

Leica Geosystems **TruStory** Stolen & recovered within 3 hours

What is LOC8?

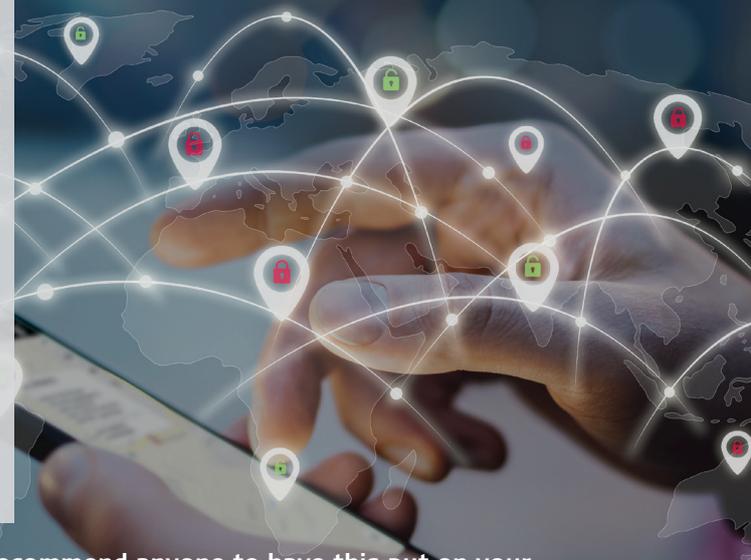
LOC8 is an asset protection and anti-theft solution integrated into select Leica Geosystems Total Stations that incorporates the latest positioning and communications technologies. Providing precise positioning, both indoors and outdoors, understand where assets are.

How does LOC8 work?

LOC8 provides precise positioning by GPS when outside or with sufficient GPS satellites in view, aided by A-GPS, IP address of a WiFi router in a building or mobile phone cell positioning (trilateration). The position is then sent via an integrated 3G module with international roaming SIM card to the server so the latest position may be recorded and tracked.

"I have never really thought about LOC8 but would 100% recommend anyone to have this put on your equipment. It has quite clearly saved us a lot of money and myself a lot of hassle. Ideally it would be great for the instrument not to be stolen however this is the next best option, retrieving stolen equipment within 3 hours."

James Barnes – Setting Out Engineer at PLP Construction Ltd



Stolen & recovered within 3 hours

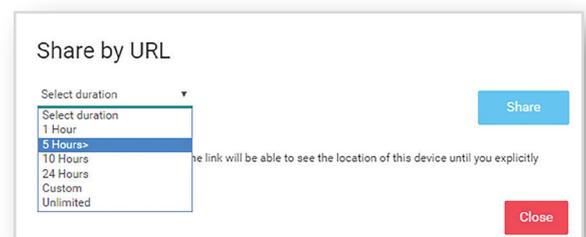
After a long week and a hard day's work on a Friday evening in June 2019 on a building site in Manchester, PLP Construction's site engineer had packed up his kit and tools and loaded it into his van and headed to the gym on his way home. After a workout in the gym, on return to his van, it quickly became clear the hired Leica TS16 was missing and had been stolen. The theft was reported to Greater Manchester Police and a crime reference number was provided.



As the equipment was on hire from M&P Survey Equipment Ltd, a call was made out of hours to their hiredesk

to notify. As all of their state-of-the-art TS16 hire fleet is protected by **LOC8**, the hiredesk immediately logged into the web portal and checked the status of the reported stolen equipment.

An up-to-the-minute on-demand position was requested and the position update rate set to every 1 minute to follow the stolen goods. The live position was then shared to PLP Construction using a link that displays on a Google Maps page without the need to login to the owner's account or the manual sending of map screenshots.



The **LOC8** enabled TS16 was tracked and observed to stop at a fast food restaurant before continuing to a residential address to the west where it remained stationary. **LOC8** clearly pinpointed the address and PLP Construction's site engineer contacted the police, this time in the jurisdiction of Lancashire Police and explained a high value asset was stolen and tracked and now stationary. Lancashire Police identified the address was registered to a known offender and a police officer was despatched and arrived within 10 minutes.

Whilst a police officer confronted a person returning to the property, suspecting that the other people within the property may run off, the engineer went to observe from the front.

An occupant at the property emerged from the house and hurried back inside. The engineer then alerted the police officer of his concerns that the occupants of the property may abscond.

The individual that the police were talking to was told by an occupant of the property to hand over the boxes to the police. They were then warned not to steal any surveying equipment again as it is always tracked. No arrests were made at the time as the investigation is still ongoing as a joint operation between the two police forces.

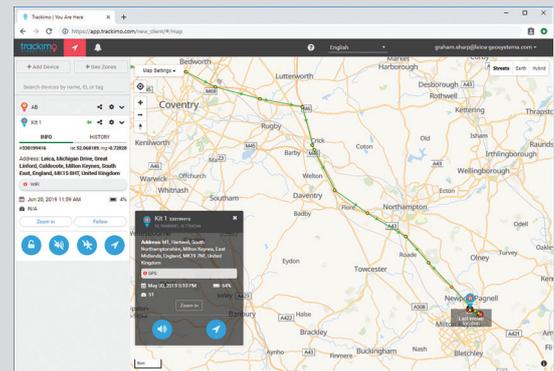
The police are currently collating evidence to build a prosecution, the TS16 was returned to PLP Construction's site engineer without adding any further inconvenience such as impounding the stolen equipment for forensic analysis.

From the web portal, the day's tracking history was exported with timestamps and Google Maps position links where the route taken was shown allowing the timestamp for the stop at the fast food restaurant to be queried to request corresponding CCTV footage to assist in the reconstruction of the timeline following the theft.

Acknowledgements

Leica Geosystems would like to thank M&P Survey Equipment Ltd, PLP Construction, Lancashire Police and Greater Manchester Police for their prompt assistance, contributions and permissions to reproduce images in this TruStory and the successful recovery of a theft.

What if there was not a happy ending?



In the rare event of a **LOC8** enabled asset being lost or stolen and not able to be recovered quickly, for instance the position is reporting as overseas, then **LOC8** provides the peace of mind that the asset owner is able to remotely lock the device, rendering it inoperable and useless. Any individual then in the chain of handling stolen goods can neither sell nor use it, providing a zero return on investment (ZROI). Repeated cases of ZROI will make serial offenders think twice before targeting the same equipment.

In the event of a successful recovery, the rightful owner still has the control to remotely unlock their asset and return it to productive service.

What else is possible?

A simple, yet powerful function of the **LOC8** service is the use of GeoFences. By setting a virtual boundary around a work site, office or specific location; be easily notified if a **LOC8** enabled device enters or leaves the GeoFenced area. Notifications are available as email, SMS text message and push-notifications in the mobile phone app and remove the need to constantly check manually to be aware of asset locations.

More on LOC8

The above TruStory clearly portrays the value of **LOC8** in the fight against crime. **LOC8** is available at the time of writing (June 2019) on TS13 and TS16 Total Stations with more models to follow. **LOC8** is available on new instruments and retrofittable as a service workshop upgrade to existing instruments. Contact your supplier to learn more.

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- when it has to be **right**

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