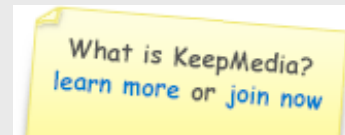


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Remember when building security meant doing what the tenant asked for? Recent events have caused building security to take a more pro-active approach.

When seeking to be pro-active, questions arise: What threats do we need to protect against? How much will it cost? What standards need to be met?

The first step is to look at the information, or intelligence, that building owners and managers have access to.

A building manager or owner can feel frustrated when asked by the government to “become hyper-vigilant” or to be in “an increased state of awareness” during a national alert — especially if there is no supporting information or even an idea of what to look for. Building managers, owners and security directors are then asked to spend millions of dollars to be better prepared.

But be prepared for what? Should every building owner expect that a Bin Laden-funded group could attack their building? The simple answer is no, unless the facility has been identified as a potential target.

The real problem is understanding the threat and knowing what needs to be done to prevent it. In the event that the threat .../continued/

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