



Protecting
Your Data™

CRU Removable Drives Fight Cyber Crime Worldwide

When several African countries requested U.S. assistance and training in computer forensic investigations, the U.S. Secret Service called upon Forensic Computers, Inc. to build 22 highly specialized forensic computer workstations for the program. The towers needed to be rugged, dependable, fast and durable in order to quickly process critical evidence, protect data from corruption, and to enable mobility from field to lab and vice versa. The Forensic Computers team chose to use CRU's DataPort® removable hard drive enclosures exclusively for the project.

CHALLENGE

Today, criminals can use virtually any computer to commit or facilitate crimes – from pornography and counterfeiting, to identification theft and money scams. Transnational cyber crimes can be committed in one country and the data can be saved on a hard drive in another country. Launched over a decade ago, a Secret Service training program taught several cyber crimes investigative units in Africa how to track and locate files stored on all forms of electronic media in order to generate written reports to support prosecution.

A critical factor in any type of forensic investigation is establishing and maintaining a reliable chain of evidence. If that chain is broken, the case is compromised and ultimately weakened. When it comes to computer forensics, everything hinges on the reliability of the hardware and software being used by investigators. If data is corrupted or lost, there goes the chain ... and your case.

Forensic Computers was charged with building forensic computer workstations that could be used to image the hard drive of a suspect's computer so that investigators could then search the duplicated drive for incriminating evidence. Jim Raubach is Owner/Founder of Forensic Computers. He is a retired Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) special agent and computer crime investigator, and he served as the Deputy Director for Computer Crime Investigations out of Washington, DC. According to Raubach, the towers are the "Swiss Army knives" of forensic workstations. "The computers need to support multiple operating systems and formats and they have to be fast. They get a lot of hardcore use in the field and we simply can't have unreliable parts wearing out or compromising the dependability of the system."

SOLUTION

Raubach and his team built 20 Forensic Solid Steel Towers and two portable Forensic Air-Lite V units for acquisition and analysis of computer forensic data. The towers feature six DataPort removable hard drive storage modules. The DataPort removables are rated for over 30,000 insertions, use gold-plated connectors for real-time data transfer, feature a patented drive-cooling technology which reduces heat by 30 to 50 percent, and are backed by an industry-leading 5-year warranty.

"With these at all of our workstations, there is a high expectation for the quality of transferred data," said Raubach. "DataPort products are able to maintain high speeds without corruption and they completely capture the data. Performance is excellent."



WHY CRU?

With other options available for removable hard drive storage, why does Forensic Computers rely solely upon CRU?

"CRU has taken very good care of us over the years; their customer service is responsive and helpful," said Raubach.

"We once tried to use generic hard drive storage units but the quality was inconsistent, the warranties were poor, and the performance was dismal. DataPort products are well-built and extremely durable. And the five-year warranty is unbeatable.

When you purchase DataPort removables, you know you have something that's going to last that's critical in our business."

ABOUT FORENCIC COMPUTERS

Founded by a retired Air Force Office of Special Investigations special agent in 1995, Forensic Computers engineers, fabricates and produces computer forensic workstations in portable, tower and rackmount versions. The

West Virginia-based company utilizes a law enforcement perspective when building their systems, which are deployed all over the world. Forensic Computers has a broad client base that includes most federal investigative agencies, all service branches of the U.S. military, and Fortune 500 companies, among others.

For more information, visit the CRU web site.

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