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Police upgrade 10,000 seat Notes site

By Randal Jackson, Wellington | Thursday, 27 October, 2005

Police have signed Convergence to upgrade their Lotus Notes site, the largest in New Zealand at 10,000 seats.

The price of the deal hasn't been disclosed though it's understood it is in the high hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Convergence has opened a Wellington office, with two staffers, to service Police and other Wellington clients.

Certus and Reliance Software were the previous incumbents at Police. Both took part in the tender process

Convergence CEO Mark Presnell says the software had become outdated and, since September, some versions were not supported.

"The tender was to upgrade to the latest or supported version of Notes," he says. "We will upgrade them to version 6.5.4." That's not the latest version of Notes, which has just been released. He says it's probably too soon to move to that.

Convergence will also migrate a large number of business applications developed on the Notes platform.

Contract negotiations were completed this month and work began on the project on October 10. It is expected to take 15 to 18 months.

Convergence, which was set up eight years ago, also has a sales office in New York where it is negotiating with channel partners to sell its Ability Suite, which it developed to provide email archiving, customer relationship management and project management. Presnell says no US sales have so been made but the company has five sites in Australia.

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