



# how safe is your business?

choosing an approved security systems installer

## the problem

Protecting your business from intruders is of paramount importance. It's not just the financial loss a break-in can cause, but also the disruption to your business. Many companies do not consider the full implications of a break-in – until it is too late.



If you want a professional installer that you can trust – look for the ‘owl’ that identifies the installer is approved by NSI through its **NACOSS Gold** scheme.

## the solution

### Get a professionally installed electronic security system

Professionally installed and maintained electronic security systems are essential for all business premises as part of an integrated security solution. They act as a strong deterrent to intruders as well as alerting your staff and the police, should the need arise. However, the type of system you choose is important.

For **Intruder Alarms**, ‘bells-only’ alarms deter intruders and may alert passers by, but will not get you an automatic police response. Insurers will normally insist that a remotely ‘monitored alarm’ is installed, where activation signals are sent to a monitoring centre, ensuring the police are contacted on your behalf in the event of a confirmed signal. Signals are filtered for false activations, avoiding the risk of losing police response to your alarm.

**CCTV** allows you to watch over your site and record intruder activity for evidence. However, it is essential to have a suitable system meeting the appropriate standards to ensure its effectiveness to do the job you want.

**Access Control** systems are also a way of keeping out unwanted visitors.

The company you choose to install and maintain your system is as important as the system itself. Many companies or individuals will tell you they install systems, often cheaply. But do they meet the standards of workmanship and service you would expect? Have they been security vetted? Will they be there quickly if you have a problem? And, most importantly, do they meet the requirements of the police *and* your insurer?

**NACOSS Gold** installers can answer ‘Yes’ to all these questions – so you know who to contact.

#### What is the National Security Inspectorate (NSI)?

NSI has been the UK’s leading inspectorate for the security industry for over 35 years. As an independent, not-for-profit organisation, NSI is the champion of high standards in the security industry. Companies achieving approval through NSI must comply with relevant British and European Standards as well as meeting the requirements of the police and insurance industry.

#### Why are NACOSS Gold companies the best?

**NACOSS Gold** is only awarded to a company after rigorous checks have been conducted. These companies must display a satisfactory combination of technical expertise and business excellence. The **NACOSS Gold** scheme is accredited by the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) which is recognised by the government.



#### Complaints service

In the unlikely event that you are dissatisfied with your security system, and your installer fails to address your complaint to your satisfaction, NSI offers a free of charge technical complaints service in order to help resolve the matter.

## why you should choose a NACOSS Gold approved company

### NACOSS Gold companies:

- have been thoroughly security vetted
- are rigorously inspected twice a year to ensure they are maintaining standards in both the quality of installation and how they are run as a business
- are properly insured
- operate a 24 hour call out service (and respond within 4 hours)
- complete a thorough security survey of your premises
- install reliable, up to date equipment
- issue you with a Certificate of Compliance
- meet the relevant British and European Standards
- operate to the highest level of business excellence through achievement of ISO9001 Quality Management

#### the Police

All **NACOSS Gold** approved companies meet the requirements of the police, through the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO)\* Policy on intruder alarms, who will respond to confirmed alarm activations for monitored systems.

\*ACPOS in Scotland

#### the Insurers

Insurers will often insist you use a **NACOSS Gold** approved company as they trust them to meet the highest standards.

#### Your local NACOSS Gold installer:

National Security Inspectorate

T 0845 006 3003

[nsi.org.uk](http://nsi.org.uk)