

connect newsletter

Featured Article - Issue 2 - 2017

Increasing Demand for Workplace Security & Threat Response Preparedness

Recent events in the news, both locally and globally, highlight the need for workplaces to provide security and threat response training. It is essential that organisations and employees know what to do in a security threat situation, as it can have a profound impact on the outcome of a potentially dangerous situation.

Planning for Threats

Over recent years Australia has seen a rise in these types of incidents. As a result, First 5 Minutes has seen an increase in the number of clients requesting training in areas such as workplace security awareness and threat response management.

Previously threat training was only seen necessary for high-risk workplaces such as banks and law courts. However, we have also seen growing interest from our clients in other sectors such as commercial, education, hospitality, leisure, industrial and retail.

Recent incident cases include:

- January 21st 2017 - 6 people were killed and numerous others injured and traumatised in Melbourne, Victoria when a car was deliberately driven into pedestrians walking through Bourke St Mall in Melbourne CBD.
- April 7th 2017 - A service station employee was stabbed to death at work in Queanbeyan, New South Wales by two youths.
- May 16th 2017 - Four men using an axe and hammers committed a brazen daylight armed robbery at a jewellery store, located within Waverley Gardens Shopping Centre in Mulgrave, Melbourne.



Jewellery store armed robbery – Mulgrave VIC



Bourke St Mall Incident – Melbourne VIC

Potential Threats

There are multiple types of potential threats that workplaces and employees may encounter, including but not limited to:

- [Bomb Threats](#)
- [Hazardous Substance Threats](#)
- [Suspicious Packages](#)
- [Personal Threats](#)
- [Armed Intrusions/Robberies](#)
- [Hostage Situations](#)
- [Active Shooter Attacks](#)

All such threats should be considered real and handled with extreme caution.

Facility lockdowns have become a priority concern for many workplaces, due to events such as the Bourke Street Incident, earlier this year in Melbourne. In response to queries from facility owners, tenants and key stakeholders, building managers are now undertaking greater measures to enhance the level of security preparedness at their facilities.

For more information on security and threat response preparedness, [contact the First 5 Minutes Team](#).



Service station stabbing – Queanbeyan NSW