

Welcome to this edition of BOLO News. BOLO News is a monthly newsletter for law enforcement to share success stories and other information that may be pertinent in the ongoing fight against metals theft.

### ScrapTheftAlert.com Milestone Approaching

All of you registered with ScrapTheftAlert.com (STA) can see on the STA Home Page the number of registered users is nearing the 20,000 mark. Of this number, approximately 8,500 of the registered users are law enforcement. This is good news, but there is still a long way to go. The success of the system depends on the number of registered users accessing and using the site.

ISRI and its members, in an effort to be part of the solution, established STA in 2008 to provide law enforcement, recyclers, and property owners, an on-line theft alert system to combat metals theft. The use of this free of charge system has resulted in numerous arrests and the recovery of valuable stolen property since its inception. Due to input from law enforcement, the system was upgraded in 2014 to allow for easier registration and submission of alerts, added search capabilities, and a greater capacity for handling attachments.

The success of STA has not gone unnoticed by stakeholders. Six states – California, Colorado, New Mexico, Washington, Michigan, and Ohio – either mandate the use of STA by recyclers or identify STA as an appropriate system for recyclers to submit and / or receive alerts. While this increases metals theft awareness by recyclers, the full potential of STA can only be reached by increased usage of the system by law enforcement.

Many officers register with STA only when the need arises to submit an alert for stolen materials. However, feedback received by ISRI indicates some officers view the system as a good intelligence tool even if not being used to resolve a specific case. Officers have indicated STA provides them with current information on thefts occurring within the 100 mile default broadcast radius by identifying current "hot ticket" items being stolen in surrounding communities.

Officers working in metals theft units are encouraged to ask recyclers they come in contact with if they are registered with STA; not as a compliance or inspection issue, but rather to assist law enforcement in fighting metals theft. Likewise, recyclers should encourage law enforcement to do the same.

### Look for ISRI at Upcoming Law Enforcement Gatherings

As part of ISRI's ongoing effort to build awareness and work with law enforcement to tackle metals theft, ISRI will be participating at the following upcoming law enforcement conferences:



### Reader Poll

Have you encouraged co-workers or colleagues to register with ScrapTheftAlert.com?

- A.) Yes
- B.) No

**VOTE**

Last month we asked readers, "Have you worked with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service or any other federal agency on a metals theft investigation?"

Here are the results:

No	75%
Yes	25%

### **FBI Annual Training Conference and Exhibition**

*July 11-14, Seattle, WA*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 207.

### **Fraternal Order of Police National Conference**

*August 9-13, Pittsburgh, PA*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 314.

### **IACP Annual Conference and Exposition**

*October 24-27, Chicago, IL*

Look for ISRI on the exhibit show floor at booth 4855.

### **Metals Theft Tools and Resources Available at [StopMetalsTheft.org](http://StopMetalsTheft.org)**

StopMetalsTheft.org is a website hosted by the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI) that is intended to serve as a service and resource to law enforcement, prosecutors, recyclers, and other interested parties on the issue of metals theft. The site includes:

- Information about the crime of metals theft in the United States;
- A link to send a theft alert in your community;
- Tools for law enforcement, prosecutors and recyclers in addressing the crime;
- Information on state metals theft laws;
- Media coverage of the crime across the country
- Success stories in apprehending perpetrators; and
- Recycling industry information.

We encourage you to use this website as a resource for information about the crime and tools to assist in combating it.

### **In the News**

[Ohio Tops for Metal Thefts, but Crime Declines Nationally](#)

*The News Herald, July 5, 2015*

[Thieves Strip Metal from Highway Light Poles](#)

*Fox23.com, July 2, 2015*

[Fairfield Police Catch Man in Act of Stealing Copper from Vacant Home](#)

*Portland Press Herald, July 2, 2015*

### **Questions?**

Contact ISRI Director of Law Enforcement Outreach [Brady Mills](#) or call (202) 662-8526 for more information.



Voice of the Recycling Industry

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