



...to the third edition of the Guard -Alert Gazette for the year 2012. Thank you for the positive feedback received on the past issues of the newsletter. This issue contains a feature of the Internet Protocol, guard-dog training and Guard-Alert's corporate social responsibility initiatives. Read on...



IP cameras

## Internet Protocol Camera technology- the way to go

Guard-Alert Electronics (GAE) known for introducing innovative products and services to its clients unveils the Internet Protocol (IP) camera. The IP camera is a type of digital video camera commonly used for surveillance. It offers more advanced features to the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) and uses the internet network to send and receive data over a computer network.

There are two kinds of IP cameras which a client can choose from. The centralised IP camera needs a central Network Video Recorder (NVR) to handle the recording, video and alarm management. The Decentralised IP camera does not require the NVR as the cameras have built in recording functionality, meaning that they record directly to a digital storage media such as flash drives, hard disk drives or network attached storage.

One might ask if upgrading to an IP camera system means completely abandoning the existing CCTV system. The answer is no, if the CCTV has Digital Video Recording (DVR) viewer software. Therefore with the addition of a network DVR, the CCTV can function as an IP camera technology system. All that is needed is good and reliable internet connectivity which is fast becoming a reality the world over.

The greatest advantage of the IP camera is that video surveillance can be viewed on the internet. The projected images are much clearer and crisper than with just the CCTV, making tracking and monitoring much easier as the viewed footage shows more detail in the recorded footage. The footage can be viewed many times as well without quality diminishing.

The IP camera allows the individual to view what is happening in, real time even if they are continents away. The user can also encrypt the footage for security purposes to prevent tampering. Both these features are useful for retrieval of footage when it has to be viewed for evidence tracking purposes.

The ability to view the IP camera footage over the internet even on a cellphone increases mobility for the user as well.

GAE installs the SANAN brand, a product of the ShenZhen SANAN Technology Company based in China. The company has been dedicated to the research and development of CCTV Camera, DVR technology for more than 10 years and is at the cutting edge of technology. SANAN technology has adopted advanced Korean technology and the Japanese management technology to enhance its production standards are of the highest standard.

Contact GAE them for more information on this latest innovation.

## Cash in Transit- What to consider



While all businesses celebrated the economic stabilisation which followed the advent of the US dollar economy, many did not anticipate that there would also be an increase in the crime rate as thieves are now chasing the “real” money being used in day to day transactions. As a result, it is now increasingly important to enhance security during the withdrawal and banking of money generated by the business.

Armsec, Guard-Alert’s armed guards division is more than capable of taking care of the security headaches involved in the safe transition of cash or other valuables for that matter. With its latest acquisition of fully armoured vehicles, clients can feel at ease that their cash and valuables will now be even more secure.

There are several important factors which need to be considered when a company decides to contract a cash-in-transit company (CIT) which Armsec complies with.

Before a company contracts a CIT firm, it should take into cognisance issues such as the reputation and dependability of the firm. A trade reference check should be carried out in order to check the company’s credentials. A visit to the company’s premises and a physical inspection of the vehicles and the number of vehicles needs to be carried out. It is important to ascertain if the company’s vehicle fleet will be able to handle the amount of business that is generated. The weaponry used by the company should also be adequate for the job to be undertaken. The weapons should be registered and licensed according to the Firearms Act.

Staff should be trained in all methods of cash protection and defence against attacks. The key is vetting of the guards before they are engaged for employment and this is done through finger print testing and referee checking so that only the most honest personnel are recruited. Continuous training on the latest crime trends, refresher weaponry training is also of vital importance so that the guards are always up-to-date with the latest crime and crime prevention knowledge.

A reputable and professional company has to be registered in terms of the companies act. It also has to be licensed in terms of the Private Investigations and Security guards Act. Insurance is mandatory for the CIT company and the amount varies from company to company and is dependent on the amount of money or valuables which need to be transported. Specially designed vehicles to carry out CIT work should be used and this is important in for protection in the event of an attack and also dictates the insurability of the CIT company and the goods being transported.

In order to set out the operating parameters between the client and the CIT firm, a contract is drawn up before commencement of duty. The information contained in the contract includes information such as when the service will commence, the duration of the contract if applicable, the frequency of the service, the amount of insurance cover, the charges for the service, issues of arbitration and other related issues. The contract will be very useful when it comes to any areas of dispute or tracking of performance as it will clearly spell out how the CIT is supposed to operate between the client and the CIT company.

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## Guards’ transportation



Guard-Alert has acquired yet another truck for the transportation of their guards to various contracts. This has truly enhanced the operations of Guard-Alert as guards are deployed on time at their various contracts.

## Guard-Alert in the community



Branding at the golf course



Children pose for a photograph

Guard-Alert takes its corporate social responsibility role in the community seriously and as such endeavours to support worthy causes whenever it can. During the current quarter, Guard-Alert supported two golf days through various sponsorship endeavours and as such contributed to fundraising efforts for three charities targeted at children.

The Royal Harare Ladies Charity Golf Day organised by the ladies' captain is held on an annual basis, and this year it was held on 31 July. Its purpose was to raise funds for two charities, the Michael project and the Sunshine Zimbabwe project. The Michael project is a charity which helps to educate, feed, clothe and give medical attention to orphaned and abandoned children in the Wingate, Marlborough and Chikurubi maximum security prison areas. The core belief of the project is that if the children's are changed for the better when they are young they will grow up to be responsible adults leading to a positive impact later on in their lives. The golf day raised funds for score keys used for marking the Accelerated Christian Education (ACE) programme exam scripts as the manual marking system had become cumbersome with increased numbers of children and more advanced class levels. The second project, the Sunshine Zimbabwe project was raising funds for vocational training for children with special needs who have reached the age of 18 years. The funds raised went towards the purchase of a movable 40 foot container which would house an arts and crafts centre and an ablution block.

The second golf day held on 7 September raised funds towards the Children's Heart Foundation of Zimbabwe. The charity raises money to assist children with heart defects to have surgery and is targeted at parents who do not have the means to fund the operations. The foundation funds travel expenses outside Zimbabwe for the child and mother, drugs and the pre and post surgery care period.

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## Management Profile

### Mr K A Collyer



Recently appointed, Mr Collyer is the Subsidiaries Executive for Guard-Alert Group overall in charge of Guard-Alert Electronics, Sectra and Armsec. Mr Collyer began his career in the police force in 1976 where he served until 1980. He left to join Trucks, Tractors and Equipment where he was Branch Manager for Gweru until 1983. In 1984 he joined Fawcett Security Operations as the Harare Armoured Division Controller and over the next 24 years worked his way up through the ranks. In February 2002, Mr Collyer was appointed to the Fawcett Security's Board of Directors and was promoted to the position of General Manager during the same month. In October 2003 he was appointed to the post of Managing Director, a position he held until December 2008. After leaving the company, Mr Collyer undertook various security consultancy jobs, until he joined Guard-Alert in July 2012, in his current capacity.

## Guard dog Training



Dog training

Sectra, the Guard-Alert training division offers obedience and aggression dog training as one of its curriculum. The trained dogs are not only used by Guard-Alert the manned guarding division of the group, but dogs are also deployed to other security companies who contract us to train their dogs, as well as dogs for the householder.

Guard-dogs provide additional security reinforcement whether one has a security guard manning their premises or even if they are unleashed in the yard on their own. They also boost security where the premises are quite big and cannot be adequately covered by the guards on duty. The guard dog will also act as a deterrent to would be thieves as the intruder will fear being attacked.

Guard-dogs are taken through a training regime so that they are prepared for all potentially volatile situations. The training takes a total of 21 days.

For optimum security, the person who works with the dog on a day to day basis should be a trained dog handler. Training for dog handling is also for 21 days. This training can be carried out separately from the dog-training. Householders can also undertake the training so that they know how to handle their trained dog with expertise. The training undertaken will cover all aspects of how to handle the dog professionally and keep the dog under control. Dog handlers are also taught to assess their dog's well-being so that they can trouble shoot any health related problems before they worsen.

A well trained dog is not deterred by aggressive behaviour such as loud noises and wild gestures. In fact, the dog will react to this aggression by barking incessantly or even attacking the intruder thus ensuring premises are well protected. As dogs have a keener sense of smell and hearing than human beings, they can detect the presence of an intruder earlier than human beings, and this will enhance security at the business or residential premises. If the dog is at a house, the barking will also warn the house-owners that something is amiss at their premises and they will either be able to investigate or press a panic button to call for assistance.

Sectra also has boarding facilities for dogs. Dogs are expertly taken care of at our kennels and the owners can arrange to get email updates on their dog's well being, giving them peace of mind.

Sectra offers a total package for dog owners a factor which has been taken into consideration by many of our long-standing customers.

### Security Officers' Course

Dates : 5 to 9 November

Cost : \$150 inc. teas and lunch

Venue : Sectra, 10 Waterfalls Avenue, Ardbennie

Contact : Sectra on 2910907/ 2920770 or email [sectra@zol.co.zw](mailto:sectra@zol.co.zw) or [orabi@armsec.co.zw](mailto:orabi@armsec.co.zw)

## Crime Watch corner



Here are some very helpful tips handed out by ZRP, please read them and utilize the useful tips for your protection and safety

Criminals target property cash; laptops; cameras; cell phones and plasma televisions when they gain entry into the house. At times they also steal fridges, stoves and other kitchen electrical gadgets. Hence we urge members of the public to consider the following tips in safeguarding their property.

This is whereby members of the public put more security on the targeted property by making sure that:-

- All windows have strong burglar bars.
- Doors have screen doors
- The premises to be surrounded by strong and tall durawall built by with bricks since the panelled durawall are an easy target to criminals.
- Razor wire and electric fence should be added on the durawall.

### a. Target Removal

This is the removal of targeted property (mentioned above) to more secure rooms or in occupied rooms.

### b. Screening of Domestic Workers

We encourage property owners to screen their domestic workers through fingerprints, of which our office is well prepared to assist the issue.

### c. Do not leave the premises unattended

Members are urged to leave someone at the premises especially on weekends and on Public Holidays when leaving premises.

### d. Know your Neighbours

We encourage members to know their neighbours and have their contactable numbers in cases of need you easily contact them/can contact you, before the arrival of the police.

### e. Personal Identification Marks

We encourage members of the public to put their personal identification marks on all targeted property, which will assist them in identifying the property in the event of recovery. Please do not rely much on serial numbers since criminals remove them.

### f. Fingerprints

Members are urged not to temper around the crime scene before the arrival of fingerprints experts.

Courtesy: Anti hijack Trust

## Contact us



Guard Alert Group -754291-5 or email [guardall@zol.co.zw](mailto:guardall@zol.co.zw)

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Armsec -669420/6/7, 0712 613 276 or email [info@armsec.co.zw](mailto:info@armsec.co.zw)

Sectra- 2910907, 2920770, 0777 920 729 or email [sectra@zol.co.zw](mailto:sectra@zol.co.zw)

Guard Alert Electronics- 669420/6/7 or 0772 219 419 or email [gae@africaonline.co.zw](mailto:gae@africaonline.co.zw)

## We would love to hear from you...

Please give us feedback on what you think of this edition of the newsletter. Please send your comments to

[guardall@zol.co.zw](mailto:guardall@zol.co.zw)