Today’s reality: More information is available to law enforcement officers through technology, but accessing it increases distraction to dangerous levels.

We all know the slogan “Don’t Text & Drive.”

Studies find the use of mobile devices are as dangerous as alcohol when it comes to driving. In the benchmark study, from the University of Utah in 2006, researchers found that using mobile technology while driving has an effect on one’s driving abilities comparable to driving under the influence of alcohol. Evaluating the performance of 40 test subjects researchers determined that drivers using mobile technology actually performed worse than drunk drivers.

In 2016, distracted driving claimed 3,450 lives.

- According to the California Highway Patrol, at-fault collisions involving distracted emergency vehicles (police, fire, and ambulance) increased by 122 percent over the last decade, and the use of electronic equipment, such as in-car computers, was cited as a factor in over a quarter of all emergency vehicle collisions in 2013. ¹
- In June of 2013, an Anchorage jury awarded $375K to a serviceman injured when his truck was T-boned by a policeman who was driving while distracted by his in-car laptop. ²
- In September of 2012, a mother was killed and her son injured after an inattentive San Bernardino County Sheriff’s deputy slammed into the back of a Honda Accord that in turn struck a Mercedes-Benz. The case was settled for an undisclosed sum. ¹
- In 2013 a Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Deputy had been typing on his patrol car computer while returning from a call when he entered the bicycle lane and fatally struck entertainment attorney Milton Olin Jr., 65. The case was settled for an undisclosed sum. ³
- In 2012, a Tampa police officer was distracted by a department-issued computer in his vehicle when he rear-ended a Nissan Maxima making a left turn. Electronic records obtained from the officer’s vehicle show that he was traveling 40 mph in a 45 mph zone when he received a message on his computer. The suit was settled for an undisclosed sum. ⁴

¹ Distracted driving on the rise for police, fire and ambulance drivers, https://www.dailynews.com/2014/10/04/distracted-driving-on-the-rise-for-police-fire-and-ambulance-drivers/
Yet...
In one shift, the average Law Enforcement Officer will manage hundreds of messages via the laptop (MDC - Mobile Data Computer or MDT Mobile Data Terminal) and will take his or her eyes off the road hundreds of times to read and respond to those messages.

Personal injury attorneys seek the deepest pockets when representing their clients. This puts City, State and Federal Agencies at risk, and this has forced several departments to take draconian measures that trade officer efficiency for officer safety. These measures include systems that turn off screens and keyboards when the vehicle is moving, and keyboard lockouts that restrict officer communications. The result is to completely disconnect the officer from what could be critical situational information, and a drastic reduction in officer efficiency.

SAINT Police Systems has an elegant and affordable solution that goes beyond fixing the problem, by reducing liability, boosting efficiency, and increasing accuracy.

SAINT
(Situational Awareness Intelligence and Telematics)

SAINT is a unique technology that mitigates liabilities and creates a safer environment while on patrol through increased situational awareness.

SAINT Connect:
- Existing department technology (hardware and software)
- Can integrate with inexpensive, off-the-shelf hardware (Bluetooth earpieces) when necessary

SAINT Connect is an intelligent agent that responds to events automatically:

- inbound messages
- button pushes
- optional voice commands

Like a guardian angel, SAINT is invisible to the officer, using state-of-the-art technology to react to commands, and return actionable information from multiple datapoints. SAINT will distill all available data on a suspect, vehicle or location and present it in a concise report that can be both displayed on the officer’s screen and spoken directly in plain speech, so that the officer never needs to take his or her eyes off of the road or the subject.

“drivers using mobile technology actually performed worse than drunk drivers”

University of Utah 2006
Leveraging Technology You Already Own

SAINT integrates with technologies already in use by most law enforcement agencies and has the ability to connect to a broad range of additional data sources. The investment in SAINT is inexpensive and pays for itself many times over.

SAINT Connect Pays for Itself

Most systems designed to protect the lives of law enforcement officers involve a trade-off of security for a loss of efficiency, comfort, or accuracy. These systems are also expensive to purchase and maintain. SAINT Connect is cutting edge technology that keeps officers focused on policing and provides them with unparalleled situational awareness. SAINT pays for itself in the following ways.

**SAINT Reduces Liability**

Every day, police officers and emergency responders expose themselves to multiple points of liability. Policy and procedure is put in place to mitigate this liability, and continuously reformed as new risks emerge.

Technology continues to deliver new tools to law enforcement, but with each new tool, the officer’s focus is distracted from the situation and directed, in most cases, to a screen or keyboard. SAINT Connect allows law enforcement officers to take advantage of an even broader range of technologies without distraction. SAINT reduces the likelihood of traffic accidents and protects the lives of officers as well as those around them.

**SAINT Boosts Efficiency**

Giving an officer the ability to access data and use communication systems, without being distracted from the subject, increases policing efficiency. Additionally, SAINT’s ability to connect to multiple systems, eliminating the familiar practice of cut-and-paste that officers are familiar with, and SAINT’s unique ability to distill all of the information from multiple systems and jurisdictions, then deliver that information directly to the officer’s ear and monitor in a brief and concise report allows the officer to focus on being a Law Enforcement Officer, instead of a research assistant. SAINT makes police officers more efficient.

**SAINT Increases Accuracy**

We’ve all heard reports of traffic stops involving wanted felons that were simply released with a moving violation because the individual(s) information was missing from the NCIC report. We’ve also heard much worse, where the criminal actually takes an officer’s life. The officer either had no idea he or she was in danger or was simply distracted. Because SAINT has the ability to access data instantly from multiple databases, systems, and jurisdictions, it is designed to reduce the chance of false or incomplete assessment of a situation. And, because it can deliver this information directly to the officer, the need to retreat to a laptop is eliminated. SAINT makes officers more proficient by delivering accurate information that saves lives.
How It Works

SAINT is intelligent and interacts directly with the officer using technology the department already owns but is cumbersome to take advantage of.

- Commands can be triggered by single keystroke
- Inbound Messages are parsed and read back with award-winning speech technology
- SAINT automatically pulls information from multiple systems (no cut-and-paste)
- No matter where the message is coming from, SAINT can read and react to it
- SAINT intelligently parses messages, based on department procedure
- Reaction time is reduced by filtering nonessential information
- SAINT is fully customizable by the department through form-based editors
- SAINT is invisible, and there is no NEW software for the officer to learn

Simple Execution of Commands

A single keystroke or phrase can execute a series of commands, and commands can be custom programmed for the officer or unit. Anything that can be executed by the officer can be simplified.

Officers can use quick actions such as:

- Change Status based on event
- Cross-search DMV for owner info
- Search NCIC
- Search databases such as LiNX
- Send messages to a predefined group

Officers can also use more complex commands configured to perform specific functions unique to each department. All of these actions can be tied to a single function key, regardless of what mobile software is in use.

SAINT Connect: The Only Connected System for Law Enforcement That Reduces Liability, Boosts Efficiency, and Increases Accuracy

For many years, law enforcement agencies have invested millions of dollars in new information and technology systems, each with its own proprietary data structure and interface. NCIC, ALPR, LiNX, DMV, and MDC/MDT providers deliver the law enforcement community invaluable tools that are continuously evolving. SAINT pulls all of these technologies together to deliver actionable information to officers that does not compromise their security.

If your department needs to reduce the liability associated with the use of technology, and could benefit from the increase in efficiency and accuracy of information, then please contact us today.