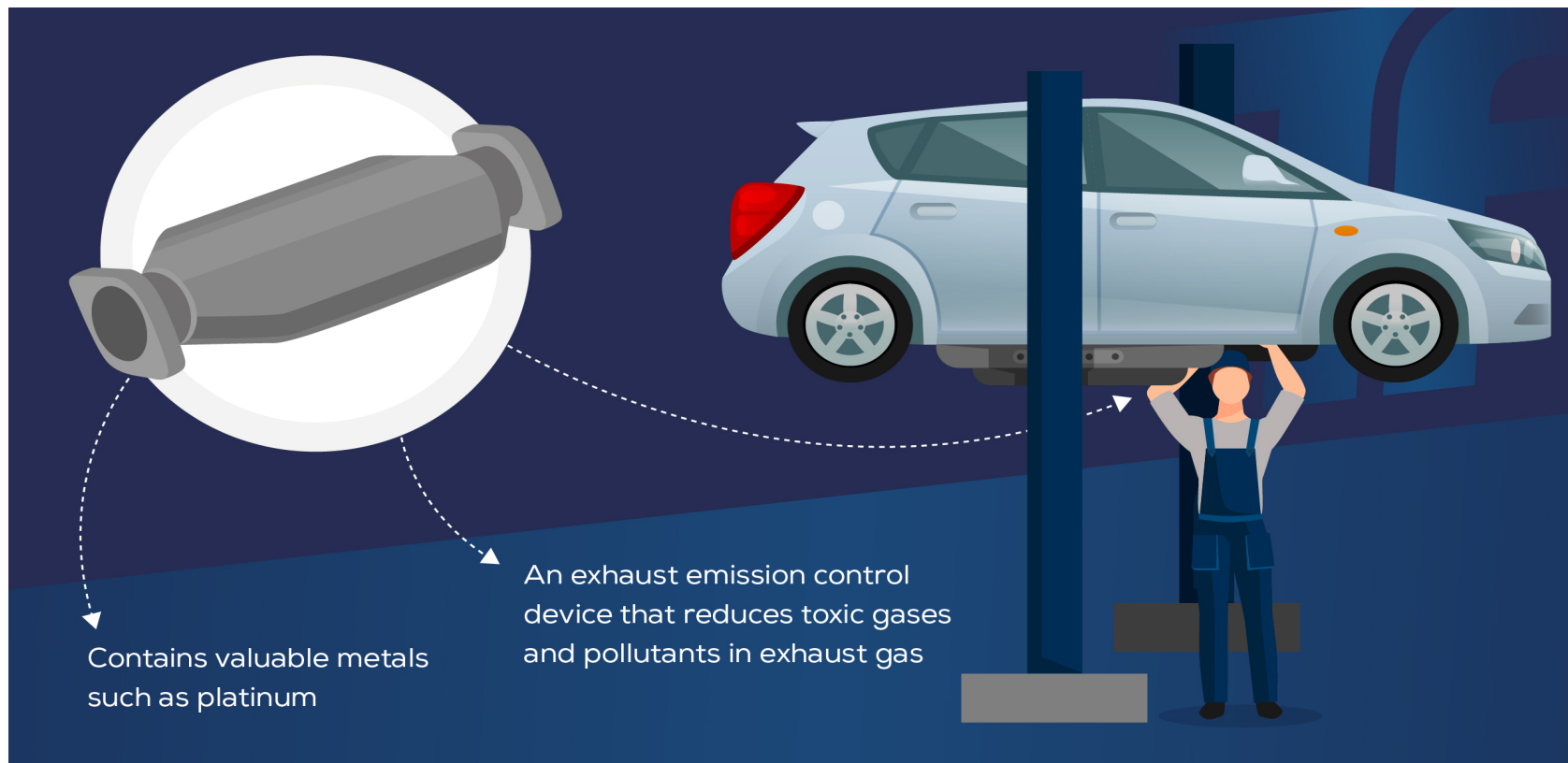




CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS ON THE RISE

What is a Catalytic Converter?



Catalytic converters help clean your car's exhaust emissions using chemical reactions with precious metals like Platinum, Rhodium and Palladium.

How is it removed?



Thieves use trolley jacks to lift up the vehicles and cut the converters in less than two (2) minutes.

How to Prevent Theft?

1. Lock your car in a garage when parked at night.
2. When using a garage is not possible, park close to fences, walls or a kerb with the exhaust closest to the fence, wall or kerb to make theft difficult.
3. Consider fitting CCTV on your home or driveway, to help deter thieves.
4. Use PIR or LED security lighting to make your vehicle more visible; this can also act as a deterrent.
5. If your catalytic converter is bolted on, consider having the bolts welded to make removal difficult.
6. Fit protective coverings on catalytic converters, such as Secured by Design accredited CATLOC devices, as these can make it much more difficult for thieves.
7. Have your catalytic converter etched or forensically marked. Mark your catalytic converter with SELECTA MARK permanent visible marking - etch a unique serial number onto your catalytic converter so it can be easily identified if it is stolen. You'll also be provided with a sticker to be displayed in your window that indicates your catalytic converter is marked, which prevents offenders from targeting your vehicle.

Advice to Victims and Witnesses

Do **NOT** approach the suspects as they will be armed with tools to remove the converter; tools which they may threaten to use on you!

Try to deter them by turning on lights or shouting out of windows; however in recent incidents these deterrents don't appear to work.

We advise that you ring police on 999 as quickly as you can and provide the operator, in as much detail as possible, with the suspects' description and the registration number of any vehicle they are seen using.

Try to record what you can on your phone.

Useful Links

Secured by Design www.securedbydesign.com

Met Police www.met.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/catalytic-converter-theft/

The AA www.theaa.com/driving-advice/security/catalytic-converter-theft

Crime Stats www.met.police.uk/sd/stats-and-data

Police.UK www.police.uk

