



DEALERSHIP INFORMATION BULLETIN

Loss Prevention Advisory – “Best Practices” Information

DEALERSHIP & LOT SECURITY

Of course, dealerships wish to promote traffic by potential customers on the dealership lot, however, dealership areas need to be secure for optimum protection. The following suggests “best practices” to provide this optimum security.

Perimeter Protection:

- Perimeter protection should employ a comprehensive system of theft deterrent barriers and gates that are locked during non-business hours or, an interactive electronic centrally monitored intrusion system. There should be no open spaces or non-solid fencing such as chain link that inadequately protects any section of the property perimeter.
- All entrances should have solid and secure gates. All entrances should be blocked and all gates closed and reinforced with blocker vehicles that have automatic transmissions during non-business hours.

Lighting:

- The lighting system should meet minimum illumination standards of 3-4 ft. candles.
- Management should review the lighting periodically during nighttime hours to ensure that the lighting does not allow and shadowy areas or bright front lights that create a “light curtain” that obstructs the view of any portion of the dealership from the street.
- Exterior lighting should be on during all hours of darkness.

Alarm Systems:

- The dealership should be protected with an alarm system with central station monitoring.
- The alarm vendor should perform unannounced system tests.
- The dealership management should facilitate a dialogue between the vendor and local authorities to improve response time.

Security Services or Guards:

- If a monitored alarm system is not used, the dealership should employ off-duty police officers or a private security service to patrol the grounds continuously during non-business hours.
- Guards should be required to punch station clocks and submit written daily activity reports for management review.
- Only reputable, bonded guard services should be used.



Lock Unattended Vehicles Stored Outside & Secure High Value Vehicles:

- All unattended vehicles should be locked when stored outside.
- Keys for unattended vehicles should be subject to the dealership's key control system.

Enable Anti-Theft Devices / Alarms:

- Anti-theft devices or alarms should be enabled during non-business hours.
- A check of these devices should be regularly performed.

Secure High Value Vehicles and Equipment:

- Secure high value vehicles by storing them in the building or in other secure areas at night and during non-business hours.
- Wheel locks are useful to protect high value wheels and tires. Wheel discs can be locked in the trunk.

Traffic Control in the Lot:

- Provide control in the lot based on location and layout.
- Provide traffic markings painted on lot surfaces (lanes, direction arrows, pedestrian crosswalks, stop signs, parking, etc.).
- Install speed bumps and enforce speed limits.

Be Observant:

- Watch for strangers engaging in suspicious behavior such as taking notes about vehicles.
- Watch for strangers moving quickly from vehicle to vehicle.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE
ALLY INSURANCE LOSS PREVENTION DEPARTMENT
1-800-729-4622, Option 4**

This document contains a brief explanation loss prevention measures. No warranty of the suggestions or recommendations is implied or made.