



INTEGRATING THE OFFICER INTO THE PATROL VEHICLE

WHITE PAPER



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IT'S AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE TO HEAR THEIR PERCEPTION OF IT.

Have you ever had a conversation with a fighter pilot about getting into his (or her) jet? It's an interesting experience to hear their perception of it. When asked how it feels to climb into the jet they often quickly correct you and explain that they are not climbing into the jet; instead they are strapping the jet onto them. It seems a small and almost silly distinction, but when you consider the attitude empowered by the perspective, it's powerful. This reflects the outlook embraced by Gamber-Johnson as they design and produce products for law enforcement patrol vehicles: it's not about the vehicle that the officer gets into - it's about equipping and protecting the officer who straps on the car.

That "equipping and protecting" starts from the outside and works in toward the "pilot" - the officer in control. It includes necessities for protection and helps to ensure ease of access for controls necessary for the officer to operate at peak efficiency. The key to that concept is the officer can't be hindered by his equipment in any way, and since we know s/he operates in a potentially hazardous environment at all times, the vehicle s/he straps on has to be optimized at all times. That requires all of the equipment provided to serve the existing needs but also to be adaptable to unanticipated future needs as well.

On the protection side of the needs, starting outside the vehicle, Gamber-Johnson has a line of push bumpers that are both vehicle and mission driven. While many urban agencies don't see the need for push bumpers, every rural agency and most agencies who experience harsh winters, definitely appreciate the value of them. Having one that is designed specific for the vehicle used and that can be equipped however the agency desires as far as lights and siren speakers is a strength. It increases ease of selection and installation, saving time and manpower hours.

For protection on the inside, Gamber-Johnson has a full line of partitions and window guards. Not only do these products protect the officer from arrestees, but they are also designed to protect the arrestee from unnecessary movement inside the vehicle as well. People often forget that officer survival while driving a vehicle with an arrestee in it also equates to arrestee survival. It's a public relations and enforcement responsibility we sometimes forget to share and leverage appropriately.





On the ease of access and increased control efficiency side, perhaps no other piece of equipment is as important as the center equipment console in a patrol vehicle. It is there to provide immediate, easy and efficient access to the officer for all of the essential controls that aren't inherently built into the vehicle. All communications and emergency notification functions are housed in that console.

In the past we've seen all sorts of consoles created for and mounted into vehicles on an ad-hock basis. When airbags became a reality in every vehicle, we realized that there had to be some limitations on the use of space inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle and each console had to become more specific as to fit, external dimensions, method of securing into the vehicle and more.

Gamber-Johnson offers both vehicle specific and universal consoles to fit everything from a Dodge Charger to a Dodge Ram pickup truck, not to mention the ever popular Ford Utility interceptor vehicles and full size Chevy Tahoe SUVs. Each console is customizable to house all of the officer's required electronics as well as important accessories such as dual cup/pen holders and adjustable arm rests.

Another integral consideration is how well the console works and fits in conjunction with the ever-present (these days) laptop mount. Every consideration given to console fit and function has to be given to the laptop mount and then the console + mount unit has to be given the same overall consideration again. This works best when you're not hobbling pieces together from different manufacturers, so having both a console and laptop

mount from the same manufacturer - a manufacturer who has done all of the engineering for the individual pieces and then the pieces combined - is more efficient and ensures a greater level of function for the officer.

Last but certainly not least, every police vehicle needs a secure yet functional way to mount their weapons. Gamber-Johnson offers the best of both worlds with their single and dual weapon mounts. With versatile installation options and a universal butt plate, there is a solution to fit every vehicle and weapon size and model.

All in all, with their knowledgeable and friendly sales staff, guaranteed 72 hour or less shipping (excluding electronics), and up-to-date product assortment, Gamber-Johnson provides the complete solution for all of your public safety vehicle needs. ■