INCREASED THREAT OF METAL THEFT

Airwave own and manage in excess of 3,500 mast sites which provide mission-critical voice and data communications to the Police, Fire & Rescue and Ambulance Services across Great Britain. The mast sites are located nationwide and the Airwave Network covers 99% of Great Britain’s Landmass.

Following a rise in the global value of metals such as copper and lead, Airwave decided to adopt a proactive approach and put in place suitable measures that would deter thieves from targeting its network.

INTELLIGENCE-LED APPROACH

SmartWater® traceable liquids were introduced across Airwave’s mast sites along with SmartWater signage which was prominently displayed at every site to proactively deter thieves. The deployment of SmartWater was prioritised based on incident data collated on SmartWater’s Intelligence Portal, which was used to identify existing crime hotspots as well as emerging areas with an increased risk of theft.

SmartWater Investigators carried out threat assessments at each Airwave location, providing crime prevention advice further increasing their security measures. In partnership with the police, regular visits were also made to scrap metal yards in the vicinity of high risk sites. The purpose of this was to educate scrap dealers about the potential consequences of purchasing stolen SmartWater-marked metals.

TESTIMONIAL

“Airwave is a company committed to delivering secure and reliable communications to all of Great Britain’s emergency services and public safety agencies. Our Network is a vital tool for the emergency services and must remain operational when other networks are likely to fail. We have worked closely with SmartWater to deploy a range of signage and forensic traceable liquid products to protect the Airwave estate. Working with SmartWater has enabled us to protect our assets and ultimately maintain the high levels of service our customers are accustomed to.”

Stephen Druitt,
Operational Security Manager, Airwave Solutions Ltd