

InstaKey Statement on Key Bumping....

The recent rash of publicity over the subject of key bumping has many of our clients calling with concerns over their InstaKey systems. As such, we felt it important to publish a statement on our website with respect to bumping and InstaKey.

Key bumping has been possible for a century. It is nothing more than another way to pick a lock open. Lock picks, picking guns, incidental key picking, etc. have all been means to gain access to mechanical pin/tumbler locks. It is not a new subject – only publicizing it in the manner being done recently is new.

Reputable lock manufacturers have spent years of research developing their products to resist these techniques. Most have a “high security” line of cylinders available that are pick resistant. InstaKey has its high security line as well. High security cylinders, however, are expensive – often cost prohibitive for most situations.

That brings us to standard duty cylinders – the most common cylinder used in the commercial market. Again, most reputable manufacturers have developed techniques that minimize picking but the fact remains that all standard duty, commercial grade, pin/tumbler type mechanical cylinders can be defeated. They are no where near as easy or prone to picking techniques as 5-pin residential grade locks, but can be defeated.

InstaKey believes it has done its best to minimize the risk of any type of picking including key bumping in its standard duty line of cylinders. InstaKey utilizes:

- Restricted key blanks - making access to the key blanks themselves (a necessary ingredient to bumping) very difficult;

- Designed use of spooled driver pins, mushroom drivers, InstaKey wafer stacks, etc. all proven effective in minimizing picking of all types;

- Mathematical system design methods (that includes code randomization as well as key picking filtration techniques) again proven to be effective in increasing pick resistance; and

- Very tight tolerances in the machining of its cylinders preventing sloppy, accidental actuation of the lock cylinder.

If you have any concerns or specific questions about key bumping, please contact an InstaKey Representative.