



NEW ZEALAND POLICE

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Vehicle marking will reduce vehicle theft

The introduction of the whole of vehicle marking system will help to reduce vehicle crime and enhance police investigations said Assistant Commissioner Grant Nicholls.

"The system will enable stolen vehicles to be more easily traced thereby acting as a deterrent for criminals," said Mr Nicholls.

Theft of vehicles has been an issue over recent years with increasing sophistication by car ringers and organised criminals disassembling and reassembling vehicles.

"Now we will have a sophisticated new system that will very effectively combat many of the tricks of the professional car thieves," said Mr Nicholls.

The introduction of such a system will greatly assist police in the prevention, detection and provision of evidence for more successful prosecution of organised crime groups.

"A spin-off of the new system will be improvement in identification and resolution of "hit and run" incidents and motor vehicle accidents."

Used vehicles imported from overseas will have microdot numbers placed over various parts of the vehicle to make it more difficult for the vehicles to be changed or modified to conceal their identity. This will help increase the return of stolen goods to their rightful owners.

Mr Nicholls said that training of police officers in the whole of vehicle marking system was very simple and straight forward.

"We'll start to get the benefits of this new technology right from the start," the Assistant Commissioner said.

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