



# The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia deploys VB400 body cameras for its Forestry and Food Agencies

## National Forestry Agency of Georgia

The National Forestry Agency (NFA) is the primary government body responsible for managing, protecting, and restoring state-owned forests in Georgia. Operating under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, it focuses on sustainable forest management, timber production, and biodiversity conservation across 1.9 million hectares.

## LEPL National Food Agency of Georgia

The LEPL National Food Agency of Georgia is a government body under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia. It was established in 2006 and reorganised into its current form in 2011 to ensure food and feed safety, veterinary, and plant protection. It enforces hygiene standards, manages risks, controls animal diseases, registers pesticides, and issues permits for food production.



### Customer

- The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
- National Forestry Agency of Georgia
- LEPL (Legal Entity under Public Law) National Food Agency

### Partner

Communicom LLC

### Industry

Government

### Solutions

- 226 x VB400 Body Cameras (across 42 locations in 9 regions for the National Forestry Agency of Georgia, plus circa 950 cameras in the next stage of the deployment)
- 201 x VB400 Body Cameras (across 65 locations in Tbilisi, 9 regions for the LEPL National Food Agency)
- Klick Fast Dock Clamps
- 14-port and single-port dock chargers
- Dock controllers
- RFID readers
- VideoManager (evidence management software)

## Challenge

Neither the National Forestry Agency of Georgia nor the LEPL National Food Agency had previously used body cameras. However, the agencies were keen to equip their teams (who could be working alone in remote areas) with high-quality body cameras to record indisputable visual and audio evidence of illegal activities, such as food hygiene issues in markets, shops or restaurants, or unlawful forestry or hunting, as well as a document of events during search and rescue incidents, for accountability and safety purposes. The agencies also wanted to boost safety and security and reduce aggression by possibly armed offenders towards their rangers and officers by using body cameras as a deterrent. If an incident were to occur, the agencies wanted local offices throughout Georgia to be able to quickly share encrypted, tamper-proof recordings with their head offices in Tbilisi.

The size and high-profile nature of the project generated huge interest and, as such, the State Procurement Agency, which monitors government tenders, decided to organise the tender itself. The tender, based on the agencies' precise technical specification requirements, was open to all suppliers.

## Solution

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia was impressed by the strong collaboration between Communicom LLC and the local Motorola Solutions business and technical teams to build the best offer to meet the complex tender requirements. This included legally approved technical translations, presentations, conferences, and training demonstrations across Georgia, as well as explaining how the cameras could be connected to the wider Motorola Solutions safety and security ecosystem in the future. George Shvangiradze, Owner, Communicom LLC, explains: "The Motorola

Solutions teams have been a great support, with both online and in-person training. Plus, they provided excellent service to resolve any issues. And now that Motorola Solutions has such a wide, connected ecosystem, we can offer so many solutions to our customers."

And so, The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia decided to award the tender to Communicom to initially supply 427 VB400 body cameras, accessories and VideoManager software to the two agencies. In the second phase of the project, the National Forestry Agency, which already has some portable and mobile MOTOTRBO radios and one SLR 5500 repeater, will deploy approximately 950 more VB400 body cameras as its team grows. Alongside these cameras, the agency is planning to install a countrywide MOTOTRBO Capacity Plus system comprising circa 130 SLR 5500 repeaters and 1,500 MOTOTRBO R2 portable radios, which will be paired with the body cameras for greater efficiency and safety.

Communicom visited all the individual offices in Adjara and the nine regions in Georgia, 107 locations in total, to ensure correct installations and to train users on the solution. Forest rangers and quality control officers use the VB400 body cameras every day to record issues and illegal activities, and to assist with search and rescue. All footage is highly encrypted, watermarked with GPS coordinates, date and time-stamped and securely stored to prevent unauthorised access or tampering. Recordings are securely downloaded to VideoManager at the local regional units as the teams dock their VB400s for charging at the end of their shifts. If any need to be shared or provided as evidence, they are securely and quickly sent to the relevant head offices in Tbilisi. This flexible, decentralised system negates the need for large servers and associated costs.

## Benefits

Both agencies now have a successful, high-performance body camera solution to boost accountability and safety for their users. Moreover, the system can be integrated with other technologies within Motorola Solutions' safety and security ecosystem for further efficiency.

The VB400 model meets the agencies' needs with its robust design, user-friendly features, long battery life, and capabilities like GPS and Bluetooth for peer-assisted recording. The cameras record in full 1080p HD, providing clear, detailed images alongside crisp audio for high-quality footage. The integrity and traceability of the footage, meanwhile, is assured via RFID allocation, tagging, restricted user access and AES-256 encryption, so that it can be used in prosecutions if needed. User feedback from both agencies has been excellent, and the National Forestry Agency is looking forward to deploying more VB400 body cameras across Georgia.

## Solutions

- **For the National Forestry Agency:** DP1400 MOTOTRBO™ radios plus a full countrywide MOTOTRBO IP Site Connect system in the next stage of the deployment (to include circa 130 MOTOTRBO SLR 5500 repeaters and 1500 x MOTOTRBO R5 portable radios. These will be connected to the body cameras as part of the wider Motorola Solutions safety and security ecosystem)

## Benefits

- **Carefully managed deployment:** throughout Georgia with training and support at a very local level to ensure successful uptake
- **The VB400 body cameras:** offer full HD wide-lens recording, support very low light conditions for night-time recording and are easy-to-use and built to withstand harsh conditions (IP67 rating). Their lithium-polymer batteries deliver up to 12 hours of usage for the agency teams' long shifts
- **Increased transparency and accountability:** the body cameras clarify events and work tasks for agency teams, and reduce ambiguity in confrontations and unfounded accusations
- **Enhanced ranger and officer safety:** the knowledge that interactions are being recorded often deters antisocial behaviour; footage can also be used for training and review purposes, to improve performance and safety protocols
- **Advanced Bluetooth connectivity:** with peer-assisted recording when other VB400s in a configurable range start recording, and with selected MOTOTRBO radios when the emergency button is pushed (or Fall Alert or Lone Worker alarms are activated)
- **RFID assignment:** cameras are assigned to users via RFID and, once assigned, all footage captured is automatically tagged with that user's ID in VideoManager
- **Secure, tamper-proof footage:** cameras do not allow user access, and footage is secured with AES-256 encryption and uploaded to the secure, audited VideoManager system with automatic GPS and footage tagging and signing
- **Speed of transfer:** footage needed for review can be securely sent in a matter of seconds from the regional offices to the central servers at the Tbilisi head offices
- **Prosecution-grade evidence:** the VB400s offer pre- and post-event recording, to ensure critical context is captured, as well as high-definition video, clear audio and secure, tamper-proof storage and sharing suitable for legal proceedings
- **Future-proof system:** that can be used as part of the wider Motorola Solutions safety and security ecosystem in the future, with, for example, fixed video, AI analytics and the AI-driven workflow automation Orchestrate platform



Our National Forestry Agency already use MOTOTRBO radios, and we know and trust the quality and performance of Motorola Solutions' products. Moreover, we know that their wide portfolio offers many integration possibilities. With the help of Motorola Solutions' local partner, Communicom, we secured high-tier body-worn cameras, and we are more than pleased with the performance of the VB400 and the system as a whole. Most importantly, the systems are reliable and secure. We have a long-term, future-proof solution for our agencies.

– Koba Silagadze, Head of the Samtskhe-Javakheti Forest Service, The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia





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