



Vice Presidential Debate security to use local E-SPONDER Express™ Product *WUPD employs St. Louis solution for incident and event management, mandate compliance*

ST. LOUIS, MO :: March 13, 2008 :: The Washington University Police Department (WUPD) has selected incident management system E-SPONDER Express™ for use at the October Vice-Presidential Debates to be held at Washington University, and as a tool in their ongoing operations. St. Louis based company E•SPONDER, created this turnkey solution for first response agencies, allowing them to view organized data that is tracked in real-time during events and incidents.

The WUPD used the E-SPONDER® suite, created for collaborative use by multiple departments, for security management of the 2004 Presidential Debates at Washington University. E-SPONDER Express™ is built for use by an individual agency, and comes equipped with a host of automated forms and tools for tracking and managing resources and information.

"E-SPONDER® allowed me to have all of the key information that I needed before, during, and after the 2004 Debate, as well as the ability to manage that information instantly," Washington University Police Chief Don Strom said. "So when E•SPONDER introduced their new E-SPONDER Express™ solution to the department, I was immediately interested."

E-SPONDER Express™ is an appliance device; the solution literally arrives ready to go, and includes hardware, software, licensing, training, and 3 years of hardware maintenance for \$19,999. Users access the browser-based tool online or through the purchasing organization's private network, and because it is a turnkey solution, it requires little to no IT involvement on the part of the organization.

"We built E-SPONDER Express™ to be the whole package – everything an organization needs to be informed during incident management, as well as the tools to prepare for an event and recover afterwards," E•SPONDER President and CEO Robert Wolf said. "We pride ourselves on the usability of E-SPONDER Express.™ Because it utilizes Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007, users interact with a familiar interface and can be trained on the system in minutes."

E-SPONDER Express™ includes a standard, all-hazards template utilizing the ICS forms, roles and processes outlined by FEMA. The SharePoint Server solution also allows users to create templates that can be loaded with a wealth of information based on the types of incidents that face the organization.

"We are pleased that E•SPONDER has taken the opportunity to expand on the SharePoint Server 2007 platform," said Tom Rizzo, Director of SharePoint at Microsoft. "This tool can enhance the rich set of features SharePoint Server 2007 already offers to better fit the needs of first responders."

It also provides organizations with the tools to fulfill the mandates of Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5), thus assisting in the response and recovery processes including the ability to assist in identifying and tracking reimbursable expenses by the organization.

HSPD-5 requires that those agencies involved in incident management be compliant with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command Structure (ICS). These directives mandate that first response organizations track a large quantity of data, including expense, resource, and personnel information. ICS alone can be up to 40 forms that must be filled out for every operational period. Part of what E-SPONDER Express™ does is provide electronic versions of these forms and automate them for single-click entry, so that recurring information is input automatically.

"Even when an event is over, the responding organization still has to complete a large amount of paperwork; with the automated ICS forms, their post-incident work becomes much more manageable," Wolf said.

In addition to the E-SPONDER Express™ solution, the WUPD will also be leveraging the E-SPONDER Alerts™ module. This component allows the department to request assistance from or provide information to thousands of people within seconds. This two-way communication tool enables an organization to simultaneously notify thousands of individuals of critical information by voice, text message, e-mail, or alpha pager, and then records and tracks each person's response.

"The night before the 2004 debate, I got a good night's sleep because I knew that we had a plan in place that would work and we also had a solution in front of us that would allow us to manage that plan," Strom said. "With the incorporation of E-SPONDER Express,™ I know that we will have the tools we need to be informed about our environment in any situation."

For more information on E-SPONDER Express,™ visit e-sponder.com or call 314.686.4100.