



The pharmaceutical robot sits behind the counter to left as one of the pharmacy's fog cannons peeks down from the upper right-hand corner of the photograph.

From left to right: Lisbet Høgh (Kolind Pharmacy, the region's newest pharmacy), Lars Almsten (Almsten Sikring), Martin Skaar Jacobsen (Protect), and Morten Werner (KLS Nordic, which supplied the robot).

Blanket Protection for the Robot As Well As the Medicine

Having had positive experiences with fog security in the past, a pharmacist has decided to install fog cannons at her new centre of operations. The fog is compatible both with the medicine and the pharmaceutical robot that works behind the counter.

Unfortunately, pharmacies are frequent targets for break ins. Lisbet Høgh's pharmacies suffered their share of burglaries as well – that is, until she installed fog cannons at one of her pharmacies five years ago. Since then, the shop has not even experienced an attempted break in. The same has been true for another retail pharmacy at which she installed fog security.

Lisbet Høgh's newest pharmacy has just opened in the old train station of the little town of Kolind, close to Århus Airport. This pharmacy has also been burglar-proofed with fog security.

"We don't make a big deal of our security. But simply not having to deal with people trying to break in—I wouldn't give it up for the world", explains Lisbet Høgh, who manages 11 pharmacies and retail branches.

Faith in Fog Security

It was Lars Almsten from the Almsten Sikring alarm installation company who first introduced Lisbet Høgh to fog security. She has been so pleased with the results that she now recommends it to other pharmacies.

"Pharmacies present difficult and sizeable security demands", Lars Almsten explains. "Because of this, I've installed fog security and glass break detectors on top of what's required by the insurance company. I have no qualms about recommending fog cannons. All of my experiences with them have been positive. The customers are satisfied too as soon as they see that the fog doesn't make a mess or harm anything."

Kolind Pharmacy's fog cannons are clearly visible. Some customers prefer concealed installations, but Lars Almsten has found that visible fog security installations and signage have a valuable preventative effect.

The Robot Optimises Operations

Besides supplying medicine to her many retail branches, Lisbet Høgh and her employees provide drugs to the region's health and care sectors. One of the older pharmacies did this work in the past, but the system was inefficient. Kolind Pharmacy is now the centre of Lisbet Høgh's operations, and work there has been optimised by means of robotics. This made it particularly important to install a powerful security system.

The pharmaceutical robot is capable of shelving up to 17,000 types of pharmaceutical products using chaos theory as its guiding principle. Customers at the counter never even notice the robot. When they ask for their over-the-counter drugs or deliver their prescriptions, the dispensing chemist enters the appropriate codes, and the robot finds and delivers the medicine to the counter. This not only helps prevent mistakes; it also gives the employees more time to advice customers.

Morten Werner of KLS Nordic supplied the robot to Kolind Pharmacy. "The robot costs around Euro 270,000, a sum that it recoups over three to four years. That makes it a sound investment", he explains.

The Robot Vanishes in the Mist

When Lisbet Høgh was deciding whether to use both a robot and fog security at Kolind Pharmacy, KLS Nordic and Protect had to demonstrate that the two technologies could work together.

"We simulated a break in, and within five or ten seconds, you couldn't reach the room with the robot. Like the rest of the pharmacy, it was filled with a dense and impenetrable fog that made the robot and the medicine impossible to find", says Protect's Martin Skaar Jacobsen, who undertook the test alongside Almsten Sikring and KLS Nordic.

“And just as importantly, after the test, we aired out all the rooms like you're supposed to. Every trace of the fog had disappeared”, Martin Skaar Jacobsen concludes.

Danish Quality

Since its founding in 2001, Protect has produced and installed over 30,000 fog security units worldwide. The company's wide range of clients includes educational institutions, opticians, goldsmiths, electrical goods dealers, petrol stations, and summerhouses.

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About Protect A/S

Protect A/S develops and, manufactures fog cannons for safeguarding valuables. The fog cannons are installed as a supplement to other burglar alarm systems. When the alarm is tripped, the room fills with security fog, keeping the thief out and your valuables where they belong. If the thief is already inside when the fog is released, he will not be able to find what he had intended to steal.

Protect A/S collaborates with the majority of alarm installers in Denmark - more than 300 in all. With G4S, Niscayah and Securitas Direct on the list of dealers, Protect A/S cover over 95% of the fog cannon market in Denmark.

In 2002, Protect A/S began building a network of foreign distributors, and today the company has sole distributors in more than 40 countries. Today, over half of our cannon production is sold abroad, and exports are growing rapidly.

2002 and 2003 saw security fog protection recognised as an effective protection system by the police, major Danish insurance companies, and the Danish Emergency Management Agency.

Protect A/S currently employs eleven staff in their management, development, sales and marketing departments. Production of fog cannons is outsourced to a company in Aarhus, Denmark that specialises in advanced electronics. Protect A/S manufactures all their products in accordance with the ISO 9001 international quality standards.

Today, the product range consists of three models: PROTECT 600, PROTECT 1100, and PROTECT 2200, each dimensioned for rooms of various sizes. We also PROTECT SECURITY STROBE, a strobe lamp that enhances the security fog's effect.