

EFFICIENCY AND RELIABILITY: THE SYSTEM BEHIND FOREST DEPARTMENT SARAWAK'S INVESTIGATIONS PAPER

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ABSTRACT

In 2019, Forest Department Sarawak engaged the Sarawak Information Systems Sdn. Bhd. (SAINS) to enhance and improve the existing Investigation Paper Tracking System (IPTS) as facilitating the forest offence management and monitoring of the Investigation Paper. The commencement of IPTS was in May 2020 and started to use by headquarter level. Following extensive training sessions for new users, the system was expanded to the Regional Forest Offices in May 2022. The IPTS consists of four (4) modules: Case Management, Disposal (Forest Produce), Disposal (Conveyance and Machinery) and Report. There are involves seven (7) user roles within the system, including Head of Division, Case Management Group, Head of Preventive and Enforcement, Investigating Officer, IPTS Admin, PED Data Entry and PED PO Supervisor. In the Case Management Module, users can add, upload and update Police Reports from seizing officers then link these reports to the First Information Report (FIR) and Investigation Paper. Once an Investigating Officer (IO) is assigned, the IO can add and update fields such as General Information, Location Information, Suspects Information, Offense Committed and Items Seized. All related documents and information are uploaded to Supporting Documents. The system also allows the IO to generate and print various documents, including the Notice to Claim letter, letter of offer for Disposal to Authorised Agent and letter to request valuation of seized conveyance and machinery by technical department. Recommendations or decision from the Director of Forests and State Attorney General's Chamber are uploaded to the Findings Report. The Disposal (Forest Produce) and Disposal (Conveyance and Machinery) Modules are designed to monitor and manage seized items from seizure until their forfeit or release. The Report Module provides a various reports and data, such as list of suspects, seized machinery and other relevant information. The IPTS also features a Dashboard that offer statistical data on Investigation Papers including the number of investigation papers, volume of seized logs, number of seized conveyance and machinery, total of compounds, number of suspects and the value of seized logs. Additionally, IPTS is one of the systems under Timber Enforcement, Administration & Management System (TEAM) project together with Sarawak Logs Tracking and Forest Revenue System (REVLOG), Enterprise Forest Information Management System (EFIMS), Forest Research Information System of Sarawak (FORISS) and the Forest Licensee Portal.

Keywords : Investigation Paper, Offence, statistical data, Investigating Officer, Suspect, Seized