

Theft Awareness

One recent crime wave sweeping the country involves the theft of catalytic converters. Thieves use saws to remove the converter or target auto repair shops that keep converters in storage. Although determined thieves may eventually get what they are after, you can take steps to reduce the likelihood of your business being a target. Keeping vehicles in a well lit, fenced storage area or locked in a garage makes it harder for a thief to crawl under a vehicle to cut out the catalytic converter. Studies show that the more challenging an environment is for thieves, the more likely they are to go somewhere else to commit a crime.

Criminals are also bypassing burglar alarms on doors and windows by busting holes in walls or removing air conditioning units on roofs to gain access to buildings. A motion-activated alarm system can add increased security in the event of a break-in.

If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at safety1st@markelcorp.com.