A New Year to Innovate

Crisis forces us to think outside of how we were conditioned to think.  It encourages creativity and leads to innovation. We invite all of our customers to participate in our annual Versaterm Public Safety Innovation Contest!

We have had excellent participation in the past decade, with innovative and creative solutions being showcased. The first, second and third awards have always been presented at our annual Versaterm Users Workshop, however, due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Users Workshop had to be canceled. We are now working on our 2021 Users Workshop, where solutions would be showcased.

## **No doubt, public safety agencies had to be INNOVATIVE in 2020!**

Organizations and their IT departments had to respond to many situations that just a few months before would not have been imagined. Such a pivotal direction change provides important lessons for all of us. We see an opportunity to talk about the lessons learned in these projects, how they were approached and how they were executed, because that is a lesson in itself. The COVID-19 pandemic is unlikely to be the only disrupter we face in the future.

Every year, we publish the submissions we receive to all of our customers prior to our annual Users Workshop, to allow ample time for discussions with the submitters about their innovations. As a result of putting in a submission, a number of people attended the Users Workshop in Scottsdale (in 2019), who may not have otherwise been able to attend.

The award presentations are schedule on the second day of the Users Workshop to give attendees the opportunity to discuss the innovations with those who submitted them. We believe this has made the award process and the Users Workshop even more valuable to our Versaterm customers.

Please participate in the Versaterm Public Safety Innovation Contest this year!

# Important Dates

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| Contest Opening Date | Friday, February 12, 2021 |
| Contest Deadline Date for Submissions | Friday, March 26, 2021 |
| Announcement of Winners | Friday, April 16, 2021 |

# Contest Overview

The Versaterm Public Safety Innovation Contest recognizes public safety agencies that use Versaterm products (and related technology) to solve problems and further their achievements in public safety and service to the community.

Versaterm is looking for INNOVATION, which really just means finding new and creative ways to do something! This award is meant to showcase successes in your agency, and to elevate the profile of your agency.

Your successes should be shared and emulated. As we are all partners, sharing your knowledge with your partner agencies makes us all stronger.

This contest is aimed at:

1. Raising awareness that Versaterm customer agencies **can** present at the Versaterm Users Workshop, and
2. Raising awareness that **sharing best practices and training**is the purpose of the conference, and
3. Showcasing innovative measures taken in public safety organizations that use Versaterm products.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the Versaterm Public Safety Innovation Award, your agency must be using Versaterm’s software products.

In addition, your agency must have used Versaterm’s software (and perhaps technology from other suppliers) to solve a problem faced by your organization.

# Submission Rules & Instructions

### Submission Form & Method

Participating agencies must complete the submission form included in this document which outlines information about the project, or the submission will not be processed. After completing the submission form, participating agencies must either upload their submission form to www.versaterm.com/public-safety-innovations-award, or they may email their submission to [usersworkshop@versaterm.com](mailto:usersworkshop@versaterm.com). Versaterm will acknowledge your submission once received.

### Submission Length

Submissions must be a maximum of three pages single-spaced, with up to five screenshots or graphics in addition to the three pages. The preamble pages of this document are not included in the three-page count.

### Submission Life Cycle

Submissions remain valid only for the year in which the submission is received, however, the same project can be resubmitted the following year. It is the responsibility of the agency to re-submit.

### Evaluation of Contest Submissions

Submissions will be evaluated by the content of the forms. A small panel of agency-neutral evaluators will review all submissions. The decision of the evaluators will be final. Please refer to the Important Dates section above for the date winners are expected to be announced. The announcement of the winners will allow Versaterm to schedule them in the next annual Versaterm Users Workshop and will allow the winners to make plans to attend the annual Versaterm Users Workshop.

Points will be given based on the results, the WOW factor and the effectiveness of the solution, rather than to the sophistication of the solution. Solutions that primarily use the Versaterm application suite will get extra points. Points will also be awarded based on the magnitude of the project or the number of people impacted, and to projects that discuss the measurement of success.

### Permission to Post

Since the Versaterm Public Safety Innovation Award is built on the importance of sharing, Versaterm retains the right to post or publish the information in contest submissions.

# Prizes

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| 1st Prize | * All expenses paid by Versaterm, for two people to attend the annual Versaterm Users Workshop, which includes their registrations, flights, hotel and food allowances) * A plaque will be presented to the agency/individual recognizing the benefits to public safety and the community * The agency will be given a time slot in the agenda of the next annual Versaterm Users Workshop to provide a presentation showcasing their accomplishment |
| 2nd Prize | * Registration costs paid by Versaterm, for two people to attend the annual Versaterm Users Workshop * The agency will be given a time slot in the agenda of the next annual Versaterm Users Workshop to provide a presentation showcasing their accomplishment |
| 3rd Prize | * Registration costs paid by Versaterm, for one people to attend the annual Versaterm Users Workshop * The agency will be given a time slot in the agenda of the next annual Versaterm Users Workshop to provide a presentation showcasing their accomplishment |

### Note

The prizes are awarded to the agency, and therefore, the agency shall determine who will attend the annual Versaterm Users Workshop and who will present the project.

### Achieving a Win!

This is an international contest. Submitting a winning entry is an achievement worth celebrating. It shows that your organization is progressive and is using technology to become more effective and efficient.

Such a win is worthy of presentation to the Police Services Board or other Oversight Body.

Submission Form

# Public Safety Agency

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| --- | --- |
| Agency Name |  |
| Agency Mailing Address |  |
| Chief Name |  |
| Member Name |  |
| Member Position/Title/Rank |  |
| Member Phone Number |  |
| Member Email Address |  |

# Project Information

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| 1. Definition of Problem |
| Clearly describe the problem that created an opportunity to find a solution using your Versaterm data or software solutions. |

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| 2. Analysis and Solution |
| Clearly describe the process, approaches and innovative ideas used to identify a solution, including problems faced, skillsets required, benefits realized, and success metrics. |

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| 3. Collaboration and Sharing Efforts |
| Clearly describe your collaboration and sharing, and if the solution can be easily adapted and shared with other agencies. |

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| 4. Results |
| Clearly describe the results of your project, in how it made your agency more effective and how it impacted community safety or enhanced community service. List all benefits that were realized. |

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| 5. Screenshots or Graphics |
| Click and drag up to five screenshots or graphics. |