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TOUGHBOOK IN ACTION. PANASONIC CF-19 NOTEBOOKS THE IDEAL FIRE SOLUTION

Surrey Fire and Rescue service is one of the UK's leading emergency services, protecting over 1 million people with 900 employees and 24 fire stations. A modern organisation, Surrey Fire and Rescue not only engages in fire prevention and safety, but also leads a number of community fire and road safety projects. In the CF-18 and CF-19 notebooks, Surrey Fire and Rescue has found a durable, ruggedised



IT solution that could easily be integrated into its existing communications network, allowing fire crews to share information with each other – both in the field during an emergency and on base during training. And thanks to its wireless connectivity and portability, the Toughbook is outperforming previous solutions.

TOUGHBOOK

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For more information visit www.toughbook.eu

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TOUGHBOOK IN ACTION. A RUGGED PORTABLE SOLUTION FOR SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE

When Surrey Fire and Rescue looked into updating its in-appliance IT systems, the CF-18 and CF-19 proved to be the ideal solution. The system's effective communications software package gives fire crews access to everything, from location-specific risk information on buildings, floor-plans, hydrants and toxic materials to training and community education videos. Previously, models could only offer access to this information from a fixed position within the appliance, requiring further computers and additional tools. They also suffered high failure rates under harsh conditions like vibration, high moisture levels, smoke, ash and dust creating the need for regular maintenance. The Panasonic models were the first to combine a lightweight and mobile interface with a rugged exterior, long battery life and low failure rate.

The primary users would be fire and rescue crews, giving each member of the team instant, reliable access to critical risk information. The laptops also needed to be GPRS enabled to provide precise location information to a central control team, who could then better resource incidents and receive live incident status updates. The new solution also needed to be highly portable with a long battery life for reliable performance during complex incidents. As a working piece of kit, it also needed to survive hard drops and heavy vibrations, as well as extreme

temperatures, humidity and airborne dust or smoke. Ideally, the IT solution should also be able to complement the fire crew's additional community role: helping to educate people in their homes and workplaces about the importance of fire and road safety.

In addition to withstanding knocks and bumps during an incident, the notebooks also needed to hold up in a station environment while crews remained on call. This required wireless connectivity and the ability to simultaneously process large data volumes of streaming video and location-specific risk information.

As world leaders in ruggedised mobile devices, Panasonic was able to deliver portability and network connectivity with the CF-18 and CF-19 models.

A mobile solution

The Panasonic CF-18 and CF19 have reversible touch screens, allowing them to be transformed from standard working laptops with keyboards into handy portable interfaces. Very practical in mobile situations, their versatility enables Surrey Fire and Rescue to educate individuals on the importance of fire safety while remaining on call for incidents. Building cradles not only charge the devices, but also offer a practical interface during travel to and from an incident. Robust, reliable and easy to maintain, the CF-18

and CF-19 have proven to be extremely useful for Surrey Fire and Rescue. Weighing in at 2.1 and 2.25kg respectively, notebook battery life lasts an impressive 8 hours. And both models resist water and dust; and can withstand falls of up to 90cm.

A 21st century solution

Surrey Fire and Rescue has implemented 55 CF-18 and CF-19 notebooks across 47 fire appliances. Feedback has been extremely positive and with a very low failure rate, users have commented on how much easier it makes their work. As a thoroughly modern fire and rescue service, Surrey was the first in the country to introduce this technology. With this kind of success, they are sure not to be the last.



TOUGHBOOK



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