

Fighting site theft the smart way

# UK Connect rolls out IoT across Crest Nicholson developments

For our client:



**CREST  
NICHOLSON**



# Transforming site security

Crest Nicholson partnered with UK Connect to combat boiler theft using IoT at its new-build sites.

## Intelligent theft protection

**UK Connect has armed Crest Nicholson's boilers with cutting-edge IoT trackers that instantly alert site managers and local authorities the moment a unit is moved or tampered with - turning every boiler into a smart, self-reporting security asset.**

The rollout is now underway across Crest Nicholson developments in the Midlands and beyond.

IoT technology is proving to be a powerful deterrent against the surge in construction site thefts that continue to plague Britain's housebuilders.

In January, North Yorkshire Police reported the theft of over 20 boilers from a single site - resulting in losses of approximately £300,000. Just a few months later, in April, Warwickshire Police responded to

another incident where 30 boilers were stolen from a new-build development.

By May, the issue had escalated to prosecution, with the Crown Prosecution Service charging a suspect accused of stealing six boilers from a site in Gedling.

These cases highlight the growing need for smarter, tech-driven security solutions and IoT is stepping up to meet that challenge.



## About our client

Crest Nicholson is a leading UK residential housebuilder, operating primarily in the South of England and the Midlands, with a clear focus on the mid-premium segment of the housing market.

Their business is underpinned by a high-quality, strategically located land portfolio that aligns closely with market demand and evolving consumer needs.

They are committed to delivering well-designed, sustainable homes and vibrant communities, combining architectural excellence with a disciplined and efficient approach to development.

## The solution

The trackers notify site teams when a boiler has been tampered with, meaning they can respond quickly to try to prevent damage to any plots and to secure the site.

In the event of theft or tampering, alerts for movement, tamper, and geo-fence breach will notify the relevant site managers/contacts via email, SMS and phone call.

The site team can then respond to the alert. If the alert is outside of working hours, the site team will then alert the police who will visit to secure the site.

The main purpose is to prevent any further damage to a plot from excessive flooding when a boiler is stolen. The tracker also allows for the possibility to recover stolen boilers.

### A major cost saving

PJ Farr, CEO of UK Connect, said: "The theft of boilers has become a major issue for housebuilders across Britain. And hundreds of thousands of pounds are being wasted as a result."

"We passionately believe in the power of technology to save housebuilders time and money by freeing them up to concentrate on what they do best – build houses."



Our trackers will help detect in real time boiler theft and provide a real deterrent to those thinking they can get away with such a costly crime.

Driven by a belief in smarter building, we harness technology to free housebuilders to focus on what truly matters: crafting tomorrow's communities.

**PJ Farr**  
**MD & Chief Executive Officer, UK Connect**