

Mi-Corporation's Handwriting Recognition and Offline Data Solution Drive *US DoT* to More Efficient Data Collection



U.S. Department of Transportation

The **US Department of Transportation (DoT)** is a federal Cabinet department of the US government concerned with transportation. Its mission is to "Serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible, and convenient transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future." When the DoT sought to modernize its mobile data collection process, Mi-Corporation was the partner of choice to get the job done.



Challenge

The DoT was launching an initiative to modernize its field data collection efforts. The plan was that field data collectors would use Tablet PCs to collect the wide array of data required on motor vehicle crashes at various key locations—tow yards, vehicle salvage centers, and roadside—throughout the United States.

Since field collection agents were accustomed to hand-writing their reports, it was important for the DoT to find a mobile data collection partner that would be able to support handwriting recognition with a high level of accuracy. Since approximately 25% of the time field collection agents would not have reliable access to an Internet connection, it was also critical that the DoT's new technology partner offered reliable offline data syncing and controls.



Solution

After a through market analysis and exhaustive search, in 2014 the DoT selected Mi-Corporation's Mobile Impact Platform for a variety of factors including:

- + Highly accurate handwriting recognition
- + Offline data capture and validation capabilities
- + Flexibility to adjust to changing research needs
- + Ability to rapidly develop new forms
- + Ability to deploy the software across multiple hardware platforms

Mi-Corporation's platform also solved for several other DoT requirements including things like multi-modal feedback (visual or aural), data validation in asynchronous network environments, workflow creation and control, and the ability to interface with multiple backend relational databases.



Results

With the modern solution for data collection, the DoT's field data collectors can do their jobs more efficiently, and critical accident reporting databases are updated and analyzed more rapidly than ever before. During the multiple field interviews they collect each week with motor vehicle crash participants, they're able to use natural handwriting within the mobile forms to quickly capture what people are saying. The sophisticated handwriting recognition capability has eliminated the need for field collectors to retype their written notes, reduced the number of transcription errors, saved data collectors time at collection sites, and improved case processing times overall. In addition, the Mi-Corporation offline data capabilities allow users to work in a disconnected environment while maintaining access to their data anytime, anywhere.

The above screenshot shows a sample form used by USDOT field collection agents to quickly and easily capture data at the scene of an incident.

ABOUT MI-CORPORATION

Two decades ago, Mi-Corporation pioneered data capture on tablets and coined the term "mobile data collection." Mi-Corporation's Mobile Impact Platform provides a rich and powerful toolset that allows organizations to custom-build flexible solutions that improve workforce efficiencies, increase productivity, reduce costs and increase profits.

You will find our solutions deployed across a diverse industry base at organizations like Transport for London, Security Alarm, Bureau Veritas, the NC Department of Agriculture, the United Nations, The US Department of Transportation, and many others. In addition, Mi-Corporation is the proud recipient of many prestigious industry awards including a 2015 and 2016 Microsoft Partner of the Year Award for our work in the Public Sector.