

via iPad. The pattern recognition algorithms focus on behavior that signals trouble and can alert controllers.

Dubai Police revealed their first robot officer, giving it the task of patrolling the city's malls and tourist attractions. People will be able to use it to report crimes, pay fines and get information by tapping a touch screen on its chest. Data collected by the robot will also be shared with the transport and traffic authorities. At present it can communicate only in Arabic and English, but there are plans to add Russian, Chinese, French and Spanish to its repertoire.

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UDC 351.741

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PATROLLING IN CALIFORNIA

Patrol is a small group or individual unit deployed from a larger formation to achieve a specific objective. The duration of a patrol will vary from a few hours to several weeks depending on the objective and the type of units involved.

Patrolling a municipality to preserve law and order is the essence of a police officer's job, whether he walks on foot or drives. Technological innovations like two-way radio, cell phones and computer terminals in patrol cars have dramatically expanded police agencies' reach. However, most officers rely on acute observation and gut feelings to get their jobs done. A new officer's inability to read body language can raise his risk of injury or death, while mastering those cues can give him confidence to manage dangerous situations.

Uniformed police officers are assigned to patrol specific geographic areas, which they check for signs of criminal activity. Officers also conduct searches and arrest any offenders that they confront.

To patrol a neighborhood effectively, police officers must also win residents' trust. Patrols offer an ideal opportunity for achieving this goal. Instead of staying in their cars, officers continually talk with community leaders and residents. This approach can be implemented through bike or foot patrols, as well as public meetings to discuss issues affecting the neighborhood.

Investigating accidents is another important task. Patrol officers are expected to direct traffic, examine the scene, interview witnesses, provide first aid for any injured victims, and take written statements from drivers.

The main responsibility of the highway patrol is to monitor and enforce safety on state and federal highways. This can involve checking the speed of vehicles, responding to accidents and emergencies, and helping local law enforcement. Highway patrol officers are state-level employees.

To help reduce accidents on the road and promote safety while driving, highway patrol officers make appearances at local schools and community events. This allows them to help educate the community on safe driving practices. They might also work with officials in the community to figure out better ways to protect the people in the area. When a crime takes place, a patrol officer might be the first to arrive on scene. In this role he or she helps secure evidence and gather witness statements to aid detectives in their investigation.

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COMMUNITY POLICING IN SWITZERLAND

«In 1992, the gendarmerie scored success in the fight against petty crime. ... In our mission to maintain order and safeguard «International Geneva», we put in more hours with fewer staff. Yet, these results are deceptive. While quantitatively and globally, [our] performance keeps improving, qualitatively and in terms of human relations, it keeps deteriorating, imperceptibly but surely». This analysis of the commander of the gendarmerie (patrol division) of the Geneva cantonal police, Guy Baer, was given in his department's in-house publication in 1993. Baer observed that in spite of the apparent successes in combating crime, fear of crime among the general population was increasing. Determined to stop this slide, Baer announced the most ambitious reform agenda of his police organization in a generation.

Under the plan "P'egase" (Pegasus), officially launched in 1994, the Geneva police's gendarmerie embarked on a major internal reorganization to introduce community policing that should foster regular contacts between ordinary citizens and the police. The plan aimed to boost the feeling of safety of the general population by increasing police visibility through the renewed deployment of police officers on foot patrol and the creation of a new bike patrol. The plan "P'egase" was hence the first formal effort to introduce the concept of community policing in a Swiss police force.

As community policing was gaining ground internationally during the 1990s, a few chiefs of police in Switzerland were anxious not to miss out on