

## **Best Practice: Shuttle Bus**



<b>Category:</b>	Security Infrastructure
<b>Location First Observed:</b>	Port of La Haina, Dominican Republic
<b>Date First Observed:</b>	November, 2004

**Description:** The facility requires all personnel working or visiting the facility to travel between facility areas on a facility owned and operated shuttle bus.

**Discussion:** A shuttle bus provides several benefits to the facility. It is a means for limiting pedestrian access to unauthorized areas and limiting random foot traffic around the facility. Certain facility areas can only be accessed via shuttle bus and the shuttle bus driver can be authorized to check employee ID tags for area access authorization before allowing them enter the area. Also, the shuttle driver is performing a constant roving patrol on the facility. The driver is aware of normal facility operations and personnel, and if trained properly and equipped with a radio, the driver can report suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity to the Security Force. A shuttle also eliminates the need for many employees, including disabled employees to drive their vehicles on the facility. Employee vehicles can be parked outside the facility, limiting the security risk and congestion associated with having dozens of employee vehicles inside the facility. The shuttle can also limit the potential for injuries to pedestrians from facility vehicles racing around blind corners or backing suddenly. The shuttle also provides a benefit to employees not inclined or able to walk around the facility, increasing employee efficiency and job satisfaction.

**Potential Down-side:** The cost to purchase, maintain and staff a shuttle bus can be considerable.

**Conclusion:** The usefulness of a shuttle bus is largely dependent on the size of the facility and the size of the workforce. On small facilities (smaller than 150 meters from the entrance to the dock) with less than 100 employees a shuttle would typically not be efficient. Large facilities (greater than 250 meters from the entrance to the dock) and greater than 250 employees would typically derive a considerable benefit from a shuttle bus. Depending on their size, layout, workforce, or other special circumstances, mid-size facilities may also significantly benefit from employing a shuttle bus.

**Cost:** Purchase: \$20-35,000 per shuttle bus. Staff: \$25-45,000 per year (One bus, eight hrs/day, five days/week) to \$150,000-300,000 per year (Two busses, fifteen hrs/day, seven days/week). Maintenance: \$2,000 per year for repairs and \$5,000 per year for fuel per each shuttle bus.

