



NSW POLICE FORCE

MEDIA RELEASE



Detectives issue warning about card skimming offences – Fraud Squad

Issued at 5.30am, Wednesday 20 January 2008

Fraud Squad detectives are warning members of the public to be mindful when using EFTPOS terminals following recent incidents of card skimming offences.

Strike Force WIGG comprises detectives from the State Crime Command's Fraud Squad with assistance from the South West and North West Metropolitan Regions, and was established in June 2009 to investigate skimming offences involving EFTPOS machines.

Detectives are working closely with interstate and international counterparts as part of the ongoing investigations.

Police wish to remind consumers to take precautionary steps when using EFTPOS terminals.

Detectives warn that offenders can covertly capture card data which is then used to fraudulently withdraw funds from victim's bank accounts.

Tips for consumers:

- Regularly change your Personal Identification Number (PIN)
- Following an EFTPOS transaction check store receipts for any irregularities – ie the store name, details, and location should all match the store from which you made your purchase
- Regularly check your bank statements
- Be aware of the amount of funds you have in your account
- Do not write your PIN anywhere
- Cover your PIN when entering it into a terminal
- Where possible and if it is available to you, use chip technology
- If you have concerns contact your financial institution immediately

Tips for Merchants:

- Be aware of the security around your EFTPOS terminals at all times
- Ensure the terminals are left in a secure location and do not leave EFTPOS terminals unattended or in plain view of the public when they are not in use.
- Regularly check all EFTPOS terminals and ensure that serial numbers are correct

To date, six people have been arrested and charged by Strike Force Wigg detectives in relation to these matters.

Visit our website at www.police.nsw.gov.au

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Anyone who suspects they have fallen victim to card skimming after using an EFTPOS terminal, is urged to contact their local police station or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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Authorised by Det/Supt Col Dyson, Fraud Squad Commander
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