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## Safe sales increase on concern over banks and security

Ken Griffin

Locksmiths are reporting an unprecedented demand for home safes amid uncertainty about the economy and the banks.

Colin Crothers, a director of Crothers Security in Dublin, told the Sunday Tribune his company, which has been in business for over 35 years, is struggling to keep up with demand.



Colin Crothers of Crothers Security: people nervous about financial times ahead as cash becomes king

"We are having to reorder stock quicker than ever before and we are ordering them in larger quantities than we did in the past to cope with the increase in demand," he said.

Crothers said the surge in demand for home safes started in October. He believes it has been fuelled by the fact that "there's a lot of people out there who have never experienced a recession... People are a little nervous about the financial times ahead, meaning that cash has become king for many. They are also becoming more cautious in general about storing valuables such as jewellery and deeds," said Crothers.

He said mistrust of the banks was also behind some of the demand, along with a sharp rise in burglaries.

Barry Lynch, owner of the Irish franchise of Dynosecure, said his chain had also experienced a rise in demand for home safes. He said the initial surge of demand had been fuelled by concern about the banks but that other factors were now driving it.

"We had people coming in saying they couldn't put their money in the banks because they weren't safe but that has calmed down. People are now looking at protecting their assets because of the risk of burglary or fire."

January 25, 2009

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