

Car-tracking device saves Boksburg family from fire

TLALANE TSHETLO

A BOKSBURG family yesterday recounted their good fortune after their vehicle's Tracker device saved them from what could have been a fatal blaze in their home.

At about 5am yesterday Tracker contacted the family after receiving a "battery disconnect" warning signal from one of their vehicles.

"When our customer looked outside she noticed that it looked particularly 'misty' in the area around her car and decided to go outside for a closer look. As she approached the vehicle she realised it was in fact smoke billowing out from the vehicle's engine bay.

"She turned back inside and with the help of her family was able to use a household extinguisher to put out the blaze," said Tracker spokesman Gareth Crocker.

Minutes later the family was called again by Tracker informing them that another warning signal came from the vehicle. When the family returned to check on the car they noticed that the blaze had flared up again. The family was again able to extinguish the flames.

The family said the vehicle had failed to start the previous day and had been towed home from a neighbour's house, due to a suspected electrical fault.

"The family believe that had the fire been allowed to continue it may well have spread to both the second car and the house," said Crocker.

Only the engine bay, dashboard and some upholstery near the front seats were damaged.

Crocker said preventing a potential deadly fire was "probably a first for us".