

2017 New York City Attack

On 1 November 2017, a rental pickup truck was driven at full speed down a busy bicycle path in lower Manhattan, which was also near to the site where the 9/11 terror attack happened in 2001.

The pickup truck slammed into innocent pedestrians, joggers and cyclists, before crashing into a school bus with at least four passengers onboard. The attacker was shot by the police after he got off the vehicle with a paintball gun and a pellet gun. 8 people were killed, and 11 seriously injured.

Managing Risks of Vehicles being used as a Terror Tool

Vehicles have become a common tool in terror acts. Europe alone had seen at least five similar mode of attacks happened over the past eighteen months. Singapore, with almost a million vehicles plying our roads, is not immune from such attacks.

While it is comparably difficult to detect such an attack as it does not require elaborate planning and could easily blend in under the guise of a typical activity (driving) that occurred daily, there are still measures which could help prevent or mitigate the impacts. For businesses managing vehicle fleets, here are some pointers to think about as part of your risk management plan:

- Develop processes to secure and account for vehicles fleets, especially heavy vehicles
- Train your employees and ensure that the above processes are strictly abided by
- Look into technologies which can help stop vehicles from being misused once detected, e.g. lockdown of vehicle

Mitigating Potential Disruption Due to Terror Attacks

Businesses also need to be prepared for the disruption that may be caused by a terror attack. To develop such capabilities, you can consider:

- Adopting the recommendations under the SGSecure Guide for Workplaces <http://www.mom.gov.sg/~media/mom/documents/employment-practices/sgsecure/sqsecure-guide-for-workplaces.pdf?la=en>
- Sign up for the enhanced bizSAFE training at www.wshc.sg/bizSAFE. You will learn about the risk management measures to prevent an attack.
- Encourage your stakeholders to register their SGSecure rep with MOM at www.mom.gov.sg/sgsecure to receive the latest updates and advisories
- Check if your building's managing agent is a member of the Safety and Security Watch Group and request to be updated on the information provided.