

HARDCAT

Delivering Asset Certainty



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HARDCAT

EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT

Complete Evidence Tracking and Management



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The purpose of the Hardcat Evidence Management System is to ensure efficient management of evidence collected from crime scenes. This includes maintaining proper chain of custody, safe and secure storage of seized/gathered evidence, and timely disposal in accordance with the law.

The various components of effective evidence management include creation of a database for indexing, and the identification of items through tagging using technologies like barcoding, QR codes, and RFID tags. Additionally, they also include documentation processes, issuance and receipt of items, and disposal procedures.

The goal is to streamline and automate the management of evidence, improve tracking and retrieval, and enhance security and accountability.

To ensure the integrity of evidence, various processes and tools are used and these include:

- **Chain of Custody:** ensures that the items seized by police are properly registered and recorded on the Hardcat Evidence Management System. Accurate documentation helps establish a correct chain of custody, which is essential for the evidence to be accepted in a court of law. By keeping a record of when items are removed from and returned to the police station or storage facility, the Hardcat platform ensures that the evidence remains secure, and its integrity is preserved.
- **Safety and Security:** The safety and security of seized articles are of utmost importance in maintaining the integrity of evidence. Hardcat Evidence Management ensures that access limits, regular monitoring and audits, are in place to safeguard the confiscated items. By implementing these measures, our system minimises the risk of tampering, theft, or damage to the evidence, thereby preserving its integrity. Additionally, explosives, bio-hazard items and other high-risk evidence are clearly identified in the system to protect those that are handling the exhibits.
- **Domain Control:** is a powerful tool which goes way beyond traditional security. In essence it is based on data partitioning which mandates the scope of data visible to a user. Administrators define domains which grant permissions to access specific data relevant to their tasks. Domain control is a powerful tool to help maintain the accuracy and validity of data, while arming people with the information they need to get the job done to deliver value.
- **Search and Audit Capabilities:** The Hardcat Evidence Management System uses powerful search capabilities that allow the user to slice and dice the data and quickly find the evidence item they are looking for. Audit of the evidence stored can be performed by means of smartphones and tablet reducing the time taken from days to mere hours and minutes.
- **Reporting:** Hardcat Evidence Management System is designed to supply reports on demand or automatically upon the occurrence of given events or a consolidated view of all items.



Hardcat Evidence Management Solution

The benefits that the Hardcat Evidence Management System CoTS (Commercial off The Shelf) solution provides are as follows:



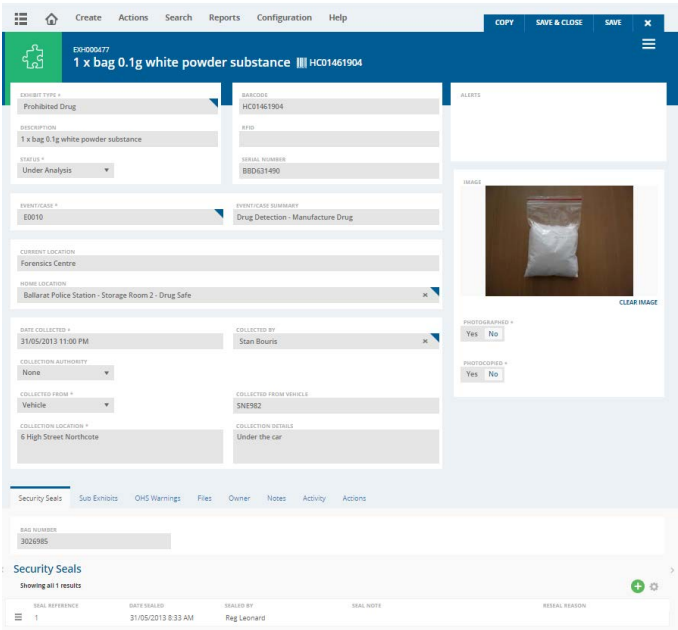
- Leveraging domain expertise derived through delivering similar solutions to law enforcement.
- Distilling implementation learnings from solutions deployed around the world.
- Rapid deployment of a largely pre-configured solution framework, packaged to be suited for management of any evidence item.
- CoTS solution capability i.e. standard preprepared reports, search criteria and dashboards relevant when dealing with evidence.
- Provide 'intelligence' which is derived from the evidence data collected and retained in the system for better visibility and decision making.
- Improve the management of tampering risk and loss of evidence and meet compliance requirements through comprehensive chain of custody processes and reporting.
- Manage health and safety risk through warnings and indicators for people handling evidence.
- Easy identification of evidence ready for disposal and simplified disposal process and records.
- Collection of evidence items and details at the scene.
- Auditing and tracking of evidence movements to verify their existence and storage location.
- Interoperable through Hardcat APIs to case management and other third-party systems.



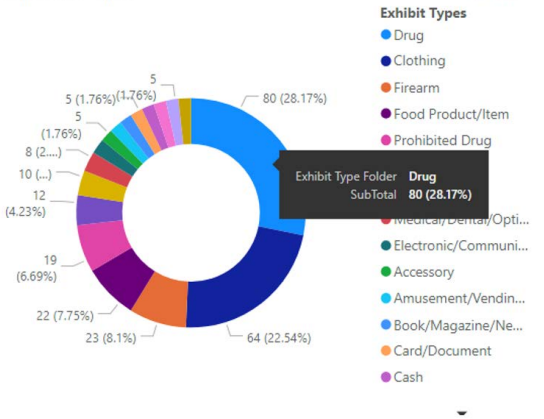
Hardcat Evidence Management easily integrates with existing BI tools such as MS Power BI, Tableau, Yellowfin and more.



Using our intuitive dashboard, you can run all types of queries. Furthermore, you can set permissions on who can access what types of data.



Top Exhibit Types



Estimated time to conduct a full property store audit

Work unit	Total item numbers	Estimated days to complete audits	
		One full audit	Four full audits
Crime Command Property Office	35 643	51	204
Logistics and Support Division	30 204	43	172
Sunshine (Uniform Unit)	10 445	15	60
Geelong (Uniform Unit)	8 769	13	52
St Kilda (Uniform Unit)	6 412	9	36

Note: Estimated days have been rounded.
Source: VAGO based on PaLM data as at February 2018.



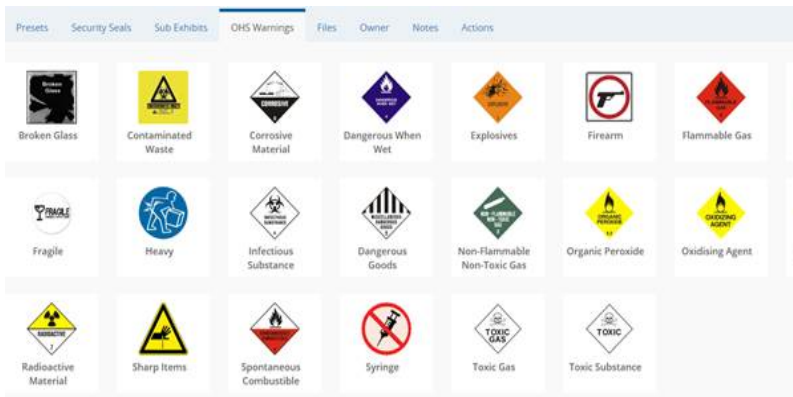
Feature Rich User Interface

Hardcat Evidence Management Solution exploits leading edge web browse technology for the feature rich user interface. The resulting benefits of the Hardcat Evidence Management Solution user interface include:

- Cross platform, cross browser portability
- Minimises network traffic
- Rich Internet Application technology
- Provides seamless mobility capability
- Simple, familiar, intuitive unmatched experience with high user satisfaction



The Hardcat Evidence Management Solution analytics provide sleek interactive dashboards. Making it easy to send immediate ad-hoc reports to any digital device.

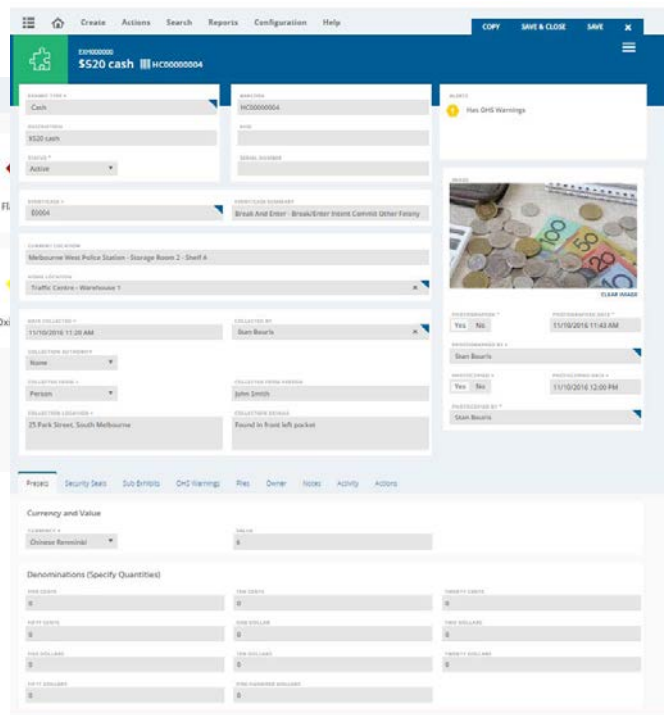


Hardcat Evidence Management Solution facilitates health and safety risk management. It does so by marking the specific risks relevant to each evidence item. For example explosives or bio-hazards.

Information Reporting

The inbuilt Hardcat Evidence Management Solution reporter has the flexibility and power to create and publish any required reports. Example reports are:

- Management
- Operational
- Chain of custody
- Detailed audit trails
- Complete visibility at every stage
- History reports
- Briefs

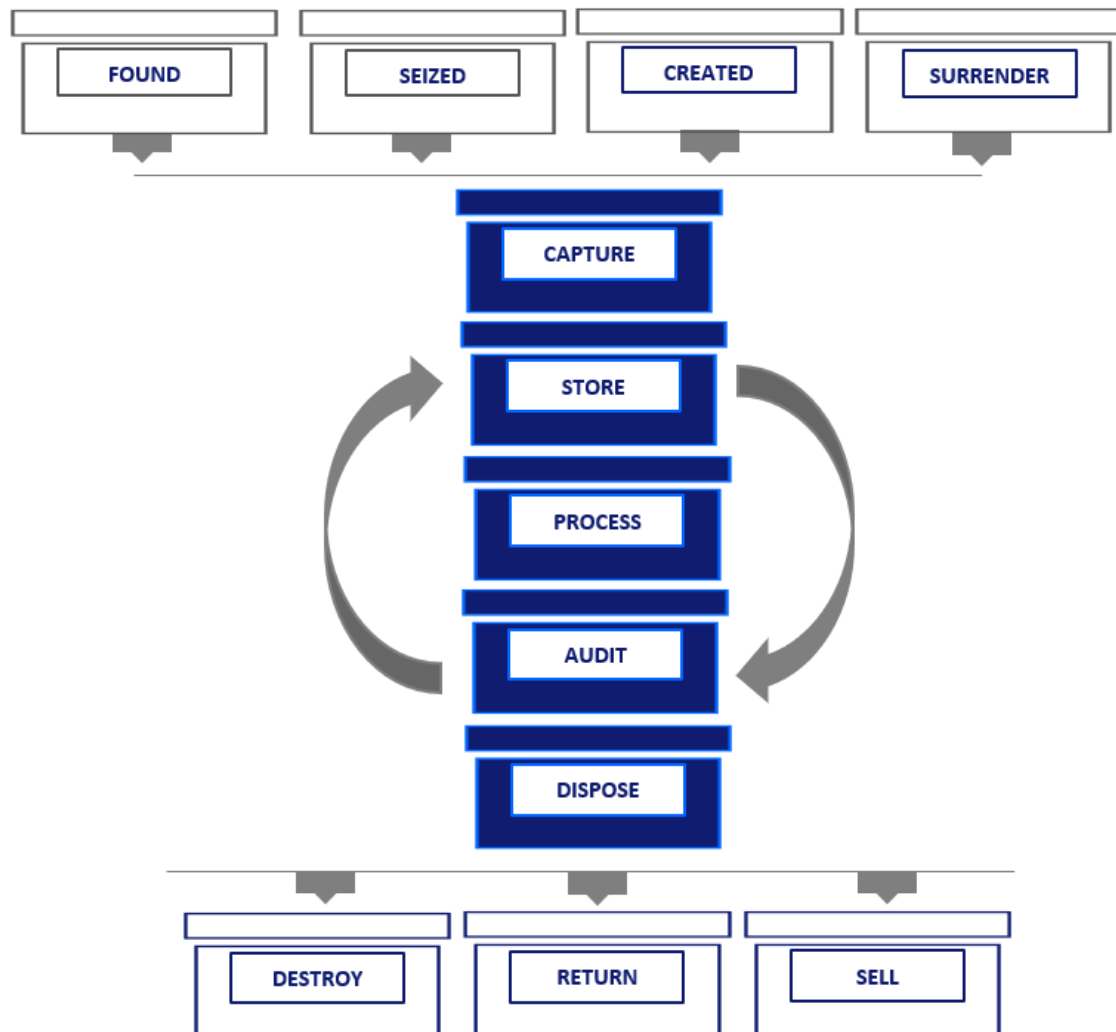


- Unlimited user-definable fields
- Clean, simple layout
- Clear, concise content on evidence screens



Procedures and Process

Example of the process for managing seized property.



Finding Evidence

Don't spend hours looking for a particular piece of evidence. Use the Hardcat Evidence Management RFID mobility application that acts like a Geiger counter getting louder as you get closer to the evidence that you are looking for.

Before Evidence Solution Search



Annual Cost \$250,000

30 minutes per search

10,000 searches

Hours per year = 5000

Cost per hour = \$50

After Evidence Solution Search



Annual Cost \$16,700

2 minutes per search

10,000 searches

Hours per year = 334

Cost per hour = \$50

Evidence Audit

Before Evidence Solution Audit



Annual Cost \$333,000

1 minute per item

100,000 items = 100,000 minutes

4 audits per year

Hours per year = 6666

Cost per hour = \$50

After Evidence Solution Audit



Annual Cost \$11,110

2 seconds per item

100,000 items = 3,333 minutes

4 audits per year

Hours per year = 222

Cost per hour = \$50



Hardcat Evidence Management - Case Study



In 2008, Hardcat was appointed by New South Wales (NSW) Police to manage their Evidence and Forensics Information Management System (EFIMS). NSW Police is made up of 500 Police Stations, covers an area of more than 800,000 square kilometres and has 20,000 sworn officers. It is Australia's most populous state with a population of over 8.3 million.

End-to-end management

Events, cases, incidents, jobs and evidence

Success with the EFIMS system saw the project expanded so it could be integrated with NSW Police Force's core, mainframe-based Computerised Operational Policing System (COPS); an operational database used to record victim, offender and incident information.

This means that it supports complete transparency on cases, events and incidents in relation to all jobs and tasks that all officers perform in the field.

Released to front-line duties

NSW Police practices have improved with the introduction of EFIMS and have released officers to front-line duties as well as saving money.

All types of evidence

- Firearms
- Electronic records
- Paper documents
- Cash
- Clothing
- Drugs
- Firearms and ammunition items
- Bulky items such as motor vehicles, boats and vessels, such as jet skis.

Comprehensive tracking

Operationally, EFIMS now enables NSW Police to know the exact whereabouts and history of any piece of evidence gathered by any officer anywhere in the State of NSW Australia.

Providing a comprehensive tracking and information management solution that records every touch point on forensic evidence and investigative intelligence, the EFIMS solution is facilitating a new era of best practice electronic information management for the NSW Police Force.

EFIMS ushers in new automated and fully audit-able tracking processes. These dramatically reduce the amount of time police officers spend on maintaining manual evidence logs or briefs as each piece of new information is only ever entered once joining a full audit trail of every entry and interaction.



Benefits and Statistics of EFIMS

NSW Police force reduces brief construction time to 60 seconds with EFIMS.

Benefits
created by
EFIMS

The mammoth reduction in administration hours will put more officers out on the street doing what they have been trained to do.

80% of brief construction reduced to 60 seconds	FUNCTION	BEFORE	AFTER
	Check-In/Out Process	Up to 240 seconds	10 seconds
67% savings in auditing evidence items	Chain Of Custody Reports	Up to 5 hours	20 seconds
	Follow Up Forensic Analysis/Results	Up to 5 days	15 seconds
40% improvement in turnaround times	Generation Of Volume Crime Brief	Up to 7 days	60 seconds
	Crime Scene Response Notification	Up to 20 minutes	15 seconds
50% saving in job and evidence creation	Generation Of Reports For Parliament	Up to 6 months	25 minutes
	Modus Operandi Searching	Unquantifiable	15 minutes

Go live Year	2010
Access Required	24/7
Level of Importance	Tier 1
Number of Users	20,000
Who Specified The System	NSW Police
Who Wrote The System	Hardcat
Evidence/Exhibits Entered Daily	1072
Forensic Analysis Jobs Per Day	291
Forensic Results Per Day	524
Crime Scene Attendance Jobs Per Day	190
System Uptime	99.00%

EFIMS statistics

Since going live EFIMS has supplied previously impossible processing power as well as increased conviction rate due to chain of custody on all pieces of evidence.





Awards and Accolades



Hall of Fame Premier's Public Sector Awards

NSW Police were awarded the 'Success Through Innovation Award' for Exhibits, Forensic Information and Miscellaneous Property system (EFIMS) by the Premier of NSW.



EFIMS was written into NSW Law as a crucial component of the NSW Police Force.



The use of forensic science to solve crime has become increasingly popular. Police around the world are spending more and more on the latest forensic technologies and, because of the influence of television dramas such as CSI, the public now expect that every criminal case will rely on forensic evidence to catch an offender.

DNA and fingerprints are the key forms of forensic evidence used to identify criminals. While fingerprints have been used in NSW for more than 100 years, DNA has only been available since 1989. The increasing demand for DNA analysis to help solve crimes has led to lengthy delays in getting samples processed. This problem exists in many jurisdictions. At least 350,000 DNA samples from murder and rape cases lie untested in police laboratories across the United States. And in NSW the number of cases in the DNA backlog has ranged from 3,500 cases to over 10,200 in the past five years. The backlog was around 6,400 cases on 30 November 2009 and is expected to be almost 7,400 cases by 30 June 2010.

The problem with delayed analysis is that while police wait for results, crimes remain unsolved and criminals remain at large. In an attempt to reduce delays, the approach to DNA analysis in NSW has been the subject of a number of reviews. These reviews have generally resulted in one-off funding to reduce the backlog. However, as soon as the money is spent, the backlog re-emerges.

This audit looks at both sides of the DNA issue. That is, what have Police done to manage demand for analysis as well as what has been done to increase capacity at the laboratory to cope with the increasing number of cases.

I believe this review will help improve the management of both fingerprint and DNA evidence and, in particular reduce delays in DNA analysis, to better serve both the interests of justice and the people of NSW.

Peter Achterstraat
Auditor-General

EFIMS, written by Melbourne based Hardcat Pty Ltd was the solution that NSW Police took to reduce the backlog of DNA analysis and help reduce lengthy delays in getting samples processed, all while keeping a complete chain of custody.



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Hardcat solutions have been chosen by more than 2,000 of the world's most prestigious corporate and government bodies in 121 countries around the world.

Join our list of satisfied clients who have already performed your due diligence for you. No one else has our credentials or credibility when it comes to asset management solutions.

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