

LSS+ (Locks Safes and Security Version 5.0) Government Level by Marc Weber Tobias Esq., B.S., J.D. Member ASIS, ABA, AFTE, IAI, ALOA, SAVTA, APA, AAFS, IAIL, Former Chief of Organized Crime Unit, OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, State of South Dakota. This is a 14 CD, 9GByte Infobase available from ALOA, MBA, or www.security.org. \$350-\$600 depending upon the security level required.

This is the Government multimedia edition of **Locks Safe and Security**, a definitive treatise that is built around a sophisticated search engine. It contains the 1400 page hardbound edition of the book, together with more than 5000 images, sixty hours of audio and video, and web links for current information that is critical for every security manager. Marc Weber Tobias is a member of ASIS and an investigative Attorney in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He has made it his life's work to provide information to those who "need to know", and after thirty years of researching the globe for weaknesses in security procedures and fault in physical security devices and systems, he has compiled this text, which I believe to be THE reference for law enforcement and industry. The first edition of his book was published in 1970; the second edition in 2001. The multimedia version, which is the subject of this review, was first released in 2002, with the latest update in July 2004. LSS+ actually contains four books, all related to the topics of locks and security systems, and all are indexed for instant access to information.

A major benefit of this fourteen-volume CD set is the search engine that provides multiple references from simple to complex queries. It allows the security professional to retrieve extremely detailed information in the form of text, graphics, audio and video files, all woven together to allow the reader to traverse an incredibly broad range of topics covering high security circumvention of the latest technical security devices and alarm systems. The author doesn't just recognize the advantages of systems but goes into detail about weaknesses and compromise of security applications. He just might help you recognize the holes that exist in your secured facility that look like Swiss cheese to an expert criminal.

Government agencies utilize this version of **LSS+** as a reference about an incredible array of information from forensics to a means of gathering evidence about high tech burglaries when researching modes of entry into secured areas. It is a dictionary of definitions in the security world, it is a history book of property protection, and an encyclopedia of who's who in the loss prevention realm of experts. Containing a plethora of information, it examines in great detail the tools that are used in covert and forced attacks and describes the evidence left by would be successful criminals. I found the integration of audio and video files to be an excellent learning tool, especially the demonstrations of bypassing high security locks and master key systems. The ability to view experts from all over the world talking about the use of specialized tools and techniques to open locks and safes was extraordinarily valuable.

Security equipment manufacturers, providers, and installers refer to Locksmith version of **LSS+** as a guide for applications of their hardware as compared to the alternative technologies available. In many instances video is offered from the inventors themselves.

The CD set becomes a guide to the selection of security devices as well as tools needed to bypass locks and alarm systems. The Government version also contains very specific information regarding the bypass of high security locks and safes, together with approximately thirty hours of video showing specific opening techniques, as well as the circumvention of alarm systems. Due to the sensitive nature of the information, this version is only available to government agencies and contractors.

The author provides the most detailed examination of the vulnerabilities of master key systems that has been written. He not only examines the theory of the different approaches to master keying but has presented the tactical aspects of defeating these systems. This is must reading for every facilities manager, because virtually every system is vulnerable. Mr. Tobias not only describes the methods to compromise these systems, but also the ways in which they can be effectively protected. But then, as if that were not enough, he discusses the methods to defeat the more sophisticated ways to protect the systems.

Because of the sensitive nature of this text and the need to limit access to the general public, the user is required to install the disk set by obtaining an unlock code after registering with www.securitylaboratories.org. There are three security levels (PUBLIC, LOCKSMITH, GOVERNMENT) depending upon the requirements of the reader and need to access certain restricted information. I would recommend that your computer have a minimum of 256 MB ram, especially if you are running XP. Some of the video files are quite large and require lots of memory.

As one who has been actively involved in the security business for over twenty-five years and having responsibility of directing the installation of security systems for the highest security applications, I can recommend LSS+ to my fellow security associates everywhere. This work does not just cover American hardware and technology but deals with locks and safes that are utilized throughout the world. It is a treasure trove of information that should prove of immense value to the security professional.

Reviewer: David D Daily CPP is the founder and part owner of Dakota Security Systems Inc, a nation-wide installer of physical security equipments since 1979. He is a longtime member of ASIS, past chapter chairman, and current chapter secretary for Chapter 189.