



**OPERATION GRAFTON  
BUSINESS NEWS  
Tel: 0208 246 9972**

Protective Marking:	Not Protected
Publication Scheme:	Yes
Title:	OPERATION GRAFTON BULLETIN
Purpose:	For information & distribution to Group Members
Relevant to:	Operation GRAFTON Policing
Summary:	Summary of Operation Grafton activities in March 2006
Author:	Detective Inspector Paul E DOUGLAS
Creating Branch/OCU:	Serious Crime Directorate SCD 10 (8)
Date:	03 April 2006
Review Date	02 April 2007

Issue **25**

Period **March 2006**

**Foreword by Detective Inspector Paul E DOUGLAS**

Welcome to issue 25 of the Operation GRAFTON bulletin for the Industry. This will probably be my last bulletin as I have asked to return to my unit. I therefore thank you all for your support and wish you and Operation Grafton well for the future.

*As mentioned previously, all MPS documentation is written in order to comply with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, 2000. Accordingly, this Bulletin reflects the terms being applied corporately within the MPS, which are required in order to adhere to this legislation. Once again I have annotated this issue as having no restriction on publication under this Act.*

*Just to remind you that the Operation GRAFTON terms of reference are: -*

- *Any allegation where the value of property stolen, or attempted to be stolen, is in excess of **£10,000** and where*
- *There is a connection with Heathrow Airport*

*The £10,000 base figure is effective for crimes occurring post 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005.*

*Information highlighted in this bulletin will once again not disclose any details of Operation Grafton tactics; however if you have information about any of the crimes listed please do not hesitate to contact us on the above telephone number.*

Details of all previous Operation Grafton bulletins for the industry can now be found at [www.aimss.info](http://www.aimss.info).

## CRIMES

- On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006, criminals using a silver coloured Audi convertible with a black soft-top committed a robbery at a Lakeside Industrial Unit in Colnbrook. On this occasion the suspects did not appear to be able to find what they were looking for and left in possession of mobile phones belonging to three members of staff.
- On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2006, suspects ram raided the shutter door of a logistics company in Colnbrook using a Vauxhall Astra. The exact details of property stolen have still to be confirmed.
- On 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006, suspects using a silver VW Golf forced a lorry to stop in Stanwell Road, Hounslow (on the edge of the airport cargo area) in an attempt to steal a high value load. During the process their vehicle was damaged and they were forced to flee the scene in a second vehicle, which was car jacked as it drove by. This second vehicle was subsequently recovered burnt out. No property was taken.
- On 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects used a lorry to ram through the wall of a warehouse in West Drayton. No property was taken.
- On 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006 a stolen Audi was seen outside a high value warehouse in Southall.
- On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a lorry was used to ram the wall of the Securicor warehouse at Heathrow. Entry was not gained and no property was taken.
- On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a stolen crane was used in a second attempt to break through the wall of Securicor at Heathrow. Once again entry was not gained and no property was taken.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects hijacked a vehicle and kidnapped its owner before forcing him to open a warehouse premises in Chessington. On this occasion staff in the premises hit the panic alarm and the suspects fled.
- On 9<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a burglary occurred at a warehouse in Colnbrook, on this occasion entry was unsuccessful due to the suspects being unable to force entry via a fire door.
- On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a lorry carrying a high value load in convoy with other vehicles stopped due to a mechanical fault on the Clock House Roundabout in Feltham, Middlesex. Whilst the driver was examining the fault a suspect jumped into the drivers seat and drove off. As the suspect drove away the vehicles anti hijack device engaged forcing him to decamp on foot across nearby gardens.
- On 12<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects entered a warehouse premises on the North Feltham Trading Estate and tied up two members of staff before stealing five pallets of mobile phones and decamping in a lorry.

- On 17<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects cut the alarm cables to a warehouse premises in Maidenhead before ram raiding the premises in a white van. They then decamped with a large quantity of DVD players and Plasma screens. The van was subsequently found abandoned in Colnbrook.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a burglary occurred at a warehouse premises on the Galleymeade Road industrial estate, Slough. The purpose seems to have been to steal two company vans. Nothing else was taken
- On 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects ram raided a warehouse premises in Iver, Bucks and stole a large quantity of computer chips. This premises has suffered a number of previous offences.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006, a ram raid occurred at a mobile phone warehouse premises in Greenford. This was the second time this venue had been ram fallen victim in 6 weeks.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006, suspects attempted to hijack a French van driver who had been trying to deliver to a Heathrow based company. He arrived at the venue as it was in the process of being ram raided. The victim then tried to drive away but was pursued by the suspects onto the M4 where he was assaulted. A few hours' earlier suspects had driven a stolen skip lorry to the premises concerned and attempted to breach the building. They were however disturbed on this occasion and made off. The suspects subsequently returned in two vans and again attempted to breach the building. It was during this attempt that the French delivery driver arrived.

## **CRIMES OF INTEREST & CRIME ENQUIRIES**

- Assistance provided to the National Mobile Phone Crime Unit/ Leicestershire Police resulting in £1.6 million worth of stolen phones being recovered within Feltham warehouse.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2006, at 11.30 am suspects hijacked a van carrying £288k of computer memory cards on the Iron Bridge industrial estate in London NW10.
- On 28<sup>th</sup> March 006 at 11.15 pm a ram raid on the same industrial estate in NW10 where the van hijack occurred. On this occasion entry was gained using a stolen skip lorry.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Assistance was provided to the Swedish Police re this months Gothenburg robbery.

## **CRIME REDUCTION REPORT**

- Operation Grafton Crime Reduction Officers acting under the auspices of the Airfreight Industry Minimum Security Standards for cargo (AIMSS) have now certified 113 premises as meeting the standards required. If you require more information about this scheme please visit the [www.aimss.info](http://www.aimss.info) website where you can also obtain a self-assessment pack on line without cost.

## **OPERATION GRAFTON SUMMARY**

- If you require further information about any of the items contained within this issue please contact DI Paul Douglas on the number below or at the email address given. In addition, if you have information about the any of the above crimes or any other Grafton offences please contact us at: -

**Tel: - 0208 246 9972/3**

**Email: - [operation.grafton@met.police.uk](mailto:operation.grafton@met.police.uk)**

Alternatively you can call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111. All calls will be treated in the strictest confidence.

**Paul E DOUGLAS  
Detective Inspector  
OPERATION GRAFTON**