

Police view on the current state of CCTV installed in the country



Due to the recent increase in crime cases, the police have been relying on evidence from CCTV recordings for their investigation.

However, the Police are of the general view that 70% of the CCTV installed is not useful for their investigation due to several factors such as:

1. **No recordings**

Some CCTV is installed with camera and monitor but without recorder. However in most cases customer failed to switch on the recorder for various reasons such as faulty machine, faulty hard disk, no power supply, high temperature of the DVR (not keep in a server room environment with air-condition), etc

2. **Insufficient recording time**

The recording is limited by storage space and override by first in first out. If the recording is say 7 days, you cannot investigate an incident that took place more than 7 days and above. Banks tend to keep long recordings of normally 6 months but these required large storage capacity and hence incurring high storage cost

3. **Poor quality picture** – cannot identify perpetrator/s, this is mostly due to the purchase of cheap and inferior CCTV system, poor installation, poor maintenance and poor lighting condition.

4. **No water marking or temper proof recordings** – such video footage can be contested in the Court since the video images can be altered or tempered

5. **Time and date on recording not synchronized** – again this can be contested in the Court

6. **Position of the cameras** – the recorder is often installed in an unsecured position and can be easily sabotaged by internal or external perpetrator/s

It is important to carry out a regular audit of your CCTV system to ensure it is functioning well and the location of the camera position is appropriate. Preventive maintenance and upgrading is also highly recommended.

Hiring of Armed Guards

Armed guards are hired mostly for high risk premises or jobs such as banks, jewelry shops, embassy, cash-in- transit, transportation of high risk products, protection of VIP and other risky task.

When you decide to hire armed guards there are several factors you should consider:

1. The size and experience of the security company – qualify is an important factor
2. The profile of the armed guard – age, eye sight, physical build, type of uniform, medical status, appearance, police vetting and holder of a valid carry and use license, ex-service background, and training received
3. Number of armed guards per post or assignment
4. The standard operating procedures and safety measures
5. Type of gun used – pump gun, pistol, etc
6. Proof of shooting practice
7. Proof of carry and use license
8. Details of the contract, pricing and liability of the guard company

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No. 12, Jalan Astaka U8/82, Bukit Jelutong Business and Technology Centre, Seksyen U8, 40150 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan.
Tel: 03-7846 7878 Fax: 03-7845 9668 **Toll-free: 1-800-88-0183** URL: <http://www.secom.com.my> Email: secom@tm.net.my