



My name is Andrew T. Michie and I have been a locksmith for over 25 years. All of that time has been spent in the field servicing a wide range of door hardware and cylinders. The GrimeStopper Weather Shield is my brain-child and this, in a nut shell, is how it came into being.

Back in 1998, an armoured car company needed a durable cover to protect the ASSA rim cylinders on the doors of their trucks. The plastic covers that they were using were subjected to constant road vibration. Subsequently, the coil springs would break in a very

short period of time allowing the covers to hang open and actually direct foreign matter into the keyway.

I checked with all of my suppliers in an attempt to find a protective cover that utilized a more durable, long lasting design. I needed a product that could endure harsh environments, high usage and constant vibration. As it turned out, my search was in vain and since I did not wish to disappoint one of my best customers, I put my thinking 'tuque' on and designed my own application. The first rough drawing was done on the back of a napkin

after Thanksgiving dinner. The GrimeStopper Weather Shield being marketed today is the evolutionary descendent of no less than six prototypes. After numerous design changes, both on computer drawings and on actual working models.



I finally found a concept that would satisfy my requirements and those of my customer. If I would have directed sales of the GrimeStopper, solely for use on armoured vehicles, it would have drastically curtailed the product's potential on the open market. I had to make sure the design was flexible enough to include a wide range of possible scenarios.



My customers were extremely helpful and supportive by allowing me to install (for free, of course) the GrimeStopper

Weather Shield onto a variety of hardware applications.



I have spent the last 12 years trying to figure out ways of increasing the GrimeStopper's popularity. Only recently, with the help of my newly designed website ([www.grimestopper.ca](http://www.grimestopper.ca)) and a marketing opportunity in the US, have I begun to make some headway. The original design was for use with all mortise and rim cylinders, but we now have developed adaptor plates that can accommodate 3/4" cam locks and switch locks along with some European cylinder applications.



In today's high tech market place, many cylinders rely on internal electronics and precisely machined parts in their designs. Cylinders that are no longer utilized on a daily basis because of the transition to

proximity readers are even more prone to malfunction through lack of use. There's no point having a manual override for emergencies if the keys don't work.



The GrimeStopper Weather Shield delivers the protection that these high end cylinders require to continue performing in the harshest environments year after year.

I'm still a locksmith, a wrench-turner at heart. Running both a locksmith business and a manufacturing company is time



consuming to say the least. They say it's not the destination, it's the journey, but I hope I get there soon. Then again, the man who expects nothing is rarely disappointed.