

Enhancing Law Enforcement Using Data & Visual Analytics

Benefit: *As much as 75% of a law enforcement organization's data is unstructured – not stored in a database – making it one of the most valuable untapped resources available to law enforcement and counter-terrorism experts today. Our project aims to organize and analyze Port Authority crime data to aid in crime prevention.*

Mission

DyDAn is joining with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PA NY/NJ), Pacific Northwest National Labs (PNNL), Intuidex, and the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) to develop cutting-edge data analytic and visualization tools to be immediately and effectively used by Port Authority law enforcement personnel. Our goal is to marry law enforcement and counter-terrorism initiatives to find emerging trends and changes in the nature and location of crimes enabling more proactive force deployment by the PA NY/NJ police.

The first phase, CompStat, involves compiling comprehensive crime statistics from the PA NY/NJ bus terminal. Much of the preliminary work creating a basic infrastructure is already complete. This includes downloading historical data from the PA NY/NJ police server, setting up a network for automatic daily updates from the server, and developing an interim database with crime analysis software of our design. This system enables a weekly CompStat recap for each facility, including statistics for seven major crimes, targeted crimes, and/or quality of life issues. The second phase involves creating a data warehouse aimed at providing easier access to under-utilized everyday data by enabling automatic information gathering and intelligence generation. These capabilities will support suspect identification and discovery of trends that aid in counter-terrorism and crime prevention efforts. The third phase will integrate visual analytics methods developed at PNNL to mine valuable links between entities in order to enable the PA NY/NJ police command staff to quickly visualize crime and other trends. PA NY/NJ Executive Director Tony Shorris describes this system as a “national model” for counter-terrorism and crime prevention and analysis.

Collaborator(s):

- Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PA NY/NJ)
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
- Intuidex
- The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START)

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