

American Prison Data Systems Brings a New Approach to Life Behind Bars with AirWatch

The Mission

Established in 2011, American Prison Data Systems (APDS) is a Public Benefit Corporation (PBC) and Certified B Corp providing digital content and services to inmates in correctional facilities across the United States. APDS aims to improve the quality and productivity of inmates' lives and reduce the likelihood of recidivism upon release.

Through mobility, APDS wanted to give administrators and educators flexibility and support in the delivery of programming. Alongside the company's third-party providers that deliver education, rehabilitation, vocational and healthcare content and services for inmates, mobility would help support correctional staff and teacher efforts to improve inmate outcomes and reduce recidivism. Without education and other programming behind bars, APDS cites that nearly 50 percent of all inmates are recommitted within three years of release.

To bring its product to market, APDS wanted to address administrator concerns about security. While the company created a custom enclosure for its tablets, APDS needed an enterprise mobility management (EMM) solution to secure and remotely manage digital information on the devices. A successful mobility program would also support the company's secure messaging platform on devices, which makes feasible inmate communication both with trusted players within the institution and with friends and family on the outside. Such communications would support rehabilitation and result in fewer inmate grievances.

The Results

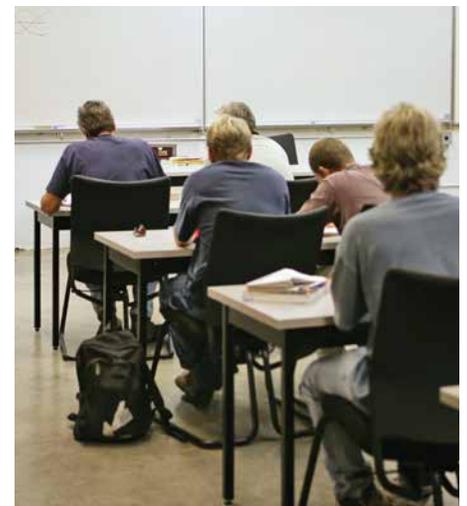
After evaluating many EMM providers, American Prison Data Systems' IT team selected AirWatch® as its EMM provider to mitigate security risks and support inmate mobility. APDS quickly deployed corrections-ready Android tablet devices within months of selecting AirWatch, and today provides more than 600 devices to inmates.

Historically, there has been a "digital moat" around most jails and prisons in the United States. Until recently, correctional officials and administrators have avoided digital solutions due to security concerns regarding both the



Solution Overview

- Customer: American Prison Data Systems
- Industry: Technology
- Geography: North America
- Features: BYOD, MDM, MEM
- Devices: 600+



hardware and inmate access to the Internet. To address the former concern, APDS built a proprietary, military-grade case for its tablet hardware. To keep inmates secure over the Internet, APDS leverages AirWatch mobility solutions. "AirWatch enables APDS to monitor, locate and control its devices in the field remotely," explained Chris Grewe, founder and CEO of APDS. "This level of control is absolutely critical to the value we create for correctional facilities. Enterprise mobility management through AirWatch is essential to helping our clients deliver the vast array of digital resources that educate and rehabilitate their inmate populations."

Traditionally, inmates have had access to limited teacher-led classes and materials. Frequent dislocation, scheduling conflicts and variations in inmate abilities make classroom learning all the more difficult. In addition, central libraries at select facilities are resource-constrained and understaffed, limiting inmate learning and development opportunities. With AirWatch, APDS secures Android tablets for inmate access to digital courseware (both teacher-led and self-paced), legal resources and supplemental materials from anywhere in the facility. Using AirWatch[®] Content Locker and AirWatch[®] Browser, inmates view materials and access only approved educational, vocational and mental health online programs safely from devices.

"Our objective is to make correctional facilities safer, cheaper and more effective," said Grewe. "AirWatch helps us do all of this. By replacing paper-based resources and forms with digital content and services, our AirWatch-managed devices help facility staff and teachers administer their facilities and deliver an unprecedented range of resources more economically. Our technology, in tandem with facility resources and support, improves inmate outcomes by providing education, rehabilitation and career and life skills inmates need for successful reentry and fruitful citizenship. None of this would be possible without AirWatch Enterprise Mobility Management."

What's Next?

APDS has big plans to progress its goals of promoting safety, lowering costs and reducing recidivism in the corrections industry. By mid-2016, APDS expects to have several thousand devices in facilities around the United States. "In the future, the company anticipates broadening its offerings to include consumer services and data solutions," said Grewe. "Given not only the robust security of AirWatch, but also its ability to collect and report usage data, I suspect the relationship between APDS and AirWatch will only deepen."

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