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Theft from a Construction Site

Theft is a major concern for all companies. Construction companies especially deal with unique challenges in protecting themselves.

According to the National Equipment Register, construction jobsite theft costs the industry up to \$1 billion each year.

It is important to consider the challenges of protecting a worksite from theft and take steps to prevent it from occurring.

Best Practices to Prevent Theft from a Construction Site:

There are many different, and even high-tech, ways to prevent tools, equipment, or valuables from being stolen from a construction site. Depending on what is onsite, the challenges to protect the site as a whole, and what geographical area the site is in will better determine what is needed to properly plan for theft prevention.

Here are a few basic considerations to prevent theft from your site in this safety talk.

- Secure the perimeter around the site with a fence and barbed wire.
- Do not leave tools or valuables near fence lines.
- Have laydown areas that equipment is parked in overnight with a simple camera system focused on that area of the worksite.
- Lock valuables up in a secure building or Conex container.
- Do not leave valuables where they can be seen through a window. Seeing valuables could give a thief the green light to actually break in to retrieve the object and more.

- Do not let people outside the company know what valuables are onsite. People are more likely to break into a site if they know there is certain valuable equipment, tools, or material on that site.
- Keep detailed records and pictures of all tools and equipment. If something is stolen it may be easier to prove that it belonged to the company if recovered.

Summary:

There are many steps we can all take to ensure valuables, tools, materials, and equipment are not stolen.

While much of the theft is done by individuals who break into a site after hours, it also occurs in-house by employees.

It is important to speak up if you think someone is stealing from the company.

Theft hurts the company as a whole and can cut into benefits and improvements that could have been made if theft did not occur.