

Farrar reported that the results of the patrol test were positive and led to his recommendation that the entire department put CommPort to work. Chief Novick took that recommendation and found the funding to support the purchase in early 2006. Now Franklin Township Police have about 90 CommPort Systems. Farrar then worked with Motorola's John Vilot and authorized Motorola dealer Wireless Electronics to bring this upgrade to life.

"Those 90-or-so CommPort Systems mean that about 90% of our rank-and-file officers are equipped to work in both environmentally noisy and tactically quiet situations."

"The CommPort is a good product. It's versatile enough so that a patrol officer can do his job in emergency situations while at the same time a detective can be unobtrusive and still stay in touch," Farrar concluded.

The Franklin Township force has learned that a package built for use on the quietest of stakeouts can also be of maximum value to first responders in chaotic situations. The CommPort Integrated Microphone/Receiver System is a unique and sophisticated answer to a variety of law enforcement communications requirements.

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Magnum Electronics, Inc

927 Horsepond Road Dover, DE 19901 302-734-9250 302-734-1056 Fax main@magnumelectronics.com

www.magnumelectronics.com