

Raid-controlTM



CAM: 4T1P



CAM: 4Z1P



CAM: 4K1Q



CAM: 4M1V



CAM: 4X5W

Information Pack

Police Certificated Premises



... a safer retail environment

- ✓ Staff trained in raid-awareness
- ✓ Cash minimised
- ✓ Time-delay systems in use
- ✓ Camera(s) in operation
- ✓ Stolen cash traceable



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Raid-control Briefing Document



Summary

Raid-control is an embryo national crime reduction initiative that aims to raise security standards in retail premises and thereby reduce the potential for commercial robbery. The concept has been under discussion for some months and at the beginning of July 2002 the first steering group meeting was held comprising representatives from British Security Industry Association, insurance, retail, other trade associations and police. The meeting decided to take Raid-control forward based on the Banknote Watch model, a successful national crime reduction initiative. It was also decided that once all the necessary preparation, planning and consultation had been carried out a full trial would take place in the Greater Manchester Police area in parallel with smaller pilot schemes in the Metropolitan Police area.

Objectives

The objectives of the initiative are defined as follows:

To reduce the risk of businesses becoming the victims of robbery and to identify and detect those responsible, through:

Raising standards:

- *Of staff security-awareness*
- *Of robbery-reduction equipment and procedures*
- *Of identification and detection equipment and procedures*

Raising awareness:

Of potential offenders, that Raid-control™ branded premises have taken the necessary measures, in order to:

- *Reduce the opportunity to commit robbery*
- *Raise the risk of arrest*
- *Reduce the pay-off*

The Process

The essence of Raid-control is that it will offer police Crime Reduction Officers up and down the country a real tool with which to reduce commercial robbery. It will enable police to be both pro-active and re-active; pro-active to address crime hotspots or to support local, intelligence-led, crime reduction initiatives; re-active when attending one of the 13,000 plus annual commercial robberies in the UK as a means to reducing re-victimisation. The end result will be the same - increased security leading to reduced crime.



The process comprises three steps:

1. Police will be provided with a specifically designed risk assessment form that will identify the areas where additional security measures are required in any particular retail premises (now computerised to reduce unnecessary paperwork) with emphasis on the following five key elements itemised on the Raid-control™ window sticker:
 - ✓ Staff trained in raid-awareness
 - ✓ Cash minimised
 - ✓ Time-delay systems in use
 - ✓ Camera(s) in operation
 - ✓ Stolen cash traceable
2. If and when the retailer comes up to the required standard his premises will become Raid-control™ 'Police Certificated Premises'.
3. The Raid-control™ Initiative will then promote the brand, both nationally and locally with the objective of raising the awareness of criminals that such premises are unattractive as targets.

Branding

The brand name, Raid-control™ has been donated to the initiative by IBP International Ltd.

On successful accreditation till stickers 60m x 85mm and window stickers 160mm x 105mm will be allocated to the retailer.



For more information, to register your interest and to arrange for a free security survey please contact:

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The Croydon Pharmacy Robberies

- a proactive approach to crime reduction



Background

In the period January to June 2002 there were 14 robberies at pharmacies in South London. The robberies were violent in nature with knives used to threaten pharmacy staff. The target was cash. Off-licences were also targeted by these groups and are a frequent target for crime in South London, but pharmacies had never before been targeted in such volume and in such an organised manner. The response from the Police to this unexpected and frightening spate of robberies was to suggest the introduction of a series of measures to target-harden premises, using the latest security technology and training in good practice procedures. This approach was part of a fledgling crime reduction initiative called Raid-control.

So how did Raid-control come about?

Eight of the 14 pharmacy robberies were in Croydon Borough. Croydon Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) Kevin Hitch was drafted in to advise pharmacists on how to protect their premises from more attacks. Hitch determined that basic weaknesses in both security and procedures were common features. He contacted the Metropolitan Police Service Flying Squad Crime Prevention Co-ordinator Alan Townsend and Digby Ram, director of IBP International Ltd and Chairman of the British Security Industry Association's Cash and Property Marking Section. Townsend and Ram had been involved in the highly successful national initiative Banknote Watch, aimed at reducing the circulation of stolen banknotes. They had already discussed the possibility of establishing an initiative for the retail environment, and the Croydon pharmacy robberies presented the ideal opportunity to put theory into practice.

Tackling the problem

Townsend and Ram devised a series of measures designed to combat the specific risks associated with retail crime – these measures are now known as 'Raid-control'. They include staff training in raid awareness, cash minimised, time delay systems, camera(s) in operation and stolen cash traceable (cash staining systems in use). A number of the pharmacies affected by the spate of robberies qualified for Communities Against Drugs funds, which paid for the equipment and its installation (under £2,000 per premises). Throughout June 2002, 19 premises were fitted with Raid-control equipment and implemented the staff training package. Following completion each premises was visited by a CPO from Croydon Police to assess if they merited Raid-control status. All 19 were successful and were presented with Raid-control window stickers to alert criminals to the security measures inside. The window stickers play an important deterrent role. To date, since Raid-control was introduced to the Croydon pharmacies there have been no more robberies.

So what has been the reaction to Raid-control?

The pharmacist

Beran Patel was in his pharmacy when the robbers attacked: 'There were four of them and they all had knives. A knife was thrust in my face so of course I offered no resistance. As it was shortly after Christmas we had a lot of money in the till and out in the back room including pay packets; they took a substantial amount of money. The Raid-control equipment has brought peace of mind to me and to my staff and the training has addressed the type of complacency about crime that arises when you haven't been targeted before. I would certainly recommend Raid-control. Everyone should have it. Even if the funding hadn't been available I would have invested in these measures because they really address the specific problems retailers face.'



The secretary of the Local Pharmaceutical Committee

Andrew McCoig, secretary of the LPC and owner of two pharmacies in Croydon fitted with Raid-control comments: 'One of my premises was a victim of the spate of robberies. In addition, in my role as secretary of the LPC, I was responsible for the concerns of all the other pharmacists in the area. When I met Kevin Hitch I didn't expect the dedicated approach he took to solving our problem and the innovative solution he proposed. Raid-control is an exciting approach to reducing crime; it worked for us and I can see it working for pharmacies in other parts of the country and in other retail premises.'

The Crime Prevention Officer

Having managed the initiative in Croydon, Kevin Hitch - the CPO tasked with assessing the pharmacies to Raid-control standards - is in a unique position to evaluate the impact of the scheme: 'Raid-control has had a significant impact in Croydon. The response from the pharmacists has been very positive and a number of additional outlets have now purchased Raid-control equipment independently because they are so impressed with it. From a CPO's point of view this is an easy-to-use retail crime reduction package - something we've not had at our disposal before. It comprises a site survey questionnaire tailored to the retail environment, an equipment toolkit and a retailer self-training programme. So having recommended a premises for Raid-control, the CPO simply has to visit once after installation and training is complete in order to assess if it meets the required level of security to be awarded Raid-control status. I hope that this is the launch pad for a national Raid-control initiative because this is the sort of proactive policing that benefits everyone concerned - except the criminals of course!'

The Police Team Manager

DCI Mark Stafford is the Proactive Team Manager at Croydon Police and is responsible for the work of the CPOs on the Raid-control project: 'One of our key priorities in the Metropolitan Police Service and in Croydon Borough is the reduction of robbery offences using both proactive policing and a problem - solving approach. The intention is to deliver long-term sustained reduction and prevention. Target-hardening, coupled with reduced pay-off and increased chance of detection, assists this strategy. Raid-control is good use of a CPO's time and the local storekeepers now feel supported. I would recommend Raid-control to other Boroughs in the Metropolitan Police and beyond.'

Conclusions

In response to a violent spate of robberies at pharmacies in South London a new initiative to combat retail crime has been successfully piloted. Raid-control involves the implementation of a package of measures tailored to the specific needs of small retailers. Those involved in the initiative: the pharmacists, the Local Pharmaceutical Committee, the Crime Prevention Officer and the Team Manager at Croydon Police all recommend that Raid-control is extended to other pharmacies and indeed to other small retailers.

Kay Wright
Press Officer
British Security Industry Association

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3SI SECURITY SYSTEMS, with over 30 years experience, manufacture, sell and service currency protection security systems based on ink and smoke staining technology. 3SI products have proven successful in protecting cash in the money handling chain including: hold-ups on teller stations, ATM pull-out and break-in attacks, cassette pavement risk as well as transport.



ADT's HIGH SECURITY GROUP has been at the forefront of robbery control for the past 40 years in the UK and over a century world-wide. The High Security Group together with its business partners has developed products and services specifically designed to deter and detect robbery in a retail environment.



IBP INTERNATIONAL - IBP's 'one-stop' Robbery Control Systems; Smokenote™, Raid-cam™ and Raid-safe™ are market leaders in foiling and deterring raids on commercial premises. Over 12,500 Smokenote™ Robbery Control Systems are installed in major financial institutions and retailers in the UK. IBP's 'thin-technology' Smokenote™ consistently achieves client raid reduction targets'.



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