

The MPS Operational Support Unit

The Operational Support Unit (OSU) is a dedicated team of specialist engineers and technical advisors. Together, they provide vital technical solutions, equipment and expertise for front-line policing.

While the Unit's main responsibility is to generate, distribute and display video and CCTV information for the Met Police, the team also has the expertise to tackle other technical challenges. The Unit's skillset is varied and covers IP networks; radio frequency communications; 3D CAD circuit and equipment manufacture; and CCTV and video. The broader team is broken down into smaller working groups with specific technical responsibilities. These groups may work independently or in collaboration with other groups towards an overall technical goal. In all groups, you'll need the right attitude to excel: enthusiastic, self-motivated and inspired.

Although the Unit usually works standard office hours, you may have to work outside these due to operational demands. Many of the events that require technical support from the OSU happen on evenings and weekends, so flexibility is essential.

Technical services provided by the OSU team include:

• Bespoke technical solutions







OSU bespoke Evidence Gathering systems for deployment by front-line police officers.







OSU bespoke UAV video downlink distribution unit.





Operational CCTV control room installations





OSU designed and installed technology in Operational CCTV vehicles for the support of front-line policing.





OSU designed operational CCTV control rooms and video walls.

CCTV Distribution network







cisco

❖ TERADEK

The MPS CCTV distribution network is monitored 24/7 to ensure reliability. The network is dynamically managed to meet operational demands.





Communications systems







OSU satellite communications vehicles and flyaway systems for use where line-of-sight to a control room is not possible.





Point-to-point digital RF links for remote communications.

Aerial downlink receiver system.

Engineering Services





The OSU utilises the latest 3D print design and modelling technologies in addition to the traditional range of mechanical engineering techniques including manual turning, CNC turning, milling, sheet metal work, welding and engraving to progress mechanical projects from design stage to commissioning ready for deployment to support front-line policing.





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• Overt CCTV surveillance of ceremonial / public order events and exercises



Overt CCTV imagery of an event in Trafalgar Square is transmitted back from a staffed observation post to the MPS CCTV control room for the operation.





CCTV imagery is regularly transmitted across London utilising microwave link. Some equipment is part of the permanent distribution network, whilst other equipment is installed only for the duration of the event.









CCTV imagery assists management of an operational event by adding situational awareness.





Sometimes, the OSU is called upon to support operational events outside of the London area to aid other constabularies.

