## - BE PRO-ACTIVE — DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR COMPANY TO RISK! PROTECT YOUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TRADE SECRETS.

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Protect your Company assets to ensure sustainable growth. Address all foreseeable events that might put your Intellectual Property (IP) at risk. Enforce pro-active, preventative security measures before it is too late. Do not underestimate the threat posed by your own Staff or Business Associates...

Recently, a disgruntled Security Manager of a large South African Mining Company in Sandton placed *Electronic Eavesdropping Devices (Bugging Devices)* in all the Directors' Offices and sold the information so obtained to a competitor.

According to Research done by **Advanced Corporate Solutions (ACS)**, a Risk Management Company based in Pretoria, this incident is but one example of what is found to be a growing trend in South African companies.

Intellectual property (IP) normally refers to creations of the mind, inventions, artistic works, symbols, names, designs etc. It is classified as property because it can be owned, sold or transferred. Intellectual property may include the following: patents, trademarks, registered designs, breeder's rights, copyrights or circuit layout rights.

In modern society, *Trade Secrets* are also regarded as the *Intellectual Property* of a business or company. *Trade Secrets* encompass protected information which is not generally known among or readily accessible to persons and has commercial value because it is a secret. *Trade secrets* are normally not protected by law as in the case of patent rights and therefore *Trade Secrets have to be protected by the company or institution itself*.

ACS provides Intelligence Care Management Solutions which encompass the full spectrum of Electronic Counter-measure Investigation (ECMI) Services "Debugging" and the Auditing and Risk Analysis of all Physical and Electronic Security Systems. The Electronic Countermeasures Services (also referred to as "Debugging and Sweeps") involves both Technical and Physical searches to detect and locate Electronic Eavesdropping Devices aimed at illegally obtaining Company Intellectual Property and Trade Secrets. All possible deficiencies and defects are noted and recommendations on solutions are made.

This is followed by a Risk Analysis of all Physical and Electronic Security Systems which includes an Audit of:

- ECMI ("Debugging")
- Guarding Services (Security Personnel, Cleaning Services etc.)
- Vetting and Screening Procedures of Staff, Contractors and Suppliers;
- Personnel Integrity Management System (P.I.M.S.);
- Compliance to Security Operating Procedures, Contractual Requirements & Specifications by the Contracted Security Service Provider;
- IT System Security; Printing Support Services;
- Electronic Security Systems e.g. CCTV, Electric Fences, Alarms and Biometric Access Control Systems

Deficiencies, defects and areas of non-compliance are identified and reported to the client with recommended solutions.

The overall objective of Corporate Intelligence is to protect Company Interests. *Corporate Intelligence*, is one of the most specialised disciplines of Intelligence, it requires specialised skills and equipment and must be instituted as a long-term preventative strategy.

The need for *Corporate Intelligence* and protection of *IP* is rapidly becoming a reality within Companies, having global business and/or financial interests. ACS aims to enhance governance, and to provide tailor made services to specific requirements which will enable Executive Personnel to make informed decisions timeously.

ACS offers Counter-measures for Commercial and Residential locations as well as for Vehicles and Aircrafts. On completion of the investigation, ACS provides clients with a detailed report of its findings, with recommendations for reducing exposure to *eavesdropping* and providing them with peace of mind in protecting their *IP*.

ACS believes that in order to protect the IP of a company, all possible pro-active measures should be taken to keep the information secret and protected therefore, out of the public domain. Companies should realise the potential value of what they may consider as mere day-to-day intangibles. These procedures and information should be seen as assets that may safeguard and ensure the future profitability of a company.

ACS has the *expertise* and *experience* to advise and assist with the implementation and maintenance of an *Intelligence Care Manager Programme* for their Corporate Clients. The *Intelligence Care Manager* will oversee all aspects of security implementation and will manage and integrate all systems involved.

## - BE PRO-ACTIVE -

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