



EQUIPMENT THEFT QUARTERLY

EQUIPMENT SECURITY NEWS

THIRD-QUARTER 2009

In the News

NER to host inaugural National Equipment Security Roundtable in New Jersey

The inaugural National Equipment Security Roundtable will take place at the ISO Building in Jersey City on December 7 and 8. The event will welcome participants from all corners of the United States and Canada.

“Our monthly regional summits have been very popular because of their mix of education and networking. However, many of the more experienced or senior attendees have asked us to provide a forum with a less formal structure and more active dialogue. The national roundtable is that forum,” says David Shillingford, president of NER. “Experts from the industry and law enforcement will guide the discussions in both panel and roundtable formats. The event will conclude with action points from each roundtable.”

Law enforcement officers who focus on equipment investigations will join executives from the rental, construction, and insurance industries at the invitation-only event, which is limited to 100 attendees.

To find out more about this event and how to attend, please contact NER at 201-469-2030 or send e-mail to info@nerusa.com.



I bought a stolen machine... so what?



We're continuing our series in which police officers around the country answer the question: "What will happen if a police officer learns I'm in possession of stolen equipment?"

Detective Sergeant Duane A. Avery of the Michigan State Police and Investigator Charles Hedrick of the Alabama Department of Agriculture offer their answers for our readers:

Det./Sgt. Avery: "Just being in possession of a piece of stolen equipment is not a crime all by itself. I am sure most areas of the country are the same in that law enforcement must prove that the person who is in possession knew — or as a reasonable person, would believe — that the equipment was stolen. First, we'd confiscate the piece of equipment and give it back to the rightful owner, of course. If an investigation as to how the person came to have the piece of equipment shows that, as a reasonable person, he or she should have known that he was buying questionable equipment (well below market value, no receipt, unknown seller), then we'd issue a warrant for possession of stolen property and arrest the subject."

Investigator Hedrick: "Based on your question, I would say that there are many variables that we can add to this situation, so resolving the issue could have many outcomes. Recovery of the equipment would, of course, be my first priority. Next would be to determine whether the person knew the equipment was stolen or the person was just an innocent victim. That would dictate how I would prosecute the case, as I have found that just because someone has stolen equipment, it doesn't mean they obtained it illegally. I could go on and on, but this is my simple answer."

If you have a related story you'd like to share with our readers, send an e-mail to info@nerusa.com

Insurance agency and brokerage announce alliances with NER

The National Equipment Register is pleased to announce recently formed alliances with Bollinger Insurance and USI Rental Specialties. As a result, their clients will enjoy a 20 percent discount on NER's HELPtech® service.

Many of Bollinger and USI's clients will benefit from incentives such as a deductible waiver of up to \$10,000. To be eligible, those clients must fail to recover stolen equipment that they had registered with NER prior to theft. Similar agreements are in place between NER and many other leading equipment insurers.

Founded in 1933, Bollinger Insurance is one of the nation's largest privately owned insurance agencies. Headquartered in Short Hills, New Jersey, Bollinger offers a full range of products and customized insurance solutions. For more information, visit www.bollingerinsurance.com.

Bollinger
Insurance Solutions

USI | **Rental Specialties**

Dedicated to serving the rental industry, the USI Rental Specialties program provides the coverage that rental dealers need to protect and grow their businesses. By focusing solely on the rental industry, USI has been a trusted name for more than 40 years. As a full-service broker, USI is a single-source

solution for insurance. USI Rental Specialties is part of USI Affinity, which comprises seven leading companies in the affinity insurance arena. For more information, visit www.usiaffinity.com.

NER and NICB release joint annual equipment theft report

NER and NICB recently released their first joint annual equipment theft report. The publication represents the most comprehensive analysis of equipment theft trends to date and features a broad range of statistics and actionable intelligence for those who seek to recover stolen machines and prevent theft.

Which states experience theft the most, and what types of machines are thieves likely to target? What is the cost of theft, and what are the current recovery rates? The report addresses those and many other questions, supported by numerous case studies and a wide array of statistics based upon data from NER, NICB, and ISO.

To obtain your copy of the NER-NICB 2008 Equipment Theft Report, please call NER at 1-866-663-7872 or send an e-mail request to info@NERusa.com.



Notes on ag equipment before the harvest season

This year has seen a steady increase in agricultural equipment thefts, including tractors, balers, and harvesters. In May, tractor theft reports outpaced skid steer loader theft reports for the first time. With harvest season upon us, the demand for harvest equipment will increase, and with it comes an increase in thefts.

Organized rings conducting “thefts to order” are a major factor behind the increase in ag equipment thefts. Dealers and owners should take extra steps to protect equipment and respond quickly in the event a theft occurs. Equipment businesses need

to communicate theft activity through dealer associations and NER to forewarn other businesses and get industry eyes watching for stolen machines. Dealers with large inventories are encouraged to take precautions during the slow economy, when they are storing more equipment off-site or in open areas. Thieves have been consistently targeting those areas, especially in regions that include Colorado, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Wyoming.

To sign up for NER's theft alerts and advisories, please send an e-mail to info@nerusa.com or call 1-866-663-7872.



John Deere tractor



New Holland tractor

Recovery spotlight

Thieves arrested, equipment recovered

An investigation by Sgt. Andrea Knight of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

This summer, Sergeant Andrea Knight of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office in Alabama investigated a tip about several suspicious machines in various locations in the county. Sgt. Knight visited one of the suspected locations and discovered a JCB 214 backhoe loader that was recently repainted and missing all its proper identification marks.

With assistance from Investigator Kenneth “Red” Griffin of the Alabama Department of Agriculture, Sgt. Knight

was able to locate the engine ID and then reached out to NICB and NER for assistance with further identification. Based on the engine information, NICB and NER were able to establish the full PIN for the unit and confirm that the backhoe vanished from a major rental fleet. Sgt. Knight was able to make an arrest, seize the machine, and subsequently return it to the rightful owner.

Pursuing her investigation further, Sgt. Knight was also able to recover a Caterpillar 953-B loader at a different location in Jefferson County, bringing the total value of recovered equipment to nearly \$100,000. The case remains open with the possibility of additional recoveries down the road.



NER salutes Sgt. Knight's exemplary professionalism and diligence in pursuing the investigation and congratulates her and her Jefferson County colleagues on their outstanding results.

Recent Recoveries

These are some of the machines recently identified and recovered by law enforcement with the help of NICB agents and information support from NER:

Make/Model	Type	State	Agency
Bobcat 753	Skid Steer Loader	PA	Pennsylvania State Police
John Deere 4410	Tractor	SC	Marion County Sheriff's Department
CAT 246-B	Skid Steer Loader	MO	Missouri Highway Patrol
Case 580-SK	Backhoe Loader	CA	California Highway Patrol
CAT 914-G	Wheel Loader	MA	Walpole Police Department
Bobcat S-250	Skid Steer Loader	TN	Putnam County Sheriff's Department
Case 580-M	Backhoe Loader	KY	Warren County Sheriff's
CAT D-4-B	Dozer	NY	New York State Police
Case 1840	Skid Steer Loader	IL	DuPage County Sheriff's Department

Heavy-Equipment Theft Summit update

On August 18, FBI-LEEDA, NICB, and NER presented a Heavy-Equipment Theft Summit in Miami, Florida. Just like other summits across the country, the Miami event brought together law enforcement professionals, equipment owners, dealers, insurers, and lenders. More than 100 attendees enjoyed a complimentary lunch, and several companies showcased their products. Additionally, the Miami summit offered three hours of CE credit to qualifying insurance professionals.

CE credits for future summits may be available depending on the state. For more information or to register for the upcoming summits, please call NER at **1-866-663-7872**.

Contact NER

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HELPTech®:
www.StopEquipmentTheft.com



IRONcheck®:
www.IRONcheck.com

Report a theft:
www.nerusa.com
or fax to 201-469-2027

Sign up for theft alerts:
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NER is an ISO company.

