opentext™

Geneva State Criminal Police, Switzerland

Industry
- Law Enforcement

Solutions
- OpenText™ EnCase™

Results

🔍 **Accelerated evidence collection and analysis** for improved efficiency

⚖️ **Evidence collected is forensically sound** and can be used in a court of law

🔒 **Improved success of investigations** with decryption and automation capabilities

👆 **Trained staff** to increase knowledge and enhance digital investigation skills

REPUBLIQUE ET CANTON DE GENEVE

Geneva police stay ahead of criminals with OpenText EnCase

Geneva State Criminal Police enable rapid, effective forensic investigation with OpenText Security Suite solution

"We're a long-term customer and user of OpenText EnCase. We've had OpenText EnCase for nearly two decades at Geneva State Police."

Patrick Ghion
Head of Forensics
Geneva State Criminal Police
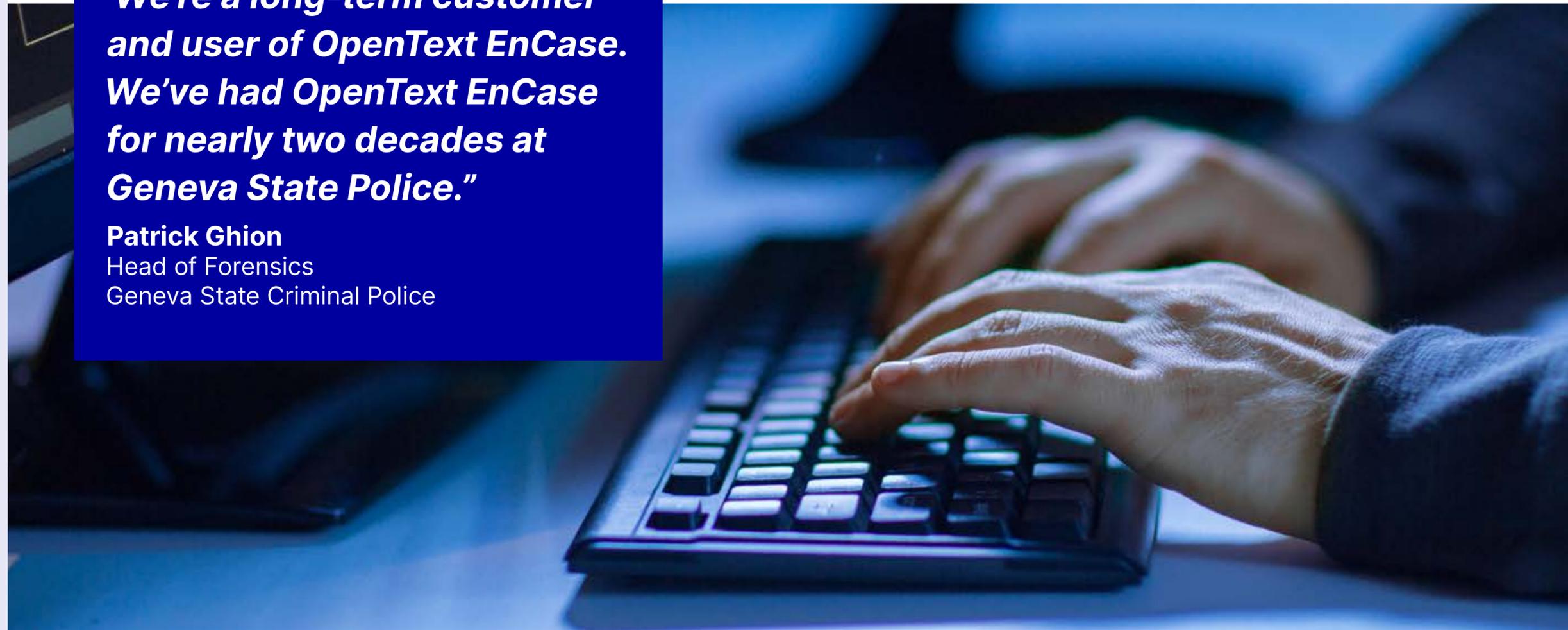
World-renowned as a hub for private banking and global diplomacy, the city of Geneva also boasts the Geneva State Criminal Police, one of the largest police forces in Switzerland. Geneva has also recently become the headquarters of the regional cybercrime center for western Switzerland.

From homicide to cybercrime, law enforcement faces a constant battle to stay ahead of criminals, who are increasingly using technology to their advantage. In turn, technology is playing a crucial role in the fight against criminal activity. Patrick Ghion, head of Forensics at the Geneva State Criminal Police, explained the challenge: *"In every area of crime now, there is some aspect of technology. Technology changes the way criminals behave. So, on one side, you have criminals using technology to carry out crimes and, on the other side, the police are trying to find evidence in the technology used by criminals. More and more, we need technology to uncover the technical aspects of the crime in order to be able to solve it."*

The Geneva State Police found the technology it needed in OpenText™ EnCase™, part of the OpenText Security Suite. A powerful and easy-to-use forensic security solution, EnCase facilitates digital investigation needs with forensically sound data collection and analysis. Investigation findings using EnCase technology have a proven record of court acceptance and the EnCase evidence file format has become the industry standard. Ghion noted that the department has long relied on EnCase for its speed, flexibility and functionality. *"We're a long-time customer and user of OpenText EnCase,"* said Ghion. *"We've had EnCase for nearly two decades at Geneva State Police."*

The department uses EnCase to search for technical evidence in investigations into cybercrime, child pornography and many other types of crime. Geneva State Police investigators can quickly search, identify and prioritize potential evidence, in computers and mobile devices, to determine whether further investigation is warranted. In addition to speeding up its search for evidence, the department has benefited from the solution's flexibility to secure evidence no matter where it resides. The EnCase solution handles a wide variety of operating and file systems, including mobile devices and apps, so that no evidence is beyond reach.

Leveraging the solution's evidence processing capabilities to automate the preparation of evidence, Geneva police can also more easily complete investigations. Powered by an indexing engine built for scale and performance, staff can use EnCase to automate complex queries across varied evidence sources, saving time and increasing efficiency. Investigators can also tackle encrypted evidence with EnCase's powerful decryption capabilities. *"Key strengths of OpenText EnCase are the many features that enable the retrieval of evidence throughout a huge number of operating systems, and that deal with encrypted data,"* observed Ghion.

In addition, as an industry-leading solution with an easy-to-use interface and wide range of capabilities, the forensics unit uses EnCase training and certification to help IT specialists and police officers develop their skills and knowledge of technology and cybercrime. Ghion reported that the training has been particularly valuable for new members of the forensics team. *"If I have a new specialist joining the division, I want them to be effective as*
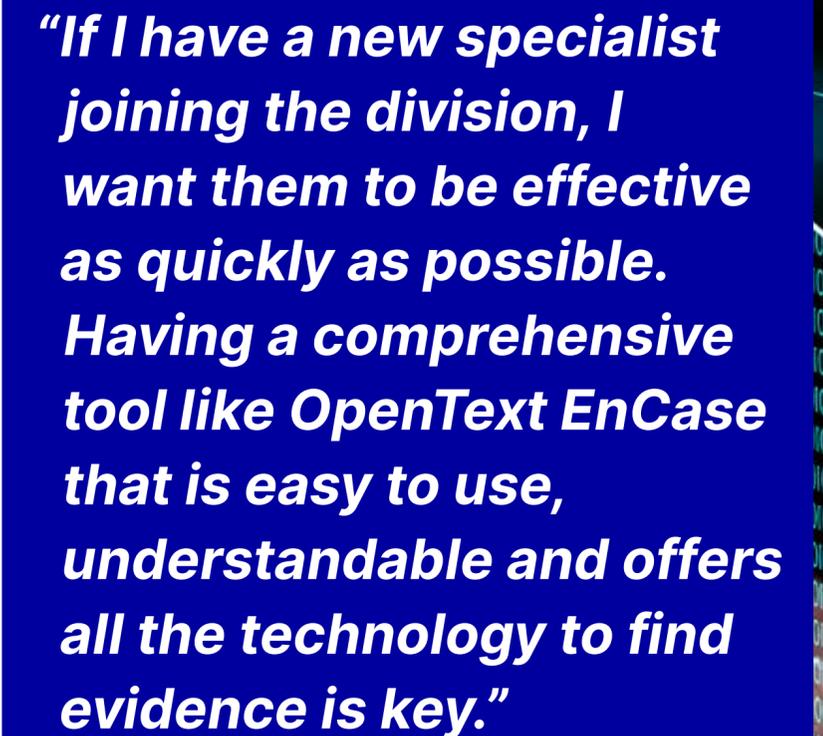
> *"If I have a new specialist joining the division, I want them to be effective as quickly as possible. Having a comprehensive tool like OpenText EnCase that is easy to use, understandable and offers all the technology to find evidence is key."*
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> **Patrick Ghion**
> Head of Forensics
> Geneva State Criminal Police

quickly as possible," Ghion explained. *"Having a comprehensive tool like OpenText EnCase that is easy to use, understandable and offers all the technology to find evidence is key."* He added, *"The training also helps non-IT specialists understand more quickly how things work, such as how data is written to a hard drive and how we can extract it for our cases."*

Facing a never-ending battle with evolving technology in criminal activity and the challenge of discovering where critical evidence may be hidden, the Geneva police continue to rely on EnCase to track down the evidence and close cases. Ghion commented on OpenText's partnership and its commitment to the EnCase solution: *"It's very interesting to have a company who is still developing and investing in making things easier."*
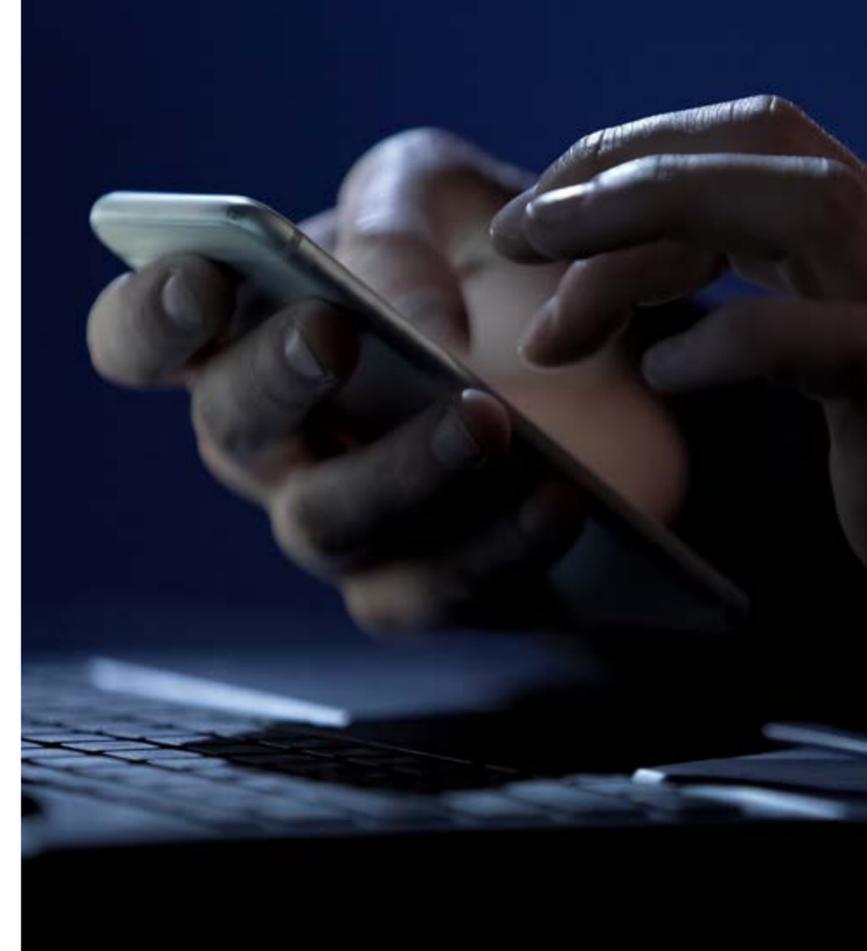
About OpenText

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