



The black, puck-shaped GPS tracker fitted inside the vacuum cleaner's dust container by the owner.

Man pleads guilty to vacuum cleaner theft, jailed 12 months

KUCHING: The Magistrates' Court here yesterday sentenced a man to 12 months' imprisonment after he pleaded guilty to stealing a vacuum cleaner worth RM1,000 last week.

Magistrate Mason Jaro Lenya Barayan handed down the sentence on Mohamad Ridzuwan Aris, 33, under Section 379 of the Penal Code, which provides for up to seven years' jail or a fine, or both, upon conviction.

Mohamad Ridzuwan, unrepresented, committed the offence at a house in Homelands Garden, Jalan Stephen Yong here at around 2am on Aug 14.

According to the facts of the case, the houseowner spotted an unknown man, later identified as the accused, entering the compound and stealing a vacuum cleaner.

Footage from a closed-circuit

television at the house not only showed Mohamad Ridzuwan committing the theft, but also an earlier theft at 1.35am on Aug 11 involving a lawnmower, aluminium ladder, and hedge trimmer.

It was informed that due to the Aug 11 incident, the houseowner had fitted the vacuum cleaner with a global positioning system (GPS) tracker, which enabled police to trace it to a bush behind a house in Kampung Lidah Tanah, Jalan Batu Kitang on Aug 14.

Acting on information, police arrested Mohamad Ridzuwan at a cemetery in Kampung Lidah Tanah at about 11.56am on the same day.

Guided by the accused, police recovered the stolen lawn mower which the houseowner confirmed was his.