

Cleveland Officer Wins National Patrol Rifle Shoot

More than 100 law enforcement officers recently gathered in Novi, Mich., for the National Patrol Rifle Conference and Competition. The two-day event, which is organ-

ized by police training company Center Mass, included an all-day shooting competition and a conference that covered such issues as the selection, maintenance, and deployment of rifles for patrol rifle applications.

Held at the Multi-Lakes Gun Club in Commerce Township, Mich., the competition included low-light, photo line-up, moving target, hostage rescue, pure marksmanship, and CQB courses of fire.

Doug Park of the Cleveland Police Department took first prize by dominating the 100-yard pure marksmanship leg of the competition. Chief Jeff Chudwin of the Olympia Fields (Ill.) Police Department finished second. And Jeff Cardinal of the Oakland County (Mich.) Sheriff's Department placed third.

For his remarkable shooting performance, Park was awarded a custom CQB .223 rifle from D&L Sports. The top 10 finishers also received prizes from what event organizer Jeff Felts of Center Mass called a "treasure chest of gear." In addition, the worst shooter was presented

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an EOTech holographic sight.

"There really are not winners or losers," Felts says. "The knowledge that you gain from coming to an event like this is just incredible."

The competition and conference had been strictly a regional event until this year. Felts says it has always been his goal to build the competition into a national shoot that can draw officers from throughout the country. "I knew



Scorers check the targets for hits and misses during the National Patrol Rifle Competition.

that I had to start small and get the bugs worked out and learn what would work and what wouldn't work in terms of realistic courses of fire," says. Felts credits his associate John Terson with making the national level a reality.

The 2007 National Patrol Rifle Conference and Competition is scheduled for May 2-4 in Michigan. For more information or to sign up, go to www.centermassinc.com.

Maryland State Police Unveil Nation's Largest Incident Command Vehicle

As part of Maryland's continuing preparations for effective response to natural or manmade disasters, Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., unveiled the nation's largest incident command vehicle that will serve as the nerve center for local, state, and federal response to emergencies.

The new Maryland State Police Mo-

bile Incident Command Vehicle (MICV) is a 56-foot-long, single-unit command vehicle that is the largest of its kind in the nation.

The MICV is designed to be used as a multiple-agency mobile incident command vehicle. It is equipped with the latest radio, microwave, satellite, telephone, and wireless communications technology. The resources include computer stations, a conference room, a rooftop observation deck, and an outdoor video screen for briefings to large groups of police and emergency

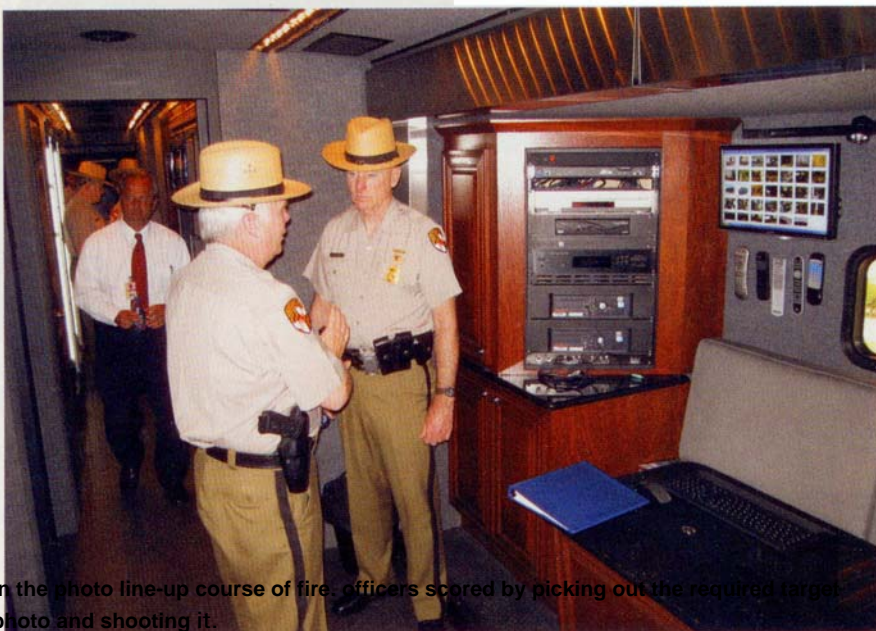
response personnel. The vehicle is full equipped with radio interoperability technology to ensure multiple responding agencies can communicate, regardless of their radio frequencies.

"Our goal is to make certain that law enforcement and emergency rescue personnel can provide continuity of services and operations to communities across Maryland even if their resources have been impacted by a disaster," says Ehrlich. "This vehicle will enable us to do that."

The MICV can be used as a tactical operations center, replacing any barracks or police station affected by a natural or manmade disaster. The unit is totally self-sustaining and has everything needed to support operations over a long period of time, including a kitchen and bathroom.

At a scene, the MICV will provide resources for police, fire, EMS, hazmat, transportation, and other officials from local, state, and federal agencies. The vehicle's incident command capabilities meet the National Incident Management System's requirements.

The \$1.15 million competitive bid contract for the vehicle was awarded to Kingsley Coach of Minnesota. The installation of on-board technology was subcontracted to Bickford Industries of Chantilly, Va. Funding was obtained from the Maryland State Highway Administration, the Maryland State Police, and Homeland Security.



In the photo line-up course of fire, officers scored by picking out the required target photo and shooting it.

The state of Maryland pooled funds from several sources to acquire its new state-of-the-art incident command vehicle.