

TfL deploys 250 ultra-secure USBs to boost data protection

by [Dan Worth](#) 11 Mar 2015



Transport for London (TfL) has deployed 250 iStorage ultra-secure USB sticks to ensure that data moving around its various offices is kept secure.

The datAshur devices offer 'military-grade' encryption, including Federal Information Processing Standard 140-2 Level 3 validation to keep sensitive data protected.

TfL said that staff in engineering, traffic operations, legal, commercial and finance departments are using the devices as part of the organisation's data protection requirements.

Graham Dawes, solutions architect for TfL, said that a trial had proved the usefulness of such devices for staff handling sensitive data.

"During our trial of the datAshur USB drives, staff found they were easy to use, secure and provided assurance that, should a device be lost or stolen, the data on it would be protected using strong encryption," he said.

"From a project and ongoing support perspective, one of the main benefits of the datAshur devices is not having a back-end infrastructure to manage, making it simple to use and not requiring any drivers or software to be installed."

John Michael, chief executive of iStorage, said that having TfL as a customer underlined the importance of data protection and encryption technologies in the digital era.

"We are at a time when data security is taken very seriously. If the Data Protection Act is violated companies face serious fines. Not only that, the reputation of the entire company can be compromised.

"By purchasing a number of datAshur devices for its staff, TfL ensures its integrity and proves its commitment to security."

Lost USB sticks are often the cause of **major fines handed out by the Information Commissioner's Office when sensitive data is lost**, so TfL's move will no doubt be welcomed by the data protection watchdog.