Press Release

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Venue: The Excelsior Grand Hotel

Business Breakfast Overview

At a business breakfast held at the Excelsior Grand Hotel on the 31st January 2008, Dr. Saviour Formosa Ph.D. presented an overview of criminological analysis methods and results as based on a decade of his intensive research about crime in Malta. The activity also served to launch the CrimeMalta which aims to provide easily comprehensible crime information inclusive of Malta's first crime maps, surveys and research services. The results of the research, the website and its services serve as a base for more information on crime in Malta which is essential to professionals in the field, security and insurance agencies, local councils, academia and the general public.

During the event, Dr. Formosa presented an interpretation of his study and its results, which provides an understanding of crime trends in the Maltese Islands, including the incidence of crime, a criminological study of RISC and crime trends by locality. The methodologies presented covered the CRISOLA Model which integrates crime, social and landuse analysis, whilst the RISC Model covered the risk potential of crime for global, residential and vehicular categories.

CrimeMalta Website

The CrimeMalta Website brings you real crime analysis based on 10 years of research. In a study initiated in 1997, crimes from 1950 to date have been digitised to help create analytical tables and charts that are easy to understand and review.

Using state-of-the-art technology (GIS - Geographical or Spatial Information Systems), crime reported to the Malta Police Force since 1998 have been mapped based on the offence location. This process enables spatio-temporal analysis of crimes in Malta by the location they occur in, when they are committed and the potential link to the place they occur in.

A Web-GIS of Maltese Crime will enable users to browse and print maps of crime at different spatial layers such as districts, local councils, enumeration areas and other levels based on the NUTS (administrative units classification) nomenclature.

Gauging a towns' risk of crime is a complex process, which result is best reviewed in that town's relative position to the national crime rate as based on a scientific process reviewing observed and expected (predicted) rates for the diverse socio-economic, landuse and crime parameters.

Another feature being developed in this site is the dynamic RISC Model for the Maltese Islands. This Model enables the creation of a league table of local councils as they experience offences over time. In addition, it also allows the generation of statistical and spatio-statistical outputs.

The RISC MODEL investigates each town and village in Malta at NUTS 5 level (Local Councils) of which there are 68 in the Maltese Islands: 54 in Malta and 14 in Gozo.

Based on data from 1998 onwards, each town is analysed for its risk of crime on an annual basis by types of crime of which there are 18 main categories: 17 thematic categories and a Grand Total category. The risk of crime looks at the offences in each town and gauges its risk of offence as against the national rate.

The analysis' results is a league table of Maltese town's risk of crime. The result shows those Local Councils that are the safest to live in, the ones in between and those that are the worst off.

CrimeMalta offers a service to property buyers through an analysis of the area they plan to acquire a property. The service creates an awareness of the risk new property owners face before they can actually move in and gauge the rate of dangerousness in an area for such offences as theft from residence, vehicle theft, overall crime rates, etc.

More detailed RISC information is available on request.

CrimeMalta Background

CrimeMalta has been set up specifically to create a medium for crime-related information and to serve as a Maltese focal point for the reduction of crime and spreading awareness on safety.

Based on the research initiated in 1997, the project that developed into CrimeMalta has striven to prepare the base structures for understanding crime in the Maltese Islands, employing high-end technologies, as based on spatio-temporal approaches. CrimeMalta

managed to create the social and spatial datasets that helped develop the use of GIS in the field of crime, which has yet to be taken up at national level.

The CRISOLA and RISC Models were developed by Dr. Saviour Formosa as part of his PhD research.

Biography

Saviour Formosa has a Ph.D in spatio-temporal environmental criminology, having read for a MSc in GIS, a BA(Hons) in Sociology, and a Diploma in Applied Social Sciences. Dr. Formosa's career spans a number of fields inclusive of spatial information, sociological research, ageing studies and spatial analytical research. He is a lecturer at the University of Malta, lecturing in criminology, statistics, spatial and social planning, informatics, GIS and web-based technologies.

He has managed a number of national and international projects within the social, spatial planning, environment and IS fields. His main expertise lies in the implementation of cross-thematic approaches and uses to the data cycle and management with emphasis in the thematic and spatial data structures, visualisation, modelling, web-mapping, analysis and dataflow management and reporting.

His spatial interest stems from research in information management with full data-cycle, GIS Strategy and operations, research in spatio-socio-landuse-technic fields, project management, policy making, demographic and housing projections, flow monitoring, data protection management, visualisation and other information-related requirements.

Launch Support - G4S Security Services (Malta) Ltd.

As a leader in the security industry, and a provider of secure solutions, G4S is proud to support CrimeMalta in the launch of their new website. G4S Security Services (Malta) Ltd. is part of the Group 4 Securicor plc group of companies. G4S Security Services Malta Ltd. P.O. Box 89, Marsa, MALTA, C23007

G4S is the world's leading provider of security solutions:
- providing security guards to individuals, businesses, governments and sporting events
- installing and maintaining security equipment
- transporting cash (notes and coins) and valuables between businesses, banks and ATMs
- providing security consultancy and training to help people reduce their risk

Other facts about G4S

- Operations in over 100 countries

- Formed in 2004 from the merger between Securicor plc and Group 4 Falck A/S's security business.
- Listed on the London Stock Exchange (stock symbol: GFS) with a secondary listing in Copenhagen.
- The largest employer listed on the London Stock Exchange
- Turnover from continuing operations for the half year from January - June 2007 was £2,263.9 million (2006: £2,025.3m). PBITA for the same period was up 15.9% to £139.5 million (2006: £120.4 m)
- Number of employees in Malta over 300 staff

Security Services

Our security services model is built on our broad range of specialist services, which enables us to manage risk, security and safety for our customers. This combined security solutions offering, under one organisational structure and in tandem with our diverse geographical reach, allows us to provide customers with a unique approach.

Physical security and security systems are becoming increasingly linked.
Whilst demand for electronic security systems is growing, in most cases these systems still require the presence, on site or remotely, of guards.

G4S meets customers' demands for a complete security solution with flexible combinations of:
- manned security
- electronic security
- risk assessment and training

Our global reach and combined experience allows us to provide security solutions to:
- governments
- public authorities
- commercial companies
- retail and industry

G4S is also involved in shaping public policy around security issues - see our Security Regulation section on the G4S website.