



Newsletter **ISSUE 29**

**Security...  
It's in our DNA!**

# Stopping Metal Thieves in Their Tracks



A widespread operation is underway by Network Rail to mark railway property with SelectaDNA, a permanent synthetic solution only visible under special police torches.

SelectaDNA spray has been used many times to identify stolen goods and forensically link them back to the crime scenes from which they were stolen, but it is now being used to find and identify metal after it goes missing.

Andrea Graham, head of crime and security for Network Rail's North West and Central region, said: "Metal theft continues to cause huge problems for passengers and freight customers at a very significant cost to our business – which is of course funded by the taxpayer.

"Our message to thieves who think they can steal from us is clear – we will find you and bring you to justice, because you're not only putting your own life at risk by trespassing on the tracks, but also the lives of our passengers and staff."

Figures released by Network Rail show that since 2017 there were 31 incidents of serious metal theft on rail routes in Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Lancashire, Cheshire and Cumbria. This includes serious damage to the signalling system on the West Coast main line near Crewe during the first national Covid-19 lockdown in spring 2020.

These incidents across Network Rail's North West route caused trains to be delayed for a total of 30,000 minutes - or 20 days worth of time - and cost the taxpayer an estimated £1.3m.

The total cost to the taxpayer across the whole country between 2017 and



*Sniffer dog Ronnie with his trainer Mick Swindells of Search Dogs UK*

2022 was almost £16m with more than 330 thefts.

Network Rail has also enlisted specially trained sniffer dogs, provided by Search Dogs UK, to crack down on criminals who steal vital cables and materials from the railway and catch those who illegally sell those items on. SelectaDNA spray has a unique scent which the dogs can detect, leading police directly to any stolen supplies illegally on sale at scrap metal dealers.

Andrea Graham said: "We're always looking at new ways to crack down on criminals and now we have man's best friend on the case too."

Organised criminal gangs are increasingly targeting infrastructure for rare and expensive metals due to the current high metal prices.

Superintendent Mark Cleland, British Transport Police national lead for metal crime, said: "We're working with partners across the entire country and throughout the metals recycling industry to target those who we suspect of flouting the law or operating outside of their licence.

"By taking a multi-agency approach, we are maximising our ability to identify those who are attacking our national infrastructure, making it harder for them to sell stolen metal and gain from their activities. We're warning would-be offenders that we will take action against them and anyone involved in the theft and trade of metal from the railway will be brought to justice."

# Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) with SelectaDNA Sprays



## Due to the recent high-profile instances of horrific attacks, awareness of violence against women and girls is at an all-time high.

The SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray has been developed specifically to help women feel safer in public, and to secure the convictions of dangerous criminals who threaten them.

Whether travelling to and from home, or carrying out jobs in a public setting, vulnerable people will be able to feel much safer through the possession of a deterrent such as the cutting-edge SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray.

The SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray works by spraying the offender with an invisible synthetic DNA solution, marking skin and clothing for days, weeks, or even months - greatly increasing the chances of conviction. Because every solution contains a unique DNA code registered to the canister, it is easy to connect marked criminals back to specific crime scenes.

Police routinely scan anybody they take into custody with UV lights, and when a marked criminal is scanned the solution shows up as a clear fluorescent blue.

The unit is operated with one hand. By holding the canister in an upright position and pressing with a thumb or forefinger, you will be able to fire a jet of clear liquid that reaches a distance of up to 4 metres.

In most cases, potential offenders should be verbally warned that they will be sprayed by a DNA Personal Defence Spray. The threat of DNA evidence weighs heavily on the minds of criminals, so this is an effective first action when danger is initially suspected. If an assailant is not deterred, deployment of the spray will link them to the offence.

Due to the fact that the unique DNA solution is intended to tag a single criminal and crime scene, it is not supposed to be used more than once. If the DNA solution has been deployed multiple times, it loses value as a piece of evidence in court. Please see back page for more product information.



For more information on the SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray, training courses or other Selectamark products please visit:

[www.selectadna.co.uk](http://www.selectadna.co.uk)  
email [sales@selectamark.co.uk](mailto:sales@selectamark.co.uk)  
or call 01689 860757



# Dyfed Powys Police Invests in DNA Sprays to Safeguard Women



Police and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llywelyn has secured additional funding from the Home Office's Safer Streets fund to tackle violence against women and girls (VAWG) and community safety in four areas within Dyfed-Powys.

A total of £45,000 of additional funding has been secured to increase safety of women and girls at busy night-time economy hotspots in particular. The funding will go towards purchasing

women's safety kits, community Pop Up Safe Spaces and Training and Assessment for Licensed Premises. 2,000 women's safety kits will be purchased and distributed in night-time economy hotspots in Aberystwyth, Carmarthen, Llanelli, Haverfordwest and Newtown.

The safety kits will include a torch, panic alarm and anti-spike drink cover. Also included will be a unique SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray that works by spraying the offender with an invisible

synthetic DNA solution, marking skin and clothing for days, weeks or even months – greatly increasing the chances of conviction.

Chief Inspector Dyfed Bolton, force lead for neighbourhood policing, said "Dyfed Powys Police is proud to be working with Selectamark to promote the safety of women and girls in our force area. "Our neighbourhood policing teams will continue to work tirelessly with partners to stop violence against women and girls, making our neighbourhoods safer places to live, work and have leisure time."

James Brown, Managing Director of Selectamark Security Systems, the manufacturer of the SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray said "We first started providing crime prevention solutions to Dyfed Powys Police over 10 years ago, but this is a particularly exciting and ground-breaking initiative. The police are providing women and girls who could find themselves in vulnerable situations with the very latest crime-fighting technology, which sends the strongest possible message to potential offenders not to consider committing such awful crimes."

## Safer Streets: Making Hailsham a Safer Place



Initial results from a government-funded scheme to reduce crime in Hailsham, Sussex, are 'encouraging', says a Conservative councillor who represents the town.

The Safer Streets funding has allowed for an increased Police presence in the town over the last six months as well as for the installation of upgraded

digital cameras to future-proof the town's CCTV camera system, and for a large number of SelectaDNA kits which permit owners to invisibly mark their property. The kits are also being given to vehicle owners to act as a deterrent against car crime and make it easier to identify and prosecute those who are brazen enough to still run the risk of offending.

The Safer Streets programme has already made an impact in stopping fly-tippers, identifying untaxed and uninsured cars, and helping dozens of shopkeepers and homeowners to improve security.

Hailsham was suffering from above-average levels of neighbourhood

crime, so Wealden council worked hard to secure a £300,000 grant to tackle the problems.

The bid was co-ordinated by Conservative councillor Philip Lunn, Wealden's cabinet member for Community and Public Health. He said: "This funding, provided by the Government, will help us to target one area where we believe a carefully thought-through strategy will make it much more difficult for criminals in the future."

"A detailed evaluation of the whole project will be taking place in due course, but the initial results are encouraging," said Councillor Gerard Fox.

# Celebrating Our 25-year Membership of BSIA



Left to right: Jason Brown, James Brown, and Jim Brown (seated) of Selectamark are presented with their 25 year anniversary award from BSIA's Mike Reddington.

Brown, Managing Director of Selectamark, said "We are delighted to receive this award from the BSIA. On behalf of Selectamark, and the industry as a whole, I would like to thank and congratulate Mike and his team for bringing stability and strength back to the association. We look forward to many more years of membership."

Mike Reddington, Chief Executive of BSIA, (pictured far right) said: "On behalf of the BSIA I would like to thank James and the Selectamark team for their ongoing support and engagement with the BSIA in developing and shaping the professional security industry and we look forward to working together in the future."

## Selectamark Renews SBD Membership for the 15th Year

Secured by Design



Official Police Security Initiative

After 15 years of membership, Selectamark have once again renewed their membership with the official police security initiative, Secured by Design (SBD).

Following vigorous product testing and auditing by an accredited third-party organisation, Selectamark have achieved SBD's Police Preferred Specification (PPS) on their innovative bicycle security product and secure database register known as 'BikeRegister: The National Cycle Database'.

James Brown, Managing Director of Selectamark (pictured 5th from left with his team) added: "We have been proud Secured by Design members since 2007, and in that time have provided our accredited solutions to thousands of clients to help protect them against acquisitive crime. Holding Secured by Design accreditation has been vital for us in gaining the support and trust of police forces across the UK, and we look forward to many more years of membership."

Secured by Design is owned by the UK Police Service and works to improve the security of buildings and their immediate surroundings, with the specific aim to reduce crime and help people live more safely. SBD is the only way for companies to obtain police recognition for security-related products in the UK.



Lyn Poole, Development Officer at Secured by Design commented: "I have had the opportunity to work with Selectamark since 2006 when I was a Crime Prevention and Problem-Solving Advisor within the Metropolitan Police. I now have the privilege of working with them as their Development Officer, they are always very approachable and display a can-do attitude. I'm so pleased they have renewed their membership for a further three years. I see them at most security exhibitions, so expect to see lots from them on our social media."



# Taking Action on Catalytic Converter Thefts



Following the recent national week of action against catalytic converter theft, where awareness of the crime was raised and Police forces up and down the country cracked down on offenders, Dorset Police made a huge contribution to Operation Gold Iron, as the week is known. Among their actions, they encouraged the use of Selectamark's catalytic converter marking kits, as well as joining with representatives from the Environment Agency, Dorset Council, and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council to visit scrap dealers in the area.

A spokesman for Dorset Police said: "The awareness work during the week of action resulted in information being received that led to the arrest of two men on suspicion of the theft of a skip

containing metals after they reportedly attempted to make off from a vehicle in the Ferndown area."

The force says that following the May 2021 launch of a multi-agency initiative encouraging forensic marking of vehicles, there has been a reduction in catalytic converter thefts. Two incidents were reported during January this year compared with 98 in May 2021.

Dorset Police added that they remain committed to tackling the issue, which can cause considerable expense and inconvenience for victims as offenders target the precious materials contained in catalytic converters.

Neighbourhood Inspector Adrian Thompson, of Bournemouth police, said: "We have continued to work



with our partners and local businesses to raise awareness of this crime and offer advice on how members of our communities can help protect themselves from becoming victims.

"For those who sadly do become victims, forensically marking their catalytic converters make them harder for thieves to dispose of and can help us trace and catch offenders."



Watch our new video  
<https://youtu.be/S9cMtOSjDLQ>

# Car Dealership Crackdown



**A Honda dealership in Dundee has teamed up with police to crack down on catalytic converter thefts.**

The Tayside area has suffered a big increase in thefts of the devices, with the converters fetching up to £500 on the black market because of the precious metals such as palladium and rhodium that they contain.

That in turn has prompted an increase in demand for cheaper second-hand converters to replace the stolen ones.

Hondas, in particular, are being targeted and West End Honda is among the businesses that police have contacted after obtaining marking kits from SelectaDNA.

West End Honda MD James Ewart said: "We're delighted to work in partnership with Tayside Policing Division in regards to this initiative.

"Our staff have received training from SelectaDNA, which was arranged by the police, and we will offer this service

free of charge when someone's vehicle is an identified risk and is at one of our premises having work carried out.

"We believe the reason for these thefts is likely due to the high scrap value of Honda's catalytic converters."

PC Steven McKay of Tayside Police was quoted as saying: "We were aware of this crime series and tried to come up with a new way of preventing and

detering them from happening. We always look to work with new partners to find ways of preventing crime."

He added that dealership staff knew which vehicles were likely to be targeted so there was no need for people to contact the business, but he also warned: "While the volume of these crimes has fallen dramatically since last year, the persons responsible will likely be active again in the future."



# PCC for Cheshire Commends Operation Shield



**During a Public Scrutiny Meeting, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire, John Dwyer (pictured) gave a warm commendation to recent proactive efforts by Cheshire Constabulary to reduce neighbourhood crime and make residents and visitors feel safe in the county.**

Neighbourhood crime includes burglary, robbery, vehicle offences and theft. For the 12 months ending December 2021, Cheshire Constabulary recorded 6,087 neighbourhood crimes, a 9% reduction on the same period ending 2020.

One of the proactive measures the Constabulary implemented was 'Operation Shield', a force-wide initiative that uses SelectaDNA forensic marking to protect homes and businesses by reducing burglary opportunities, deterring offenders, and identifying and recovering stolen property.

SelectaDNA forensic marking can be applied to household items and the marking is only visible under a Police UV light. If a stolen item is recovered, it can be checked for SelectaDNA. If traces are found, the Police can identify the real owner and have the item returned.

John Dwyer said: "I am extremely pleased with the reduction in neighbourhood crimes. Although, some of the Coronavirus measures put in place to keep people safe can be attributed to the decrease, the effective and efficient use of resources by the Constabulary to target these crimes has helped to make the county safer."

He added: "My scrutiny process enables me to highlight areas of concern like neighbourhood crime and hold the Constabulary to account for what they're doing to keep our communities safe.

"The proactive action taken by the Constabulary to tackle these abhorrent crimes, such as using the UV marking deterrent, has seen a decrease in this type of crime. But I know there is always more to do. By implementing both proactive and reactive policing, the residents of Cheshire can be reassured that all steps are being taken to make the county as safe as it can possibly be."

## PSNI Launches 'Burglar? Don't Bother' Campaign



Neighbourhood Police in South Belfast have launched a new anti-burglary initiative to help residents make their homes more secure and protect their property.

The 'Burglar? Don't Bother' campaign involves officers visiting homes across South Belfast, encouraging residents to lock up, store valuables securely and carry out traceable property marking using SelectaDNA.

The initiative also involves working with local pawnbroking businesses to raise awareness of attempts to sell on stolen property, encouraging them to look for property that is marked and to report any suspicious activity. If a

stolen marked item is ever presented to a pawnbroker, it can be quickly and easily traced back to its owner by Police.

Sergeant Cherith Adair explained: "Neighbourhood Police will be visiting homes over the next few weeks to share security advice with our residents, encourage them to property mark valuables and ask them to display our 'Burglar? Don't Bother' stickers. The stickers will be displayed to show homes are security aware and have taken progressive steps to protect their property. Our message is clear to any opportunistic criminals – Burglar? Don't bother!"





# Working Closely with the Farming Community



Dyfed Powys Police Rural Crime Team (RCT) have been supporting the local farming community, carrying out forensic marking on farm equipment including quads, bikes, and power tools. After their efforts, any and all items stolen can be easily linked back to crime scenes and to owners.

The RCT have also visited livestock markets in Brecon and Talybont to speak with local farmers, giving crime prevention advice and offering to make visits to farms to mark equipment and install warning signage. They have also been to Radnorshire carrying out crime prevention surveys, as well as marking quads and motorbikes with SelectaDNA.



# NFU Mutual Invests in DNA Security Marking



**In its role as a member of the Rural Crime Partnership, leading rural insurer NFU Mutual invested in a security marking scheme in Northern Ireland using SelectaDNA to mark 200 quad bikes at risk of theft.**

NFU Mutual recently published its 2022 Rural Crime Report and, while there has been a decrease of 18.7 per cent, rural thefts in Northern Ireland still cost an estimated £1.7M last year.

The decrease in Northern Ireland is greater than the UK average drop of 9.3 per cent in 2021 and signs so far this year look like Northern Ireland is curbing countryside crime.

NFU Mutual claims indications suggest the first quarter of 2022 has seen

thieves in England, Scotland and Wales making up for time lost over the pandemic, but in Northern Ireland the reduction in rural theft continued.

Ulster Farmers' Union deputy president, William Irvine, said "We would like to thank NFU Mutual for investing in security marking of quads which are commonly targeted by thefts."

NFU Mutual also provided SelectaDNA security marking kits so that farmers

could protect their belongings with forensic marking solution.

Martin Malone, Northern Ireland Manager for NFU Mutual, said: "We're really encouraged by the decrease in rural theft last year. Our investment in security marking initiatives and work with key partners including the police, Ulster Farmers' Union and rural community are delivering results."

# Saddling Up Against Tack Theft



Surrey Police have been busy marking up horse equipment at livery yards in Reigate & Banstead. Saddles and tack were marked to deter theft as part of Rural Crime Week and SelectaDNA tack marking kits were left for riders who were not available at the time. The force is also offering hi-vis warning signage to liveries that can be erected on the premises to deter thieves in the first instance.



# Motorbike Theft Advice

Following a rise in motorbike thefts in Frome, Avon & Somerset Constabulary have issued advice on how motorbike thieves have been operating in the area. Officers report that thieves are initially making note of motorbikes that are being advertised for sale online, then arranging to view the bike posing as a potential buyer and scoping out the property. Later, when the homeowner is out, they will return to steal the bikes. To help reduce incidents of motorbike theft, police have been issuing SelectaDNA property marking kits to repeat victims who have taken reasonable first steps to prevent crime.

# The Next DNA Deterrent for Jewellers

Designed as a deterrent to robbery and smash and grab raids, the SelectaDNA Intruder Spray system contains a forensic solution unique to each location. This means that criminals can be linked to the scene of a crime.

Consisting of spray heads that can be fitted above windows and doors of premises, the system is triggered as an intruder enters the property. The system emits a fine mist of DNA solution onto the offender that stays on the skin for weeks and is only visible under an ultraviolet light.

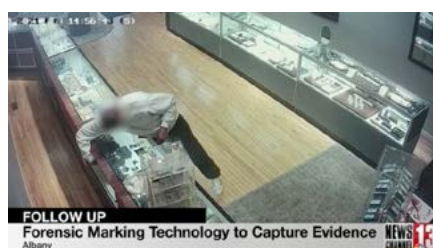
Chanel has had the spray fitted at two London stores following attempted smash and grab raids targeting their high-end fashion pieces and fine jewellery. Hi-vis deterrent warning signage is being used on the boutique's windows to indicate that the spray is installed.

Elsewhere, Louis Vuitton have been keeping their own jewellery and iconic luggage range safe and secure by also using the spray. The company has deployed the hi-tech spray system to successfully protect delivery areas in depots in the north of England.

The same DNA technology is also available as a handheld Defence Spray that is being used by trained security officers to deter robbers at Westfield shopping centre, Harrods in Knightsbridge, and by officers in Business Improvement Districts to protect jewellery stores.



James Brown, MD of SelectaDNA, said: "DNA handheld sprays give shopkeepers and retailers added protection and peace of mind. If the worst should happen and a robber enters the premises by force they will be sprayed with the DNA which links them instantly to the crime scene. Criminals really do fear DNA technology more than anything else."





# How the Met Solved Moped Crime



**In their recent 'How We Solved It' video series, the Met chose to feature Op Venice and the way SelectaDNA Tagging Sprays have been deployed to combat moped crime.**

The highly successful Operation Venice used a range of strong-arm police methods including specialist tactical driving, followed by the use of SelectaDNA tagging spray to crack down on this brazen and widespread crime, that affected many everyday Londoners.

The introduction of the new SelectaDNA Tagging Spray appears to have been a major factor in the decline in moped-enabled robberies in the Capital, with offenders realising that the police finally have a method of proving without doubt they were at the scene of the crimes they commit.

The spray can be aimed by officers at moped offenders, marking the bikes, clothing and skin of any riders and passengers with a uniquely-coded but invisible synthetic DNA that will provide forensic evidence to link them to a specific crime.

DC Mark Cooper described how SelectaDNA was used so effectively during Operation Venice. He said: "Our use of forensic tagging spray linked thieves to the scene of the crime capturing vital DNA evidence to assist in bringing prolific offenders to justice."

He added: "After stopping these riders, we relentlessly pursued justice, building the strongest case for prosecutions. Our hard work has been effective in bringing down moped crime."



Scan here to see how SelectaDNA helped the Met beat moped crime  
<https://youtu.be/35J-KXW6Edg>



## Two-Wheeled Crime Evolution: From mopeds to Pedal Cycles and Ebikes...

At this year's national Cycle Crime Conference, hosted by BikeRegister, the National Cycle Database, speakers from police, government, universities and the security industry highlighted the impact of bike theft and shared best practice on cycle crime solutions.

One of those to address the roadshow was DCI Alison Foxwell (pictured) from the Met Police, who explained how

two-wheel enabled robbery was being tackled in London, as well as talking through lessons that have been learnt from handling the transition of the crimes being carried out on mopeds to pedal cycles and e-bikes.

For more information on the Conference and to watch the video from this year's events please visit [www.cyclecrimeconference.com](http://www.cyclecrimeconference.com)



## Toyota Installs Anti-Theft Package in New Cars



**SelectaDNA has a prestigious new client in Poland, and vehicle thieves should be worried.**

Toyota is the most popular car manufacturer in Poland, with every fifth car registered in Poland in January 2022 being a Toyota.

Unfortunately, Toyotas are equally popular among thieves, which is why the manufacturer has introduced a new anti-theft protection package.

The package consists of three elements: a new generation anti-theft device, chrome-plated anti-theft nuts for the wheels, and the SelectaDNA forensic marking system.

Artur Wasilewski, Service Department Manager Toyota Motor Poland, says about the new system:

*"We enrich and constantly refine all elements of the anti-theft package offered for our new cars. It also includes modern immobilisers, alarms and wheel protection with special patent screws. Our role in Toyota services is to ensure that drivers can enjoy their cars without any worries."*

SelectaDNA can be used to forensically mark vehicles and their individual parts. It uses synthetic DNA technology with

microtracers. For criminals, car parts that are marked are a nightmare to sell on as the marking is so durable that it can't be removed.

The SelectaDNA system also deters car thieves, because Toyota cars are marked in a visible and permanent way - two large warning stickers and a special marking code are placed on the windows.

Labels with the same code are also found inside the Toyota. It is virtually impossible to remove the labels, as well as the marking. SelectaDNA is now being recommended by the police in Poland.



## University Protects Assets



In other news from Denmark, The University of Copenhagen (UCPH) has marked thousands of computers and tablets with SelectaDNA.

With over 40,000 students and more than 9,000 employees, UCPH is one of the largest institutions of research and education in the Nordic countries. The university was founded in 1479 and is now comprised of six faculties

with more than 100 departments and research centres.

Hi-vis deterrent warning signage has been erected around the four campus sites, warning thieves that all assets are marked.

A spokesperson for the university said they find SelectaDNA 'an easy and effective way to secure against theft'.



## Going Green



Discussions are well underway for the roll-out of SelectaDNA in the protection of Kaingaroa Forest. Covering 2,900 square kilometres in the Central North Island, Kaingaroa is the largest forest in New Zealand. As part of a wider security programme, SelectaDNA is set to assist with protecting forestry equipment among other assets.



# Tool Theft Partnership



Danish tool supplier Carl Ras has teamed up with Unisecure, SelectaDNA's distributor in Denmark. Through their joint efforts they aim to prevent burglary and theft of tools in the construction industry.

SelectaDNA property marking kits are now being sold in all Carl Ras stores and staff are happy to tag new tools for customers at point of purchase.

Henrik Bækgaard, sales manager at Carl Ras, said: "Burglary and theft of tools is a huge problem in our industry right now. As one of the industry's largest tool suppliers and specialists, we want to take responsibility for the safety of customers' tools, and through collaboration with Unisecure we want to help customers take good care of the tools they buy from us, so that they have a longer lifespan."

He continued: "As a nationwide wholesale company with 19 stores, we have the infrastructure to offer the



service. Once we have marked the tool, we register it in the database, after which we deliver it to the customer's desired location.

Henrik Olsen, director of Unisecure, said: "This is the first time we are teaming up with a partner in the construction industry. Together with Carl Ras, we therefore expect

to be able to reach a wide range of tradespeople. We hear from both large contractors and the very small master craftsmen that it has proven to be a cheaper way to secure their equipment. Although it costs money to label it, it is much cheaper compared to the costs it can incur if it is stolen."

# Cable Theft Drops by 60%



Orange Telecom Group in France is using SelectaDNA to mark and protect their cable.

The MetallicDNA technology is making it possible to effectively deter cable thieves as the marking makes stolen cable easily identifiable. The results are convincing with a sharp drop in cable theft of more than 60% in all areas where marking has been done.



# Robber Arrested and Sentenced



A robber who targeted a Rema 1000 supermarket in Aarhus, Denmark, was arrested after he was sprayed with SelectaDNA Intruder Spray.

He initially told police that he had not even been in the store, but this was disproved when clothing that he was wearing tested positive for traces of SelectaDNA. The robber could therefore be linked to the crime scene with 100% certainty. The arrest came after a tipoff from someone locally who recognized the man. The robber was sentenced to 5 months in prison.



# Wiltshire Police Lay Siege to Burglary

**Operation Siege is a new crime prevention initiative to help prevent burglary and deter opportunistic thieves operating in Wiltshire and Swindon.**



As part of the operation, Wiltshire Police is working in conjunction with SelectaDNA, to help protect people's valuables. Coverage of the launch of the scheme was featured on the BBC.

People can mark their items with the forensic solution and record ownership on a secure national asset register, accessible to all Police Forces. SelectaDNA is a highly effective deterrent to burglary, but in the event of a crime happening it can also be used to identify stolen property if it is recovered.

Inspector Pete Sparrow from Wiltshire Police said: "Operation Siege brings communities and Police together in an effective partnership against thieves. It makes a clear statement to criminals that property is identifiable and will be hard to sell on. The ultimate goal is the absence of crime, which is something we should all strive towards and this starts with prevention."

He added: "Research has shown that where this product is used burglary offences have been reduced by over 80%. We are delighted to be working with SelectaDNA as a key measure to prevent crime under Operation Siege."

W News ▸ Wiltshire News ▸ Wiltshire Police

## Wiltshire Police team up with company to protect valuables

Operation Siege brings Communities and Police together in an effective partnership against thieves

## Marine Marking Events



Devon & Cornwall Police teamed up with Teignmouth Harbour Commission (THC) for a series of SelectaDNA property marking days to mark marine equipment and engines following a spate of thefts.

There was a great response to the events which were organised for THC members and more are planned as police aim to have all vessels on the River Teign marked over the next year.





## Partners Against Crime



Orbis Protect, the UK leaders in vacant property, site security and people protection services, has partnered with Selectamark to enhance their security portfolio and provide a targeted range of solutions to their customers that focus on deterring crime from the outset.

This exciting partnership will further support Orbis' plans to invest in smart technologies, grow their existing UK business and prepare for international growth.

With over 40 years of industry experience, Orbis' technologically advanced security systems are designed to provide an effective deterrent against all types of crime.

Selectamark's award-winning solutions use uniquely coded synthetic DNA markers, known as SelectaDNA, to 'tag' and identify assets, critical infrastructure, and the criminals themselves.

Selectamark work with all Police forces throughout the UK to prevent crime and have been highly successful in reducing burglaries and thefts by up to 83%.

Through a mixture of widely recognised warning signage, Police partnerships and community awareness campaigns,

SelectaDNA has become a well-known security brand, respected and used by Police forces, and feared by criminals around the world.

As a result of this new partnership, Orbis can now offer their customers a joint security solution that not only acts as an effective additional deterrent, but also aids in the retrieval of valuable assets.

Gareth Lewis, Group Sales and Marketing Director, Orbis Protect said "By combining our range of advanced security products with SelectaDNA solutions, we can now provide our customers with the ultimate deterrent and an unprecedented level of protection against crime. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with Selectamark as we continue to strengthen our portfolio within the security sector."

James Brown, Managing Director, Selectamark, said: "We are extremely excited about working with Orbis Protect, and see the combined use of our solutions as an incredibly powerful tool in helping organisations deter and detect crime throughout the UK."

# Underground DNA Spray for Cable



The deployment of SelectaDNA Container Sprays and Van Sprays has been a huge success for OpenReach, who run the UK's digital network.

Now the company is recognising an opportunity to further protect their assets and infrastructure.

After a request was submitted to Selectamark (the company that produces SelectaDNA) to develop a forensic spray to protect underground pits which house copper and fibre cable, it was developed and delivered and is now being used to protect cable in hot-spot areas across the country.

Once a manhole cover is removed by an unauthorised person, the system sends an alert by email or SMS to Openreach security team, while the offender is sprayed with a unique, synthetic DNA solution to link them to the crime. Since implementation of the systems, there have been no attacks on the protected sites.



# Tool Marking Leads to Recovery



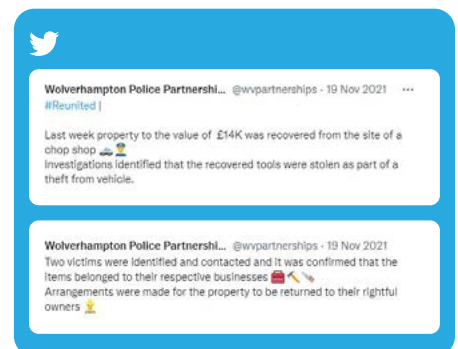
Wolverhampton Police is recommending the use of SelectaDNA to mark tools, especially those left in vans by tradespeople.

In November 2021, Wolverhampton Police Partnerships announced a property marking success story on Twitter involving a haul of tools worth £14,000 that were stolen from a vehicle and subsequently returned to two local businesses because they were able to be identified.

A police spokesperson says: "When your whole livelihood is in one vehicle, it is even more important to think

how you can keep your van and its contents safe."

They recommend security marking tools and any other high value property, and making sure serial numbers are registered on SelectaDNA's Secure Asset Register. This enables police to trace tools that are recovered after being stolen and allows them to be returned to their rightful owners.





# NBCC Launch Marking Initiative to Combat Commercial Tool Theft



Reducing crime through partnership and prevention



**The National Business Crime Centre (NBCC) has partnered with Williams Trade Plumbing Supplies to hold a series of tool marking events to tackle the theft of power tools and other high value items from commercial vehicles.**

Seven police forces have signed up to take part in the national events which involves police officers and staff from each force working with their local Williams outlet to mark the property of tradespeople in the area using SelectaDNA Tool Marking kits.

Once marked, the items will be registered on the Secure Asset Register (SAR) property database, making them easy to identify and hopefully to return to their rightful owner if they are stolen.

Tradespeople who attend the events will also be given deterrent stickers to display on their vehicles as well as crime prevention advice from the local team to help them keep their tools and vehicles secure.

Police Sgt Paul Fagg from the National Business Crime Centre said: "We are grateful to Williams Trade Plumbing Supplies for agreeing to host these events and to those police forces who are actively supporting the initiative. Tool theft from commercial vehicles continues to be a big problem for tradespeople with Direct Line for Business estimating that more than £83 million worth of tools have been stolen across England and Wales in the last three years.

"Many of the people targeted are self-employed and when their tools are stolen they not only lose the items themselves, which can run into thousands of pounds, it can also result in loss of work and loss of earnings. By marking tools and taking simple crime prevention steps, the risk of being a victim can be significantly reduced."

The forces taking part in the initiative are Sussex Police, The Metropolitan Police, Hampshire Constabulary, Essex Police, West Midlands Police, Avon and Somerset Constabulary, and Greater Manchester Police.

Ray Stafford, Director of Williams Trade Supplies said: "Tool marking is a vital part of reducing tool crime. It deters thieves from targeting your van, it increases the chances of the police getting a conviction and if your tools are stolen, it is much more likely that they will be returned to you in the future. We are very pleased to be working with the Police and SelectaDNA on this ground-breaking initiative which we hope will spread throughout the industry."

James Brown, Managing Director of SelectaDNA concluded: "This is a fantastic collaboration between Police, retailer, and security solution provider. We have been extremely impressed with the National Business Crime Centre and Williams Trade Supplies in driving this campaign forward and being so passionate in tackling tool theft head-on. This is a great example of a retailer caring about its customers and being willing to go that extra mile to protect valuable tools and equipment from theft. SelectaDNA is really proud to be part of this campaign."



# NEW SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray

-  **Compact and light-weight**
-  **Easy to use**
-  **Proven technology to convict criminals**
-  **Invisible marking solution**

## How Does it Work?







The SelectaDNA Personal Defence Spray works by spraying the offender with an invisible synthetic DNA solution, marking skin and clothing for days, weeks, or even months - greatly increasing the chances of conviction.

The solution contains a unique DNA code that is registered to the user's canister on [www.secureassetregister.com](http://www.secureassetregister.com). When Police use UV lights on marked criminals or clothing the solution shows up in a clear fluorescent blue.

The unit is operated with one hand. By holding the canister in an upright position and pressing with a thumb or forefinger, you will be able to spray a jet of clear liquid that reaches a distance of up to 4 metres.



## Product Specification

-  Designed for quick deployment, the unit is pocket-sized and easy to use.
-  Protective cap comes with clip used to secure the unit to the inside of a handbag or jacket lining.
-  Content: 20 ml SelectaDNA liquid (water, UV and unique DNA)
-  Range: 3-4 m
-  Dimensions: H 107 mm, Ø 22 mm
-  Weight: 32 g

For more information visit

[www.selectadna.co.uk](http://www.selectadna.co.uk)

email

[sales@selectamark.co.uk](mailto:sales@selectamark.co.uk)

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