

Alameda County, Calif.'s Sheriff's Department Using Idle-Reduction Systems on Patrol Vehicles

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Alameda County, Calif., has installed idle-reduction systems on eight of its patrol vehicles, including five Dodge Chargers, two Ford Police Interceptor sedans, and a Chevrolet Tahoe PPV, the County's Transportation Services Manager, General Services Agency, Doug Bond told *Government Fleet* magazine.

The County is using Energy Xtreme's Independence Package, which is a power management device that allows an officer to use vehicle features and equipment that require power without turning on the engine. Example uses include emergency lights and on-board computers.

"All of our eight vehicles are up and running with the IP2 units," said the County's Phillip Kobernick, sustainability specialist, general services agency. "A fantastic job was done working around the configurations of four different types of vehicles and getting our deputies vehicles' out the door as fast as possible."

According to Bond, the County has not yet decided whether to equip the system on other vehicles yet but may do so depending on future data collected.

"We will be reviewing the data from the pilot, analyzing the fuel savings and system payback timeframe, then make decisions regarding additional deployments," Bond said.

By Greg Basich