

## **MyLaptopGPS and Identity Theft Expert: Massive Holes in Laptop Computer Security Can Cost Organizations Millions**

(BOSTON, Mass. - Jan. 24, 2008 - IDTheftSecurity.com) The theft of a laptop computer belonging to the British Ministry of Defense sheds doubt on mobile computer security worldwide, said Robert Siciliano, a widely televised and quoted personal security and [identity theft](#) expert. He directed firms to MyLaptopGPS™, whose technology helps to prevent the massive data breaches associated with laptop computer theft.

"Those who specialize in the defense of nations should be leading the way in laptop computer security," said Siciliano. "Instead, one of the world's premiere defense departments has been shown to be unforgivably vulnerable to the loss of its mobile computers. Apparently, problems with security for laptop computers run deep worldwide."

On Jan. 19 numerous news outlets reported the overnight theft, from a car, of a laptop computer belonging to the British Ministry of Defense. According to these reports, the lost mobile computer housed sensitive, identifying information on serving personnel and others that had come into contact with the military. Further reports then revealed that the British Ministry of Defense had lost hundreds of mobile computers over many years' time and in fact was unsure of the exact number.

An unrelated article from the *IDG News Service* on Jan. 14 showed the potential amount of money that an organization might pay in the wake of losing even a single laptop. Tennessee's Davidson County Election Commission, which lost a mobile computer containing the Social Security numbers of 337,000 registered voters in December, stood to spend \$1 million on [identity theft](#) protection for the victims.

"Any organization, not just one whose focus is defense, can easily protect its fleets of laptop computers for less than pennies on the millions of dollars that bad security ultimately costs," said Dan Yost, chief technology officer at MyLaptopGPS. "The alternative, to do nothing, is to court the possibility of financial disaster."

[MyLaptopGPS](#) combines Internet-based GPS tracking -- which, for tracking and retrieving stolen laptops, is more effective than other forms of GPS -- with other functionalities to secure mobile computing devices. Users launch MyLaptopGPS' features remotely, protecting data even while the machine is in a criminal's hands. Once connected to the Internet, the software silently retrieves, and then deletes, files from machines as it tracks the stolen or missing hardware -- at once returning the data to its rightful owner and removing it from the lost computer.

MyLaptopGPS also offers SafeRegistry™, a comprehensive system for inventorying entire fleets of mobile computers, as well as a full line of highly renowned SafeTags™, which are police-traceable property tags designed to secure iPods, cell phones, BlackBerry devices, and other mobile property. A [downloadable demo](#) of MyLaptopGPS is available.

The October 2007 issue of *Bank Fraud & IT Security Report*, a newsletter published only in hard copy, ran "The Seven Layers of Laptop Security," an article by Siciliano and Yost. A white paper adaptation of that article [is available](#) from MyLaptopGPS.

Readers may [view YouTube video](#) of "NBC 7 Chicago" footage featuring Yost delivering comments for a televised news report that covered the April 2007 theft of two laptops that stored 40,000 Chicago Public School teachers' Social Security numbers.

According to *USA Today*, theft of personal data more than tripled in 2007. Readers may [view video of Siciliano](#) discussing this news on the new "FOX Business" network. To learn more about identity theft, a major concern for anyone who's lost a laptop computer to thieves, readers may go to [video of Siciliano at VideoJug](#).

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### **About MyLaptopGPS**

Since 1984, Tri-8, Inc. (DBA MyLaptopGPS.com) has specialized in complete system integration. From real-time electronic payment processing software to renowned mid-market ERP implementations, the executive team at MyLaptopGPS has been serving leading enterprises and implementing world-class data systems that simply work. With MyLaptopGPS™, Tri-8, Inc. brings a level of expertise, dedication, knowledge and service that is unmatched. MyLaptopGPS™'s rock-solid performance, security, and reliability flow directly from the company's commitment to top-notch software products and services for almost 25 years.

### **About IDTheftSecurity.com**

Identity theft affects us all, and Robert Siciliano, CEO of IDTheftSecurity.com and member of the *Bank Fraud & IT Security Report's* editorial board, makes it his mission to provide consumer education solutions on identity theft to Fortune 500 companies and their clients. A leader of personal safety and security seminars nationwide, Siciliano has been featured on "The Today Show," CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, "FOX News," "The Suze Orman Show," "The Montel Williams Show," "Maury Povich," "Sally Jesse Raphael," "The Howard Stern Show," and "Inside Edition." The Privacy Learning Institute features him on its Website. Numerous magazines, print news outlets, and wire services have turned to him, as well, for expert commentary on personal security and identity theft. These include *Forbes*, *USA Today*, *Entrepreneur*, *Woman's Day*, *Mademoiselle*, *Good Housekeeping*, *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Washington Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, *United Press International*, *Reuters*, and others.

For more information, visit Siciliano's [Web site](#), [blog](#), and [YouTube page](#).

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