Best Practice: Vehicle Identification Decals

Category:	Access Control
Location:	Sungai Udang Petronas Port Malacca, Malaysia
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Description: All employee vehicles are required to display an identification decal issued by the facility which identifies in which areas the vehicle is authorize to be parked or driven.

Discussion: The vehicle decals are color-coded, have expiration dates, serial numbers and indicate the purpose or ownership of the vehicle. The decal specifics are linked to the authorities granted to the owner or assigned driver of the vehicle, and the specific purpose of the vehicle. For instance, employees authorized to have full access to the all areas of the facility would be issued a decal similar to the one pictured above. A contractor decal has a different colored background and indicates the contractor vehicle purpose, such as "shuttle". All personnel entering the facility with a vehicle must present their personal facility identification card, and the guard at the gate compares the personal identification and vehicle decal for consistency. For added security to prevent tampering or theft, the decals are affixed to inside of the windshield.

Potential Down-side: The decals are permanently affixed to the vehicles until expired or removed due to an employee's termination, and therefore publicly identify the vehicle as having access to the facility. This may make the vehicle, the employee and the facility vulnerable if the decal or the car is stolen or if the decal is copied in an effort to gain unlawful entry.

Conclusion: The decals provide positive identification of vehicles authorized to enter to the facility and ensures vehicles do not enter unauthorized or restricted areas.

Cost: Moderate. Costs include the purchase and issuance of the color-coded and numbered identification badges, as well as personnel time for managing the system.