A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

The Future of Data is Here: And There's No Going Back

While cars do not yet fly as predicted in the iconic film trilogy *Back to the Future*, many of the futuristic technology predictions in the films have in fact occurred, increasing the demands placed on today's forensic investigators. From personal drones to video chats, the future of the digital landscape has never been more dynamic and complex.

A recent survey of the AccessData® public sector clients highlights the future trends and challenges they face and how they plan on managing specific roadblocks.

The volume of digital investigations will increase.

77% agree the volume will grow in the next three years.

Collections from social media apps will increase.

85% currently collect from social media apps in an investigation.

The consumerization of IT will create more sources for digital investigation.

20% collect data from Apple Watch®.

13% collect data from Fitbit® and other fitness trackers.

8% collect data from drones.

13% collect data from voice-command devices like Windows Cortana® or Amazon Alexa™.

Internet of Things makes life easier for consumers, harder for investigators.

75% experienced technical barriers with IoT environments such as:

presenting findings	55%
gathering evidence	51%
preserving evidence	14%

Data collection from the cloud continues to grow and new tools are needed.

75% indicate increases of **up to 25%** in the past year.

20% indicate increases of **25 to 50%**.

87% are likely to need new tools to span multiple cloud solutions.

Investigators face challenges with cloud investigations.

The biggest challenges:

67% data collection

65% cooperation with cloud providers

49% preservation of data

40% identification

37% chain of custody

The implications of AccessData's "The Future of the Public Sector," April 2017 TechValidate™ customer survey are clear. As more and more data is stored everywhere, forensic technologists must have new tools that are faster and deliver greater stability, nearly limitless scalability and real-time collaboration, and be able to adapt to this new data-driven era.

To view the full survey results and white paper, visit
www.accessdata.com/publicsector