

A Complete and Affordable Mobile Command Solution

This unique trailer and shelter combination comes with a price tag which appeals to those agencies struggling with fewer resources.

Bill Siuru, Ph.D., PE

Most larger police departments now have mobile Incident Command Posts (ICPs) which can be located at the scene of a crime or a disaster. Costing upwards of six figures, a well equipped ICP is out of reach for most small agencies. Now, DHS Systems LLC is offering the Reeves™ ICP Trailer, a trailer and shelter combination which can be fully equipped as an ICP, but for a fraction of the cost.

The Reeves ICP Trailer is based on the Deployable Rapid Assembly SHelter (DRASH®) System which DHS Systems has supplied to the military for over 20 years. Here, they are used as tactical emergency command centers, medical facilities, aircraft maintenance facilities, and forward operating bases.

Take It Anywhere

With a basic weight of 3000 pounds, the ICP Trailer can be towed with ease by most vehicles and, because of its aerodynamic design, there is a minimum fuel mileage penalty when towing. Its 18 inches of ground clearance, heavy-duty axle and off-road tires make it quite suitable for off-road duty. When the tent is stowed, the trailer is 16' 5" long and six feet wide so it can be stored in most garages.

The shelter comes in three sizes – small, medium and large with 107 square feet, 161 square feet and 214 square feet of usable space, respectively. When erected, the tents have an interior height of 7.7 feet and an outside height of 10.2 feet. The suggested retail price for each in basic form is

\$36,000, \$38,000 and \$40,000, respectively.

The shelter comes with a ground cover, a floor, wind lines and a weather tight seal between the shelter and trailer. The design has been tested to withstand wind gusts of up to 65 mph, as well as free falling and blowing rain without intrusion of water. It uses the same materials as the military DRASH.



A starting weight of less than 3,000 pounds allows the ICP trailer to be easily towed behind most vehicles.

Quick Setup

The shelter takes only minutes to set up or take down. All parts are preattached so there are no loose parts to misplace. While the setup of the mobile command trailer is taking place, the system is flexible enough so that communications equipment can be deployed at the same time. The unit's small footprint (only 12.8' by 32.9' for the largest model)

means it takes up less space compared to larger command vehicles, while having a wider interior than RV-based mobile command posts.

The double layer insulated shelter design means the interior stays cooler during the summer and warmer during the winter. With a built-in air-conditioning unit, keeping an ambient temperature comfortable inside the Reeves ICP is quite easy.

The mobile command post shelter has been tested by the military to maintain ambient temperatures between 40 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit when subjected to a temperature range of -50 to 131 degrees Fahrenheit. Thermoplastic exterior body panels are resistant to sunlight and fading and pass stringent automotive standards for long-term durability, weatherability, and sunlight exposure.

Power Availability

The ICP Trailer comes with a 6.5 kilowatt "Quietpak" gasoline generator, while a diesel generator is optional. A 20 gallon integrated fuel tank allows approximately 36 hours of operation. A longer life OPTIMA YellowTop® sealed 12 volt battery is charged either by the generator or by shore power; a battery powered refrigerator is optional.

For small communities, a single ICP Trailer could be used by different departments, such as police, fire and public health. Or, alternatively, because many SWAT teams are multijurisdictional or comprised of team members from several towns, this command center may be even more affordable if multiple agencies contribute to its cost; thus, interoperability is crucial.

Study Says TASER® Does Not Induce Enough Stress to Kill



A new study from an emergency medical doctor in Minneapolis (Minnesota) shows that, contrary to a popular belief, TASERs and other Electronic Control Devices (ECDs) do not dump heart damaging stress chemicals into the bloodstream.

In fact, other kinds of confrontations with police induce far more stress. The study showed that, of simulated flight from law enforcement, physical combat, and K-9 attack, along with actual hits from a TASER X26 and a can of OC spray, only the spray induced less stress.

Sixty law enforcement officers and civilian personnel, assigned to five groups of 12, took part in the study. Each group performed one task: Sprint 164 yards; hit and kick a heavy punching bag for 45 seconds; endure a K-9 exercise attack for 30 seconds; endure a TASER hit for ten seconds; or be sprayed in the face with OC.

Bloodstream chemicals (analyzed just after each event) showed that the heavy bag exercise – the simulated physical combat – induced the most stress, followed by the sprint group, the K-9 group, the TASER group, and the OC group. Thus, a fight with police is physiologically worse for a suspect to engage in than being hit with a TASER.

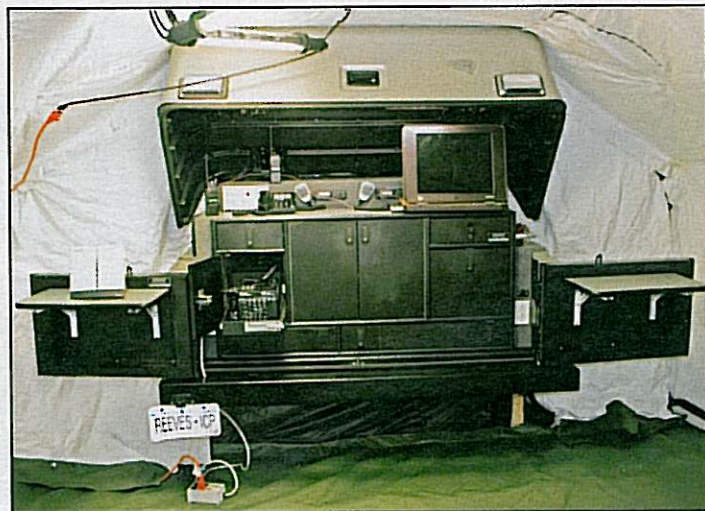
More research is planned in order to guide law enforcement in determining the best tactics and devices to subdue unruly subjects.

Different Interoperability Packages

To meet the needs of different agencies, applications and equipment requirements, there are four interoperability packages available. All include a command cabinet to hold communications gear and equipment storage. Optional communications equipment meets federal standards for interoperability in accordance with NIMS (National Incident Management System).

The Basic package is a platform on which users can build their own systems or install existing communications equipment. It includes no pre-installed communications equipment. The Local package is designed to allow bridging of different radio frequencies for local incident management. That way, different departments can easily communicate regardless of hardware. It also includes a cellular connection box to give voice, fax and Internet access via a cellular network. The Regional package includes "local" radio bridging and cellular access – it adds a satellite phone and BGAN satellite Internet access for additional, redundant communications capabilities. The Global package is based on a VSAT satellite dish terminal and gives broadband Internet access anytime, anywhere. It also includes a radio bridge and a set of radios. The satellite dish equipment is Mil-Spec.

About the Author: Bill Siuru is a retired USAF colonel. He has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Arizona



Four interoperability packages are available which can be tailored to each individual agency's needs.

For more information, contact DHS Systems LLC, 33 Kings Highway, Orangeburg, NY 10962; phone (800)328-5563; or visit the Web site at www.reevesicp.com.

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