

## **Best Practice: Use of Night Vision Devices on Harbor Entrance**



<b>Category:</b>	Access Control
<b>Location:</b>	Port of Galle, Sri Lanka
<b>Date Observed:</b>	August 2006
<b>POC:</b>	Not available.
<b>Website:</b>	Not available.

- Description:** The use of Night Vision Devices at the waterside entrance to the harbor.
- Discussion:** The use of long range night vision glasses (NVG) at the harbor entrance allowed sentries to detect vessels approaching the harbor at night even if the vessel was running darkened ship. In addition, the NVG allowed for the detection of surface swimmers.
- Potential Down-side:** The position of night vision devices is practical in areas that do not have significant back lighting. If an area is used in a harbor with lighting across the harbor the light will interfere with the function of the NVG unless the NVG is a thermal imager. In addition, if there is a loss of power the NVGs used in this case are non-functional.
- Conclusion:** The use of NVG is a very effective way to prevent waterside intrusion specifically in areas where incursions by unlit small boats is common. The surrounding lighting greatly affects the utility of the devices and can shorten the serviceable life of the equipment.
- Cost:** The cost of night vision devices is dependant upon the generation of the device. Generation II devices have decreased in cost with the introduction of generation III devices. Gen II devices are relatively inexpensive compared to Gen III which can be very expensive. Gen III can range from \$10,000 (USD) to \$50,000 (USD) each.