

Theft protection for construction machinery

The electronic immobiliser from MOTOMETER affords effective protection against unauthorised access

Mühlacker, November 11th 2008 - Many building contractors and plant hire companies could save themselves a lot of money if only they fitted their fleets with theft protection systems. After all, it's not that difficult for thieves to steal these expensive machines. Unlike car thieves who have to overcome a whole battery of safety measures that are fitted as standard and which are now mandatory for cars, stealing construction plant is child's play for most ordinary thieves.

What's more, the way in which these criminals go about their business is becoming increasingly brazen. Thieves dressed in building workers' clothing will simply drive up in an 'artic' and load up the plant in broad daylight without anyone on site being any the wiser. So it's hardly surprising that the amount of stolen construction machinery, plant and vehicles has risen dramatically in recent times. What is surprising is why only around ten per cent of all plant hire companies and building contractors have fitted their machines with immobilisers and other protection systems. By deploying the technologies that are now available, contractors could not just prevent the loss of their machines but would enjoy the added benefits of lower insurance premiums and savings on running costs.

Today's market offers a wide variety of electronic devices that provide effective protection from unauthorised intrusion and use. The electronic immobiliser MOTOGUARD from MOTOMETER for example demonstrates how theft protection can be both inexpensive and not overly complex in technical terms.

The MOTOGUARD is suitable for use with all makes of plant and machinery. The immobiliser is supplied with electronics that make it compatible with all standard ignition switches. You will be impressed by its straightforward installation, its numerous additional functions and its good price/performance ratio.

The MOTOGUARD communicates via the CAN Bus and supports CAN Bus speeds of up to 1 Mbps. From the coded vehicle key it can detect whether the driver is authorised to start the machine. Communication between the transponder built into the key and the immobiliser electronics is encrypted by an 80 bit code. Any attempts at key counterfeiting are immediately identified and thwarted. The immobiliser can be taught an unlimited number of vehicle keys, so the MOTOGUARD is ideal for all fleet sizes.

The programmable transponder in the ignition key also serves as a storage medium for a variety of vehicle data. Among other things, it can store each driver's personal vehicle settings, so their preferred seat position or joystick sensitivity, for example, is automatically selected when they start the machine. In addition, certain vehicle configurations and vehicle functions can be defined on each separate key, and these can then be enabled or disabled for certain users of the machine.

The transponder also acts as an error memory which can be downloaded and analysed after every use. This allows any improper use and treatment to be identified and will also reveal any attempts at tampering (e.g. engine tuning).

Saving and storing vehicle data such as the recorded mileage or number of operating hours is yet another useful function of the MOTOGUARD – especially when it comes to buying and selling machinery and plant.

With a voltage range of 5 to 32 Volts and a temperature range of -40°C to +85°C, the MOTOGUARD is ideally suited to the demanding environment of construction plant and work machines. The MOTOGUARD effectively combats the old problem of leakage currents with a maximum current consumption in standby mode of no more than 1µA.

The electronic immobiliser can be supplied with other interfaces such as LIN, I2C or NRZ, so it can also operate with other data transmission systems.

To find out more about MOTOGUARD, visit www.motometer.net.

(Signs: 3.971/ Words: 625)

As owner of the MOTOMETER brand IVEKA sells worldwide products for vehicle manufacturers, repair shops and system engineers. The product portfolio includes workshop and test equipment as well as tachographs, display systems and sensors.

Contact:

IVEKA Automotive Technologie Schauz GmbH
Susanne Gamber
Talweg 8
75417 Mühlacker-Lomersheim (Germany)
Fon +49 7041 9695-15
Fax: +49 7041 9695-55
E-Mail: s.gamber@iveka.de