



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Locks – the first line of defence against burglary

Recent reports in the press regarding Britain's status as Europe's burglary capital have placed even more emphasis on the need for appropriate physical security in the home.

Whilst the use of alarm systems and modern technology such as CCTV is important, the first line of defence of the home is the physical security, i.e. the locks on the gates, doors, windows, garage etc. The Master Locksmiths Association has produced the "MLA Guidelines for the Minimum Security for Domestic Property" which provides advice on the types of locks and physical security devices that are recommended in order to decrease the likelihood of being burgled. These guidelines are available free of charge and can be downloaded from the MLA website [www.locksmiths.co.uk](http://www.locksmiths.co.uk).

If you have a concern about home security then please consult an MLA approved company who will be happy to inform you of your options and assist you in making your property more secure. Your local MLA approved company can be found by ringing the MLA on 0800 7831498 or visiting the website. It is also important to look for devices that have been independently tested such as those that carry the Sold Secure Approved product logo (a list of such devices is available at [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com))

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**For further information please contact:**

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## Notes to Editors

### **About the MLA**

The Master Locksmiths Association is a non-profit making body; established to set and promote standards of conduct, practice and materials within the locksmithing industry. It encourages its members to further their knowledge through ongoing education, regional meetings, seminars, its membership magazine Keyways and its website. Standards of entry to the MLA are rigorous and high (including CRB checks and inspections), and its ethos of "Skill and Integrity" exists to ensure that the public, government and industry receive the appropriate service and advice on security matters provided by its members. Created in 1958, the MLA became a limited company in 1986 and now the membership, currently standing at over 1400, is world-wide. The MLA is now the leading trade association for the locksmithing industry and is recognised as the authoritative body for locksmithing by the Police, the Home Office, the British Standards Institute, Association of British Insurers (ABI) and Building Research Establishment (BRE) amongst others. The MLA also offers a full suite of training courses to the trade, held at their purpose built training facility at their headquarters in Daventry. Sold Secure, the leading independent security test and validation laboratory is a wholly owned subsidiary of the MLA.

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