



All Security Technology manager David Commazzetto (left) and Liverpool Glass owner Jeff Gough (right) urge businesses to install closed circuit television cameras.

Picture: ARMEN DEUSHIAN

Cameras do stop theft

Security installation puts robbers on notice

ALISON BALDING

LIVERPOOL: BUSINESS owner Jeff Gough is an enthusiastic supporter of a campaign for security cameras on business premises.

Mr Gough said business owners need to take responsibility for their security by installing closed circuit television cameras (CCTV) to give police the power to prosecute offenders.

"Cameras don't lie - it is as simple as that," Mr Gough said.

"We live in such a politically correct society these days where criminals have so much power legally, so businesses need to do everything in their power to help police with the little power they have left."

Mr Gough recently upgraded his security system at Liverpool Glass, complete with six new cameras and a second monitor. The upgrade cost him \$4000, but he said he will save \$1500 a year on insurance by making his busi-

ness less of a target for criminals.

About four years ago, Mr Gough said he was able to successfully prosecute a disgruntled former employee who vandalised his business, causing \$1100 worth of damage.

Mr Gough is also in the business of fixing the damage left at other vandalised sites.

"I would say 98 percent of my business is repairs after vandalism and break and enters - I replaced windows at 12 shop

fronts in the Liverpool area last month alone," he said.

David Commazzetto of All Security Technology said most shopfronts would benefit from even just one camera at the entrance to deter would-be thieves.

"It is becoming more cost effective for people to do, as the price of cameras comes down," Mr Commazzetto said.

"You don't have to go with cutting edge technology."

Would you feel safer if CCTV cameras were installed in Liverpool CBD? Why?



"Yes, I reckon it would be a good move, especially in Macquarie St Mall, it would improve security."
Trevor Meek, Green Valley



"I would feel much safer. I think they should have more police and cameras in Liverpool to stop crime."
Ramila Malcolm, Liverpool



"I believe that is a good idea but I have never really thought about it."
Dana Velimirovic, Liverpool



"It doesn't worry me. Day or night, I shop here and feel safe enough."
Predrog Dopudj, Liverpool

Forum points way to business safety

TIPS TO DETER CRIMINALS

- Make people feel noticed when they enter the store with a greeting, a door chime and eye contact.
- Make the space active with CCTV cameras, burglar alarms, panic alarms, security guards and bag searches
- Make your business a harder target with anti-robbery security screens and tamper-proof packaging.
- Control access by defining customer and staff boundaries and, for offices, use of intercoms can help.
- Reduce rewards by clearly identifying property, advising customers to have goods engraved for free at police station.
- Deny benefits with ink merchandise tags.
- Remove excuses by setting rules like no more than three items in a change room and bag searches.

ALISON BALDING

LIVERPOOL: A RECENT BizSafe forum painted a sombre picture of safety in the heart of the city.

But Liverpool police crime manager Detective Inspector Danny Doherty hopes businesses were able to walk away armed with the knowledge to turn that around.

For the first 28 days of August police recorded 102 incidents of stealing and, while 47 of them were from cars, 30 were from retail stores and 25 were classed as general.

Add to that 25 assaults, 26 breaking and enterings and 24 malicious damage incidents and it is easy to see why police remain committed to the campaign for security cameras.

Det Insp Doherty said the August figures were an improvement on July but still a concern.

He said security needs to be considered at the start of any store's design as the layout of a shop can be enough to deter or

attract criminal attacks. "Quite often when we do catch offenders and we ask why they did it, they usually tell us it was because it was an easy or soft target," Det Insp Doherty said.

He said police are able to help businesses identify areas for improvement with a free safety audit.

"All business owners need to do is contact us and we will happily come out and have a look," Det Insp Doherty said.

He said business should also keep a list of the correct police contact numbers to call depending on the incident.

Disappointed by the small number of businesses in attendance, Liverpool Superintendent Ray King has issued a challenge to businesses to attend a second BizSafe Forum at the start of next year.

For a list of phone numbers or more security tips go to police.nsw.gov.au

