

One Experience They'll Never Want To Repeat

How does one counter the modern thief? Security systems are typically employed as deterrents - the general principle being to dissuade the intruder from attempting a break-in, in doing so convincing him to target less secure premises.

Unfortunately, nowadays burglar is not as easily dissuaded as he once was. With most intruders showing utter disdain for conventional security systems, business owners are now turning to high tech solutions to an age old problem.

There exists a plethora of perimeter security measures to persuade the intruder to stay out (gates, fences, grills, bollards etc) and an equal number to detect and monitor him once he's in. The problem is, nothing will force the intruder to leave - until now.

A recent presentation at the regular ASIS breakfast meeting in Auckland saw the introduction of Inferno security technology by Matthew Adams, Director of Sonic Security Ltd.

Highly advanced Inferno light and sound barriers create an utterly intolerable environment, thereby forcibly evicting the intruder.

Originally invented by the Swedish military, the technology found its way into the hands of Stockholm-based Indusec AB, a company whose aim it is "to make life living hell for intruders".

Take their Inferno sound barrier for example, a device that generates a 125dB spectrum of intolerable sound that renders the protected

area uninhabitable. "It's all about reducing the intruder's window of opportunity," Matthew says, "that being the time between detection and departure, to as close to zero seconds as possible."

It makes perfect sense, the costs incurred in a break-in are directly proportional to the time available to the intruder, the longer they're permitted to remain inside, the more damage they can inflict, the more stock they can steal.

"Inferno barriers are enjoying great success abroad in more than 13 countries" says Matthew, "particularly in retail, but also in a diverse range of installations from warehouses to cargo vehicles, nuclear reactors to summer houses." Indusec AB is particularly proud of a glowing endorsement from the US Department of State which recently commissioned Inferno sound barriers to comprise the final layer of protection in US embassies worldwide.

So how does the sound barrier actually work?

Well, aside of the high volume (about the same as a jet engine from five metres), the patented sound generator produces a complex spectrum of constantly oscillating tones which, when combined, have a highly disruptive effect on the human brain. The result : confusion, inability to concentrate, nausea, disorientation and vertigo. Not a pleasant combination, and one which almost without fail sees the intruder bolt for the door, empty-handed.



Matthew Adams, Director of Sonic Security Ltd, with an Inferno

If the over-powering effect of the Inferno sound barrier is not deemed persuasive enough, some choose to introduce an Inferno light barrier operating in tandem with the aural assault - a "double hit", if you will. The combination is utterly debilitating, complete sensory overload is the perhaps an apt description.

Aside of sound and light barriers, Sonic Security also stocks three complete, stand-alone alarm systems that, as the name suggests, do not require the integration with an existing alarm system. These systems are perfect for temporary or mobile installations and have the added benefit of not requiring mains power to operate. They can run from an uncharged 12V source for up to four months.

Inferno security technology looks certain to make things a huge deal more difficult, if not impossible, for the modern burglar. With protection active 24/7, the technology can protect spaces from 40m² to 800m² depending on the model deployed.

Running costs are negligible - a new battery every three years. Not too many security guards can compete with that level of protection - and I dare say they'd be a shade more expensive.