

# AI as EAS: ScanWatch Introduces AI-Powered Article Protection

*ScanWatch - the creator of AI-powered Crime Predictor loss prevention software for SCO - is introducing AI software for full store security monitoring.*

KAUNAS, LITHUANIA, October 5, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [ScanWatch](#) - the creator of AI-powered [Crime Predictor](#) loss prevention software for self-checkouts - is introducing AI software for full store security monitoring. Instead of focusing solely on the checkout area, the software can identify what items a particular shopper has picked up from the store shelf.



CEO of ScanWatch Saulius Kaukenas

The new software is currently being tested in a semi-autonomous store setting. In the initial trial the software had managed to cut the theft rate by 42.02%.

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*CEO of ScanWatch Saulius  
Kaukenas*

Utilizing only the store’s existing video security cameras, the program tracks the shopper’s movements through the store, noting the items the shopper takes from the shelves and places into the shopping cart or basket. The program then compares this information to what the shopper actually scans at the checkout to see if all the items taken from the shelves have been paid for.

“For instance, a shopper might pick up three packs of cheese and a bottle of wine but might only scan and pay for the cheese at the checkout. The program would

automatically and in real time notify a store employee about the discrepancy or an alarm would sound before the shopper left the store. The program can also be integrated with security gates, which would stay shut if not all the items have been paid for,” explained the CEO of ScanWatch,

Saulius Kaukenas.

The product is fully compliant with GDPR requirements: no biometric or other personal data is used for shopper identification, and nothing is stored after the customer checks out.

In the words of Mr. Kaukenas, this solution aims to improve the traditional electronic article surveillance framework, where items are equipped with security tags or presented on locked shelves.

“Traditional EAS frameworks require significant hardware and human investments. In recent years, we have seen security tags installed on more and more product categories, including common foods or household goods, requiring more man-hours and increased costs to administer the tagging. This does not scale: hardware-based product security is no longer the answer,” said Mr. Kaukenas.

According to Mr. Kaukenas, retail security up until now has been a compromise between convenience and loss prevention.

“With our new AI based program we don’t have to compromise. The EAS tags are not used, which reduces cost for the stores, but anti-fraud measures are maintained if not enhanced, and the customer experience remains smooth. This approach also helps to reduce the waste of EAS tags.”

The new product is undergoing real-world trials in a semi-autonomous European store setting. The advent of new shopping concepts, including ‘Scan & Go’ or unmanned stores, calls for new designs in retail security infrastructure.

“Currently the checkout area also serves as a security gate. Yet with the rise of new shopping concepts, a holistic always-on article security framework is needed,” added S. Kaukenas.

ScanWatch product offerings currently include AI-powered apps to prevent checkout fraud and streamline the self-checkout user experience. Crime Predictor visually inspects every item scanned at the self-checkout and compares the scanned image with the product database. It detects barcode switching, no-scan, no-pay scenarios, as well as mis-scanning of unpacked items (e.g. selecting cucumbers instead of avocados). In real-world operational settings, it has been proven that Crime Predictor can detect 90% of attempted self-checkout fraud.

Another company product, Picklist Assistant, automatically identifies scanned unpacked products such as fruit, vegetables, or baked goods, thus eliminating the need to manually select the product from a menu.

In 2023, Baltic retailers reported a threefold increase in theft-related retail losses. According to the ECR Retail Loss survey, the losses due to theft have increased by 33% compared to pre-

pandemic levels. The British Retail Consortium states that the retail theft rate this year has grown by 28 percent. Many major US retailers also drew attention to growing shrinkage in their Q3 investor calls.

In response to increasing retail theft, leading networks are deploying ScanWatch's products in the Baltic States, Poland, Germany, and North America.

ScanWatch is a product spinoff from a leading Baltic software development house [Agmis](#).

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