

# OWL say

## “it’s time to get the message on vehicle security”

When it comes to vehicle security it’s usually the vehicle itself that receives the most attention. It has to be said however that many consider the driver to be the most valuable commodity and worthy of more protection.

Fortunately there’s a versatile solution that fleets can employ to cover both. O.W.L. Vehicle Electronic Systems have a range of options available according to whether the vehicle carries cash, valuable goods or passengers.

In buses and coaches it is the driver and other passengers who are most at risk of verbal and physical attack and a really effective deterrent is worth the modest investment to make drivers and passengers feel safe.

This can be a simple warning message such as

***“Passengers please note that for safety and security purposes, video recording is in operation in this vehicle”.***

The authoritative real human voice can sound either through the p.a. system or through independent speakers.

The message may be triggered automatically at the beginning of each journey or by a push button whenever the driver considers it appropriate.

Since it is not the driver who is making the announcement there is a reduced risk of confrontation. And with everyone on board receiving the message loud and clear there’s less chance of graffiti or vandalism.

In addition to buses, personnel in vehicles carrying money or valuable commodities can also be subjected to physical violence.

O.W.L. have plenty of experience in producing talking vehicle security sounders, having supplied attack alarms to the national cash-in-transit fleets for over twenty years.

As well as being a deterrent to assailants the alarms act as a real cry for help and can instruct passers-by to call for assistance

e.g. ***“XYZ security vehicle under attack please call the police”***

or ***“ABC bus driver requires assistance call the police”.***

Personalisation to include the name of the vehicle operator means the vehicle under attack can be instantly recognised.

On goods vehicles there have been many cases of trailers being emptied by thieves whilst parked overnight with the driver in the cab completely unaware of the theft.

A warning message in the cab can advise the driver that the trailer doors have been opened or the curtainside has been breached.

The driver can then telephone the police from the safety of the cab without the thieves being aware of their discovery. The driver can even be instructed to

***“remain in the cab with the doors locked and telephone 999 for police assistance”.***

Even when attempted theft from parked vehicles does not succeed the operator can face considerable costs in repairing damage to vehicles.

Security is also about prevention and it is in this respect that O.W.L.’s warning sounders can be demonstrated as being extremely cost-effective in preventing such damage.

Most alarms require some physical act to trigger them, but a perimeter protection system from O.W.L. can detect a person who is in close proximity to a vehicle and advise them

***“this vehicle is protected by a security system”*** or ***“this vehicle is equipped with a security video recording system”.***

The warning is in most cases sufficient to deter further intrusion.

If however in spite of the warning the vehicle is broken into, a conventional alarm may be triggered.

The addition of a sounder with a personalised message can help anyone within range to give precise identification details when calling the police.

In fact personalised messages can be tailored to just about any safety or security application on just about any vehicle.

***“You have been warned...”***

