

## **Police warn public about card skimming at ATMs**

Police are urging members of the public to be cautious when using automatic teller machines (ATM) following a report of a card skimming operation in Brisbane City. On February 21 an alert member of the public discovered a skimming device attached to the ATM he was about to use in the vicinity of Brisbane's Myer Centre. After removing the device, he was approached by three men who grabbed the device from him and walked away. The Queensland Police Fraud and Corporate Crime Group are currently investigating the skimming device incident.

Detective Acting Inspector Graham Clark said this activity involved the insertion of an electronic skimming device inside or across the card entry slot of an ATM. "When a member of the public inserts their card into the ATM, the skimming device reads and records the information which is stored on the rear magnetic strip of the card," Detective Acting Inspector Clark said. "This information can then be used to fraudulently create cards to transact upon the victim's bank account," he said.

Detective Acting Inspector Clark said the skimming incident is a timely reminder about card security and for members of the public using ATMs to be vigilant and check the card slot prior to inserting their card. "If any person notices anything suspicious at an ATM they are advised to not use the machine and report the matter immediately. "We also urge people to regularly check their bank statements and report any suspicious activity to their financial institution," Detective Acting Inspector Clark.

Police have released security footage of three men who may be able to assist police in relation to the skimming device incident on February 21. The three men are described as follows:

1. Male, Eastern-European appearance and accent, clean shaven, 173cm, solid build, wearing blue polo top with dark stripe across the chest, light-blue ¾ length shorts.
2. Male, Eastern-European appearance, clean shaven, 175cm, medium build, wearing a blue t-shirt and dark ¾ length shorts
3. Male, Caucasian appearance, goatee beard and moustache, 175cm, medium build, wearing a white peak cap, white short-sleeve shirt and white ¾ length shorts.

**Anyone with information which may assist police with their investigations is asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.**