



## CARRIAGES/TRAPS and DRIVING HARNESS

The security of your carriage/trap and harness is very important, whether it is at your yard, at a show or wherever you store it when not in use.

As well as being expensive, many items can be specific to your horse and would be hard to replace such as carriages, traps or harness specifically made or adapted to fit your horse.

- Marking your harness, plus other tack, carriage/trap and other equipment allows you to have a way of identifying your property and prove to the police that it belongs to you. It will also help deter thieves from stealing it.
- Mark your property visibly where possible:
  - ❖ Harness and tack can be stamped and synthetic items can be engraved.
  - ❖ You can also invisibly mark your tack and equipment with the use of chemical solutions such as Smartwater, Selecta DNA, etc. With leather, put the solution in any thread where it has been stitched. It is important to keep a record of where you have marked your items and regularly check it is still working.
  - ❖ Visible marking methods can also be used, if required, but consider what and how and may devalue some items. This can be done with permanent markers, epoxy paint, transfers, labels, etc.

*Whether visibly or invisibly applying a marking solution/method of any kind do a patch test first.*

- ❖ Consider having a tracker and microchips on your carriage/trap and harness.
- ❖ When not in use your harness, carriage and trap should be locked away in a secure area.
- ❖ Consider CCTV and alarms.
- ❖ Secure your carriage/trap with a chain and locks and place an object or vehicle in front of it so that it cannot be easily hitched up and taken.
- ❖ There are items on the market specific for assisting with security such as saddle bars, locks and guards, look into these and consider as part of your target hardening approach.
- Keep a record of all of your property, including taking photographs and close ups of all markings and identifiable marks such as scratches etc. (A record form is available that you could use on this website).
- Put up signs saying that your property is marked.