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THEFT FROM APARTMENT COMPLEXES REACHING EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS

The role of the Strata Manager is evolving with the increase in the number of high-density residential buildings. There is an expectation for them to account for the complexities that this modern way of living brings.

Strata Managers that are managing portfolios of apartment complexes and large mixed-use residential high-rises are dealing with more perennial issues; from noise to parking, to property damage and theft.

Evidently, theft from Apartment complexes is reaching epidemic proportions and burglars are targeting new apartment buildings with frightening regularity. The limited security of current under-croft carpark storage, such as cages, in high-density residential buildings make them easy picking for criminals.

Alarming, it's not always opportunists from outside these apartment complexes that are targeting storage cages. A Sydney building manager from Pyrmont was arrested recently after NSW Police found a massive haul of property stolen from the building's residents. He was found with more than 250 items of stolen property that he allegedly stole from the storage cages of residents in the apartment complex he managed. (Source: Sydney Morning Herald, 1 September 2019 'Inner city building manager allegedly built 'cave' in basement, hiding goods stolen from residents'.)

In particular, storage cages are often left unattended and range from supported or suspended cages to complete floor-to-ceiling enclosures with materials used such as chain wire, welded mesh or perforated mesh. Not only are they open to dust, vermin and pollution, but they offer very little privacy of what is being stored in them and disappointingly, provide very little protection against theft. Even more frightening is many apartment residents falling victim to storage cage theft are being left exposed by their insurers. High rise residents are commonly left without insurance cover for something that should be considered part of their home.

Secure Storage Systems recognised how critical it was for apartment owners to be satisfied they have usable and secure storage. Unlike current under-croft apartment storage areas that have been built without privacy or security in mind, Secure Storage Systems provides apartment owners with a secure storage solution that is clean and efficient and aesthetically pleasing whilst providing the highest level of protection against theft of valuables and personal belongings. Apartment owners can choose to install a completely new system or Secure Storage Systems can update an existing space, such as covering a cage and providing a private, secure storage area.

The system is strong and durable, able to withstand in excess of 500kg of force. It is also proven, certified to AS/NZS 3809:1998 Safes & Strongrooms.

Secure Storage Systems is here to help address the clear security flaw in high density living that is storage theft. To find out more about Secure Storage Systems visit www.securestoragesystems.com.au. Alternatively, please contact Director Tony Covino directly on **0435 287 055** to discuss how we can help.