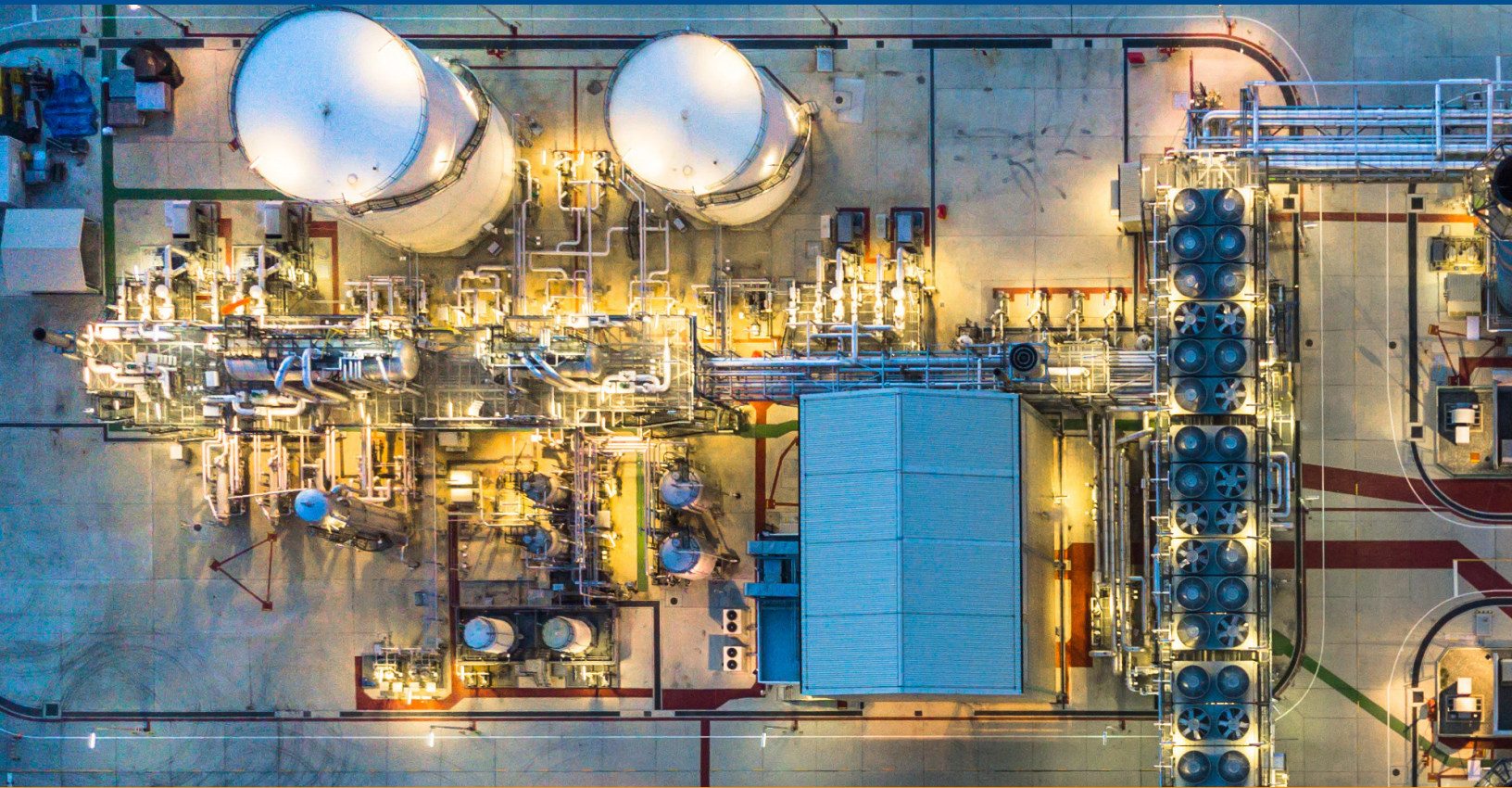




ERICSON

SAFETY IS OUR STANDARD

4 WAYS TO REDUCE THEFT ON THE JOBSITE



INTRODUCTION

Jobsite thieves operate on the low-hanging fruit principle - they are most likely to steal the items that are quick and easy to walk off with. If your organization leaves the jobsite vulnerable to theft, you are taking a big risk. In fact, over \$1 billion “walks offs” from jobs happen in the U.S. annually!

High traffic jobsite locations, such as refineries during maintenance turnarounds or major construction sites, have challenges controlling the flow of goods. Most of these jobsites will employ a number of consultants and 3rd party general contractors, which leave them the most vulnerable to high dollar losses.

That’s not to say these jobsites aren’t trying to prevent it. Historically, the industry has relied on wire-fenced perimeters, security guards, dogs, and cameras to discourage theft. But there are newer approaches, and some suppliers have the flexibility to offer features in their products that can be incorporated for low cost with high benefit.

CUSTOM COLORS FOR EASY IDENTIFICATION

Certain products are often the same color (think “safety yellow”) even if produced from a range of manufacturers. Using custom colors is an easy way to visually differentiate your equipment from scores of others out in the field. A would-be thief might think twice if they know the item will stand out in the crowd wherever they go.

CUSTOM WRITING OR MARKING ON THE PRODUCT

Marking your product with a company name tag or imprinting on cabling with your company name is a good start to theft deterrence. If the product is found in the back of a truck, it can easily be said it came from your facility instead of somewhere else.

Another approach is to issue and tag the products with serial numbers. That way, if the product is loaned to subcontractors or inside team members, and recorded, then the person or company who has it can be held responsible for its return. application.



USE PRODUCTS DESIGNED FOR THEFT DETERRENCE

Look for products designed with theft deterrence in mind. For instance, a product can be designed where parts are incompatible with other applications or products. Best would be if this product has long life and doesn't require replacement in its typical lifespan, so the incompatibility remains an advantage.

Another way products can be designed for theft deterrence is having components permanently joined to the product. A common method in the electrical industry is to use "over molded" designs, where two parts are joined permanently through the use of advanced thermoplastic injection molding techniques. Typical examples are tanks, vessels, and manholes.

Preventing energizing of the tank or vessel and protecting the operator from electrical shock is essential. This can be achieved through the use of GFCI protection or a low-voltage power supply.

It's also a good idea to review any in-house safety policies your company might have. Years ago, before GFCIs were commonly available, OSHA demanded that low voltage, such as 12 volts, had to be used in any location defined by OSHA as a confined space. OSHA has since revised those requirements to allow low voltage or GFCI protection, but some companies still prefer low voltage in such spaces.

RFID TAGGING OF PRODUCT

RFID stands for Radio Frequency Identification. RFID is real time monitoring of equipment for jobsite security and theft prevention. This innovative technology enables data collection using radio waves.

A system typically consists of four components: RFID tags, RFID readers, antennas, and software. RFID tags contain a small chip with an antenna that allows a RFID reader to capture and compile tag data. This data is collected and formatted in a way that is easy to use for secondary outputs such as alarms, cameras, text notifications, inventory control, and more.

Strong advantages of the RFID tags are very low cost, and wide adoption across many industries. And with their wide acceptance and advances in wireless technology, the price of the computerized systems for monitoring and detecting the RFID tags has fallen in recent years.

Another advantage is that RFID tags can be hidden in products easily. Electrical cables are often an easy target on jobsites, and tags can be hidden inside typical attached warning labels, thus not raising suspicion of their presence. A more incognito approach would be to look for products that have the RFID imbedded inside the material and not easily removed.





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