

Making room in Jungceylon

By Anand Singh

BUSINESSES and homeowners who are having trouble finding storage space now have the option of using a unique storage facility located in the compounds of Jungceylon shopping mall.

With a fire-resistant building equipped with advanced access systems, My Storage is the only service in Phuket that offers dedicated storage space for households and businesses. Robert Akerblom, general manager of My Storage, said that the idea for the storage facility came to him out of personal frustration.

“When we first came to Phuket we had a lot of personal belongings with us. After quite an extensive search for a suitable place to temporarily store our belongings, we found a local company offering storage. However, when we finally came back to collect our goods and move into a new home a number of months later, most had been damaged due to weather, water leakage and vermin,” Robert explained.

Phuket’s real estate sector has seen much growth in the last decade, with many new houses, villas and condominiums being built and rented out. According to Robert, the industry’s continued growth has prompted new demand for storage services.

“A number of expats are relocating to Phuket, either temporarily, seasonally or



PACK IT AWAY: Until now, simple and inexpensive storage hasn't been easy to find in Patong.

permanently. Expats make up a large proportion of home renters in Phuket. Some of these foreigners, however, spend only a few months each year in Phuket,” Robert explained.

“When they leave to go abroad, they often have problems with personal belongings. Some people store them in the house itself,

but many want to sublet their empty houses to other renters. Therefore they need a separate place for their belongings,” Robert added.

In August 2010, My Storage rented a concrete building next to Jungceylon shopping mall and fitted it with 255 storage units of different sizes, ranging from one cubic

meter lockers to 25m³ storage rooms. The main entrance to the storage units is accessible with a PIN code. The individual storage units are locked using the customers’ own locks. Unit rental costs range from 995 to 16,250 baht per month, depending on the size of the storage area.

“Most of our customers so far have been foreigners, as expected. There are still quite a few Thais who are unaware of our service. However, we have only been open for a year and our services are gaining awareness not just from expats and home renters, but from businesses for inventory storage as well,” Robert said.

When asked about security for the facility, Robert said that the company guarantees the safety of customers’ belongings.

“It is our job to make sure that customers’ belongings are safe around the clock. Our facility is fitted with state-of-the-art security systems, including an advanced access system, 24-hour CCTV monitoring and an intruder alarm system,” Robert explained.

“If, for any reason, our customers’ belongings are damaged or destroyed in our care, we will compensate our customers for the loss. For customers who rented out locker units, we are able to compensate up to 100,000 baht in damages. For larger storage units, we are able to compensate up to 500,000baht,” he added.