

After-Theft Recovery Systems

With many thefts of vehicles and equipment being carried out by organised crime gangs (OCG's) it is advisable to fit a version of a tracking and recovery system that has been independently verified as fit for purpose, this should give maximum confidence that in the event of a theft the system will actually function.

		TYPE "A" Stolen Vehicle Recovery (SVR)	TYPE "B" Fleet Management System (FMS)	TYPE "C" DIY Tracking
Category		A wired in or battery location device with Independent credentials usually approved by Insurer, designed primarily to recover stolen equipment, fitted by an OEM manufacturer, an aftermarket installation engineer or via a competent self-Install With manufactures or certificating body guidance to verify said installation. In all cases the fit should comply to manufactures guidelines, be verified and logged at the time of the install.	A wired device designed primarily to remotely monitor machine status to enable a fleet management logistical and maintenance repair plan.	A GPS tracker usually with a user supplied PAYGO VOICE SIM designed to report GPS positions for short periods. System should not ideally have Pay as you go a SIM
Sub-Cat		Type A1, A2 and A3	Type B1, B2, B3 and B4	Type C1, C2, C3 and C4
Advantages		<p>A1 GPS, GSM and RF location for indoor or outdoor recovery both with or without GPS signals. Recovery without GPS signals will need to deploy local RF signal finder*</p> <p>A2 GSM and RF location for indoor or outdoor recovery without GPS, will always need to deploy RF signal finder*</p> <p>A3 GPS location only must receive GPS signals and cannot be located if GPS jamming equipment is in use or if hidden from GPS satellite view</p> <p>A good variety of insurance or law enforcement tested and approved systems to choose from. The highest recovery performance can be expected, especially when the more covert sleeping battery units are fitted as these cannot be so easily scanned and removed by criminals Version A1 and A2 will still enable recovery if GPS signals are jammed A good level of law enforcement support depending on country GPS GEO Fence area, pre- immobilisation or motion alarms possible. Professional monitoring service and 24/7 emergency support (can be level 1 police support for Type A). Battery unit versions give flexibility to easily transfer between machines or to be kept on the shelf and applied to temporary hired machines Good GSM mobile communication connectivity with dedicated Data SIM cards that are GPRS and SMS enabled (usually with international roaming) Overview fleet position data online is possible</p>	<p>GPS positioning enables logistical management of assets GPS location of machine (if reported) could locate a stolen machine GPS GEO Fence area, immobilisation (check safety rules) or motion alarms can be possible May record undue utilisation during rental suspension, weekends May provide technical services for maintenance and diagnostics Information can be sent to OEM for spare part planning Fair GSM mobile communication connectivity with dedicated Data SIM cards that are GPRS enabled Overview fleet reports online</p>	<p>Competitive internet based supply market which can provide low cost initial purchase Lots of devices to choose from</p>
Disadvantages		<p>Does not help prevent the theft Limited or reduced machine information reports Replaceable or re-chargeable battery units may require time and attention to follow up Initial purchase and subscriptions cost</p>	<p>Theft recovery performance is generally lower than "Type A". Systems are not normally covertly installed so can be easy for criminals to discover and disable. Systems not easily transferred without additional costs. OEM information can be sent to your manufacturer and used to reject warranty claims. May not help prevent the theft. Initial purchase and possible ongoing subscription costs. SIM may not have international roaming applied and be forced to GPRS (lower costs) with less mobile coverage than "Type A" systems that also use SMS System cannot be tracked without GPS signals, so will not function if GPS jammer is in use or hidden from GPS satellite view.</p>	<p>Theft recovery performance unproven for professional market needs and generally lower than "Type B". Law enforcement support generally will not be supplied. Lots of devices but with no independent verification testing how do users choose a system. PAYGO SIMS require routine management to prevent service cut off. PAYGO SIMS roaming capability may be limited. PAYGO VOICE SIM are not suitable for data reporting modems and generally have lower GSM connectivity. Additional costs may apply. Usually no professional support services. System cannot be tracked and recovered without GPS signals, so will not function if GPS jammer is in use or hidden from GPS satellite view Poor guarantees or product warranty Poor battery life can require a lot of maintenance Poor or non-existent mapping experience</p>
General Notes				
<p>Criminality understand deployment of GPS Tracking Systems is now much more common, In their efforts to defeat such systems they may consider prior to theft scanning, locating and disabling tracking devices that have live sim card activity. Alternatively, OCG's may deploy GPS jammers or hide stolen machines from GPS signals.</p> <p>local signal finder* investigators or law enforcement officers can use VHF or UHF radio direction signal finding equipment to help locate and recover "items hidden from satellites view" for those hidden inside lock-ups, vans, refrigeration trucks, shipping containers, underground car parks or anywhere else where GPS signals cannot penetrate.</p> <p>GSM jammers are also a possible consideration but as they are more expensive than GPS jammers and they can be immediately detected and positioned by mobile network providers they are believed seldom used.</p> <p>All tracking systems should be monitored 24/7, have a contracted Simcard and be fit for purpose. A good tracking company should be able to give you an (in-depth, if required) explanation of the different technologies out there and the relative benefits of different systems</p>				