

# Security matters

Following Lord West's recent review of security policy, Prime Minister, Gordon Brown announced that security will be stepped up at railway stations, airports and ports as part of the governments attempt to tackle terrorism. Physical barriers, vehicle exclusion zones and making new buildings blast-resistant would all become priorities.

TRL has an on-going programme of impact testing and hostile vehicle mitigation work for the UK government and as a result of security taking on a higher profile has also been involved in a number of interesting assignments with a range of commercial clients...

## Aberdeen Airport

The attack at Glasgow airport in June 2007 meant that the aviation industry was once again at the forefront of the terrorist threat. Aberdeen airport was about to embark on a major redesign of the road layout servicing the main passenger terminal and it was considered prudent to incorporate enhanced security features into the roadway design. TRL undertook a 3D data capture of the environment utilising a laser scanner from which detailed plans and measurements were taken.



Following a detailed assessment of the area and Hostile Vehicle Analysis of potential attack routes, appropriate physical security measures were suggested. It was important to consider that any recommended measures had to be not only robust and cost effective, but also aesthetically acceptable in a modern airport environment. The resulting measures are now in the process of being installed.

## Silverburn Retail Centre, Glasgow

The newly constructed Silverburn Retail Centre just south of Glasgow opened in October 2007. It is the first major UK out of town development for ten years, comprising just under 100,000 square metres of retail shopping units, cafes and restaurants. A prestigious development, built at a cost of over £350 million, it was also recognised as a potential target for terrorists. TRL was asked to provide a vulnerability assessment and advice on how potential threats could be mitigated.

Construction of the Centre was nearing completion when TRL visited the site so a speedy and thorough assessment was a priority. Despite having to work to tight deadlines, practical and cost effective security measures were incorporated into the final design without detracting from the architect's vision.

## Ford's of Dagenham

Ford management was becoming increasingly concerned about the theft of vehicles from their Dagenham site. The site itself was problematic due to its vast size, poor perimeter defences and the fact that vital deliveries throughout the day and night were required to service the 'just in time' production of vehicle engines.

Following an assessment of the site, TRL recommended a reduction in the number of vehicle access points

and an enhancement of the security measures at other points by the introduction of an 'airlock' system using PAS rated rising bollards. Ford has also undertaken to improve CCTV coverage of the site and install additional perimeter protection. The combination of tighter access control and other enhanced perimeter security measures will have a significant impact on the theft of motor vehicles from the site.



## TransLink, Vancouver

Transport infrastructure has been a favoured target for terrorists in recent years and The Greater Vancouver Transport Authority in Canada were keen to improve the security of their systems. The transport system for which they are responsible consists of a rapid transit metro type train, a ferry service, buses, a heavy rail commuter train, and portions of road and bridge network for Metro Vancouver.

Steve Harrison (a Senior Security Consultant for TRL and formerly a Metropolitan Police Officer) had been directly involved in the policing response to the London bus and underground bombings in June 2005, so his advice was sought. Steve met with senior members of TransLink, the emergency service and other associated agencies.



Using his experience, he was able to advise them on what measures had been introduced in the UK post attack and provide practical advice as to the measures which could be taken in Vancouver to enhance the safety and security of the travelling public.

The understanding of vehicles, environments and testing enables TRL to provide a truly independent, impartial service to its clients. TRL's security experts are up to date with the profile of threat analysis and the mitigation measures available, all based on years of real-life experience.



**Contact:**  
Nick Anderson +44 (0)1344 770496  
npanderson@trl.co.uk

