Most business owners face the threat of theft. With an estimated 345,031 robberies nationwide in 2013 and the majority of burglaries involving forcible entry, it’s a real concern across industries. But that doesn’t mean that every one of these crime incidents was the same or that protecting against theft should be a one-size-fits-all solution.

Your business is unique – and so should be its security system. Every business faces risks specific to its industry and location, and business owners like you need a security system that caters to your unique needs.

For example, a car dealership located in an area that experiences frequent burglaries may need to install key cards to restrict access to its garage bays in order to prevent stolen tools, parts and equipment, before any thefts occur.

On the other hand, a restaurant owner who travels between locations would benefit from remote monitoring, enabling him or her to engage a security system while on the go. Plus, remote monitoring would allow the owner to both deter potential burglars and control the temperature of refrigerators and freezers to preserve inventory – letting the restaurant’s brilliant chef focus on what he or she does best.

Individualized security measures can help owners rest easy by identifying and better protecting security gaps unique to their business – even those that are often overlooked.

The Risks of One-Size-Fits-All Security
Unique Challenges for Your Business
Before implementing any new security measures, it’s important to identify your business’ individual needs, including regional concerns, to help build a comprehensive security strategy.

Car Dealerships
Car dealerships face significant risk for crime because the vehicles aren’t the only valuable equipment on the lot; the dealerships themselves are made up of countless moving parts, each presenting opportunities for loss. Here are a few of the specific concerns:

- Vehicles and parts can be stolen or damaged as they are moved around the lot.
- Equipment and tools can be removed from service bays. Installing cameras can help deter and provide evidence if an incident were to occur.
- Customers’ confidential information must be protected. Using access control measures can limit personnel access to areas containing this information.

With so much activity, there are many opportunities for customers, employees and others to take advantage of the security holes.

Restaurants
High table-turnover rate means business is booming for a restaurant. However, busy tables put a restaurant at greater risk for a robbery with plenty of cash on hand, and servers also have multiple opportunities to skim cash. While these concerns may seem obvious, the bustling restaurant has other risks, such as those noted below:

- **High employee-turnover rates.** With a quick turnover, former employees might retain codes or keys that allow access to the property, or they may even share the business’ security vulnerabilities with those who intend harm.
- **Refrigeration systems.** Inventory loss due to refrigeration or freezer failure can set a restaurant back several thousands of dollars. Proactive alerts can help provide added peace of mind that food temperatures are on track.
Propping doors open. Propping open a back door near the kitchen or exit can leave a restaurant vulnerable to internal and external theft of inventory, kitchen equipment or other materials.

Disruptions. Loitering can become an issue as it may discourage potential customers, and lead to other disruptions, such as vandalism or even violent actions, negatively impacting daily operations and customers’ experience.

Monitoring the restaurant remotely and with enhanced visibility can help give owners the tools and knowledge they need to better prevent costly mistakes. Theft of expensive and crucial inventory can be devastating to a business. Security systems that allow an owner to see what’s happening or even record on-site activity provides more control to help reduce these risks.

Retailers
A retail business owner with a large amount of foot traffic has to be concerned with shoplifters while also worrying about presenting enough merchandise to entice shoppers. Losing inventory to shoplifters not only impacts the bottom line, but it can also disrupt customer inventory requirements. Retailers have other concerns as well, such as those noted below:

Building security. Well-designed security systems can help deter shoplifters and burglars who plan their thefts, learning how to exploit the security measures of a particular store. Having the ability to arm and disarm the building from any Web-enabled device without being physically present allows employees to open and close the store, and it helps give the owner added freedom.

Limit access to inventory. Keep track of who is entering the backroom by limited access to inventory and record movement with cameras, which can also help determine what happened if items are missing.

A proactive security solution can help retailers protect their goods, customers and business. Plus, video surveillance provides owners with documentation that can aid local authorities in their investigation, if an incident should occur.
Every business has unique security challenges. Menus differ between restaurants, just like the performance of a car changes with the make and model. Why should security be any different?

Protect your hard-earned success from crime and loss by selecting a security partner that can design an easy-to-use, region- and industry-specific security solution to tackle your unique needs – and to help you focus on the business of your business.

**Specialize Your Security**

Tyco Integrated Security, as North America’s leading commercial security integrator, knows that safeguarding your business requires local expertise combined with a deep understanding of your industry. TycoIS is right there with you to help protect what matters most.

**Safer. Smarter. Tyco.™**

For more information, call 1.800.2.Tyco.IS (1.800.289.2647) or visit [www.TycoIS.com](http://www.TycoIS.com).

**Sources:**


2. Ibid.