

# High Security Face Plates help c-store owners save money

By Bob Armstrong



Owners of standard change machines now have a way to protect themselves against a rising wave of machine break-ins that has hit British Columbia hard this year.

A specially designed high security face plate, designed by B.C. based Epic Carwash, keeps change machines and the money inside safe from criminals who have been using crowbars and slide hammers to rip machines open.

For change machine owners, the big problem is that criminals destroy the bill validator – “the brains of the machine” – in the process, says Dan Findlay, owner of Epic Carwash. That means a break-in costs owners approximately \$1,800 in parts and service.

The protective plate sells for \$307.50 and can be installed with hand tools in a half an hour, he says, noting that B.C. businesses have responded enthusiastically.

“I’ve had people say to me ‘Finally they’ve got something like this – I’ve had my machine broken into twice,’” he says.

Phil Declerc, owner of Morgan Creek Suds City in White Rock, says his machine has worked fine since he installed a security plate after suffering a change machine break-in.

“There was a whole string of them (break-ins) in the Interior too and then they hit my place.”

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