Pieces of Needles, Many Haystacks

"Big Data Policing" – What is it, and How do you Get it?

What is Big Data?

The operating definition of 'big data' as used in the context of investigation analysis is that it's an information ecosystem characterized by 4 features:

- It's **big**
- It's **dynamic**
- It's **uncontained**
- It's **digital**

Let's take a deeper look:

1. **It's BIG**. First, big data analytics involve the analysis of huge amounts of data, usually measured in terabytes or even petabytes, and involving countless observations.
2. **It's DYNAMIC**. Second, virtually everything we do in our lives creates a constantly evolving data trail. Therefore, big data usually involves high frequency observations and high levels of processing.
3. **It's UNCONTAINED**. Third, big data is disparate— it comes from a large variety of institutional and public sources, and involves the merging of generally disconnected sources.
4. **It's DIGITAL**. Fourth, big data is digital. The mass digitization and conversion of different records facilitates the blending and sharing of records across establishments, and makes information more effectively accessed and utilized.

Big Data and Law Enforcement – Big Data Policing

Sound familiar? It should if you are involved in criminal investigations. Your reality is that the information you require to effectively analyze and investigate criminal activity is all of the above – Big, Dynamic, Uncontained, and Digital.

For law enforcement, the process of piecing together the non-obvious connections between those disparate data types is like looking for a needle in a haystack. Except the needle is actually broken into pieces and spread across a few dozen haystacks.

What if you had a highly tuned metal detector and a soldering iron, though? What if you were able to more easily determine which haystacks contained 'needle parts' and then had the ability to put those parts back together? That is the promise of big data policing and investigation analytics.

Case Closed & Visallo – The right tools for finding broken needles across multiple haystacks

Until recently, big data policing has been the domain of only the largest law enforcement agencies. The Federal Government spends hundreds of millions of dollars each and every year with Silicon Valley giants in search of big data Nirvana. Cities such as New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago also invest millions in recognition of the fact that big data, which used to be the 'future of law enforcement', is now the present.

What about the vast majority of law enforcement agencies, for whom the price tag of big data policing is completely unattainable? Good news. There's a new 'Big Data Sheriff in town'.

Case Closed Software, in partnership with Visallo, have created a 'big data, little budget' solution for law enforcement agencies across the country.

Visallo provides the investigation 'metal detector'. Visallo's technology easily ingests Big, Uncontained, and Dynamic digital data from any number of data sources (haystacks). The software allows analysts and investigators to quickly determine how to meld those individual pieces of data into one, usable needle. Simply put, Visallo's data integration capabilities will help you find connections across disparate data sources that you couldn't find before.

At the same time, Case Closed provides the 'soldering iron'. Case Closed is the process-driven, heart and soul of managing investigation cases. It comes complete with a vast array of workflow and administrative management functionality, along with case-specific features such as evidence chain-of-custody, automated case reminders, powerful search capabilities, and a lot more.

Together, Visallo and Case Closed offer an absolutely unparalleled investigation management platform for law enforcement agencies – large and small – for whom the concept of big data policing has always been unattainable. Find out how your agency can realize the benefits of a unique and cutting-edge crime fighting platform without a ridiculous price tag.

Visit https://caseclosedsoftware.com and https://visallo.com for more information on our solution for big data policing.