

Protection from thieves is a steal

Tuesday, 3 September 2013: On average over 1,000 incidents of theft of property from a motor vehicle occur across Australia every day, as reported in an ABS crime report released this year.¹

Between 2011 and 2012 over 307,000 Australian households had something stolen from their car, representing 3.5% of Australian homes.

The national incidence rate was even higher, with an estimated 379,200 incidents of theft of property from a motor vehicle during the 12 months prior to the ABS research – meaning some unfortunate households were hit more than once.

An unattended vehicle can be a tempting target for thieves. Entry can be gained by smashing a window to access money, electrical items, GPS systems, stereos, E-Tags, there have even been reports of stolen baby seats or prams.

Michael Miller, President of the Window Film Association of Australia and New Zealand (WFAANZ), said, “The incident rate of vehicle break-ins, not to steal the car but the objects inside, is staggering. A window is seen as easy ingress to a petty criminal, which is precisely why security film was developed.

“Motorists can protect their vehicles, passengers and contents inside with security window film. This film has been manufactured to deter thieves from easily getting into your vehicle via a smashed window,” Michael says.

Security film works as a membrane across the glass that holds the broken shards in place in the event of a break-in attempt or accident, making forced entry more difficult and decreasing the risk of serious injury from flying glass. This type of film can be used on any glass surface and is frequently installed in motor vehicles, marine vessels, buildings and homes the world over to protect both people and property.

Security auto film can be clear or tinted. Dual benefit security/solar variants are also available, to help maintain comfortable temperatures within the car while bolstering security. These films can block as much as 99% of UV rays, protecting drivers and passengers from sun exposure.

For more information on security film please visit www.wfaanz.org.au.

Parking tips to deter thieves:

- Leave your car in an attended car park
- Park in a well-lit area at night
- Thieves don't want witnesses so keep your car visible. Choose crowded areas near pedestrian and vehicle traffic
- Lock your doors and roll up your windows
- Install security window film
- If you have an alarm - activate it
- Avoid using the console or glove box to store valuables or money
- Stow your belongings like shopping bags and laptops in the boot before you arrive at the parking area
- Leaving your car keys on or behind your tyres is not safe

Theft of property from a motor vehicle State and Territory victimisation rates (4530.0 - Crime Victimization, Australia, 2011-12):

- National average 3.5%
- Northern Territory 5.9%
- Western Australia 5.5%
- Victoria 3.8%
- New South Wales 3.2%
- South Australia 3.1%
- Queensland 3.0%
- Tasmania 1.9%

...ENDS...

For further information, images or an interview please contact:

Ally Cronan • WFAANZ PR Manager • 0413 626 365 • ally@acpublicrelations.com.au • 02 9401 0222

¹ 4530.0 - Crime Victimization, Australia, 2011-12, Latest ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 19/02/2013