



Saving Money...

Case Study

In 2008-2009 Kent Police projected they would spend over £900,000.00 by outsourcing the forensic examination of mobile phones to an external provider.

Faced with impending budget constraints from central government the force was keen to ensure it did all it could to save precious public money.

Russell Leach - Digital Forensics Unit Team Leader for Kent Police was asked to lead on a fundamental review of how the force examined mobile phones.

Russell conducted an extensive evaluation of all the service providers and forensic tools on the market and came up with 'Best Value' for the force.

Faced with a choice of continuing to contract out their work or to take control of their own requirements internally, they chose the latter option.

In 2009 Kent Police choose the XRY & XACT Solutions from Micro Systemation and onsite training their staff.

Despite the initial up front expenditure in acquiring this new technology and training over 48 staff on the system – Kent Police project a saving of **£750,000** in 2010 compared to what they expected to pay for contracting out the work.

Some of the key points in this project were:

- Bringing mobile phone forensic examinations in house was the best option to keep down costs
- The force is now better equipped to examine a greater volume of mobile phones faster and achieve greater cost control on budgets
- Rolling the kit out onto divisions allowed them to introduce a scale of examination criteria to minimise unnecessary workloads
- Bulk Certification of students was possible with onsite training courses delivered by the vendor
- Rapid commencement of delivery is already demonstrating huge cost savings to Kent Police
- The Digital Forensics Unit made the largest contribution to overall cost savings in Kent Police in 2009

Of the decision to bring examinations in house Russell Leach said:

“Micro Systemation had the best product for our needs and their Certification Training ensured we could meet the requirements of the ACPO Guidelines on the production of digital evidence”

