

Bulletin

ECR Crime Prevention

February 2003

February saw the Crime Programme focusing on ensuring that the participating companies started getting value for their participation in the Programme. This newsletter is the start of this focus on communicating back to our constituents. All suggestions on content are welcome.

Incident Management System

The Champions, in the light of maximizing the benefit from the IMS, have been refining the reports they require. This has necessitated a radical change to the database. The Crime Office is aiming to have the changes completed by the end of March.

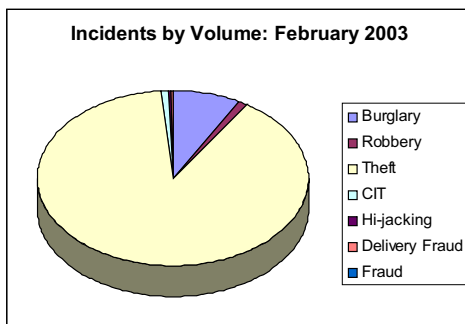
However, this has not stopped us receiving and posting incidents from all those participating. The total number of incidents received in February was down by 20% to 368, mainly as a result of a drastic decline in the number of shoplifting incidents being reported.

Burglaries showed a disturbing increase to 30 incidents during February, with their average value also increasing. There is a noticeable increase in the level of sophistication in the teams that are burgling our industry's premises, particularly in their knowledge of the Guards' procedures, and use of equipment to gain entry into cash offices, etc.

Armed Robberies are still a concern, and CIT made an unwelcome return, after showing a nil record for January.

This graph shows the various incident types, reported since the start of the system, 7 months ago.

The following graph sets out the split of incidents received in February 2003:



A comparison between January and February produces the following graph:

Please note, that these statistics are based on incidents reported, and do not depict a definitive total. We are still focusing on increasing the penetration of the reporting mechanisms in our industry, as well as increasing the number of companies using the Incident Management System. Employers Reference Site.

In spite of the narrow base of companies so far we have 17 companies sending in names every month our database has passed the 50,000 mark. During the month, a total of 8,275 enquiries were processed, with a match found in 574 instances.

The value of this system grows in direct proportion to the number of names on it, factored upwards by the range of companies supplying the names. We are therefore putting in a lot of effort in expanding the usage of this system.

Operation Roadrunner

The SAPS operation focusing on Truck hijacking continues to reap rewards. At the February meeting of the Anti-Truck Hijacking forum, where industry meets the SAPS and the Scorpions, specifically on this subject, a much more positive mood prevailed. This is not to say that Hi-jacking is no longer a threat to our industry, but that the SAPS appear to be having an effect with this Operation.

ECR remains an important provider of information to this joint SAPS/Scorpions project, and all companies present were urged to forward their information via the ECR Crime Office, as an effective information gathering process.

A Police Service

Our relationships with the SAPS continue to be central to the activities of the Crime Office.

As a result of one of our store groups experiencing a high level of burglaries in the Mpumalanga Highveld area, a visit was arranged with the provincial Commissioner in Middelburg. As a result of this meeting, the ECR Crime Prevention Programme was presented to the Mpumalanga Provincial Crime Combating Forum. A good reception of what we are doing, and our objective of improving our own processes and implementing anti-crime procedures, while assisting the SAPS in the performance of their duties was well received. The topic of poor service was also raised, and a reporting protocol for poor service was established.

This presentation to the PCCF will be repeated in the other provinces, to ensure the ECR CPP message gets to each and every police station in the country.

Industry Participation

This continues to be a drive of the CPP. A number of meetings have been arranged with the senior buyers of the Store groups,

with a view to utilizing their connections to make contact with the suppliers and manufacturers in our industry. It is only with the active participation of the whole industry that we will be able to implement effective crime reduction strategies, and to this end we will continue looking to expand the number of companies participating.

The following list of companies has joined the Crime Prevention Programme:

1. 3D Marketing
2. ADT Security
3. BAT
4. Boxer
5. Chandel Security]
6. Chep
7. CMR
8. Daymon International
9. Energizer
10. Federal Marine
11. Fidelity Springbok Security
12. Gillette
13. Lever Ponds
14. Massmart
15. MetCash
16. Nampak Tissue
17. National Brands
18. Nestlé
19. New Clicks
20. Nutritional Foods
21. Reef & Rural
22. Shoprite Checkers
23. Smollans
24. Spar
25. Supply Chain Services
26. TFD
27. The Cold Chain
28. UBR
29. Unilever
30. Vector Logistics