PROMADIS CASEMAN+CSI

Police Forensic Science's Total Crime Scene, Case
Management & Laboratory Operations Management System

PROMADIS CASEMAN+CSI is a highly efficient software solution that has been especially designed to meet the exacting needs of Police Forensic Science.

As such, it is not just about delivering comprehensive case management capabilities. It is not just about providing a total Crime Scene and Laboratory solution. And nor is it just about offering potent management tools for day-to-day operations.

Rather, CaseMan+CSI's role is to bring together all three of these essential capabilities into a single totally integrated IT application. An application which places major emphasis on delivering efficiency, service delivery, quality standards and control.

Having now been involved with Forensic Science for over eight years, PROMADIS has come to understand many of the key issues facing Forensic Police around the world.

For example, we are well aware that the demand on every Police Forensic Science section is to provide outstanding support services, and to adopt new sciences and techniques, while generally facing today's inevitably harsh budgetary pressures. And we also recognise that increased government regulation, new legislation, more comprehensive reporting and increasingly demanding clients, all add to the complexity of day to day Forensic Policing.

The Role of CASEMAN+CSI

Forcefully addressing all such operational and management issues is precisely what PROMADIS CASEMAN+CSI is all about … its overriding emphasis being on the:

- Comprehensive Scene Of Crime Case Management AND Laboratory Case Management

- Collection of all case, evidence, examination and scientific information into one database.

- Guaranteed 'chain of custody' through comprehensive exhibit management.

- Complete digital image management tools

- In-car and/or at-scene remote connectivity

- Provision of specific tools for specialist sciences and process automation.

- Preparation, management and distribution of case reports.

- Monitoring and management of workflow through a range of highly effective reporting and performance aids.

- Total management of case deliverables to meet service level agreements and obligations.

CASEMAN+CSI in Operation

In nuts and bolts terms, CASEMAN+CSI begins by bringing together all crime scene information, case data, items, results and related communications into a powerful and rigorously organised database.

As laboratory activities are carried out – whether manual or automated, scientific or administrative – all relevant information is taken into the database. This being achieved via system modules which fully support the input and storage of images, test results, management statistics and scientific reports.

Also integral to this work are the instrument automation capabilities which directly interface laboratory equipment to CaseMan+CSI. For a range of instruments this is achieved by the system's standard links. For others it is facilitated by the application's powerful but simple 'customised scripting' tool.

In all instances, the underlying objectives are to streamline and speed the update of computer files and to help ensure the quality of results collection. As such, comprehensive audit facilities are inbuilt and which can, for example, be used to link results back to original raw data.

Once defined tests are complete, a further key role played by CaseMan+CSI is the automatic preparation of draft reports. These reflect the system's knowledge of precisely what it is reporting on, and are presented in the exact style and format dictated by user-defined templates. A full 'watching brief' of all outstanding reports is also maintained, with the system monitoring progress and peer reviews.

Final reports are then produced. Either for signing and circulation on paper. Alternatively for email distribution, after advanced encryption, or through your own intranet. The choice of such options obviously being determined by such things as end-client requirements, speed and security.

In designing these reporting capabilities, the Promadis development team recognized the time sensitivity often involved in forensic science and the need to adhere to strict QA protocols. It was also their aim to reduce the significant workloads of senior and expert staff traditionally associated with report production.

Behind the scenes the PROMADIS system is equally active and powerful. Here, for example, it recognises that any genuinely integrated forensic science system must also fully support key management decision making. Its role being to convert raw 'data' into timely, useful and appropriate business 'information' that is readily to hand in precisely the required format.

Consequently as work on any case progresses, CaseMan+CSI collects detailed information about all scheduled activities and the individual tasks that have been carried out. As such, it will give supervisors and managers an on-demand, up-to-the-moment and totally accurate view of such things as current workloads, workload projections and backlogs. Actual performance is compared to pre-defined expectations to help plan and manage identified issue and to monitor compliance with committed service levels agreements.

Senior executives may also define their own uniquely tailored CaseMan+CSI reports. These can include detailed data for budgeting and funding submissions. Or, at the other extreme, a daily one page summary of 'right now' Key Performance Indicators can be produced. KPIs that have been nominated by the chief executives themselves and which are presented in a layout of their choice.

CASEMAN+CSI Capabilities

The extensive range of PROMADIS CASEMAN+CSI capabilities include:

Laboratory Case Management

- Comprehensive case management
- Case reporting integrated with tests and results
- Case / test results reporting template and version control
- Electronic distribution of reports

- Images, documents and files can be associated with case, exhibits, samples and sample points.

- Integration options for Police systems

Crime Scene Case Management

- Comprehensive case management

- Collection of ALL case, evidence and examination information into one repository

- Specialist tools for exhibits, sciences and process automation

- Digital information management, including storage of digital images, statements, audio, video. Can relate to an examination or exhibit.

- Special processes for management of images for fingerprint bureau use

- Printing of various standard forms including fingerprint bureau cards, print order forms, exhibit bar codes

- In-car and/or at-scene remote connectivity to system

- Management and distribution of examination results

- Reporting and performance statistics to help monitor and manage workflow

- Case reporting integrated with tests and results

Exhibit / Item Management

- Exhibit recording and receiving

- Full movement and tracking controls

- Barcode integration

- Item minutes to report actions

- Integration with Police evidence systems

Sample & Test Management

- User defined multi-phase testing

- All tests are associated with a case

- Samples are related to items

- Tests can be related to samples

- All test results linked back to the test / sample

- Staff interact with work using 'whiteboards'

- Work task management tools and enquiries

- Sample barcoding to improve integration

Pathology

- Body inventory and tracking

- Inventory and 'sub-inventory' of samples

- Special connections to Toxicology and Biology for tests

- Autopsy details recorded for automated reporting

- Preliminary findings report for Coroner

Toxicology

- Special (high throughput) Blood Alcohol facility

- Blood results direct from analyser

- Limited and comprehensive drug screening

- Positive control trend monitoring

- Blood alcohol certificates produced

- Special interface for Pathology tests

Biology

- Multi-stage specialist DNA processes

- DNA matching database

  - Convicted Offenders

  - Crime Sample to Crime Sample

  - Individual to Crime Sample

  - Individual to Match Group

- FPA compliant
- Exchange DNA data with external databases

Chemistry

- Drugs module Weighing Process
- Illicit drug identification or full quantitation
- Drug Batch Entry, Selection & templates
- Drug Profiling to compare with other batches

Management Reports

- Case Performance and Target Date Reports
- Backlog management reports
- Key Performance Indicators

Reports & Enquiries

- More than 80 standard reports
- Numerous enquiry facilities (with print options)
- Comprehensive case reports including drill down to data
- Integration of Crystal Reports to simply deliver user specific and ad hoc reports

Instruments

- Capabilities directly interface laboratory equipment to CASEMAN.
- For a range of instruments this is achieved by the system's standard links.
- For others it is facilitated by the application's powerful but simple 'customised scripting' tool.

System

- Audit capability includes Before/After images of data changes

- Audit can include viewing of sensitive data

- Online search of audit

- Security capabilities control all user access

- System controls for auditing report generation and revision

- Case reports can be publishes to an Intranet for remote access

- Windows based GUI for laboratory system

- Browser based GUI for crime scene module

- Support available for multiple databases including Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server