

# REMOTE CCTV PROTECTS IN RECORD TIME!

Targeted by Travellers, but then Travellers find themselves targeted

## Remotely Monitored CCTV has a trick up its sleeve.

The Client requested Lloyd Asset Protection to design a CCTV system for the protection of a large vacant logistics unit in Luton. The brief was simple, design a system that would alert of and deter intrusion. The 74,000 square foot site, set in 4.8 acres, was particularly vulnerable to travellers, attracted by the large car parks and service yards.

The site had recently been refurbished, and the possibility of new tenants depended upon keeping the “ready to move in” decoration in good order.



Previous attempts to secure such sites with manned guarding, was unsuccessful. Vulnerable to threat and bribe, Manned guarding has failed to raise the alarm until serious damage had been done.

The key to any site security is its ability to:

- 1) Create a barrier, slowing and restricting intrusion, but determined intruders will always find a way to by pass physical barriers.
- 2) The the next step is to minimise the time between intrusion and response. This is difficult unless a method of verified alarm is employed. Any alarm receiving centre needs to be able to investigate alarms generated before responding to avoid unnecessary call outs.
- 3) The third step is to be ready with an appropriate and effective response.



Remote monitoring of a closed or vacant site via CCTV can be a good option, but unless the remote station are vigilant to investigate every alarm, intrusion can be missed. This is difficult to achieve when wildlife and foliage growth can cause large amounts of nuisance alarms. Also, sun glare and poor night lighting can make camera views all but useless. Unless the CCTV system is designed with these factors in mind, incidents and intruders can easily be missed.

After completing a risk assessment and consulting with the client, Lloyd Asset Protection recommended the installation of a Remotely monitored CCTV system. The crucial part being not only the design, centered around a creating a “no go” perimeter of the unit and site entrances but also employing a high standard of “Alarm Investigation Monitoring”. This service requires a remote guard to fully investigate each alarm, by using the adjacent cameras to explore the area and ensure the site is secure.

Originally a number of monitoring stations were asked to provide this service, but as it requires a more time consuming approach and there was a reluctance to adapt the standard service offered. However, Cougar, based in the West Midlands, accepted the challenge and helped design the service required.

The CCTV system was installed and the scene was set, awaiting an opportunity to offer the client a return on investment.



## CASE STUDY: LUTON DISTRIBUTION CENTRE PROTECTION

The opportunity to put the solution to test, soon came when on a Friday evening a group of Travellers turned up at 17.35pm. A common tactic for travellers is to turn up just before a weekend, as they know that they are normally guaranteed an undisturbed few days, before Bailiffs can be organised.



Test Three: How long would they stay? Showered with such attention, the Travellers were probably surprised, but this alone tends not to encourage a swift departure. The decision was made to use the site public address system as a subtle irritant throughout the night.

Test One-Detection: The remote monitoring station immediately picked up the travellers as they attempted to by pass the TVCB (Temporary Vertical concrete barrier) by using a gap through the trees. Audio address was given and Police were called. The Police and local guarding attended site within 30 minutes.



The key here was not to create such a frustration that the travellers vented their anger on the equipment, but each hour a loud reminder was made that the Travellers were on private property and CCTV images were being recorded.

The next morning, the weary travellers had had enough. The first signs that they were not enjoying the audio attention came at around 9am when they appeared to be packing away everything they had unpacked the night before.

By 11am the site was undamaged and empty!



Test Two-Response: A local guard was instructed to remain on site with the mandate to make himself visible. This would ensure that any attempted break picked up by the monitoring station could be responded to promptly. The Remote Station projected live views on their main screens to watch the site through the night.



### LLOYD ASSET PROTECTION LTD

For further information on how we can help you contact Tony Lloyd on 07711 123321 or by email on [Tony@LloydAssetProtection.com](mailto:Tony@LloydAssetProtection.com) or <http://www.lloydassetprotection.com>