

IN THE

news

## NER and NICB release 2012 Heavy Equipment Theft Report

The National Equipment Register and the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) have released their national report on 2012 heavy-equipment theft. This year's report continues to focus on what types of equipment are most likely to be stolen and recovered and where in the country thefts and recoveries occur. The report's objective is to help provide equipment owners, insurance companies, and law enforcement personnel with information that can be used to help allocate investigative resources and influence theft prevention efforts.

### Top 10 Cities for Equipment Theft

City	State	Thefts
HOUSTON	TX	163
MIAMI	FL	107
CONROE	TX	83
OKLAHOMA CITY	OK	79
FRESNO	CA	64
DECATUR	GA	63
WEST PALM BEACH	FL	61
SAN ANTONIO	TX	56
KNOXVILLE	TN	55
LAKE CHARLES	LA	52

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## Chubb offers tracking service to thwart contractors' equipment theft

To help improve the chances of recovering stolen equipment, Chubb is introducing a new insurance benefit for customers who purchase and install IRONwatch™ tracking devices on their equipment.



“Contractors’ equipment is more than twice as likely to be stolen than damaged or lost due to vandalism, fire, collision or weather-related events,” said Bob Opitz, vice president and worldwide inland marine manager for the Chubb Group of Insurance

Companies. To help improve the chances of recovering stolen equipment, Chubb is introducing a new insurance benefit for customers who purchase and install on their equipment IRONwatch tracking devices serviced by the National Equipment Register (NER). Under this benefit, Chubb agrees to pay for the cost of activating the device if the equipment is stolen.

“Working together with NER, we can help reduce recovery time and the costs associated with equipment stolen from contractors in the United States,” said Opitz. The National Crime Information Center received 11,705 reports of equipment theft in 2011.

When the IRONwatch device is activated, NER’s 24-hour call center can quickly notify equipment owners and law enforcement of the location of the misplaced or stolen equipment. There are no monthly monitoring fees associated with using IRONwatch.

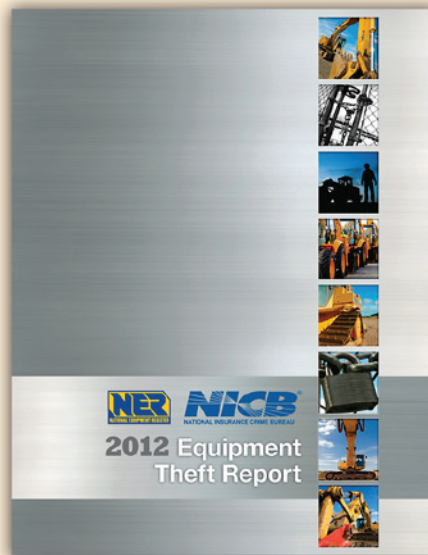
### About Chubb

Since 1882, members of the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies have provided property and casualty insurance products to customers around the globe. These products are offered through a worldwide network of independent agents and brokers. The Chubb Group of Insurance Companies is known for financial strength, underwriting and loss-control expertise, tailoring products for the needs of high-net-worth individuals and commercial customers in niche markets and select industry segments, and outstanding claim service.

The report draws on data from the National Crime Information Center (NCIC), the NICB, and NER to provide a comprehensive analysis of heavy-equipment theft during the year. In 2011, the NCIC received 10,925 theft reports. In descending order, the five states with the most incidents of heavy-equipment theft were Texas, North Carolina, Florida, California, Georgia and South Carolina (two were tied in 5th place). Together, those five states accounted for 37 percent of total equipment theft. Rounding out the top ten were Tennessee, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Ohio. The top ten states accounted for 61 percent of all thefts.

In 2012, 20 percent of heavy equipment stolen was recovered.

“The economic downturn has put financial pressure on equipment owners who have to be more careful than ever to invest in the right theft-prevention technologies and processes in the right places. The heavy equipment theft report allows them to do that,” said David Shillingford, president of Verisk Crime Analytics.



The 2012 Heavy Equipment Theft Report can be downloaded by visiting [www.ner.net/annual-theft-report.html](http://www.ner.net/annual-theft-report.html).

### **About the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB)**

Headquartered in Des Plaines, Ill., the NICB is the nation’s leading not-for-profit organization exclusively dedicated to preventing, detecting, and defeating insurance fraud and vehicle theft through data analytics, investigations, training, legislative advocacy, and public awareness. The NICB is supported by more than 1,100 property and casualty insurance companies and self-insured organizations. To learn more visit [www.nicb.org](http://www.nicb.org).

## **Endurance offers insureds equipment protection program in alliance with NER**



Endurance Insurance’s Inland Marine unit has entered into an alliance with NER, which provides services to help prevent equipment theft and reduce the recovery time and costs associated with stolen equipment. NER’s IRONwatch is a new GPS tracking and recovery device designed for mobile heavy equipment which delivers quick and accurate location and recovery information for misplaced or stolen equipment to equipment owners and law enforcement.

Endurance Insurance will pay the theft activation fee for policyholders who purchase and install an IRONwatch equipment tracking device. The activation fee is assessed when an insured’s IRONwatch device is activated and a theft is reported to law enforcement.

“Equipment theft is a major concern for both our clients and the insurance industry,” said Chris Beckman of Endurance’s Inland Marine insurance unit. “NER has helped equipment owners and their insureds to deter theft and recover millions of dollars of stolen equipment nationwide.”

## Cornwall Police target heavy equipment and cargo theft

The City of Cornwall, Ontario, hopes to crack down on criminals who target the huge volume of goods coming and leaving the city. That's the objective of a new partnership between the Cornwall Community Police Service and Verisk Crime Analytics (VCA). Cornwall police will now access VCA's two information divisions — CargoNet and the National Equipment Register (NER) — at no cost.

"This newly established relationship will further strengthen our increased criminal interdiction efforts throughout Ontario," Cornwall Detective Staff Sergeant. Shawn White said. "Given the volume of trucking activity in Cornwall due to the (city's) number of distribution centers, it makes this a logical partnership to enter into from a police perspective." He continued, "With the information-sharing capabilities of CargoNet and NER, CCPS officers can conduct timely investigations, link recovered goods to owners, and remove criminals from local highways and communities."

Cargo theft is rising, according to the Insurance Bureau of Canada, now costing Canadians five billion Canadian dollars per year and becoming a major challenge for the trucking industry.

FreightWatch International estimates that recorded thefts jumped 18% between 2011 and 2012.



CargoNet uses a national database and information-sharing system, supervised by crime analysts and specific cargo experts. This synchronized approach helps to exploit weak points in theft attempts at various stages of cargo transportation. CargoNet provides police with integrated databases, a theft alert system, investigations and recovery support, and more.

NER provides the HELPtech equipment ID and registration program, a search engine for used equipment buyers, a GPS tracking and recovery device for transport equipment, and for trucking companies, data management skills and equipment expertise to help companies comply with new regulations.

"We applaud the Cornwall Community Police Service for its leadership in the fight against cargo and heavy equipment theft," said David Shillingford, president of Verisk Crime Analytics. "This alliance is a perfect example of how the public and private sectors can work together to share intelligence across municipal, provincial and cross border jurisdictions, which is critical in the fight against highly mobile thieves."



## Submit your nominations for the 2014 AIS/NER Award

Rental machines employed at jobsites across the country have always been attractive prey for equipment thieves. That's why rental companies, perhaps better than any equipment industry players, understand the value and appreciate the results of law enforcement's equipment investigations. In 2004 that appreciation led to the establishment of the American Rental Association Insurance Services and NER Annual Award, which recognizes law enforcement officers who have "performed exceptional service to the rental industry through the recovery of rental equipment or through theft prevention initiatives."

Past honorees have included police officers from California, Illinois, Tennessee, New Mexico, Texas,

and Georgia. But while the winner's home states are constantly changing, two aspects of the award are always the same: the award is presented during a special ceremony at the annual ARA Rental

Show, and the nominations are submitted by ARA members and colleagues of the officers. Please submit your nomination for this year's AIS/NER Award by sending an email to [info@ner.net](mailto:info@ner.net)

Please include your nominee's full name, department, state, and telephone number, as well as a brief description of why,

in your view, your nominee should be the winner. The award will be presented at the next ARA show, which will take place in Orlando, FL, February 9th – February 12th, 2014.



### Contact NER

#### Equipment owners:

1-866-346-3746,  
option 2  
[info@ner.net](mailto:info@ner.net)



[www.StopEquipmentTheft.com](http://www.StopEquipmentTheft.com)

Report a theft: [www.ner.net](http://www.ner.net)  
or fax to 201-469-2027

Sign up for theft alerts:  
[dmoosman@ner.net](mailto:dmoosman@ner.net)

#### Insurance professionals:

1-866-346-3746,  
option 3, then option 6  
[msthill@ner.net](mailto:msthill@ner.net)



[www.IRONcheck.com](http://www.IRONcheck.com)

All other inquires:  
National Equipment Register  
545 Washington Blvd., 22-19  
Jersey City, NJ 07310-1686

Phone: 1-866-663-7872

Fax: 201-469-2027

E-mail: [info@ner.net](mailto:info@ner.net)

Web: [www.ner.net](http://www.ner.net)

#### Law enforcement:

1-866-346-3746, option 1  
[info@ner.net](mailto:info@ner.net)



[www.IRONwatch.com](http://www.IRONwatch.com)