

REDWEB SECURITY'S TRACKER AND PLD UNITS

The BBA recently took delivery of a couple GPS tracking devices from RedWeb Technologies to test and evaluate in the various roles those of us operating within the Security Industry may undertake. The 1st device that we tested was a device called the RX-8+ which is a Covert Magmount Tracking unit. The other device is called the RX-3 and is primarily a Personal Locating Device or PLD.

by NICK MCCARTHY

The RX-8+ comes in a really neat little weatherproof box that has 2 very strong magnets attached to it; these magnets and the size of the case proved to be a good combination whilst covertly deploying the unit on various test vehicles. The unit has a charging point, an on/off

button and also a see through window that allows you to see a flashing light that indicates the state of the device, something that many will find useful immediately prior to fitting the device on a vehicle. Like with most of the GPS tracking units on the market there is an associated online panel that allows you to login and do various things such as changing the frequency at which the device reports, set alarm zones, access tracking information and more. We found the web interface to be quite user friendly although there was, as you would expect, a learning curve to it. With the increasing development of Google Earth, the sheer amount of information that can be gained about a said location, is quite impressive and in some cases almost scary.....take a look at your own house next time you are online!

factors such as frequency of reporting, the actual movement of the vehicle, strength of signal and to a degree, weather conditions. The RX-8+ comes highly recommend as a GPS tracking device and would not be out of place in the kit bag of a Surveillance Operator, Private Detective or indeed a CPO wishing to keep a track on his principal's vehicle.

the fact that it was not covertly deployed underneath a vehicle! However, we also found that the positioning information from the RX-3, when inside a building, was also very good in most circumstances. The unit has a various flashing LED's which make you aware of its status and also let you know when the battery is running low. Charging is via the popular mini USB data port that many mobile telephones use. As ever battery life depends on many factors, so thorough testing should be carried out using the conditions in which you intend the device to be used.

Not only does the RX-3 have GPS tracking capabilities, it is also a programmable mobile phone allowing the users to make emergency calls when the need arises. Another great feature of the RX-3 is that you can dial in to the unit and listen in to what is going on in the immediate vicinity of the unit, should you became concerned about your colleague/employee. This combined with an SOS feature/panic button make this particular unit an excellent PLD

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Whilst testing, the RX-8 proved to be reliable, robust and accurate in a wide range of conditions and testing scenarios and travelled the length and breadth of the UK. The battery life of this unit was more than acceptable but of course depends on many

The RX-3 can be used in a variety of roles, most notably as a PLD for the lone worker. It could also find use in our industry for RST workers, CPO's, security consultants, in fact anyone in need of a PLD solution. The device itself is slim, compact and feels of a reassuring quality. The unit also has a belt clip and sits nicely on your belt but could also be placed more covertly inside a handbag, rucksack or similar. The layout of the unit is uncomplicated and well structured, making it easy to use and quick to learn.

The performance of the RX-3 was excellent and easily matched, or indeed exceeded, that of the RX-8+, but this may be due to

