AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS

WHAT ARE THEY, AND HOW DO THEY WORK?

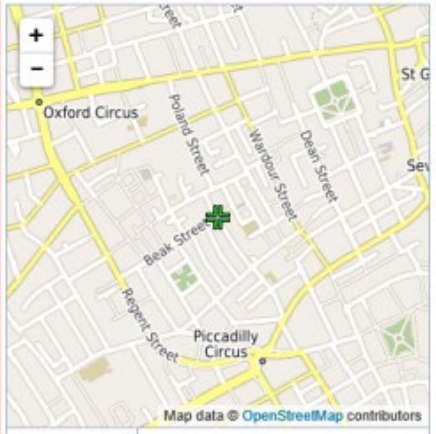
- A CAMERA SYSTEM THAT PHOTOGRAPHS WHAT IT PERCEIVES AS LICENSE PLATES AND THEN INTERPRETS THE IMAGE AND CONVERTS IT TO A LICENSE PLATE NUMBER.
- THIS NUMBER IS THEN COMPARED TO HOT LISTS OF LICENSE PLATES AND SENDS ALERTS, WITH A PHOTOGRAPH, TO USERS THAT THE WANTED VEHICLE JUST PASSED A GIVEN LOCATION.
- THESE READS ARE STORED IN A SECURE LAW ENFORCEMENT MANAGED SERVER.
- THE READS ARE SHARED WITH OTHER AGENCIES BASED ON A MOU.
- ACCESS TO THE STORED DATA IS PROTECTED BY THE SYSTEM AND THE POLICES OF THE AGENCY.

- After the camera reads the tag, it captures the data and transmits it to Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) level secure servers located at Houston HIDTA.
  - The data is held for 6 months and then deleted with no retrievability.
  - An audit tool allows us to track every inquiry made by our users to make sure everyone is complying with policies.
- Open records requests must be received by the Highway Patrol.
  - Houston HIDTA is then consulted whether or not the data is protected from release.

Correct | Incorrect

Edit

VRM Number: KB0JOY



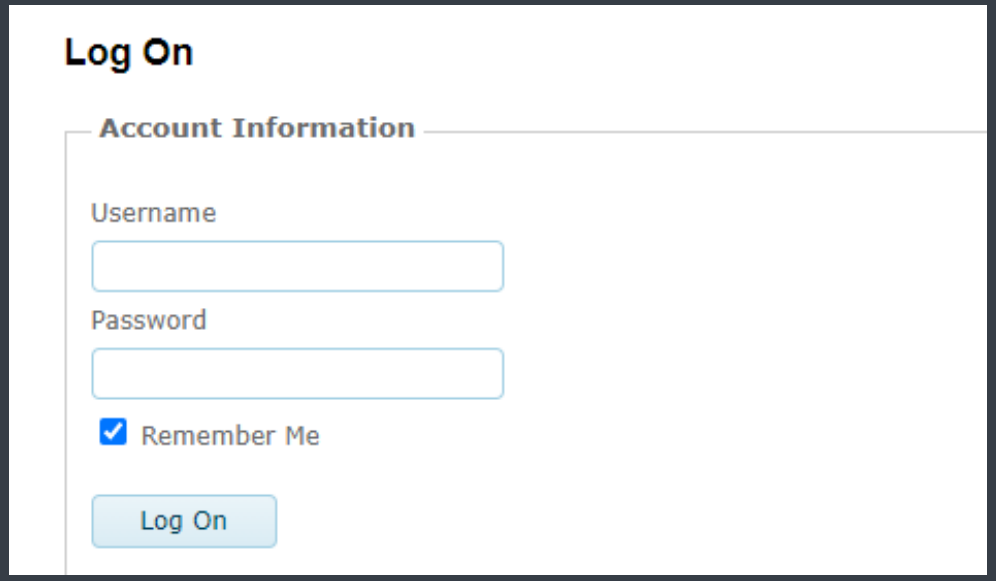
Nearest Address	Lexington Street, City of Westminster, London, England,
Nearest Cross Street	Brewer Street

Alarm/Read Info

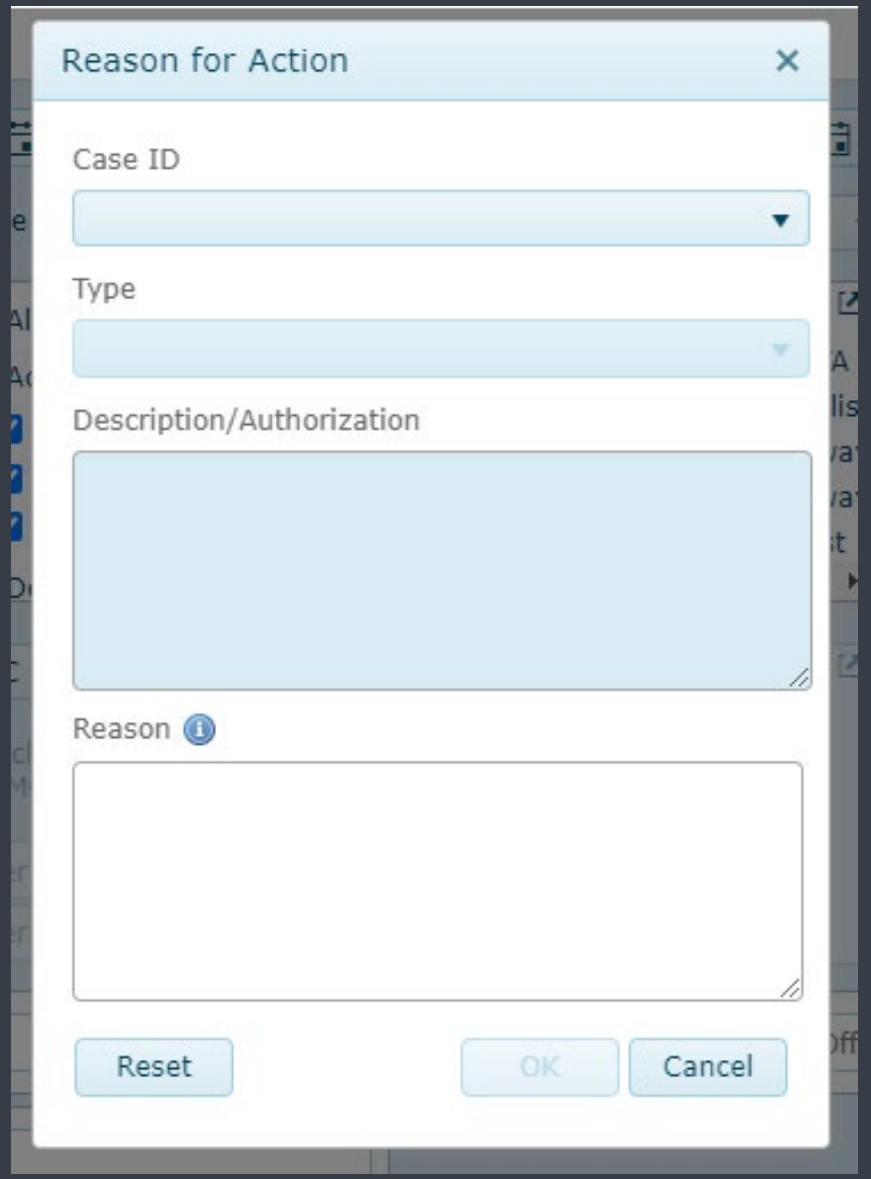
VOI List	NASP
Status	Pending Alarm
Class	C-Violence
Notes	CAUTION: The owner of this vehicle is likely to be heavily armed.
Additional Notes Add	
Valid Date/Time	From: 25/04/2017 20:03:00 UTC+01:00 To:
User	
Domain	Administrative
Hot VRM	KB0JOY
VRM	KB0JOY
Date/Time	25/04/2017 20:01:46 UTC+00:00
GPS	(51.512920, -0.136127) Google Bing
Reader	20_53_SET-053
Reader Notes	
User	
Camera	20_53_74_Camera-0074
Domain	London
Make	
Model	
Colour	
Colour 2	
Type	

Who can access the system?

The system used by KHP requires an authorized, vetted user to enter a username and password to access the system.



- Accessing the stored data requires a valid law enforcement reason.
- There are levels of access based on the user's role within the agency.
- Agency Policy and the MOU regulates the use of the data and dissemination of the data.
- There is an audit feature which allows the administrators to see all activity based on user, date, plate number.
- Before a search of a specific plate number is conducted, the system requires the user to give a reason for the search. Policy then decides what is a valid reason for a search.



How can it help Law Enforcement?

- Searching past reads can help when conducting investigations by
  - Finding the location of a victim's vehicle might change the date, time, and location of the last known sighting of a missing person
  - Providing investigators with photos of actual suspect or wanted vehicles.
  - Alerting users of wanted vehicles in real time
- Apart from alerting users a wanted vehicle has just passed a tag reader, this data can be used to track license plate numbers which are involved in classified and ongoing investigations.

Case Example 1

In this case, a historical data search found a homicide victim's vehicle was being driven by the suspect with a live kidnapping victim in the vehicle. KHP was able to send the photograph to road troopers who located the vehicle, even though the plate had been switched by the time the vehicle had been located.

The suspect was arrested, and the victim safely returned to their family.

Case Example 2

In another case, it was used to confirm an alibi in a homicide case. After the person had been arrested for several months, the tag read was not found, murder charges were dropped, in part, due to this information.

Case Example 3

In August 2016, a juvenile female who was being transported from St. Louis, MO to Wichita, KS for sex was texting for help.

Law Enforcement was tracking her telephone by pinging the locations as it travelled down the highway. With no car description and the girl not knowing her exact location, pings are several minutes behind the actual phone location. One ping put the girl near a fixed site LPR.

Approximately an hour later, phone pings put the girl in a several hundred yard area in a residential area in Wichita, KS. A Trooper drove the area checking the license plates within the target area to compare them to times of reads matching the pings from the fixed site LPR.

The very first tag checked matched the time. She was recovered and returned to her family. The house where she had been taken to appeared to be set up as a sex house. There was no clothing or any personal items. The majority of the furniture in the home were beds.

Case Example 3 (cont.)

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — A Kansas man has been charged with kidnapping a teenage girl from St. Louis after meeting her on Facebook.

The U.S. attorney's office says 49-year-old man from, Wichita, was charged Wednesday with kidnapping a minor and transporting a minor across state lines to engage in sexual activities. No attorney is listed for him in online court records.

Prosecutors say he traveled to St. Louis to meet the teen and picked her up from school Aug. 19. He is accused of making threats and forcing the teen to go with him to Wichita, where she was found at restaurant.

If convicted, the man faces up to life in federal prison on the kidnapping charge, and not less than 10 years and a fine up to $250,000 on the transportation charge.

The man has previous convictions for rape, battery and aggravated robbery in Finney County, according to the Kansas Department of Corrections.