

Car Dealerships

Perimeter protection



Car Dealership

Car dealerships in the US face a concerning rise in crime, particularly vehicle theft. Data indicates that vehicle theft has increased significantly, with dealerships being a frequent target. Specifically, a recent study showed a 29% increase in motor vehicle thefts between 2022 and 2023.

This translates to over 50,000 incidents. Additionally, the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB) reported that nearly 500,000 vehicles were stolen in the first half of 2023. The NICB also noted that vehicle thefts from dealerships are on the rise.

Car Dealerships - an easy target

Car dealerships are high-value targets for theft, vandalism, and unauthorised access, especially during out-of-hours periods. With vehicles often displayed in open forecourts and minimal on-site staff presence at night, effective perimeter and asset protection is critical.

Challenges Facing the Car Dealership Industry

Car thieves have become more brazen and aggressive in their attempts to profit from auto dealerships, whether stealing whole cars or stripping them of valuable parts. In either case, this renders the affected cars unsellable in their current condition, requiring time and money for repairs, which directly impacts the profitability of auto dealerships.

Some of the challenges facing car dealerships include:

- ▶ Theft
- ▶ Vandalism
- ▶ Multiple Sites to Manage
- ▶ Large Properties with Open Perimeters
- ▶ Expense and Limitations of Security Guards

Video surveillance alone is not the solution

Video surveillance and video management systems (VMS) are all reactive solutions that can be effective for forensic investigations, but are not proactive in preventing theft and vandalism from occurring. Security guards can provide some level of effectiveness, but they can only be in one place at a time. They may not be able to physically observe everything in their immediate environment due to various conditions and are subject to distractions from normal daily activities, such as going to the lavatory or eating.

Build a layered security solution

Build a security system around the principles of detect, delay and deter.

Detection involves identifying potential threats or intrusions as early as possible using surveillance systems, alarms, security personnel or detectors. With electronic detectors, the user is informed of an intrusion as soon as it occurs and can take relevant action. One of the benefits of external perimeter protection is the early warning of potential problems.

Once a threat is detected, the goal is to **delay** the intruder's progress using barriers such as fences, locks, or reinforced doors, thereby buying time for an appropriate response.

The final step, **deterrence**, aims to discourage potential threats altogether through visible security measures like warning signs, cameras, lighting, speakers (like the GJD Multispeech system), or the presence of guards. When integrated effectively, these three elements create a layered defence system that enhances overall security by making unauthorised access more difficult, riskier, and less appealing.

Enhancing Car Dealership Security with GJD Detectors and Illuminators

GJD's advanced detectors and illuminators offer a powerful solution for proactive, 24/7 security.

Our detection and illumination technology is engineered to identify movement with precision and trigger appropriate responses—from activating lighting to integrating with CCTV and alarm systems. This not only deters potential intruders but also provides valuable visual verification to security personnel. Real-world case studies across multiple car dealerships demonstrate how GJD's products have helped reduce incidents, enhance situational awareness, and provide peace of mind to dealership owners and operators.

External motion detectors and LED illuminators are crucial components for a security system. By integrating these separate technologies with video surveillance cameras, the site will benefit from one powerful security solution with versatile advantages.

Benefits

- ▶ Operation and maintenance costs reduced as programming can be made over the network, resulting in fewer site visits
- ▶ Devices can be used in a variety of applications. They can activate lighting, trigger video surveillance systems, alert the monitoring station, warn security guards, and initiate video capture.
- ▶ Monitoring access points to detect intruders before they enter the premises, which helps the security guards to be more effective
- ▶ Integrated security and lighting control to create bespoke solutions to suit specific site requirements
- ▶ Minimise false alarms

D-TECT Laser

- ▶ Create virtual curtains and surveillance security zones.
- ▶ Easy to set up, the laser can be configured to create either a horizontal or vertical invisible barrier.
- ▶ Programmable to within 4", the D-TECT Laser offers the highest level of precision for accurate and reliable intrusion detection.



IP detectors

- ▶ Send automatic intruder notifications to alert the monitoring station or communication device
- ▶ Trigger and control both internal and external lighting, as well as internal and external sounders
- ▶ Control and start video surveillance, providing alarms and camera movement, or place a marker on the system log
- ▶ Deter against unlawful access as well as provide early warning of an intruder
- ▶ Installed as a standalone device, or easily interfaced with an existing IP system

Infra-Red illuminators

- ▶ Covert lighting at night for surveillance systems
- ▶ Provides a black and white image at night
- ▶ Longer range coverage than most integral IR
- ▶ Can be installed as a standalone device, or easily interfaced with the existing IP system

White-Light illuminators

- ▶ Provide true colour camera images at night
- ▶ Deterrent/security lighting
- ▶ Courtesy lighting
- ▶ Can be installed as a standalone device, or easily interfaced with the existing IP system



Case Study Detectors match car dealership style

Hewes Security partnered with a major distributor to provide a car dealership with security that matches the stylish design of the cars and building.



Hewes installed stylish D-TECT 2 Infra-Red detector units from GJD at the new Audi dealership.

The sixteen Infra-Red detector units were specified for the exterior of the dealership because Audi wanted security with a modern design that matched the style of the buildings on the two-acre site.

The twin PIR passive infra-red detector unit has a programmable range of 26'-98' and integral masking curtains that allow its field of view to be adjusted from 10-70 degrees.

Richard Hewes of Hewes Security said: "The detectors met all of the needs of the site including superior detection and aesthetics".

Wendy Ford, regional business manager at major distributor said: "We were delighted that we could help Audi solve a unique showroom need."



Case Study Securing Landrover with D-TECT Laser Virtual Wall

Challenge

Land Rover faced a complex security challenge: protecting an open-fronted dealership site that bordered a main road, a bus stop, and a public footpath. The location made it particularly vulnerable to unauthorised access and potential theft, especially during non-operating hours. The presence of anti-theft bollards alone was not sufficient to deter intrusion attempts, and the proximity to public infrastructure made the installation of physical barriers impractical.

Solution

To address these security concerns without impacting the open visual aesthetic or obstructing public access, GJD provided a D-TECT Laser solution configured as a Virtual Wall. The laser unit was mounted at a height of approximately 23', allowing it to project a precise detection curtain spanning the area between the anti-theft bollards and the front line of vehicles on display.



Technical Setup

- ▶ Mounting Height: 9.5'
- ▶ Detection Area: 23' (height) x 82' (length)
- ▶ Coverage Zone: Along the inside perimeter of the 6.5' high fence
- ▶ Technology: Laser-based detection forming a narrow, invisible barrier

This setup effectively created an invisible security wall that detects intrusion attempts without the need for physical fencing or ground-mounted sensors.

Outcome

The virtual detection wall provided Land Rover with a reliable, non-intrusive perimeter solution that blends seamlessly into the urban environment.

The D-TECT Laser ensured:

- ▶ Immediate detection of unauthorised movement
- ▶ Minimal false alarms, even in a high-traffic area
- ▶ Preservation of site accessibility and aesthetics



Conclusion

The D-TECT Laser virtual wall proved to be the ideal solution for Land Rover's unique security requirements. By implementing this innovative laser detection system, the dealership was able to enhance its site security effectively while maintaining an open and customer-friendly environment.

Case Study Nu-Fire choose D-TECT for RRG Toyota Dealership

The specialist security installation company Nu-Fire & Security Ltd. have chosen the D-TECT Dual Tech range as part of a BS8418 compliant CCTV system for the new RRG Toyota Car Dealership.

A total of 19 D-TECT detectors were installed, which was a mix of D-TECT 2 Quad PIRS and D-TECT X Wireless Quad PIRs.



The advanced features of the D-TECT range of BS8418 compliant PIR, 'Dual Tech' and wireless external movement detectors, which include a unique signal processing and optical system plus the front and back tamper switches, were crucial factors in Nu-Fire choosing D-TECTs for this BS8418 compliant monitored CCTV system.

These detectors are able to capture many more genuine threats than other external detectors, while virtually totally eliminating false and nuisance alarms.

When these wired or wireless detectors are triggered, they can individually, or simultaneously, control and activate CCTV cameras, security lights, DVRs, autodialers and virtually any low-voltage switching device. The D-TECT X Dual Tech wireless detector also has an impressive line of sight range of up to 1640'.

Nu-Fire's Sales Manager, Jason Sunderland, commented:

"We were really impressed that our engineers found the D-TECT detectors so easy to install and our client RRG were also particularly impressed with the aesthetics of the units on their building".

Jason also said that the favourable customer reaction to these GJD detectors means that many more future installations have been specified using the D-TECT Dual Tech range, including installations on other car dealerships in the coming months.



Case Study Perimeter Protection for Mini Car dealership using D-TECT Laser

Project Overview

A prominent Mini car dealership required a robust security solution to monitor and protect an open site surrounded by fencing. The dealership faced challenges related to unauthorized access through gaps and low-visibility zones along the perimeter. The objective was to install a non-intrusive yet highly effective detection system that could create a “virtual curtain” along the fence line without disrupting the aesthetics of the site.

Solution: D-TECT Laser Detection System

The D-TECT Laser was selected for its precision, customizable detection areas, and reliability in outdoor conditions. Mounted at approximately 16.5’ high, the laser sensor was configured to create a detection curtain measuring 5 meters in height by 40’ in width, effectively covering the most vulnerable section of the fence line.



Key Features Utilized:

- ▶ Virtual wall to simulate a physical barrier
- ▶ Mounting flexibility allowed for high placement without compromising detection range
- ▶ Customizable detection zones to focus specifically on high-risk areas
- ▶ Reliable external performance

Results

Enhanced Perimeter Security: The virtual curtain effectively detects any intrusion attempts, alerting security personnel in real time.

Non-Invasive Installation: No need for physical barriers or changes to existing infrastructure.

Minimised False Alarms: Advanced filtering and precision targeting ensure reliable operation despite outdoor variables like wind or wildlife.

“The D-TECT Laser gave us the peace of mind we needed without changing the look of our dealership. Its discreet but powerful coverage is exactly what we were looking for.” – Site Manager

Conclusion

The D-TECT Laser provided an effective perimeter detection solution tailored for the unique layout of the Mini dealership. By leveraging virtual wall technology, the dealership now benefits from increased security and operational efficiency with minimal maintenance needs.

Conclusion

Car dealerships face unique security challenges due to their high-value inventory, open lot designs, and extended off-hours exposure. As demonstrated throughout this white paper, integrating perimeter protection systems with strategic illumination provides a robust, proactive defence against theft, vandalism, and unauthorised access.

By combining physical barriers, smart surveillance, and well-planned lighting solutions, dealerships can deter criminal activity before it escalates, improve incident response times, and reduce operational risks. Investing in a layered security approach not only protects assets and enhances customer confidence but also supports long-term business continuity in an increasingly unpredictable threat landscape.

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