



...to the second edition of the Guard -Alert Gazette for the year 2013. Thank you for the positive feedback received on the past issues of the newsletter. This issue contains a feature of the Guard Monitoring Unit, Sectra training and Guard-Alert's corporate social responsibility initiatives. Read on...

Guard Monitoring System



A Guard Monitoring Unit (GMU) is a system that is supposed to replace the physical monitoring of the guard. It is electronic equipment which monitors guards' alertness by way of the guard using a device to tap on the machine at pre-set intervals. The machine can be mounted at different locations at the protected area's perimeter ensuring that the guard will patrol all the designated points. This innovation will be offered by Guard-Alert Electronics (GAE) in the near future to enhance security at clients' premises and will greatly improve the monitoring of guards' performance.

The Guard Monitoring system is set up in a way that it is hooked to the GAE control room which will have systems in place to closely monitor the activities of the guards at the guarded premises. The controller at the 24- hour monitored control room will monitor that the guard is tapping the GMU at the prescribed intervals. If the guard does not log in at the given time, the guard will be raised on the radio to check that all is in order at the premises. If there is no response from the guard on site a reaction crew will be despatched immediately to check if anything is amiss, as the guard on site might have been waylaid by thieves.

The client might choose to view the data of the logging in by the guard post the event as a way of monitoring the guard's activity at the premise while away. The information can be downloaded, viewed and assessed at the premises owner's leisure.

The main benefit of the GMU is that the client can monitor the diligence of the guard force stationed at their premise. The fact that the GMUs are stationed at particular locations which are selected for strategic purposes ensures that the points are monitored regularly and this is not left to chance. The guard will remain alert as they know that should they fail to tap the GMU, their actions are recorded and a follow up will be made. The times and routes when the GMU is tapped are also monitored and this information can also be closely monitored. Reports on the guard's activities are generated and this information is important should a review of the current security set up be required.

Contact GAE today for more information on this product.

Minetech Zimbabwe- The event security company of choice



Minetech Zimbabwe has shown that it is the security company of choice when it comes to event security. The security company undertook security duties at two of the biggest events on the Zimbabwean calendar, namely Castle Tankard and the OK Grand Challenge.

The two events held in May and June respectively, attracted thousands of Zimbabweans to the Borrowdale race course. A total of 40 and 89 guards were deployed at the Castle Tankard and OK Grand Challenge respectively. The expertise which the guards used to guide traffic at people and traffic at the event showed that Minetech Zimbabwe is indeed an expert at event security. Cars were also well protected in the car park ensuring that incidences were minimised during these two premier events.

Minetech Zimbabwe has proved that they are the security company of choice when it comes to event security. Their level of expertise was attested to by the positive feedback which was received on their performance during the events.

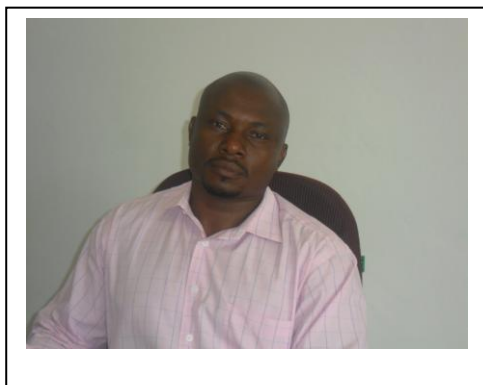
On the Move

Mr. Leonard Mapito has been recently appointed Operations Manager responsible for **Minetech Zimbabwe**.



Mr Leonard Mapito

Mr. Mapito started his career in the Ministry of Education before joining Guard-Alert Security in 1988. He was promoted to a Cadet Officer in 1989 and a year later he was promoted to a Security Officer. In 1994 he was posted to Kariba as a Detached Security Officer, and a year later he was promoted to a Regional Manager. In January 1998, Mr. Mapito moved to Bindura as the Provincial Manager, Northern Operations, and in 2006 he was promoted to General Manager responsible for Northern Operations. He held this post until his recent appointment.



Mr Chamu Ngwerume

Operations Director, Mr Chamu Ngwerume has been appointed President of the Security Association of Zimbabwe with effect from May 2013. Mr Ngwerume brings to the Association a wealth of experience gained over the years when he worked as a director at Concept Security, Squad security as well as a stint in Zambia. Mr Ngwerume has previously served as vice President of the National Commercial Employers' Association of Zimbabwe, president of the Mashonaland Employers Association of Zimbabwe and an executive committee member of the National Employment Council for the Commercial Sector. Guard-Alert Security wishes him well during his term of office.

Guard-Alert Group at the Secure Expo



This year's Secure Expo had a regional flair to it as it was held in conjunction with the African Union Conference on Security (CISA Conference), which was a conference on continental security and security organisations. . The Expo originally slated for March was later postponed to the 5th to the 8th of May so that it could benefit from the synergies created by the CISA conference.

The SecureExpo presented an opportunity for Guard-Alert to showcase its various products and services. More tangible were the various product offerings from Guard-Alert Electronics (GAE) which were showcased during the three day event. Guard-Alert clients and the general public got a chance to look at the different products offered by GAE as well as to ask questions on the products they were interested in. Clearly, the most popular products were the alarms, CCTV cameras and the video intercom. Visitors to the stand had a chance to enquire in depth about these products and demonstrations on their use were made by the GAE technical team.

The Expo was a valuable experience for Guard-Alert as there are rare opportunities for the company to demonstrate its products to the company while inviting greater interaction with existing and potential clients.

A Helping hand



As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, Guard-Alert took part in the SPCA Fundraising Golf Day. The fundraising drive emphasised the company's commitment to support worthy causes whenever it can.

The golf day, which took place on the 10th of May at Wingate Golf Club, was held to raise money to assist the Association to refurbish their premises and to purchase a mobile clinic for the animals. On the day, 32 teams of four members each were fielded.

A very successful fundraising event was held as a total amount of \$28 000 was raised. This was derived from the Golf Day team registration fees, a raffle and auctioning of several items on the day.

The money raised will go a long way in ensuring a safer and more comfortable home for the animals boarding at the premises.

Good Work

Guards who have done outstanding always reflect the company in a good light. The following guards are just a few who have executed their duties in a commendable way:



Guard Simba being congratulated

Well done to guard Simba stationed at the Omnia Fertilizer, Manica Freight depot, Coventry Road, who was awarded a prize and certificate in recognition of his positive attitude to his duties and his friendly and efficient handling of customers. Guard Simba is a shining example to his colleagues.



Guard Moffat

Good training pays off and this was illustrated by guard Moffat Mkanga's swift action when he managed to put out a fire which had suddenly caught a vehicle after it had been started. The incident occurred at the Agribank, Chinhoyi branch. Incidentally the customer had left his three year old child in the car. Guard Moffat rushed into the banking hall, grabbed two fire extinguishers and used his fire fighting training to put the fire out completely. Guard Moffat also managed to extract the client's three year old child from the car. Guard Moffat's swift action saved the client's car, the surrounding cars as well and he saved the client's child in the process. A job well done.

W1501 Rufaro found a cellphone belonging to a senior member of staff at Cimas which had been left in the toilet. The guard handed over the cellphone to the Corporal on duty. Rufaro was commended for her honesty.

Security Officers' Course

Sectra, the Guard-Alert Security training division, will once again be holding the Security Officers' Course. This is a 5-day course which is held at the Sectra premises in Ardbennie.

The comprehensive course covers a range of topics. At the end of the course, participants will know fully his tasks and responsibilities as a Security Officer. The Officer will be well versed in all aspects of physical security and will be able to carry out a detailed security survey. The course participant will also have a good knowledge of electronic security equipment. Various aspects of the law will also be covered as knowledge of the law is required. Aspects to be included in a written statement as well as the principles to be applied when recording statements are covered in depth. Useful techniques of how to question a suspect are also taught during the course. Comprehensive training of how to write assignment instructions is included during the week.

Contact Sectra for more details on the forthcoming course, details below:

Date: 29 July to 2 August

Fees: \$150 inclusive of teas and lunch

Contact: Mr Zvinoitavamwe- 0773 103 394/ 2910907

Crime Watch corner

Hotspots

While using wireless hotspots, limit activity to Web surfing only. A hotspot is an open wireless network that is available (open) to everyone. An example would be the wireless network at your favourite coffee shop. These networks hook computers into the public Internet -- handy but dangerous. Because wireless hotspots are for open use, they don't provide much protection for your data. When using a wireless hotspot try to limit activity to web surfing only. You should never use hotspots for online banking, bill paying, or for making purchases that require you to give out confidential information such as a credit card number.

Courtesy: Security Products Magazine

Car theft

Many car thefts are crimes of 'opportunity.' Leaving the keys in your car (even a 'hidden' spare key) greatly increases your chances of having your car stolen. Leaving your vehicle unoccupied with the engine running, even for a minute, in itself greatly increases the chance that your car will be stolen. It is truly a helpless feeling to watch your car being driven away by a total stranger as you stand 10 feet away at an ATM or mailbox. Take your keys with you even for quick trips. Needless to say, this is especially true if you have children or pets in the vehicle. Courtesy: Security Products Magazine

Household owners have been attacked when they open the door to go and switch off generators once power comes back on. Everyone is urged to ensure that they do a thorough review of the area where their generator is before they open the door and go and switch off the generator. The area where the generator is should preferably be well lit. The best alternative would be to contract your electrician so that they fit a device inside the home so that there is no need to leave the house either to switch on or to switch off the generator.

There have been reports of two con artists who are operating in the Greendale, Mount Pleasant and Strathaven areas mainly, though there have been sighting in other areas. The two men who are fairly large built, gain entry into the residential premises under the pretext that they heard that the property was for rent. Once there, if they discover that they can easily gain entry into the house, they will gain entry into the house and take whatever valuables they come across. Residents are warned to always keep their gates and doors locked at all times, even during the day, as thieves are becoming more daring.

Contact us



Guard-Alert Group- 754 291-5 or email guardall@zol.co.zw

Guard- Alert (Pvt) Ltd- 754291-5 or email guardalertnod@zol.co.zw

Armsec- 669420/6/7, or email info@armsec.co.zw

Sectra- 2910907, 2920770 or email sectra@zol.co.zw

Guard-Alert Electronics- 669420/6/7 or email sales@gae.co.zw

Minetech Zimbabwe- 746 230/ 746 682 or email info@minetechzim.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 guardalertpr@zol.co.zw