

Press Release – 25th July 2012

Local Businesses Get Security Briefing

Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) member, Crothers Security in partnership with Mul T Lock, held a breakfast briefing at Crothers Security's North City Business Park Superstore last week. The briefing, '*Threats and Trends in the Security Industry*', served to inform both local businesses and the public about the current trends in security and upcoming licensing changes that will impact on them when purchasing security products.

Assistant Garda Commissioner, Derek Byrne, was the opening speaker on the morning. Martin Crothers, MD of Crothers Security pointed out "it was wonderful to have the Assistant Commissioner there. The Assistant Commissioner discussed some of the more contemporary threats to security that we face along with the publicity surrounding the potential closure of Garda stations and the role private security plays in their work". Crothers went on to say "there are a number of parties that contribute to security in Ireland; the members of An Garda Síochána along with other state agencies and forces, the private security industry and the members of the public and Irish industry. If we are all to fulfil our roles successfully, everyone has to have the most information possible to make the best choices when selecting security suppliers.

The Chief Executive of the Private Security Authority, Geraldine Larkin, spoke at the seminar and updated delegates on the upcoming licensing of CCTV and Access Control System installation and maintenance. Delegates were interested to learn that after the 1st October 2012 it will be illegal to install a CCTV or Access Control System if you are not licensed. Many delegates commented on that fact that they could have easily been unaware they were breaking the law by not checking for a license and potentially be prosecuted themselves. When speaking about the upcoming licensing Larkin pointed out, "this will give real confidence to consumers...there have been too many incidents over the years of CCTV systems being badly installed and resulting in footage that provides no benefit to the owner of the system".

If security service providers do not work to best practice there are numerous problems that can arise in the future and the information on legislation that is in place and being put in place left delegates with a firm understanding of what minimum requirements they must look for when seeking a provider. Sarah O'Donnell from the ISIA provided delegates with further information on standards in security and talked delegates through not only the minimum standards in the industry, but the higher standards they will find when procuring services from members of the ISIA, directing them to the ISIA website where they could find a list of ISIA approved security suppliers http://www.isia.ie/isia/Main/2008_List_Sector.htm.

Finally, an informative and practical presentation on access control systems was provided by Tiffany Quinn from Mul T Lock. Delegates were invited to view a variety of access control systems and were pleasantly surprised by not only the aesthetic design of the systems available from Mul T Lock, but by how affordable it could be to improve security in their homes and businesses. Products demonstrated on the day retail from €135 for a code controlled door handle.

“Educating local businesses about security is critical, and investing in the right suppliers for your security can be the difference between an attempted breach of entry and a successful breach of entry. We are delighted to have been able to play a part in providing this information to everyone that came along to the briefing” said Crothers.