

ROAD TO SAFETY

Keep Your Car Out Of The Hands Of Thieves

(NAPSA)—If worries about automotive security are robbing you of your rest, there's a line of products that may help you stay in the fast lane of safety.

The amount of personal property stolen each year is staggering. The annual property theft rate in the United States is roughly \$12 billion. Auto theft accounts for more than half of that figure—a vehicle in the U.S. is stolen every 25 seconds. In addition, thieves are targeting more and more valuable items, such as tools, trailers, ladders, recreational vehicles, bicycles and spare tires. People are not only concerned about protecting their vehicles, but anything on them, in them, pulled by them or related to them.

Here are some tips to help keep your car in your hands:

- Remove your keys from the ignition after every trip.
- Lock your vehicle, no matter where you are.
- If you must leave your key with a parking attendant, leave only your vehicle's ignition key. Do not leave anything attached to it with your name and address.
- Always park in well-lit, high-traffic areas.
- Always have your keys ready before you reach the car.
- Copy your tag number and vehicle identification number on a card, and keep it with your driver's license.
- Write your driver's license number on a business card, and drop it down the window slot to



If they can't steer it, they can't steal it, so lock your steering wheel to keep your car.

serve as identification, in case the VIN is removed.

- Consider the use of anti-theft devices such as steering wheel locks and window etchings.

The Club is the original, patented vehicle steering wheel lock and the best-selling mechanical anti-theft device for cars and trucks. The Club brand has become synonymous with affordable automotive security. It's highly visible, letting potential thieves know your car is protected. Police say this is the best way to deter auto theft. This steering wheel lock is recommended by the Fraternal Order of Police. Cromoly steel construction resists sawing, prying, hammering and freon attacks. It might even qualify you for a discount on your auto theft insurance.

For more tips or to learn more about The Club, go to www.theclub.com.