

Securing Building Sites



Building sites can run the risk of attracting various forms of unwanted activity such as anti-social behaviour, theft or damage to valuable equipment and materials. The Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) has compiled some guidance to be considered when securing building sites.

Securing the Perimeter

Fencing should be installed around the full perimeter of the site. Palisade fencing should be considered. If fencing is already in place the fencing should be assessed to ensure that it has not been damaged and is fit for purpose. A trench or ditch may be dug around the perimeter to ensure maximum security. Regular patrols and inspection of the site should be carried out. Ensure that all vehicular and pedestrian entrances are securely locked to deter entry to the site when not operational.

Monitored CCTV

CCTV is an extremely effective way of ensuring the security of the site. To maximise the effectiveness of CCTV it should be remotely monitored by a monitoring station. If there is a breach of the site, the monitoring station will then be notified. This will allow them to generate a suitable response to the breach. Electronic security systems (Intruder Alarms & CCTV) must only be installed and maintained by a Private Security Authority (PSA) licensed security installer.

Lighting

Lighting is a vital security tool and may deter trespassers and reinforce the security of the site.

Signage

Signage is a low cost and effective way of keeping a sight secure and deterring potential trespassers. Signage that should be considered included signs that notify potential trespassers that the property is privately owned and that trespassers will be prosecuted. Where CCTV is in use signage must be in place and comply with GDPR. When applicable, community alert and neighbourhood watch signs may be of benefit, alerting potential trespassers that this site is part of an active community. Implementing signage puts a positive personality on the site.

Securing Plant & Machinery

All tools and machinery should be clearly marked to deter theft. If they can be returned to the owner, they can be traced to a theft.

Manned Guarding Services

Engaging guarding services can be extremely effective in ensuring the site is kept secure. This solution provides the site owners with a visible human security presence and can often be the best deterrent. It also allows for the owner to be notified if there is suspicious activity around the site or an attempted breach of the site.

Consideration should also be given to employing Manned Security personnel to control access to the site during working hours. This has both a security and safety function and can ensure that sub-contractors possess Safe-Pass and that materials and/or equipment are not removed without authorisation.

Need for Increased Vigilance

With so much regular activity around the site, people are less likely to take notice of unusual vehicles in the area. This can have an impact on the site security and may also impact on the security of the community where the site is located if already populated.

Finding a Supplier

Combining manned, electronic & physical security solutions is the best approach when securing a site. Seeking the advice of a good security supplier or independent security consultant will assist you when assessing your security requirements. Members of the Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) have been helping organisations and private residents to stay secure for over 45 years. To find an ISIA security supplier [click here](#).