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## Police cruisers to be equipped with radiation surveillance devices

Vol. 66, Issue 4 2004

The RCMP is collaborating with federal science laboratories and private-sector organizations to install some 20 mobile real-time radiation surveillance devices in police vehicles patrolling the National Capital Region in Ottawa.

*Suzanne Blanchet*

*Twenty of these mobile, real-time radiation detectors—the first of their kind—will be installed in RCMP cruisers patrolling the National Capital Region.*

Laboratories Services. "Over the year, there will be some variability, so if it fluctuates beyond the normal variation there will be an alarm that will let someone know that there is something going on."

Hand-held stationary radiation detection devices already exist and are used by both law enforcement and private industry. But those can only monitor radiation at a specific time and location. The new detection device, developed by McFadden Technologies and Mobile Detect in Mississauga, Ontario, is the first in the world to not only be mobile but also have cellular and GPS capability, monitoring the environment 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

During the next year, the pilot project team will examine the durability of the devices and develop an effective alarm system to alert first responders and other agencies should a radiological or terrorist event occur.

The project is partially funded by the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Research and Technology Initiative (CRTI), a five-year program to strengthen Canada's preparedness for, prevention of and response to a CBRN attack

—Richard Vieira, with files from Liam Gerofsky

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Last Updated: 2004-12-19

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