

Secure Solutions Consulting's 5 Minutes to Better Preparedness

Are You a Safe Business or a Scared Business? - Why More Security Isn't Always Better Security

*"Our brains aren't very good at probability and risk analysis. We tend to exaggerate spectacular, strange and rare events, and downplay ordinary, familiar and common ones. We think rare risks are more common than they are. We fear them more than probability indicates we should. There is a lot of psychological research that tries to explain this, but one of the key findings is this: People tend to base risk analysis more on stories than on data."*¹

Security experts will have varied opinions on what any business should do when it comes to the design of its security & safety program. Employees, visitors and other stakeholders will as well. But what business security leaders must be sure of is that the programs they create make their place of work feel *safe*, not *scared*. The only way they can do that is with facts.

A good security & safety program is one that goes hand-in-hand with the results of a good risk assessment process. Knowing your risks and having experts available to discuss your options for treating those risks is essential to a creating a safe business environment and avoiding a scared employee population. Misunderstanding or misinterpreting risks that you face can lead down two paths. One is the path of insufficient controls which results failing to comprehensively protect your people and your buildings. The other path is one of excess. This can result in the overuse of security technology, misuse of "zero tolerance" programs, creation of inflexible policy, and development of bureaucratic procedures. None of these creates an optimum environment for employee performance or business success.

Security & Safety Programs for Businesses - Things to Think About

- ✓ Are my security & safety programs built on the results an objective risk assessment?
- ✓ Have they both been reviewed within the past year?
- ✓ Are my policies and procedures logical? Can I explain why we do things the way we do?
- ✓ Is my use of security technology rational? Does it enhance or hinder the business environment and the work of my employees?
- ✓ What is the perception of security & safety at my business? What do I hear from employees and visitors?
- ✓ Have there been preventable security or safety incidents in the past? What did I do to preclude future incidents?

Secure Solutions Consulting can help you develop a logical, rational and comprehensive Security & Safety program for your place of work.

¹ "Drawing the wrong lessons from horrific events," Bruce Schneier. <http://www.cnn.com/2012/07/31/opinion/schneier-aurora-aftermath/>