

# Tips on how to avoid hijackings

A recent incident involving a customer of Matrix Vehicle Tracking, whom hijackers tried to force off the road, has prompted Matrix to issue advice to motorists about ways they can neutralise possible hijacking situations.

- Stay alert at all times and make regular use of rear view mirrors.
- If you suspect that you are in a hijacking situation, immediately alert your vehicle tracking company.

- Drive straight to the nearest SAPS station - when would-be hijackers realise where you are headed they will often give up.
- If it is not possible to find a police station or if you do not have the time to do so, the first rule is to not do anything rash as most hijackers are armed.
- If you can draw attention to yourself by keeping your hand on the hooter, this is the first step to drawing attention to your plight and putting off would-be hijackers.
- Ensure all doors and windows are locked and closed while driving.
- Vary your route to places you travel to regu-

larly like work, gym and school - hijackers are professional too and plan their attacks carefully.

- "We find many of our customers find themselves boxed in, and ensuring you leave adequate space between yourself and the car in front of you at a stop or traffic light will enable you to make an easy getaway if there is any trouble," says Han-nelie Snow, Communications Officer for Matrix Vehicle Tracking.

- Do not be fooled by hijackers who may stage a minor accident. If your car is bumped from the back and you do not feel comfortable, do not leave the car but rather carry on and drive straight to the nearest police station.

