

PRESS RELEASE

SCOTTISH POLICE WELCOME NEW THEFT-RESISTANT NUMBER PLATES

Strathclyde police have welcomed the launch of SecurePlate, the first and only approved theft resistant number plate system in the UK, ahead of the introduction of tough new legislation affecting number plate suppliers in Scotland.

This autumn, the DVLA will introduce the Registration of Number Plate Suppliers (RNPS) in a bid to combat the growing problem of stolen number plates. It is already in effect in England and Wales but will now be extended to cover Scotland from October 1.

All number plate suppliers will have to register with the DVLA and demonstrate that their plates are produced to the required British Standard. Motorists will need to produce the V5 vehicle registration document and personal ID to the supplier, who is then legally obliged to keep a record of the transaction.

SecurePlate, produced by Hills NumberPlates, the UK's largest number plate manufacturer, is the first to meet the DVLA's rigorous theft-resistant standards and is specially designed to break into pieces, ensuring it cannot be used on any other vehicle.

Hills was invited by DC Ian McKinley to demonstrate the highly-effective system to 15 crime prevention officers from West End and New Gorbals stations at Glasgow's Helen Street Road complex in Govan.

"They welcomed the idea of this innovative new solution to number plate theft, particularly as the amount of calls they receive regarding stolen plates is growing. Samples of SecurePlate will be taken to Neighbourhood Watch meetings around the Strathclyde area and they expressed their commitment to raising public awareness of this new product," commented Mark Debenham, SecurePlate's sales and marketing manager.

Supt John Wake, head of ACPO's Vehicle Crime Intelligence Service, has already endorsed the concept of anti-theft plates such as SecurePlate and called for more motorists to fit them in order to beat thieves. The VCIS' fleet of cars has recently been fitted with SecurePlate.

Certified by Sold Secure, the non-profit making company that independently tests crime prevention products, SecurePlate has been developed using patented technology to meet the DVLA's standard for theft-resistant number plates.

More information on SecurePlate suppliers and full product details are available online at www.secureplate.com or ring 0121 623 8106.