



50,000 Printed Copies Distributed Each Month Nationwide [CLICK HERE](#) for your **FREE SUBSCRIPTION**

Mobile Office Utilities for Utilities

about us
current issue
product directory
archives
industry events
search

advertiser info
press release info
subscriptions
contact

Check off **#127** on your **ONLINE READER SERVICE CARD** to receive more information about this article. (need an Online Reader Service Card? [Click here.](#))

By Doug Mayer and Jeff Feige- Mobile Desk, Inc.

In early 2003 American Electric Power (AEP) contacted their existing console cab organizer vendor SVP Manufacturing of Phoenix, AZ about solving a problem they were having with their existing computer mounts.



AEP had been purchasing laptop mounts for use in field trucks with a variety of Panasonic Toughbook laptop computers. The adjustability of their current mounts left much to be desired. The users were stretching over the

existing SVP consoles at odd angles to use the computer. This caused fatigue during periods of extended usage and was negatively affecting productivity in the field.

Joe Manello is the Fleet Manager in AEP's Roanoke, Va. facility and determined that one solution might be to integrate the desk into the consoles made by SVP. SVP was not the original laptop mount vendor but had been successful producing workable solutions for organizing AEP's truck cabs.

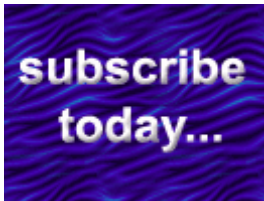


The console organizers designed by SVP have a clipboard writing surface with a large compartment for hanging files; the organizer also contains specific hole locations to mount the radio, wired control center and a backup camera display. Everything was integrated into the console in an effort to standardize on a solution that increased productivity, reduced clutter and minimized installation time in the field.

AMERICAN MARKING CORP.

ASHER
SINCE 1914

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION TRUCKS & SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT





Mobile Desk™, Inc is a laptop mount manufacturer in West Chester, Ohio and has been providing Utility companies with mounting solutions for many years. SVP and Mobile Desk™ have been mutual resellers for quite

some time. Dick Hirsch of SVP called Mobile Desk to see about integrating one of their Xtreme™ models into one of the SVP consoles that were being utilized in the AEP trucks. Mobile Desk™ and SVP produced a rough prototype and after visiting the Roanoke facility, and meeting with all of the parties that would be affected, a modified solution was then agreed on.

SVP President Dick Hirsh comments “We worked out a solution in about 5 hours because we were able to have all the decision makers together for as long as we needed. The end result was a viable solution that put the laptop in a position that could be used comfortably and would address both management and end user concerns economically and ergonomically.”

The resulting product is called the UtiliDesk™ and is a marriage of two proven products: SVP's console desk truck cab organizer and Mobile Desk's Xtreme Desk™. The UtiliDesk™ adds Mobile Desk's adjustable, heavy duty and ergonomic laptop mount with shock control to the capabilities of SVP's console desk truck cab organizer.

[Articles/bottom.htm]