CLAIMS:

1. A strip for tamper evidencing, the strip comprising:

a first layer;

one or more reinforcing layers bonded to at least one side of the first layer; and

adhesive means provided on a first portion of the strip to selectively adhere the first portion of the strip onto the first layer of a second portion of the strip, wherein the first layer is such that removal or attempted removal of the first portion of the strip from the second portion of the strip causes the first layer to separate in an irregular or predetermined manner to reveal visual evidence of tampering.

2. The strip as claimed in claim 1 wherein the adhesive means provides a stronger bond between the first portion and the first layer of the second portion than the cohesion between the components of the first layer.

3. The strip as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the first layer comprises a plurality of layers or substrates which separate to reveal evidence of tampering.

4. The strip as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the first layer is comprised of non-woven fibres made of a plastics material and bonded by heat and pressure.

5. The strip as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the strip is formed with slits or lines of weakness.

6. The strip as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein one of the reinforcing layers comprises a sheet of any plastics material bonded to the first layer such that a major surface area of at least one side of the first layer is exposed along substantially the length of the strip.

7. The strip as claimed in claim 6 wherein said reinforcing layer is formed from a sheet having a starting width which exceeds the width of the first layer and is folded over the edges of the first layer.

8. The strip as claimed in claim 7 wherein the first layer has non-straight longitudinal edges.

9. The strip as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the adhesive means incorporates tamper evidencing film which leaves irreversible evidence on the first layer or one of the reinforcing layers.

10. The strip as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the strip is provided in a continuous length which may be cut to a required length in situ.

11. A tamper evidencing device including the strip as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein a proximal end portion of the strip is provided with a loop, with a distal portion of the strip insertable through the loop, with the adhesive means facilitating selective attachment of the first portion onto the second portion of the strip to encircle an article in a band such that attempted removal of the attachment or the loop is evidenced by the device.

12. The tamper evidencing device as claimed in claim 11 wherein the first portion of the strip is at or adjacent the distal end of the strip with attempted removal of the first portion from the second portion being evidenced by the first layer.

13. The tamper evidencing device as claimed in claim 11 or 12 wherein the loop comprises a buckle and removal or attempted removal of the buckle may be evidenced by the device.

14. A strip for tamper evidencing including:

a first layer of relatively weak material, the first layer having first and second sides;

a first portion of reinforcing material bonded onto at least a portion of the first side of the first layer; and

a second portion of reinforcing material bonded onto at least a portion of the second side of the first layer;

wherein the first and second portions are directly bonded to each other at a plurality of locations spaced along the length of the strip.

15. The strip as claimed in claim 14 wherein the first and second portions are bonded to each other at discrete locations along the length of the strip.

16. The strip as claimed in claim 15 wherein the first layer has recesses or apertures spaced along its length.

17. The strip as claimed in claim 16 wherein the first layer has non-straight longitudinal edges.

18. The strip as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 17 wherein the first and second portions are bonded to the first layer such that a major surface area of at least one side of the first layer is exposed along substantially the length of the strip.

19. The strip as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 18 wherein the first portion of the reinforcing material and the second portion of the reinforcing material are unitarily formed from a single piece of reinforcing material which is folded over to bond to both sides of the first layer.

20. The strip as claimed in claim 19 wherein the first portion of reinforcing material covers the whole of the first side of the first layer and the second portion of reinforcing material comprises two folded over side edges of the single piece of reinforcing material folded over onto the second side of the first layer.

21. The strip as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 20 wherein the strip is provided in a continuous length which may be cut to a required length in situ.

22. A tamper evidencing device including the strip as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 21, wherein a proximal end portion of the strip is provided with a loop, with a distal portion of the strip insertable through the loop, the strip being further provided with an attachment means to facilitate selective attachment of the distal portion onto another portion of the strip to encircle an article in a band such that attempted removal of the attachment or the loop is evidenced by the device.

23. The tamper evidencing device as claimed in claim 22 wherein the loop comprises a buckle and removal or attempted removal of the buckle is evidenced by the device.

24. A security system comprising:

a tamper evidencing device for protecting an article having one or more zips with zip sliders and zip tabs, wherein breach of the device in use is evidenced by the device itself, the tamper evidencing device including a unique identifier; and

one or more zip securing portions for securing the one or more zip sliders or zip tabs, each of the zip securing portions having a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the tamper evidencing device; and

a receipt portion for retention by a person responsible for the article, wherein the receipt portion also includes a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the tamper evidencing device.

25. The security system as claimed in claim 24 wherein the tamper evidencing device includes a strip for encircling an article or part thereof.

26. The security system as claimed in claim 25, the strip incorporating apertures or slits for the receipt of zip tabs or zip tab securing portions.

27. The security system as claimed in claim 25 wherein each of the zip securing portions is insertable through openings in adjacent zip tabs or zip sliders and through one of the apertures or slits in the tamper evidencing device and then securable to itself, wherein once secured as such, a breach is evidenced by the tamper evidencing device and/or the zip securing portion or the absence thereof.

28. The security system as claimed in claim 24 wherein the receipt portion and/or the zip securing portion is provided as a portion which is detachable from the tamper evidencing device.

29. The security system as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 28 wherein the receipt portion is adhesive backed.

30. The security system as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 29 wherein the receipt portion further includes tamper evidencing material to indicate removal or attempted removal of the receipt portion from any appropriate surface to which the receipt portion is attached by means of the adhesive backing.

31. The security system of claim 24 wherein the unique identifier on the device and/or the receipt portion and/or the zip securing portion is borne on a portion of tamper evidencing material.

32. The security system as claimed in claim 29 or 30 wherein the tamper evidencing material comprises: a transparent substrate layer; a visible layer unevenly bonded to the substrate layer; an adhesive layer provided on the visible layer; and a release backing.

33. The security system as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 32 wherein the tamper evidencing device comprises the strip as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 23.

34. A tamper evidencing device for protecting an article wherein breach of the device in use is evidenced by the device itself, the tamper evidencing device comprising:

an elongate strip; and

a component for guiding the elongate strip about an article, the component being attached or attachable to the elongate strip and having a guide or loop such that the elongate strip may be looped in a first band around an article and thereafter guided to extend therebeyond in a transverse direction to said first band to form a second band around the article.

35. The tamper evidencing device as claimed in claim 34 further including a unique identifier.

36. The tamper evidencing device of claim 35 wherein the unique identifier is borne on a portion of tamper evidencing material.

37. The tamper evidencing device as claims in any one of claims claim 34 to 36 wherein the component is a buckle.

38. A security system including the tamper evidencing device as claimed in claim 35 and a receipt portion for retention by a person responsible for the article, wherein the receipt portion also includes a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the tamper evidencing device.

39. The security system as claimed in claim 38 wherein the receipt portion is provided as a portion which is detatched or detachable from the elongate strip.

40. The security system as claimed in claim 39 or 39 wherein the receipt portion has an adhesive backing.

41. The security system as claimed in claim 40 wherein the receipt portion further includes tamper evidencing material to indicate removal or attempted removal of the receipt portion from any appropriate surface to which the receipt portion is attached by means of the adhesive backing.

42. The tamper evidencing device of claim 36 or the security system as claimed in claim 41 wherein the tamper evidencing material comprises: a transparent substrate layer; a visible layer unevenly bonded to the substrate layer; an adhesive layer provided on the visible layer; and a release backing.

43. The security system as claimed in any one of claims 34 to 42 wherein the elongate strip comprises the strip as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14, and 15 to 21.

44. A device for securing an article to be transported, the device including a tracking portion connected to and separable from the remainder of the device by a separable connection, the tracking portion being provided with adhesive to secure the tracking portion to the article, wherein the bond of the adhesive is stronger than the separable connection such that the removal of the remainder of the device from the article allows the tracking portion to remain for continued tracking of the article.

45. The device as claimed in claim 44 wherein the separable connection is in the form of frangible connections between the tracking portion and the remainder of the device.

46. The device as claimed in any one of claims 58 or 59 wherein the tracking portion includes an identifier in a trackable format.

47. The device as claimed in claim 46 wherein the identifier in a trackable format includes bar coding.

48. The device as claimed in claim 46 or 47 wherein the identifier in a trackable format includes a radio frequency identification device or a GPS receiver.

49. The device as claimed in claim 48 in the form of a buckle.

50. A luggage securing band for luggage which has one or more zips, the band which encircles the luggage and secures to itself, the band including a plurality of apertures or slits or equivalent openings spaced lengthwise along a substantial portion of the length of the band to facilitate securement of the one or more zip sliders to the band.

51. The band as claimed in claim 50 wherein the openings are arranged along one or both margins of the band.

52. The band as claimed in claim 50 or 51 wherein the openings are arranged along a substantial portion of the band.

53. The band as claimed in claim 50 or 51 wherein the openings extend along the whole length of the band.

54. A method of securing an article having one or more zip sliders, the method comprising:

encircling an article with a band; and

securing the one or more zip sliders to the band at an anchor location selected from a plurality of anchor locations spaced lengthwise along the band.

55. The method as claimed in claim 54 wherein the plurality of anchor locations comprise spaced apertures extending a substantial portion of the length of the band.

56. The method as claimed in claim 55 wherein the spaced apertures extend the whole length of the band.

57. The method as claimed in claim 55 or 56 wherein the spaced apertures are arranged along one or both margins of the band.

58. The method as claimed in any one of claims 54 to 57 further comprising using a cable tie to anchor the one or more zip sliders to the selected anchor location.

THE CLAIMS DEFINING THE INVENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. A security system comprising:

a tamper evidencing device for protecting an article having one or more zips with zip sliders and zip tabs, wherein breach of the device in use is evidenced by the device itself or the absence thereof, the tamper evidencing device including an elongate band for encircling the article and a unique identifier and one or more apertures or slits; and

one or more zip securing portions for securing the one or more zip sliders or zip tabs, each of the zip securing portions having a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the tamper evidencing device;

wherein the one or more apertures or slits are adapted to receive the zip tabs or the one or more zip securing portions to anchor the zip sliders and/or the zip tabs to the elongate band.

2. The security system as claimed in claim 1 also comprising a receipt portion for retention by a person responsible for the article, wherein the receipt portion includes a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the tamper evidencing device.

3. The security system as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the one or more zip securing portions are interconnectable with the band.

4. The security system as claimed in claim 3 wherein the band incorporates a plurality of apertures or slits for the receipt of zip tabs or one or more zip securing portions.

5. The security system as claimed in claim 4 wherein the one or more zip securing portions are insertable through openings in adjacent zip tabs or zip sliders and through one of the apertures or slits and then securable to itself, wherein once secured as such, removal or attempted removal is evidenced by the tamper evidencing device and/or the zip securing portion or the absence thereof.

6. The security system of claim 2 wherein the unique identifier on the band and the one or more zip securing portions is borne on a portion of tamper evidencing material.

7. The security system of any one of the preceding claims wherein the one or more zip securing portions and the band are formed in an elongate strip and the one or more zip securing portions are separable from the band.

8. The security system of claim 2 wherein the receipt portion and the band are formed in an elongate strip and the receipt portion is separable from the band.

9. The security system as claimed in claims 7 or 8 wherein the strip comprises:

a first layer;

one or more reinforcing layers bonded to at least one side of the first layer; and

adhesive provided on a first portion of the strip to selectively adhere the first portion of the strip onto the first layer of a second portion of the strip, wherein the first layer is such that removal or attempted removal of the first portion of the strip from the second portion of the strip causes the first layer to separate in an irregular or predetermined manner to reveal visual evidence of tampering.

10. The security system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the tamper evidencing device further includes:

a component for guiding the band about an article, the component being attached or attachable to the band and having a guide or loop such that the band may be looped in a first loop around an article and thereafter guided to extend therebeyond in a transverse direction to said first loop to form a second loop around the article.

11. The security system as claimed in claim 10 wherein the component is a buckle.

12. The security system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims further comprising:

a tracking portion connected to and separable from the remainder of the tamper evidencing device by separable connection, the tracking portion being provided with adhesive to secure the tracking portion to the article, wherein the bond of the adhesive is stronger than the separable connection such that the removal of the remainder of the

device from the article allows the tracking portion to remain for continued tracking of the article.

13. The system as claimed in claim 12 wherein the separable connection is in the form of frangible connections between the tracking portion and the remainder of the tamper evidencing device.

14. The security device of claim 5 wherein the apertures or slits are arranged along one or both margins of the band, said margins being reinforced.

15. The security device as claimed in claim 14 wherein the apertures or slits extend along the whole length of the band.

16. A method of securing an article having one or more zips with zip sliders and zip tabs, the method comprising:

providing a tamper evidencing band having a unique identifier and one or more apertures or slits, wherein breach of the band in use is evidenced by the band itself or the absence thereof;

providing one or more zip securing portions;

encircling an article with the band; and

securing the one or more zip sliders or zip tabs to the band by one or more of the one or more zip securing portions at a selected one of the one or more apertures or slits, each of the one or more zip securing portions having a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the band.

17. The method as claimed in claim 16 wherein the apertures or slits are spaced lengthwise along the length of the band.

18. The method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the spaced apertures are arranged along one or both margins of the band, said margins being reinforced.

19. The method as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 18 wherein the band and the one or more zip securing portions are formed of an elongate strip, the one or more zip

securing portions being separable from the band, the method including separating the one or more zip securing portions from the band.

20. The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein a receipt portion having a unique identifier corresponding to the unique identifier of the band is also formed of the strip, the method including separating the receipt portion from the band.

21. The method as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 18 wherein the one or more zip securing portions comprise cable ties.

22. The method as claimed in any one of claims 16 to 22 wherein the band is arranged to extend transversely to the zip.