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Technology Helps Catch Criminals, Help Prevent Crime

The use of various forms of technology can help us catch criminals and can even help us stop someone before something bad happens and how this applies to the Boston bombing.

By Corey Nydick (Open Post) - (http://patch.com/users/corey-nydick) May 21, 2013 1:10 am ET (http://my.patch.com/article/15520455/edit)



It's 2013 and there are various forms of technology that can help us stay on top of both preventing crime and catching criminals.

I am a security professional and my ideas are intended to get you thinking, not to sell you something. If you take action to use technology to make your world safer, whether through me or any other company, then I have gotten my message across.

Additionally one of the comments I will make may be seen as questionable or opportunistic - that is not the intention. It is merely me trying to get people to think and pay attention and see things that others may not.

The first technology that everyone needs to be aware of involves helping to prevent a criminal from even having the opportunity to commit the crime. With such great opportunities now to run a variety of different types of background checks on people, we have the upper hand on preventing these bad guys from being in the right place at the right time.

Like my friend, Marc Bourne from Know It All Intelligence Group in Bensalem will tell you, you can never judge a book by its cover. Whether you are hiring a new employee, considering a babysitter, renting space to a new tennant or even considering dating

someone, there are companies like his that use their vast array of technology and sites to be able to provide detailed information on the history of someone so that you don't make a bad decision.

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The next type of technology is access control. This allows you to place an electric lock on a door and control who can enter or exit that area and at what time of day. Using this type of technology, you can lock a new employee out of a higher classification area, you can keep a tenant only in their area and track when they come and go or a daycare can control who can come in and at what times and even which door so that there are no opportunities for someone to be in the right place at the right time.

The last technology I want to speak about is security and surveillance cameras. The cameras of today have such high resolution to provide crystal clear pictures. Some cameras have the ability to look for a certain item and track it. So if anyone is carrying a metal briefcase, I can load the picture into the camera's memory and it will alert me every time it sees that metal briefcase.

Other cameras have the ability to follow people so that once they enter a certain area, they are followed so they are not able to be sight unseen. The cities have cameras, the news stations have cameras and obviously many businesses have cameras.

To drive my point home, I want to talk real quick about security camera technology in relation to the Boston Marathon bombing. What happened there and in the days that followed showed that you don't need to have the million dollar camera systems like cities do in order to catch people. With all of the ultra high tech cameras throughout Boston, it was a retail store's surveillance camera that gave us the best footage of the alleged bombers that ultimately led to them being known and then caught.

Ten years ago the quality may not have been good enough. The analytic software may not have been good enough. Or it may have been too costly. But today technology has become so affordable, no matter which method you use (and there are plenty more too but this is a blog not a novel) you can help create a safer environment for your business, your friends, your family and the area you are in. Thank you for reading. I welcome any thoughts or responses to cfnydick@verizon.net) or 215-264-4234.

This post is contributed by a community member. The views expressed in this post are the author's. <u>Registered</u> <u>users are welcome to post on Patch (https://my.patch.com)</u>.

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