

KINGQUAD TAKES CHARGE, WITH ITP HARD SURFACE KIT



The Bibb County Sheriff's Department, based in Macon, Georgia, has a new law enforcement vehicle. Looking for a way to become more visible and accessible around the community, as well as speed up emergency response times and have a more efficient and maneuverable method of crowd and traffic control—not to mention get a better handle on their fuel budget—the agency is now using a Suzuki KingQuad 700 equipped with ITP's Hard Surface tire and wheel kit.

Working with Suzuki of Dublin in Dublin, Georgia, the Sheriff's Department made some suggestions regarding equipment needs, and dealership CEO Dewey Rogers got to work. Along with the ITP Hard Surface Kit, he set up a prototype with a windshield, a toolbox, flashing lights, a siren, a public address system and a few other items, including a unique foot throttle mechanism. Because most of the officers who'd be using this KingQuad are right handed, they wanted to be able to have that hand free to use their radio, flashlight or weapon. Rogers designed a nifty foot throttle

system which is now in the process of being patented; it will be made available in the future to law enforcement agencies only—not for public sales.

When the first unit was ready, the officers chosen to use this KingQuad went through a quick training period and were immediately deployed. This ATV proved to be everything the agency needed, and more. It worked so well, in fact, that the Sheriff's Department is asking for four more units, and other parties have taken notice and made inquiries to Suzuki of Dublin as well. This KingQuad was highly visible at the recent NASCAR event at Atlanta Motor Speedway, where it helped to keep spectators away from the trackside fence during the racing and assist with traffic control before and after the event.

“There has been a lot of interest, a lot of feedback,” reports Rogers. “There has been a lot of word-of-mouth, as well as a couple of newspaper articles. Several other cities and counties have been in contact with us, and we're talking directly with NASCAR on some possible future involvement. It's gotten a lot more publicity and attention than we expected.”

