

Enhancing Cell Phone Evidence Collection and Analysis

Benefits of Purchasing Drive Test Scanner Technology

When crimes occur, having the right investigative tools to fully support your agency's mission is essential. When device geolocation is involved, the ability to visualize the physical locations and hand-off areas for cellular towers associated with call detail records involved in the investigation is critical.

The evolution of this type of evidence creates significant legal challenges requiring specialized equipment to be effective. Devices, like Drive Test Scanners offered by LexisNexis® Risk Solutions, are capable of measuring all supported technologies and assessing their coverage in a specific area can prove critical. The lack of such equipment can hinder the efficiency of time-sensitive investigations.

Drive Test Scanners are a critical investment to enhance investigative processes, efficiency, and public safety. Below, we outline the compelling benefits of this technology, showcasing its value to justify the investment for your agency, region, or prosecutors' office.

When device geolocation is involved, the ability to visualize the physical locations and hand-off areas for cellular towers associated with call details records involved in the investigation is critical.



1. Enhanced Geolocation Analysis

The Drive Test Scanner provides law enforcement with the ability to conduct geolocation analysis by measuring signal data from nearby cellular sites in real time. This ability is particularly valuable for validating or refuting information derived from legally obtained device records, beyond traditional tower dumps, which can be time-consuming and imprecise. Drive test scanning provides insights into the areas where cell towers have coverage, corroborating Cell Site Location Information (CSLI) with other evidence like surveillance footage or social media activity. Importantly, Drive Test Scanners DO NOT collect information on specific telephone calls, and ONLY collect information transmitted by the cell sites in publicly accessible locations.



2. Support During the Prosecutorial Phase

As the world becomes more digital, reliable evidence is paramount to successfully prosecute criminal investigations. With a Drive Test Scanner, agencies can collect scientifically validated data to support investigations across various crimes, including homicides, robberies, and assaults. Through comparing phone records with drive test results, investigators can build stronger cases, reducing the likelihood of evidence being successfully challenged in court. This process can help to ensure successful prosecutorial outcomes and increase trust in law enforcement methods.



3. Regional Sharing

Violent crime does not restrict itself to city boundaries. A Drive Test Scanner can be a regional asset. Agencies within a region can access and utilize a Drive Test Scanner to help ensure the shared benefit from enhanced prosecutions and removal of offenders from the community before they can re-offend. A Drive Test Scanner can enhance an agency's ability to share critical data and insights within their region, fostering a more integrated approach to crime reduction.



4. Integration Into Existing Law Enforcement Technology

The Drive Test Scanner integrates seamlessly with Accurint® TraX™. The next evolution of the Accurint® investigative solution suite, Accurint TraX combines the power of identity data and law enforcement data with call detail record analysis allowing investigators to quickly conduct pattern of life analysis by placing automated, data enhanced, call detail record analysis at their fingertips. Accurint TraX can save valuable time by combining identity data and contributory law enforcement data, available through the LexisNexis® Accurint® Virtual Crime Center, with device geolocation analysis creating one core product that can be used throughout an entire law enforcement agency. By integrating diverse resources needed to complete thorough cellular investigations, investigators and analysts can correlate critical investigative data faster to quickly visualize and analyze call detail records and third-party device geolocation information.



5. Cost-Effectiveness and Public Safety Impact

The long-term benefits of investing in a Drive Test Scanner can be significant. Through reducing the time required for evidence validation, improving investigative outcomes, and enabling real-time responses to crime, these scanners can streamline operations and save agencies countless hours of data analysis. Additionally, in supporting collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies, the device can foster a unified approach to crime prevention, creating safer communities.

To help overcome the financial hurdle of acquiring a Drive Test Scanner, agencies can tap into various grant opportunities, securing funding from federal, state, and local programs. These grants are designed to facilitate investments in public safety innovation, making them well-suited for offsetting the initial costs of this technology. Through leveraging grants and collaborative funding programs, law enforcement can minimize financial barriers, ensuring they have access to technology that can save time, improve efficiency, and ultimately contribute to safer communities.



6. Comprehensive Support and Training

Agencies purchasing the scanner through LexisNexis Risk Solutions can benefit from the expertise of the LexisNexis® Risk Solutions Public Safety Special Investigations Unit (SIU). Composed of former law enforcement professionals, the SIU can provide professional services with the purchase of a Drive Test Scanner. This support can include hands-on training, setup, and ongoing operational support for investigations. Such support can ensure smooth adoption of the technology and maximizes the scanner's impact. Additionally, LexisNexis Risk Solutions offers specialized training courses focused on Drive Test Scanner methodology and analysis of the cellular network.



7. Future-Prepared with Advanced Technology

Drive Test Scanners purchased through LexisNexis Risk Solutions are calibrated for cutting-edge technologies, including 5G, ensuring these devices remain relevant as mobile networks evolve. This technology can “future-proof” law enforcement agencies against emerging challenges, positioning these agencies as leaders in leveraging advanced tools for public safety.

A Proven Solution for Modern Law Enforcement

Investing in a Drive Test Scanner is not merely an expense but is an essential enhancement to an agency's investigative capabilities. These devices reinforce the integrity of evidence collection, strengthen court presentations, and can aid agencies in crime reduction efforts through advanced geolocation analysis and collaboration. With the addition of comprehensive support from LexisNexis Risk Solutions, agencies gain a trusted collaborator in their mission to protect the public and adapt to the evolving demands of law enforcement. Investing in this technology symbolizes a commitment to advancing justice, ensuring law enforcement remains equipped to meet the challenges of today's increasingly digital world.

To learn more about LexisNexis® Risk Solutions Offerings for Law Enforcement, including Drive Test Scanners, please visit: www.risk.lexisnexis.com/le



LexisNexis Accurint Virtual Crime Center and Accurint TraX services are not provided by “consumer reporting agencies,” as that term is defined in the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.) (“FCRA”) and do not constitute “consumer reports,” as that term is defined in the FCRA. Accordingly, LexisNexis Accurint Virtual Crime Center and Accurint TraX services may not be used in whole or in part as a factor in determining eligibility for credit, insurance, employment, or another purpose in connection with which a consumer report may be used under the FCRA. Due to the nature of the origin of public record information, the public records and commercially available data sources used in reports may contain errors. Source data is sometimes reported or entered inaccurately, processed poorly or incorrectly, and is generally not free from defect. These products or services aggregate and report data, as provided by the public records and commercially available data sources, and are not the source of the data, nor are they a comprehensive compilation of the data. Before relying on any data, it should be independently verified. LexisNexis and the Knowledge Burst logo are registered trademarks of RELX Inc. Accurint is a registered trademark of LexisNexis Risk Data Management Inc. TraX is a trademark of LexisNexis Risk Solutions FL Inc. Other products and services may be registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies. © 2025 LexisNexis Risk Solutions. NXR16869-00-0325-EN-US