



Presentation: Pieter van Dalen

City of Capetown copper theft task team:



The Copperheads



What I perceive to be the way to fight this phenomenon:

- The City Of Cape Town has in the financial year 2006\2007 lost approximately R 22 million of ratepayer's money, due to non-ferrous thefts.
- Since the establishment of the “Copperheads”, we have only recorded losses of R500 000.00 for the financial year 2007\2008.



The question in my mind today is:

- How can we fulfill this promise, when there are people and organizations out there that are.....
 - stealing and vandalizing our networks , equipment and the very services we work so hard to supply to their doorsteps.



The safety of the community:



- The safety of the communities out there is at risk every day
- Many persons are killed by these unsafe conditions
- Law enforcement officers have to risk their lives every day to try and prevent these dangerous situations and bring the criminals to book.



An excellent idea to form Private Public Partnership:

Organisations and Associations like

- SALGA
- AMEU
- SARPA
- BAC
- SAPS
- Chamber of Commerce



.....should assist in these campaigns.



Koperdiewe se draad geknip

HARRIET BOX
DIE diefstal van koperkabels is aan die toename in Kulluivier, maar die op- en afvalkeuse publisek wat verdagtes aanneem blyk 'n uitstekende teenvoet te wees vir die probleem.

Só se die Kulluivier-polisie na aanleiding van 'n voorval voorverlede Vrydag waar R20 000 se skade aangerig is.
Die verdagtes is omstreeks 06:00 deur die publisek media beskryf as 'n groep van drie

Die polisie is ontneem en bespreke van die sektor. 'n polisie na die sektoromstandighede het toe 'n bewysing van die polisie verdagtes persone bekome en 'n aanneem 17 en 27 opgetrewe.
Mr. Pieter van Dolen, 'n gemeenskapspolisiering, was die instrumenteel in die inbegreeping van die polisekareer in 'n oop stuk veld tussen die houe in Kulluivier.
Hulle was hier begin om die koperkabels

Media:

City cracks down on copper thieves

- We have had +_ 4.8 million Rand's worth of exposure in the media in the last 12 months.
- This powerful tool has done 50% of our work

City task team to tackle substation cable theft

WESLEY APRIL

Copperheads find new Telkom task team 'incompetent'

CARYN DOLLEY

WHILE a private security company which took over Telkom's copper cable theft probes last month from specialised investigators in Cape Town said it was handling the job "very well",

we know what we're doing and we're doing it very well. There are about 60 Sidas guards working with investigations for two years and we've found Sidas people who can't speak and don't know what to do when they arrive at a scene...

with Sidas. "The city has been with investigations for two years and we've found Sidas people who can't speak and don't know what to do when they arrive at a scene..."

11000 VOLL Kabeldief voel die gevaar aan sy bas

Die stede van die lang kassette het ons verneem die by houe in 'n substation probeer om te houe, 'n oop stuk veld

Ek steel vir geld

Gauteng: Middelpunt en grootste mark Koperdiefstal landwye probleem

IAN GERBER

Die Koperdiefstal, wat Eskom en Spoornet miljoene kade berokken, is 'n landwye met Gauteng as die mid-

NASIONALE KOPERDIEFSTAL-VOORVALLE EN VERVANGINGSVERLIESE VAN ESKOM, TELKOM EN SPOORNET

Mr. Leon van den Berg, nasionale van die Non-Ferrous Metal Committee (NFTC),

Taakspan bekryk kabeldiefstal



Zille involved in fight against cable theft

Co-operation promoted
The mayor involved the scrap metal industry to rout out dealers trading in stolen metals.

Koper: Verkoop vir herwinning Kabeldiefstal kos Kaapstad miljoene

Skroofterwe vra nie ID's soos verplig

UNA CUPIDO
BY RICHARD ROBERTS
KAAPSTAD - Kabeldiefstal het die Stad Kaapstad verlede jaar sowat R22 miljoen gekos.
Mr. Pieter van Dolen, 'n raadslid van die stad, het gesê kabeldiefstal is aan die toename in die Wes-Kaap. Volgens hom word daar gered by elektriese substaties ingebreek en word die gestolede drade aan skroofterwe verkoop.
"Die probleem is dat skroofterwe, geselverkeure en koperpepe, en dit is maklik bekome. Dit word aan skroofterwe verkoop en word daarna aan herwinningmaatskappye verkoop. Onwetende skroofterwe gee die wetlikes 'n slechte naam," het Meeling gesê.
Mr. Graham Barnett van SAMe

The illegal trade in non-ferrous metals:

- Some other strategic articles are also targeted like:

- ❖ drain covers

- ❖ solar panels

- ❖ water meters

- ❖ the latest addition is the theft of transformer oil



Damages cost more money.

- This is costing South Africa millions of Rand's on a daily basis, with networks that are not being able to function properly.
- The damage done by the thieves amount to considerably more than the value of the material stolen.



What the mayor said.....



- The multi-million rand theft of non-ferrous metal items will bring Cape Town 'to its knees'.
- She pledged the City Council's wholehearted commitment
- She has given us vehicles and personnel with a mandate to do what it takes to stop the theft of our infrastructure and to secure it for 2010.
- Copperheads successfully apprehended in excess of 200 thieves in the last 12 months.
- Cases go to court and convictions are not secured



The scrap industry:



Metal Recyclers Association of South Africa

- The scrap yard industry to clean up their act
- City to pursue civil action against scrap dealers
- The Scrap Dealers will really have to join the party, as the Law states clearly that the actions, or lack of actions, of any manager, agent or employee of a scrap dealer are presumed to be that of himself.
- Parliament to speed up the process legalizing the new Second Hand Goods Bill
- No political will to do this and I would be really surprised if this in fact happens in the next 12 months.

S A Metal

*non-ferrous
metals trader*



Other factors...

- Drug addicts commits 75% of all these crimes
- We must make it difficult for people to steal Service Providers property. If the criminals are not identified, we should leave services off in areas where supply networks are repeatedly stolen.
- Non-ferrous theft must be classified as 'serious organized crime' so that we can bring in the 'big guns'
- Representatives of the scrap metal industry with BAC to set up plan.
- City of Cape Town have now decided to rather do it on our own.
- During research we found that their strong points are their great teamwork and information-sharing network.
- We have also been able to detect when and where they are going to hit us next

Without knowledge the wheels will come off

- In order to counter such operations, we need to be better than the criminals
- We need to lose the perception that no one can be trusted and share knowledge.
- Please take note that

“Knowledge is power”.



This is how I see the way forward:

1. Non-ferrous theft combating Committee (NFTCC) must be empowered
2. The NFTCC should report to the Portfolio Committee of Safety and Security on a quarterly and annual basis
3. The NFTCC must be granted its own budget
4. The NFTCC should be chaired by the highest-ranking police officer responsible for the enforcement of the second-hand goods act.
5. People that can make decisions and enforce them.

SAPS: Crime codes



- Must reinstate the SAPS crime code for copper related thefts.
- The code was used in the capturing of crime information
- Without such as code, the copper cable theft is recorded in various different ways,
- Impossible to generate national or provincial statistics of copper cable theft.



Role-player: Training

- There must be a comprehensive training module on non-ferrous metal theft
- Such a module needs to be developed urgently to sensitise all the relevant levels of the court system.
- Without such training, the public prosecutors and judges frequently do not know how to proceed with effective prosecution and judging of such cases
- Training module for SAPS members, in particular detectives.
- Detectives must be trained on how to analyse and detect evidence
- Module must be incorporated into the basic training for all new SAPS recruits.

Greater export controls and duty's

- At the moment, customs inspection has been outsourced to private businesses,
- To inspect each and every container containing non-ferrous metals.
- All contracts must contain the requirement for container to be thoroughly inspected.
- Failure must carry some form of sanction, either in terms
- Export duty should be instated and the funds generated from the export duty could be channelled into a fund that businesses can claim from against
- For example, if a business suffered a loss of R1m during the course of one financial year, that business should be able to submit a claim to the export duty fund

Marking of goods

- All new copper cables should be marked
- Marking options that are available include micro-dotting and identifying groove markings.
- This is imperative as it is impossible to identify stolen copper cables once the casing has been stripped.
- The inability to properly identify stolen copper cables is one of the main reasons why stolen cables are able to leave the country undetected.
- I will be lobbying the council to start marking all items that are prone for thefts with Micro-dots.
- This will not only help us but other law- enforcement agency's to identify our goods.
- I am positive that when this become known we will have drastic decline in our thefts.

Second hand goods act

- The Second-hand Goods Bill must be expedited and regulations written this year.
- The bill contains several measures.....
- Traders in copper cables (non ferrous metal) have to obtain a license to operate,
- Maintain records
- Be subject to site inspections by the SAPS.
- This bill has dragged on for many years.

Specialized units like copperheads

- The SAPS needs to reinstate the specialised unit the old Truck Theft unit undertook this specialised work.
- This unit was closed down a few years ago as part of the general move to shut the specialised units
- Given the nature of copper cable theft, which requires the involvement of organised criminal activity, it is imperative that a specialised unit be set up to focus on these criminal activities
- Such a unit could be reporting to the Organised Crime branch in the SAPS.
- The failure to maintain specialised units within the police is an indictment on the ability to fight crime on a focused manner

Dealers licenses

- Many dealers in non ferrous metals have applied to the SAPS for licenses in terms of the current Second-hand Goods Act,
- They have not been issued with their licenses
- Many dealers are operating illegally with a receipt from the SAPS
- Such interim measures make it impossible to hold dealers to account.
- Ensure that all applications for licenses are dealt with within a maximum 3 months period.

Conclusion

- Decisive action needs to be taken
- Unless proper steps are taken,
- Continuing theft of copper cable will undermine economic growth and development in South Africa.

Parliamentary Questions

- **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

- **QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**



- **34. Mr P van Dalen (DA) to ask the Minister of Trade and Industry:**

- (1) (a) What is the (i) total weight and (ii) value of (aa) all metal, (bb) copper, (cc) copper alloy and (dd) aluminium that was exported from all ports in each of the past five years and (b) what proportion of this was (i) newly mined and (ii) scrap metal and (c) to which countries were these metals exported;
- (2) Whether any income in the form of export duties was derived out of these exports; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) Whether (a) copper, (b) copper alloy and (c) aluminium are imported; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, (a) why and (b) how much in each case?NW36E

Exports		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
All Metals	Value (R bill)	56,257	57,709	66,325	86,277	114,429
	Total Weight (Tons)	10,448,360	15,112,831	12,259,182	11,304,438	10,391,800
Copper	Value (R bill)	1,181	1,866	4,004	5,223	5,687
	Total Weight (Tons)	70,619	92,500	135,451	130,817	113,934
Copper Alloy	Value (R bill)	0,24	0,44	0,52	1,06	0,83
	Total Weight (Tons)	21,498	15,965	24,771	28,986	20,634
Aluminium	Value (R bill)	9,778	10,819,233	13,169,011	16,572,326	16,720,892
	Total Weight (Tons)	164,689	243,424	205,533	157,239	179,053
Scrap Metal	Value (R bill)	2,595	4,166	7,581	11,144	17,312
	Total Weight (Tons)	858,499	1,200,963	1,360,915	1,713,665	2,709,309

(b) In reply to the second part of the question, the proportion of scrap metal to all metals during 2008 was 26, 07%. Currently, the largest export destinations for scrap metal have been Malaysia, India, South Korea, China, Taiwan and the EU.

(2) As export duties are not applicable and cannot be levied by Customs and Excise, no income was received by the South African Revenue Services in the form of export duties.

(3) Based on statistics provided by Customs and Excise, imports for copper, copper alloy and aluminium have been as follows:

Imports		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Copper	Value (R million)	777,300	947,000	1,762,400	2,093,900	2,434,800
	Total Weight (Tons)	39,425	36,000	40,528	45,550	37,481
Copper Alloy	Value (R million)	312,900	246,300	259,000	335,000	399,400
	Total Weight (Tons)	608	483	673	8,023	1,037
Aluminium	Value (R million)	811,000	1,040,100	1,423,900	1,710,200	2,201,700
	Total Weight (Tons)	31,323	49,781	65,619	69,710	49,644