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## ASIS Foundation Releases CRISP Report on Lost Laptops

**Alexandria, Va. (Sept. 22, 2008)** – Laptop computers are essential for organizations to make sure their employees have access to information they need wherever they are working—at home, in a meeting, or on the road. A lost laptop creates a two-dimensional problem. First, the laptop itself must be recovered or replaced. Second, and even more unsettling, is the prospect that critical information on the company, its plans and its customers could have been lost as well.

A new Connecting Research in Security to Practice (CRISP) report looks at both types of losses, from a statistical and cost point of view. The CRISP report, “Lost Laptops = Lost Data: Measuring Costs, Managing Threats,” was commissioned by the [ASIS Foundation](#). The report, by Glen Kitteringham, CPP, examines the internal and external factors that contribute to laptop theft. Who steals laptops? What motivates their actions? Why are companies targeted repeatedly?

Based on an extensive review of published research, the report explores the scope of the problem. A range of detailed solutions is offered. In a sample of worldwide jurisdictions, current legislative efforts impose new sanctions. Several product innovations may help to prevent thefts. Disrupting the ways thieves can unload their bounty is another deterrent. The appendix includes comprehensive lists of physical, electronic and procedural security enhancement, so organizations have specific ways to discourage or prevent thefts.

The report encourages companies to set goals to counter laptop theft and then implement those goals through situational prevention techniques and the seven steps of loss prevention. It concludes with suggestions for further exploration by academic and corporate investigators.

To view “Lost Laptops = Lost Data: Measuring Costs, Managing Threats,” go to <http://www.asisonline.org/foundation/lostlaptop.pdf>.

**About the Author** Glen W. Kitteringham, CPP, is a security professional, environmental criminologist and writer with experience in the security industry dating back to 1990. He has conducted research on a variety of security topics, including crime pattern analysis, retail theft and laptop theft. Kitteringham earned a master’s degree from the University of Leicester and the CPP designation through ASIS International.

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**About the CRISP Reports** The CRISP—Connecting Research in Security to Practice—Reports are a series of white papers on subjects that impact the security industry. Each of the reports explores issues of topical and practical concerns to security professionals. Additional CRISP Reports released in 2008 include [“Preventing Gun Violence in the Workplace”](#) and [“Strategies to Detect and Prevent Workplace Dishonesty.”](#)

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**About ASIS Foundation**

The ASIS International Foundation, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, provides funding and manages endowments for a wide range of academic, strategic and professional development activities. The purpose of the Foundation is to enhance the security profession worldwide by establishing, developing, delivering and promoting programs that advance security through education, research and training. Foundation scholarships ensure that those pursuing a career in security management are able to realize the highest academic achievements. Financial contributions from individuals, chapters and companies employing ASIS members, and corporations with an interest in security support the Foundation.

**About ASIS International**

[ASIS International](#) is the preeminent organization for security professionals, with more than 36,000 members worldwide. Founded in 1955, ASIS is dedicated to increasing the effectiveness and productivity of security professionals by developing educational programs and materials that address broad security interests, such as the ASIS Annual Seminar and Exhibits, as well as specific security topics. ASIS also advocates the role and value of the security management profession to business, the media, government entities and the public. By providing members and the security community with access to a full range of programs and services, and by publishing the industry’s No. 1 magazine—[Security Management](#)—ASIS leads the way for advanced and improved security performance.