

Patrol-Cam

TESTIMONIAL

- From a Police Officer in the Queensland Police Force (Gold Coast Australia 2008).

Please let me introduce myself, I am currently employed as a Police officer. Previous to this I have been employed by Corrective Services and built my career by holding many positions within the private security sector. These positions include Security Manager, Supervisor, Armed Guard, Canine Handler, Passenger screener, Control room Operator and Traffic Control. I hold a Diploma in Community Policing, Diploma in Security and Risk Management, Cert 3 in Correctional Practices, cert 3 in Security Operations along with other vocational training.

I was given the opportunity by Farm Cam Town and Country Security to trial a Patrol Cam as part of my duty equipment while performing the duties of a Police Officer while working Indy this year (2008). Many police officers are caught between wanting useful equipment and wanting to lose dead weight (an item of equipment issued and carried but rarely used.) I am pleased to say that the Patrol Cam proved not to be dead weight.

When I first held the unit I was surprised at just how light weight the unit was and when I attached it to my uniform using a triple B leather craft Mic Holder the unit was almost unnoticeable. The unit being about the same size as a 25 pack of cigarettes did not compromise my duties by restricting movement in any way.

When I downloaded the pictures from the unit I was impressed with the quality of them. On a day where I performed traffic control you could clearly see the registration plates of approaching vehicles and on my approach had a facial shot better than most CCTV footage I have seen, identity could easily be obtained by such pictures.

Many officers that I worked with were amazed by the unit and its ability to last a full 8 hour shift and store many thousands of pictures. I could see this unit being a plus to all General Duty/First Response Police, Traffic Branch and single officer units with applications from identifying offenders and use in court to prove elements of an offence and identity of offenders. I can also see a use within the crowd control and private security sector. The Patrol cam could be use to take a shot of a patron and a patron ID on entry to an establishment making it far easier to Identify trouble makers at a later date.

Other uses could be to record the actions of security, keeping a record of patrols that cannot be cheated and of events and reactions. Such tool could avoid litigations and negate liability in the event of an occurrence.

The only way that I could see this item to be improved is an easier to access on and off switch and the ability to record sound which would remove the need for officers to carry micro cassette or digital recorders and make less dead weight.



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