

Chandler and Paradise Valley Police Departments Are The First To Install FIRE Panels and Bladders

Scottsdale, Arizona — Fuel tank fires on Crown Victoria Police Interceptors (CVPIs) have taken the lives of 14 Police Officers, and numerous others have narrowly escaped the fire when their CVPI sustained a high-speed, rear-end crash. Now, Chandler and Paradise Valley (Arizona) recently became the first Police Departments in the United States to protect the fuel tanks of their fleet of CVPIs with BOTH a fire suppression system and a bladder.

The fire suppression system selected by both of these progressive Police Departments was the FIRE Panel, supplied by FIRE Panel LLC of Scottsdale, Arizona. Manny Chavez, Police Fleet Manager for the City of Chandler, said, “We selected the FIRE Panel and Fuel Safe bladder because we liked the fact that they had been tested in the world’s first high-speed crash test. The test footage showed that the test CVPI, with actual gasoline in the fuel tank, withstood a crash at 82 mph and didn’t catch fire.” Manny also noted, “The Police Department appreciates the Mayor and City Council for their approval of an additional layer of safety in the purchase of the FIRE Panel product.”

Lieutenant Ron Warner of the Paradise Valley Police Department advised that the Department’s Vehicle Evaluation Committee also selected the FIRE Panel to enhance the safety of their CVPIs, as they, too, liked its demonstrated performance and long history of use in military applications. Ron commented, “The installation of the FIRE Panel took only 10 or 15 minutes per vehicle. It didn’t require dropping the tank or keeping the CVPIs off the street for very long. Plus, the installations were done by our maintenance people while the vehicles were in for routine service.”

The FIRE Panel has become the *de facto* standard for fire suppression protection of the CVPI fuel tank. The FIRE Panel uses “powder panel” technology to release a cloud of fire suppression powder that surrounds the fuel tank in the event of a significant rear-end collision. While the cloud of the harmless fire suppressing powder is in suspension around the CVPI’s fuel tank, it inertes the space preventing any leaking fuel from igniting. Learn more by visiting www.firepanelllc.com.

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