

# SECURITY Update

## CREATING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



For Manufacturers, Distributors, Dealers,  
System Integrators & Installers of Security,  
Fire & Safety Systems.

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## How secure really is your access control card?



Millions of proximity (Prox) access control cards are in use today in myriad applications. Most commonly, proximity cards are used for access to apartment complexes, gated communities, parking areas and door access. Proximity cards are popular because of their low cost, limited maintenance, simplicity of use and the security they offer.

But are they secure?

Over the years, card technology has evolved dramatically as has the ability for third parties and bad actors to fraudulently copy or clone cards. How many apartment managers or business owners are unaware that their tenants or employees may be able to easily duplicate their access card as many times as they want and hand them out to their friends, relatives or strangers? To prevent this from happening, you first need to understand a bit more about the types of proximity cards in use today.

There are two types of proximity cards in common use: 125 kHz cards and 13.56 MHz cards. To the common user of these cards, there is no difference. For the most part, they look alike, they are the same

size and they work the same – present the card at the card reader and access is either granted or denied. However, apart from the frequency that is used to transmit the card data, the differences between 125 kHz and 13.56 MHz cards are significant, especially when it comes to security and the ability of a third party to clone or copy a card.

### 125 kHz

The first proximity cards were based on 125 kHz technology. The advantages of the 125 kHz proximity system is that the low power requirements and the small amount of data being transmitted provide for a good read range and a short read time. When a 125 kHz card comes within range of the reader, the card immediately begins to transmit its card number.

Because of this, users can simply wave their card in the general direction of the reader to get a successful read. The disadvantage, however, is the low level of security.

The data transmitted by the card is not encrypted and is always the same and the data transfer is one way – from the card to the reader. There is no communication from the card reader

back to the card. This allows 125 KHz cards to be easily copied and the technology to do this has been known for over 20 years. Proximity 125 kHz copy and emulation circuits have been available to the public for many years, and with instructional videos easy to find on YouTube and cloning devices readily available on popular shopping websites for less than \$30, it's possible for anyone to copy 125 kHz cards today. There are even shop fronts and kiosks that offer card cloning services operating in many cities around the world.

While 125 KHz cards are still commonly used, the widely publicized security issues must be given serious consideration when considering a card access control system.

### 13.5 MHz

The 13.56 MHz MIFARE standard addresses the security issue with 125 kHz technology. With a MIFARE system, when the card is presented to the card reader, the card and card reader begin a two-way communication session using shared encryption keys. If the encryption keys on the card match the encryption keys on the card reader, the card number is transmitted, and the communication session is closed off.

### MIFARE Classic

MIFARE Classic cards were the first version of the MIFARE standard. The communication between the card and the card reader is encrypted, theoretically making it impossible, or at least extremely



difficult, to copy a card. However, in 2008, researchers at a university in the Netherlands discovered a security flaw that enabled them to reverse engineer the hardware chip and encryption algorithm used by these cards. They went on to release a scientific paper of their findings and thus exposed the flaw to the world. With the right knowledge and hardware, anyone can copy or create another card in the series.

### ICT Secure MIFARE

The integrated control technology (ICT) scheme adds additional security measures to the MIFARE Classic standard by adding an authentication key encrypted with an AES 256 algorithm. This effectively plugged the known security flaw that allowed cards to be created in a series.

ICT also provides the ability for an integrator or end user to purchase their own reserved set of encryption keys. This effectively gives the or-

ganization its own set of unique site codes and card numbers protected with its unique encryption key. This prevents other cards from ever working on the site.

### MIFARE DESFire

MIFARE DESFire (Data Encryption Standard Fast Innovative Reliable Secure) is the newest - and most secure - of the MIFARE standards and is currently one of the highest standards for card security available. It includes a cryptographic module on the card that adds an additional layer of encryption to the card and card reader communication, reducing the risk of cloning or creating cards.

Certain versions of these cards (EV2, EV3)

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## CLEAR IMAGE, BETTER PROTECTION.

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Dear Reader

When it comes to designing, choosing and installing access control systems, a lot of emphasis is often laid on the credentials and their technologies (cards, biometrics, mobile phones based...etc etc), the type of readers to be installed at the doors, their profiles and aesthetics - type of door controllers - locally networked or cloud based, and so on., but enough consideration is often not given to the doors themselves and the type of hardware which should be installed on them - the physical construction of the doors, the electronic locks mounted on them, the hinges, and the door closers which should be installed keeping in mind the level of security desired and the applicable laws and prevalent building codes.



While choosing an access control system, it's important to know if the designs you're considering will be a good fit for your property. Not only do you need to consider your security goals and your building's unique layout, but you also need to know how your local building and fire codes can impact the system you choose.

From cabling requirements to exit safety, your access control methods must abide by local standards to be legal and reduce your liability as building codes can impact the type of access control system you want to have installed.

Fire safety protocol affects access control systems as building codes and local laws may require electromagnetic locks to be connected to the fire alarm system. These fail-safe devices allow doors to open in the event of an emergency, so if there is a fire or a power outage, the doors automatically unlock to allow people to exit.

EM lock requirements are critical when choosing and installing an access control system. For example, if you have a turnstile system as part of your access control, activation of the fire alarm must unlock turnstiles for people to exit. The same rule applies if the sprinkler system is activated. Specifying hardware for a door that is locked at all times except during a fire alarm becomes important.

While a professional security manager examines applicable codes and laws, he must also keep in mind the 'fail-secure' and the 'fail-safe' concepts while designing, and/or specifying access control systems. Keeping in mind that EM Locks have to be mounted on the secure side of the door is very important, as cable cuts can throw the door open in no time.

Door exit standards may vary across nations and states. For example, some places require both exit buttons and motion detector activation for exit doors to open, while others may only require one device for exiting. When installing access control, you must know your national and state's requirements for exit doors prior to choosing a system.

If you have stairwell doors that you want to install access control features on, know that these doors must be specially configured for use, especially if one or more of the doors is meant to be used as an egress door. In the event of an emergency, doors must be able to open according to the applicable fire code of the area.

Recent years have seen access control requirements change dramatically. The pandemic has shifted patterns of work in organisations across the world, and how this impacts access control. For those who have transitioned to a hybrid model of both remote and in-person work, building occupancy monitoring has become more important to ensure facilities remain as efficient as possible and to allow the c-suite to make informed decisions about building usage.

Occupancy data feedback has evolved from simply knowing how many individuals are in a building or on-site for safety purposes, such as in the event of an evacuation or emergency, to real-time location systems.

It's best to be aware of the local building regulations and codes, as well as the expectations of health authorities, security risks and the business goals while designing access control systems.

Till we meet next month, Stay Safe and Keep Others Safe.

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# HES KS210 Server Cabinet Locks



ASSA ABLOY Open-include Open Supervised Device Protocol (OSDP) and mechanical options. These new innovations are designed

to help protect physical assets, data and access to critical infrastructure networks.

OSDP is a Security Industry Association (SIA) standard that improves interoperability between access control and security products. An international standard, OSDP uses bi-directional communication between devices for higher levels of data security by monitoring consistently for attacks or threats.

Now on the General Services Administration's (GSA) FIPS 201 Evaluation Program Approved Product List (APL), the KS210 is newest server cabinet lock from HES along with:

- The enhanced HES KS200 integrated access control 'swing handle'

- The new KS-M Mechanical Server Cabinet Lock - a mechanical version of the swing handle server cabinet lock. This product uses a SFIC 6- or 7-pin mechanical key override as a standard feature to protect data and server rooms as well as audio/video installations, telecommunications equipment and other industrial settings.

• The current KS100 integrated wireless model featuring Aperio® technology. The battery powered cabinet server lock option integrates with HID NFC and/or BLE Bluetooth mobile credentials for access control.

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## Vision-Box launches Seamless Kiosk, a new generation of biometric technology to enhance travel experience



Vision-Box has unveiled its latest solution built upon a new generation of biometric technology set to transform the travel experience: Seamless Kiosk - The New Generation of Biometric Technology.

Seamless Kiosk has been developed to provide an exceptional user experience through its biometric and biographic capture performance, increasing the passenger handling process speed with an accessible design and a smart passenger guide system, based on artificial intelligence that better helps any user to follow the instructions intuitively with a new immersive camera system.

Seamless Kiosk is

equipped with an audible and highly tactile assistive interface for navigation and selection of screen-based content and braille signs to support passengers with impaired vision, an inability to read, restricted reach, or limited dexterity. It is also compliant with Europe, the United States and Canada's disability acts.

Seamless Kiosk provides the most flexible solution in the market, with customisable capabilities and features enabling it to fit any use case for passenger processing, delivering elevated level of security, fast and precise biometric processing to the latest International Air Transport Association

(IATA) recommendations and International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) standards. With a small footprint, Vision-Box's latest solution combines the newest Common Use Self-Service (CUSS) 2.0 platform and Border Control processing, including Entry/Exit System (EES) requirements.

With its full-frontal face capture module optimised with automatic height and dynamic illumination adjustments, Seamless Kiosk enables an accurate capture process, which enhances the user experience. The solution is compliant with the standards from International Organization for Standardization (ISO) on biometric

data interchange formats (ISO/IEC 19794-5) and biometric presentation attack detection (ISO/IEC 30107-1).

Key technological features of Seamless Kiosk include:

- Modular design for different configurations of travel documents and barcode reader, card reader, fingerprint scanner, and accessibility keypad

- Printer module customisable for different use cases - e.g., receipt, boarding pass, and bag-tag printing

- Biometric-by-design solution compliant with most strict standards such as Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADA), Customer Service Agent (CSA) and Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

- Integrated with Vision-Box Orchestra Digital Identity Management Platform, which is fully certified by Privacy by Design, to deliver a unique biometric user registration and management experience

- Its launch application is based on CUSS 2.0, and it is also compatible with legacy CUSS versions





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**18 October 2022**

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# Brivo Unified Credential DoorBird launches A1121, new IP access control device with keypad and RFID



Brivo, a leading provider of cloud-based access control and smart building technologies that recently entered into a definitive merger agreement with Crown Prop-Tech Acquisitions has announced Brivo Unified Credential, a new cross-platform smart credential that is compatible with select wireless locks and Brivo Smart Readers to improve security while leveraging existing door locks and devices.

Brivo Unified Credential allows property owners and managers to issue a single keycard or fob that operates with Brivo Smart Readers and select Schlage locks and battery-powered Aperio locks.

Properties today are typically equipped with a mix of installed locksets and proximity cards. The main issue with standard smart credentials is that every manufacturer has its own approach, meaning customers are forced

to either replace all of their existing hardware with compatible devices, which can be expensive, or use proximity cards that aren't encrypted and easy to duplicate.

With Brivo Unified Credential, property managers can increase security with smartcards or fobs that work across select ASSA ABLOY wireless Aperio devices and Schlage locks, and Brivo Readers - all in one convenient credential.

The new DoorBird A1121 IP access control device is available worldwide. The WiFi/PoE-enabled stand-alone solution provides secure access control via keypad PIN codes or RFID transponder to garages, side entrances, and service rooms.

Bird Home Automation, the Berlin-based manufacturer of IP video door stations, launched the DoorBird A1121 reaching a new milestone in the field of intelligent door communication.

The new access control device with a keypad and RFID function is particularly applicable in places where no video intercom system is desired. For example, the compact device can control access to garages,

side doors, bicycle cellars, storage, and service rooms.

To match the installation environment, customers can choose from a variety of front panel finishes. In addition to brushed stainless steel, more surfaces and colours are available from stock, such as bronze, titanium, DB 703 pearled dark grey, and RAL 7016 anthracite grey.

Due to the weather-proof housing, the device can be surface or flush-mounted in both outdoor and indoor settings. The stand-alone solution also features a configurable Wiegand interface, enabling integration into existing access control infrastructures and alarm systems. The multifunctional

A1121 access control device is equipped with two relays, allowing trigger actions at two doors or gates, as well as HTTP(S)calls.

The A1121 can also be paired with DoorBird's A1081 I/O Door Controller, which provides three additional relays per device. Access control occurs by entering PIN codes on the illuminated keypad or via the multi-frequency RFID reader using an RFID transponder.

The administrator can define different schedules and actions for each PIN code and RFID transponder to assign individual access rights to authorised persons.

An integrated tamper sensor can detect when the device is removed and sends a push notification to the administrator. All functions can be configured remotely via the free DoorBird app or the web-based administration tool.

## Camlock Systems launches all new detachable micro-lock system; the series 400



SLAM LATCH CONFIGURATION



ROTARY LATCH CONFIGURATION

As part of their pursuit to develop the smartest locking technology within their markets, Camlock Systems have engineered an adaptable, micro latch system offering multiple configurations, introducing The Series 400.

The Series 400 is a high-performance, miniature locking system that was designed around customer needs; maintaining security while preserving precious cabinet space. Engineered to make access control possible in applications with limited room, the S400 is built in two detachable parts, a latch and actuator providing the freedom to detach and house the actuator in the most convenient recess or panel.

Its flexibility and small size mean operators can have a smart lock that enhances the

product's ecosystem, without compromising on function.

The symmetrical design of the S400 provides a universal installation method, removing the need for a left or right hand version. That's not the only feature that makes it easier to install though, there are also two latch types to choose from, a Slam latch (Series 400-S) or Rotary latch (Series 400-R), providing further adaptability.

The slam latch shines when used in applications such as push to close cabinets, while the rotary latch has the same tamper-resistant, high-strength dual jaws as the patented Series 100. In addition to its functionality, the Series 400 also provides peace of mind due to the built-in override and lock monitoring as well as optional door

monitoring.

The Series 400-S and Series 400-R are available along with their compatible accessories. There will soon be even more flexibility brought to the S400, with attachable products designed for multi-lock control as well as access control and the addition of a Bowden cable generating further configuration options. Bowden cable is a type of flexible cable used to transmit mechanical force or energy by the movement of an inner cable relative to a hollow outer cable housing.

Product features: Cycle rating: 50,000; Built-in lock monitoring; Easy-to-install. Universal fitting options; Two-part, detachable lock, and actuator; Trigger latch remotely via Bowden cable; Lock and optional door monitoring; Choice of rotary latch or slam latch; Integrates with access control systems; 5, 12, and 24 V dc available; Fitted with a concealed override; Comes with a two-year warranty.

## New Synergis Cloud Link helps with the move to open platform access



Genetec Inc. has launched a new generation of its Synergis Cloud Link PoE-enabled IoT gateway for access control. Manufactured in North America to mitigate supply chain delays, Synergis Cloud Link addresses increasing demand for non-proprietary access control solutions and provides a safe and secure gateway to a cloud or hybrid deployment.

When modernising an existing security system, Synergis Cloud Link's open architecture allows organisations to leverage their current access control infrastruc-

ture and easily upgrade to a secure IP-based solution. Synergis Cloud Link provides a more efficient approach to multi-site deployments and replaces the need for servers, reducing the cost of ownership. The Synergis Cloud Link IoT gateway has embedded functionalities that keep an organisation's access control running even when connection to the server is down.

The new generation of Synergis Cloud Link provides more features, enhanced cyber security, and helps future-proof security installations. Synergis Cloud Link fea-

tures enhanced cyber security such as encrypted user data, Secure Boot, and an EAL6+ industry gold standard Secure Element that stores cryptographic elements.

The device is compatible with non-proprietary access control modules from the industry's most established manufacturers including HID Global, Axis Communications, ASSA ABLOY, Mercury Security, Allegion, Simonsvoss, Stid, and others. A single Synergis Cloud Link device can support up to 256 readers and electronic locks, 600,000 cardholders, 150,000 offline events, as well as monitor hundreds of zones and alarms.

Synergis Cloud Link features a new firmware design, improving reliability and lifecycle management and updates management. It also opens the door to containerised approaches for operating software on the device, expanding its future capabilities.



## Johnson Controls introduces easy to install KT-2 two door controller for small to medium businesses



Johnson Controls, the global pioneer in smart, healthy, and sustainable buildings, has introduced Tyco Kantech KT-2, an adaptable two-door controller that is cost-effective and easy to install and operate for small to medium-sized businesses.

This new door controller expands the Johnson Controls line of multi-door control solutions purposely designed for businesses with needs ranging from one door to thousands. The KT-2 seamlessly integrates into OpenBlue, the dynamic platform for connected, safe, and sustainable building solutions

from Johnson Controls.

A versatile solution, the KT-2 can be used as either a standalone system or integrated with the EntraPass Security Management Software to leverage Wi-Fi connectivity, providing a cost-effective solution for challenging access control installations that typically require extensive cabling.

When in standalone mode, the KT-2 door controller can be managed through a dedicated web browser, providing a user-friendly, feature-rich alternative for two-door security without the need for full security

management software. Installers of the KT-2 will find deployment quick and seamless by using an intuitive wizard-based platform that guides them through the set-up and installation process.

Designed with small to medium businesses in mind, the KT-2 is compatible with EntraPass software (v. 8.40 or higher) which utilises the full set of features that the KT-2 offers. The capacitive touch-sensitive screen provides one-button programming for plug-and-play installation.

The KT-2 supports two readers, ioModules and other KT controllers such as the KT-1 and KT-400. When paired with Kantech ioSmart readers, the KT-2 provides end-to-end encryption, ensuring secure communication between access control devices. The KT-2 door controller includes a five-year warranty.

## Magos' SR-150 Radar Detection System



Israel based Magos Systems, a leader in advanced radar detection technology, has introduced the SR-150 radar, a new radar that is ideal for smaller sites looking to implement enhanced radar detection and larger locations that need to fill a gap to address a dead zone in their perimeter protection.

The small form SR-150 is an important addition to Magos Systems portfolio of ground based radar detection systems. Built with the same high standards as its other, longer range models, the SR-150 is a cost-effective solution that provides 150 meters of coverage, including up to 30 degrees of elevation coverage and

120 degrees of azimuth coverage.

Using C-band frequency, the radar consumes less power than other radar detection technology and combines superior range resolution (less than 1 meter) and an angle resolution lower than 0.7° allowing for near perfect detection of threats in the most challenging cluttered and weather environments.

By combining the Magos MASS solution with AI, the SR-150 reduces nuisance and false alarms to nearly zero. With supreme radar detection abilities and AI sophisticated algorithms, the SR-150 provides exact video based object classification, in-

cluding people, vehicles and boats, and the ability to accurately filter out irrelevant alerts on wildlife and fauna, without compromising threat detection capabilities.

Ideal for a variety of industries, including substations, car lots, data centers, critical infrastructure, and more, the SR-150 is small in size and weight, and also offers low power consumption, making it simpler to install when compared with other radar detection technology systems.

Using MIMO technology, the SR-150 is able to transmit and receive more data at a higher rate of speed. Digital beam forming technology ensures pinpoint accuracy of the radar detection technology, by steering the radar sensors to the area that requires coverage.

Like other radar detection solutions from Magos System, the SR-150 integrates with major VMS platforms, physical access control systems (PACS) and PTZ brands.

## SAFE- A TRADE SHOW THAT HAS POTENTIAL TO GROW



SAFE South India 2022, is the largest trade show for security and fire technology and allied domains and was organised by Informa Markets in Chennai on June 17-18, 2022. It was co-located with the Occupational Safety & Health - OSH South India exhibition and conference. The efforts put in by the organisers were considerable, however the turnout in terms of big brands and quality visitors could have been much better.

The show had the blessings of Sh. T. Mano Thangaraj, Hon'ble Minister for Information Technology, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, and key dignitaries from Tamil Nadu, namely, Mr. Braj Kishore Ravi, IPS, DGP and Director, Tamil Nadu Fire and Rescue Services and Mr. M.V. Karthikeyan, Joint Director, Directorate of Industrial Safety & Health, Govt of Tamil Nadu, along with key dignitaries Mr. Chozha Naachiar Rajasekar, President, The Tamil Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Sharad Kumar, Airport Director, Chennai International Airport, and Mr. Hemant Sapra, President of Safety Appliances Manufacturing Association. The show was supported by Electronic Security Association of India, ASIS & OSAC.

The last two years have been a roller coaster



journey for the exhibition industry, where "uncertainty" has been the biggest challenge for many.

As is said, 'Necessity is the mother of all inventions.' Hence, necessitated by COVID-19, exhibition organisers

had quickly adapted to organising virtual events and in a very short period of time were able to unlock a number of opportunities by adapting to technology and implementing bold strategies.

However, there is absolutely no doubt that personal contact has no replacement whatsoever. Face-to-face interactions add a distinctive element to professional relationships and create a long-lasting impact. Physical events help build memorable connections. In addition to relationship building, face-to-face shows also allow organisers and exhibitors to collect on-ground feedback on a personal level.

The cost of running a physical show is high – with venue and resource allocation to fulfil your needs. In addition, it limits audience size due to geographical constraints such as travel and accommodation. On the other hand, it's immediately harder to measure the success of physical exhibitions since it is really difficult to draw calculable data such as booth visits, conversations made, quality of visitors, how much business actually gets transacted and so on, during the show.

Much is dependent on the organisers. Sadly, out of the three prominent shows that were being physically held before the onset of CO-

The IFSEC India 2022 show is scheduled to be held later this year in New Delhi.

The SAFE 2022 show that opened its doors to the public last month in June, in Chennai attracted a few big brands like Prama & Hikvision amongst the big boys of the industry, who had large and impressive booths showcasing their latest global offerings. However, in spite of a number of smaller players exhibiting their products, there was significantly nothing really new on display.

The technology and the products such as video door phones, GPS transponders, digital locks, and low end CCTV cameras and recorders, including the covert ones, were more oriented towards the consumer - SOHO market. Very few booths had anything for the enterprise and public security domains. Moreover, the show lacked the energy that one sees at IFSEC.

The technologies on exhibit were no way near the global technological advancements in our industry. As one of the largest consumer markets of the world, and one of the fastest developing economies, one would've at least hoped to see some other big brands such as HID and AXIS communications, amongst others, who are headquartered in the southern part of India, to have been present and showcasing their latest offerings.

Indians today are getting used to the best that the world has to offer, gone are the days, when out-of-date technologies and solutions found India to be a lucrative market.

Niche exhibitions are supposed to be an industry window to the world. SAFE 2022 definitely has the potential to do better and attract quality exhibitors and serious security professionals as visitors. Yes, organising trade shows is the core business objective of all event organisers and generating maximum value for their exhibitors, and their own organisations is their ultimate aim. It's uncertain if this objective was fulfilled by SAFE 2022.



## Vivotek's CC9160-H Low-Profile Network Camera



VIVOTEK has announced the launch of the new CC9160-H compact, low-profile 2MP network camera with Trend Micro IoT Security and available CC9160-H(HS) height strip.

VIVOTEK's CC9160-H(HS) is especially designed for 180 degree panoramic indoor surveillance with an inconspicuous design that makes it a great choice for retail, convenience

stores, hotels and motels, classrooms, banking, restaurants, and small businesses. With 120dB WDR Pro for high contrast lighting environments, the 180 degree horizontal panoramic views in 1080P provide amazing situational surveillance coverage.

The CC9160-H's unique mounting design facilitates easy installation onto any wall. A built-in microphone further increases the level

of surveillance while recording sound within a five meter radius. Included digital input and digital output connections also add to the CC9160-H's security capabilities.

An ideal installation height of 170cm (5.5 ft) also allows the CC9160-H(HS) height strip to capture clear facial images at eye view, even when the subject is wearing a hat or covered with a hood. The CC9160-H(HS) height strip comes in a black housing and with an option for an all black panel.

Additional CC9160-H features and specifications include: Smart Stream III to Optimize Bandwidth Efficiency; 2-Megapixel CMOS Sensor; 30 fps @ 1920x1080; One-way audio capability; Event trigger and notification; NDAA Compliance

objects in motion and the lighting conditions, to reduce motion blur and deliver the clearest images possible.

WiseStream III dynamically controls encoding so that when a classified object is detected, the compression rate on the area is minimised to improve image quality, while the rest of the scene is compressed at a

higher rate. Combined with H.265 compression the bandwidth efficiency can be improved by up to 75% compared to current H.264 technology.

The PNM-C12083RVD and PNM-C7083RVD are robust and hard-wearing in any weather with IP66, IK10 and NEMA 4X certifications. They also feature a metal-shielded RJ-45 to

protect the cameras from transient voltage, a hard-coated dome bubble providing better resistance to scratching and a GORE vent to prevent condensation and maintain performance. Furthermore, the installation has been made easy with CVBS video output and a Wi-Fi dongle (optional) for viewing and adjusting cameras from a smartphone.

## Harnessing solar power to solve the challenges of remote locations



Designed for PoE, PoE+ and HPOE-powered security equipment, these fully assembled power kits come ready to apply batteries (sealed lead acid or lithium iron phosphate) and mount.

If there is a requirement to mount additional equipment, then there is an included backplate and DIN rail. Two different sizes of lockable enclosures are available, supporting up to several days of stored power.

The prospects of deploying surveillance hardware at a remote site likely conjures an uneasy conversation with the end customer for many installers and integrators — alerting them to the necessity for expensive trenching and wire-pulling to position cameras at distant endpoints. However, KBC offers a solution that can meet these challenges head on and, which can also be achieved at a much keener price point.

With specialist experience in this field, KBC Networks uniquely understands the various challenges with these types of installations and can offer a simple cost-

saving alternative. KBC has been providing its Renewable Energy Solar Power Kits — specially engineered to support all devices needing power at isolated areas — for more than 25 years.

These kits are conservatively specified and built to eliminate the threat of power outages in the shorter days of the winter months because the kits are sized to a site's specific needs and requirements.

Because all necessary components are built-in, there is no lost tech time on site trying to figure out how to assemble and wire the various items to complete the solution.

To determine the size of the solar panel and battery required in the geographical zone, KBC offers a remote power estimator, and battery and solar input mobile diagnostics are also offered via an app for Android and iOS devices.

Calculating solar panel power is not an exact science, with many environmental variables that cannot be controlled. For this reason, the company also offers affordable wind turbines that can provide additional power charging for remote project sites.

## Hanwha Techwin Europe unveils the PNM-C12083RVD and PNM-C7083RVD dual-channel multi-sensor cameras



Hanwha Techwin Europe announces the release of two new AI-powered dual-channel multi-sensor cameras in Europe, the PNM-C12083RVD and PNM-C7083RVD. The AI cameras are designed to monitor two different areas with two different fields of view, making them ideal for monitoring staircases or elevators, looking around corners, and securing two adjacent areas such as check-in desks.

The two-in-one cameras feature highly accurate deep-learning based object detection and classification while representing a lower Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) over installing equivalent cameras. Not only do they offer the

advantage of lower hardware costs, but they are also faster to install, use one cable and in most cases require only a single VMS licence.

The PNM-C12083RVD comes with two 6MP cameras at 15fps, while the PNM-C7083RVD has two 2MP at 30fps. Both come with an IR (Infrared) viewable length of 25m, are NDAA compliant, and feature next-level cybersecurity with TPM 2.0 and are FIPS 140-2 certified.

AI-based object detection reduces the occurrence of false alarms, providing operators with a reliable source of events, while accurate object classification improves operational

efficiency by making forensic search highly efficient. The cameras can identify human faces as well as identify particular vehicles and recognise number plates, while ignoring irrelevant motion such as wind-blown trees, shadows, stray objects, or animals moving within the field of view.

For post-event analysis, the dual-channel cameras utilise BestShot technology to support operators in quickly seeing the best shot of an event occurring. Camera-generated metadata (person, face, vehicle, and licence plate), is embedded in the video and delivered back to a control room, so a compatible VMS can carry out a highly efficient forensic search.

AI also enhances the image quality of video delivered back to operators. WiseNR II noise reduction uses AI to identify object movement and reduce blur in noisy, low-light environments. AI-based Preferred Shutter technology automatically adjusts shutter speed based on classified

## OpenEye's OE-C3212D8-S Outdoor IP Dome Camera



The OE-C3212D8-S is a 8MP full size IP dome camera equipped with a 2.8~12mm varifocal, autofocus, zoom lens and person, vehicle, and line crossing detection analytics. True WDR and true day/night functionality allow the camera to adapt to changing lighting conditions throughout the day

to ensure high-quality images.

The IK10 and IP67-rated housing and large size make it well-suited for installation in high-traffic areas to provide a strong visual deterrent without concern for inclement weather or vandalism. Adaptive IR technology prevents

overexposure of objects close to the camera further enhancing the low-light performance.

The OE-C3212D8-S is compatible with all 32-Series mounting accessories to fit a broad range of applications making it an excellent choice for users looking for a cost-competitive, full-featured smart camera.

Combine the analytics capabilities of this camera with OpenEye Web Services to receive real-time alerts, on person, vehicle or line crossing detection, sent directly to your mobile device or PC.



# Milestone Systems introduces the new XProtect Incident Manager



With the introduction of the XProtect Incident Manager in 2022 R2, users will be able to manage incidents directly in their VMS and connect video footage with incidents as they unfold.

In the latest product update of Milestone System's XProtect 2022 R2 video management software, Milestone introduces several new features and capabilities. These include managing and monitoring incidents with the click of one button, offering the Essential+ version of XProtect on AWS Marketplace, starting on July 5, 2022 and improving licence plate recognition to include style recognition.

With this latest product update, Milestone Systems continues to raise the bar on higher performing video technology software and meet the market's rising demand for comprehensive, best-in-class, turn-key video technology solutions.

The new XProtect Incident Manager enables users to capture any live feed with a single click. When the incident is over, users can stop the capture and start filling in incident details. Incident types are fully configurable, allowing users to define incident types and details for reporting.

Configuration op-

tions include free text, drop-down lists, dates and time fields, and several other options. Previously recorded footage can also be added to an incident to strengthen the evidence.

With the new release of Milestone XProtect 2022 R2 video management software, the Essential+ version of XProtect will replace the previous version in AWS Marketplace.

Users will now be able to have all XProtect 2022 R2 product variants on AWS for optimised storage and transmission.

Milestone XProtect 2022 R2 features enhanced licence plate style recognition. Different countries have distinct licence plate types and formats for various types of vehicles. The updated LPR feature enables users to recognise, sort and bundle licence plate types, by analysing motor vehicles more efficiently.

Depending on the country's plate style, users will be able to distinguish trucks from private cars, or even police cars, limousines, trucks and buses from each other. Similarly, some countries have separate plates for gas driven or electric cars that will now be readily identified.

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## Hikvision Value Express Kit



Hikvision, the global leader in high-performance professional security solutions with tremendous value, announced a new professional color PoE camera and 4K NVR plug and play video security solution in a bundled kit.

The new Hikvision Value Express Kit includes six 2.8mm ColorVu IP Turret PoE

cameras with advanced imaging technologies to deliver vivid color images even in dim lighting conditions. The kit also includes a compatible PoE NVR with a pre-installed 2 TB HDD for 24/7 high-definition video recording.

"Our new Value Express Kit with ColorVu technology provides security dealers with a

comprehensive, high-performance video security solution in a box that is completely pre-configured for fast and easy installation," said John Xiao, Vice President of Marketing, Hikvision USA.

"This new professional plug-and-play kit makes it easier and more profitable for our dealer partners to order, deliver, and install high-performance video security systems for a myriad range of small and medium-sized businesses and organizations."

The new Hikvision Premium ColorVu Camera Kit includes six plug-and-play ColorVu IP PoE cameras with 2K

resolution with 120 dB Wide Dynamic Range (WDR) capable of delivering high-quality images 24/7. Additional features include IP67 water and dust resistant housings for indoor and outdoor applications, H.265 video compression to conserve recording space, and a built-in microphone for audio monitoring and recording.

The system's 8-channel 4K NVR features a 2 TB HDD capable of recording up to 8 MP resolution, H.265+/H.265/H.264+/H.264/MPEG compression, plug-and-play operation to support up to eight cameras for system expansion.



## Dahua Smart Education Solution, powered by AI, facilitates the modernisation of school security and education



AI (Artificial Intelligence) is empowering a new generation of advanced, efficient security systems. In the field of education, AI is also facilitating the digital and intelligent upgrading of schools and institutions from K12 to universities. AI applications, such as smart identification, deep learning and intelligent analysis greatly reduce manpower costs, while improving the security level and management efficiency at the same time.

AI-enabled innovative teaching methods can help enhance engagement in both remote and in-person classes, and promote a conducive learning environment for students.

To give a better understanding of how can schools benefit from utilising advanced technologies, like AI, here's a list of some of its campus applications:

### Prevent unauthorised entry into campus:

Campus entrances and exits are areas vulnerable to external threats. A robust entrance and exit access control system is imperative in building the school's first major line of defence.

For example, installing an AI-enabled access control system can effectively prevent unauthorised entry into the campus, library, teaching buildings, dormitories and other school premises. Aside from that, the latest data management technology can be used to meet the daily needs of schools and students (e.g. attendance, visitors, and vehicles).

Likewise, perimeter protection, the technology behind tripwire and line crossing function, plays a vital role in preventing invasions in surrounding areas or unauthorised access to regulated places.

When unauthorised personnel and vehicles are detected, the system will send a real-time alarm to notify the control room,

which can help reduce security risks in the campus. Machine learning helps reduce false alarms, by filtering out irrelevant objects, such as leaves, branches and even animals.

### Detect violent actions in real time:

Globally, school violence and bullying remain a serious problem. A report by UNESCO and the Institute of School Violence Prevention at Ewha Womans University (Seoul, South Korea) indicated that an estimated 246 million (20%) children and adolescents were subjected to some form of school violence each year. One of the recommended priority actions is to establish reporting systems and improve the collection of data and evidence.

For campus safety, today's comprehensive security systems have already integrated emergency management features. With the help of an AI sensor, 3D cameras with stereo analysis capabilities can identify fights, falls and other possible violent behaviours through deep learning.

With real-time alarm in place, the school's security personnel can be informed in time about possible emergencies, such as violence and falls, thereby allowing them to intervene or respond accordingly. A one-button alarm system is also suggested in the campus premises, in order to provide students with the fastest way to ask for help, in case of emergencies.

### Improve teaching performance and learning outcomes:

Normalcy and resource imbalance during the COVID-19 pandemic have prompted developing countries to accelerate the digital transformation of education. With the unprecedented offline-to-online transition of many classrooms, modern electronic whiteboards and blackboards have emerged.

The Dahua DeepHub Smart Interactive Whiteboard, for instance, provides an array of features, including multi-functional writing, wireless projection, conference content sharing, etc., making it an ideal choice for classrooms and meeting rooms where demonstration, information sharing and document management are needed.

Alternatively, an all-in-one smart blackboard with highly integrated design is also a good option. It combines traditional blackboard writing with touchscreen technology, promoting collaborative human-computer interaction in the classroom.

Moreover, teachers don't have to worry about students, who can't participate in in-person classes. An intelligent camera with broadcasting function can automatically track and capture a teacher's lecture through an AI algorithm, with an accuracy of up to 99%.

It can integrate with multi-channel video streams to vividly restore the classroom scene, thereby providing an immersive remote learning experience for students in different locations.

As AI becomes more advanced and continues to gain traction in the security industry, it is imperative to carry out best practices in surveillance monitoring. Educating users regarding proper usage of technology and its benefits is strongly encouraged. Aside from that, data and privacy protection must also be prioritised at all times. Several central management software and platforms combine data and privacy security functions in order to help protect privacy, while monitoring.

Some of the measures being implemented are minimised data and private information, face/body mosaic technology, as well as security encryption of network transmission, storage, download, and export. Users also have an option to configure the storage duration of each video channel. Overall, these best practices are put into action, so as to help ensure privacy protection and promote responsible monitoring.

## Hikvision solar-powered solution protects remote construction site



In the midst of a rise in building material thefts, construction company Decho used Hikvision's solar-powered wireless cameras to guard the construction site for its much-anticipated Coast Garden project.

Building material shortages and rising prices fuelled a rise in construction site thefts in New Zealand, which has prompted worries among builders, project managers, and contractors.

The Decho Group is one of Auckland's most innovative and respected land developers, serving civil infrastructure, industrial, and building markets. Dechos newly launched Coast Garden project is a new, premium development under construction in the highly sought-after Hobsonville Peninsula locale. The exclusive Coast Garden development is a brand new 4.3-hectare subdivision offering waterfront living on an elevated clifftop site on the peninsula.

"We need a security solution to protect our high-value items such as machinery, tools, copper, and other building materials," Ning Zhao, Director of Decho, said, "Our projects don't get completed overnight. It can take months and years to execute a single project. The construction sites endure all kinds of weather, power issues, security problems, and many other challenges. Therefore, we are in need of a solution that boosts security quickly and easily with simple installation and suited for deployment in any kind of outdoor environment, and without need for a fixed network or power supply."

To protect its valuable tools and equipment, Decho researched several options, and deployed Hikvision's solar-powered security camera setup. EXIR fixed bullet solar power 4G network cameras and 4K ColorVu fixed bullet solar power

4G network camera kits were placed around the perimeter of Decho's Coast Garden construction site.

The solar-powered security camera setup uses a 40-Watt photovoltaic panel and a highly durable 20 Ah rechargeable Lithium battery to power a Hikvision EXIR fixed bullet solar power 4G network camera. Because the setup gets power from the sun, there is no need for fixed power or network cables on site. With the product's smart power management features, each setup can provide up to 7 days of operation during cloudy or rainy periods when fully charged. Its 4G camera further adds a 32GB eMMC (embedded Multimediacard) in addition to an SD memory card, this ensures continuous video recording even if there is an interruption with the SD card.

The solar powered cameras come equipped with Hikvision's ColorVu and Acusense technologies. ColorVu technology gives cameras the ability to produce high-quality, full-color images in low-light conditions. With Acusense technology, AI-powered perimeter protection enables target classification based on deep learning. If the perimeter is breached by a person or vehicle, the cameras can automatically push event-triggered notifications to users' mobile devices.

According to Decho's Director, Ning Zhao, the fact that the Hikvision solar-powered cameras can be installed hassle-free was a key deployment feature for the company. The pole-mounted unit weighs just 14 kg (30 lbs), and no wires or cables are required, making the deployment process fast, easy, and cost-effective. "With its own power source, each

Hikvision cameras can be deployed anywhere on the site without having to

route cables, saving valuable time and resources, which could be redirected to help the company complete construction on time," said Ning Zhao.

Empowered by ColorVu technology, the cameras offer clear vision in extremely dark environments. "Construction site compounds are most vulnerable to theft at night," commented Ning Zhao, "With these cameras installed, our valuables are now well protected during vulnerable out-of-hours periods."

Besides that, intrusions can now be detected accurately and addressed immediately. As the Acusense technology embedded in the cameras helps to differentiate between humans and other moving objects such as animals, falling leaves, or heavy rain, false positives are minimized, and Decho will only be alerted in the event of real security threats.

In addition, being waterproof and dust-resistant, the solar power cameras are suitable for deployment in any kind of outdoor environment. "These cameras are sturdy enough to withstand the harsh conditions on the construction site, as well as Auckland's frequent rainy and windy weather," said Ning Zhao.

Requiring only a single solar panel, the self-contained setup operates for up to 7 days on a single battery charge, which delivers significant cost savings for Decho. In addition, powered by clean and renewable energy, the solar cameras not only help to save operational costs for the building firm, but also reduce the company's carbon footprint. Ning Zhao commented. Deploying a solar-powered wireless camera system represents an opportunity to have an immediately positive impact on sustainability.



# UK logistics company improves efficiencies with smart technology



A major logistics centre based near the UK's East Midlands Airport selected a Hanwha Techwin solution when it needed an efficient video surveillance system to monitor its operations, specifically an automated part of its warehouse that operates 24/7 to fulfil orders.

The logistics company handles packages for contract customers including major retailers and is subject to strict service level agreements; so any downtime in its operations may incur significant penalties, damage its reputation, and impact customer loyalty in a competitive industry.

The automated picking area handles approximately 90 parcels a minute and operates 24/7 so the cameras and video management system (VMS) selected needed to be reliable and easily supported remotely. The cameras also needed to be high definition, and highly accurate, due to the speed of the processing in the picking area.

As a result, the logistics company turned to Zicam and Hanwha Techwin, as previous projects gave the team confidence in Hanwha Techwin's reliability and

ease of use. Zicam and Hanwha Techwin implemented a standalone system for the picking area to give a comprehensive overview of any issues occurring on-site such as a conveyor belt jamming, equipment failure, or parcels falling from the belt.

Quick responses are critical with a fast-moving conveyor system, so the cameras used, coupled with the Wisenet Wave VMS, enable the company's 24-hour engineering team to take quick action. This keeps downtime and parcel build-up to a minimum and maintains the productivity of the site.

The project site uses Wisenet QND-8080R cameras, chosen for their wide field of view and high resolution. The dome cameras feature motorised varifocal lenses that allow operators to scan the area and zoom in on parts of the conveyor system that are prone to blockages.

Zicam and Hanwha Techwin also installed high-capacity RAID server storage and ensured there was sufficient bandwidth to support video at 20fps. Working with Wisenet Wave, this enables operators to keep up with the speed of the

picking system and also easily review any faults or incidents frame-by-frame in high detail - something that has proved invaluable in preventing similar incidents from occurring in the future.

The logistics company was keen to use Hanwha Techwin's solutions thanks to previous successful projects that proved Hanwha Techwin's reputation for high-quality performance at a competitive price. The company was also required not to use any equipment from the black-listed companies under the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) in its warehouses, so Hanwha Techwin was an attractive choice as a Korean manufacturer that adheres to cyber security by design and is NDAA compliant.

Hanwha Techwin's solution is remotely supported, with software and firmware updates carried out remotely at a time that suits. This remote connection means that configuration can be undertaken remotely. When vibrations from recent building work put the cameras out of focus, for instance, they could be re-focused remotely, without an engineer having to visit the site. "The 5-year warranty that comes with being a silver partner has also provided added peace of mind for the client," adds Salisbury.

Based on the success of this project, there are three additional installations planned for 2023 that replicate this video surveillance system and build on it further with AI-based perimeter protection from Hanwha Techwin.



features prestigious office and public spaces on ground levels, including shops, restaurants and an observation deck at the top of Varso Tower.

Due to the size and scope of the project, HB Reavis - a renowned international workspace developer - sought a single access system for the entire building, so that every tenant would have a simple, easy-to-use, one-stop solution for security management.

It wanted to move away from tenants having to use a traditional keyfob or card-based solution and rather imple-

ment a high-tech system that also allows for the management of digital credentials, using smartphones as a primary form factor.

The solution of choice included HID Mobile Access and mobile-enabled readers from HID Global, which is equipped with Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) and Near Field Communication (NFC) technologies, as well as a Software Development Kit (SDK) that integrates with HB Reavis' More App.

The app covers all building services from concierge services, events, room booking systems, car or bike-sharing, and, of course, easy access, when people enter and exit, and move around. As the SDK can be developed and upgraded over time, as requirements change, HB Reavis is able to maximise the long-term benefit of mobile security.

The mobile, contact-

less solution, which supports Android and iOS-based smartphones, has been particularly beneficial, during the COVID-19 pandemic, as it minimises surface contact and the human-to-human interaction that is typical when issuing and managing physical cards and keyfobs.

"Not only does mobile access provide state-of-the-art security control, but there is also no need to remember to take a pass with you when you leave home or move around the building. When security is based on the phone, it is frictionless because people always have their phones with them," said Jakub Kacer, Security Manager at HB Reavis.

With the support of HID Global, HB Reavis can ensure a seamless access control solution that enhances the user experience for tenants and employees at Varso Place who access the building's facilities every day.

## Gindi TLV, a smart residential complex in Tel Aviv, deploys Oosto's facial recognition technology to protect tenants



Gindi TLV, a residential complex in the heart of Tel Aviv, Israel, maintains the safety of its community, by using Oosto's face and object recognition, to reduce contact with surfaces and enforce a policy of density, distance and wearing masks in public areas.

Gindi TLV is an innovative residential complex, located in the heart of Tel Aviv, which includes 4 towers, restaurants, cafes, a country club and a mall. The complex has been planned and designed to allow community life for families and individuals, who have chosen to live in the beating heart of Tel Aviv, located within walking distance of the city's

business and entertainment areas.

Gindi TLV residents use a dedicated app for convenient booking of the complex's facilities, parking, guest invitation and as a social network that is the basis for community life in the complex. Gindi TLV is also equipped with advanced and interconnected technological systems that enable efficient and cost-effective management of infrastructure and service for tenants.

The Prop-tech technology in the complex was developed and managed by the start-up, My-Tower, which serves as a design partner in the project and is responsible

for making it the first smart residential neighbourhood in Israel. Gindi TLV uses Oosto's facial recognition technology, in order to provide tenants with touchless and secure entry.

Video analytics using artificial intelligence (AI) to reduce COVID-19-related risks is not unique to residential complexes.

According to a recent survey, 82% of academic institutions in the US and Western Europe will adopt face and object recognition technologies, in order to maintain safety through enforcing mask wearing, social distancing and reducing contact with surfaces to a minimum.

## HID Mobile Access and mobile-enabled readers deployed by Varso Place in Warsaw, Poland

HID Global, a worldwide renowned company in trusted identity solutions, announces the successful implementation of its HID Mobile Access solution and mobile-enabled readers in Varso Place, the site of the tallest skyscraper in the

European Union (EU), which allows more than 7,000 people to move more freely and securely throughout the building.

Located in Warsaw, Poland, Varso Place is HB Reavis' latest development and most ambitious project to date. Designed

by world-famous British architects, Foster + Partners, it comprises three buildings in a 144,000 square metres area.

The project's showstopper is the fully glazed 53-storey Varso Tower standing over 310 metres tall. The mixed-use site



## Access Ability UK deploys Videx 4G GSM intercom system to secure door entry for the Great Northern Tower in Manchester



The Great Northern Tower is an impressive 72-metre (236 feet) high-rise tower block that has been tailor made for residential living. With 25 floors, it is home to 287 self-contained apartments, located in the heart of Manchester, United Kingdom (UK).

An effective door entry system plays a critical role in convenient, secure and flexible access control, as well as the safety and wellbeing of residents. The tower block has a concierge service too that also requires specific authorisation for entry into and exit out of the building.

The building was completed in 2007 and fitted with a door entry system that, 15 years later, was hugely outdated and causing issues for entry into the tower block by residents, visitors and for concierge use too.

Residents were not consistently notified when someone was calling their apartment, so they often missed deliveries and visitors. Parts of the system were failing and proving to be very expensive to replace. Residents entered the tower block via a fob system and although this operated normally, the rest of the system was deteriorating.

A key challenge also presented itself in how a flat or apartment was called. The existing system was very complicated and visitors had to look up a flat number on the system and then get a three-digit code to dial. This often led to people, from visiting friends and family to tradespeople and delivery drivers, di-

alling the wrong apartments and calling the wrong people.

There also needed to be a specific concierge function on the system that could alert the main reception desk of a tradesperson coming to visit, or a parcel being delivered, for a resident who wasn't home.

Replacing the system with a bespoke solution, but retaining the existing access control fob reader aspect, all fitted within a glass wall, was highly complex. Installer - Access Ability UK Ltd opted to fit a Videx 4G GSM system that was highly customised, integrated perfectly with the existing fob reader, but crucially, solved the key entry challenges residents and the concierge team were facing.

Barry Kimber, a Director at Access Ability UK Ltd, said "One major issue that we needed to solve was to enable effective, easy and secure door entry for residents, to authorise entry in and out of the tower block."

He adds, "By installing a GSM intercom system with a VX2200 panel meant residents could receive notification of someone at the entrance straight to their phone, whether they were home or not. For example, they could be on holiday or at work, but receive a call to say a delivery had arrived, grant entry to the courier driver, who can leave the parcel with the concierge for safe keeping, until the resident returns. In terms of calling each flat, visitors now simply need to enter the number of the flat and it calls that flat directly - there's no need

to look the flat number up on the system to dial a code to then input."

Barry Kimber continues, "The GSM-powered intercom system also enables the concierge team to authorise entry for visitors to deliver parcels or fix appliances for example, when the resident is away. Conveniently, the intercom is very easy to adapt and modify, and the concierge team can programme the system both locally and remotely, when flat residence changes, as people move into and out of the tower block."

Alongside the GSM technology, Videx also supplied a highly customised entry panel that was not only specifically manufactured for The Great Northern Tower, to sit within a very difficult-to-navigate glass wall, and feature the existing third-party access control reader, but also carried bespoke engraving too. For example, the block numbers are clearly identified as well as the concierge service button.

The Videx 4G GSM system is extremely flexible and provides the utmost convenience and security to users. Programming can be done via apps, text messages and PC software, both local and remotely.

The digital 4G intercoms can support up to 1000 apartments, each with coded access and proximity access, as additions to the dial to open access control option. Up to 10 free access periods can be programmed for any of the outputs on the Videx 4G GSM system, making it great for public access at busy times.

## Evacuation alert system from C-Tec specified for eight-storey London residential block



An eight-storey block in Southwark, London, has installed C-Tec's EVAC-ALERT evacuation alert system to comply with BS 8629 and ensure fire and rescue services can alert residents of the need to evacuate if required.

Located in the Elephant and Castle area of the London Borough of Southwark, Joyce Newman House is an eight-storey block of 40 spacious living spaces commissioned by Leathermarket JMB, Southwark's largest resident-managed housing organisation.

Specified and supplied by Churches Fire & Security working

alongside Blu Electrical Installations Ltd, EVAC-ALERT has been designed to comply with the new BS 8629, which recommends evacuation alert systems be installed in all new blocks of flats over 18 metres to assist the Fire and Rescue Service (FRS) in evacuating part or all of a building in an emergency.

The system consists of a 2-loop control panel connected to a host of single and multi-way interface units, self-testing sounders and visual indicators. Manual controls are said to allow firefighters to easily operate the evacuation alert devices located inside flats on a zone-by-zone or floor-

by-floor basis, while the panel is stored in a secure vandal resistant cabinet which can only be accessed by the FRS using a copy-protected key.

David Collins, Project Manager at Churches Fire & Security, said: "Evacuation alert systems ensure firefighters can alert occupants in a building of the need to evacuate if a fire gets out of control. The EVAC-ALERT system we've specified provides peace of mind for residents and, crucially, also demonstrates that building management have taken every precaution possible to protect the people residing in the property. Our client is delighted with the system."

*Contd... from page 1*

## How secure really .....

also support proximity control, which means that the card is able to confirm to the reader that it is actually close to the reader and that it is not a remote data stream from a hacker.

### What's the Best System For Me?

If an extremely high level of security is the primary concern, a system using the MIFARE DESFire standard may be the best option. MIFARE Classic cards still offer a particularly proficient level of security and while 125 KHz

systems are low on the security scale, they are still widely in use because of their ease of use and lower cost.

Remember that the read range with MIFARE systems will be less than 125 kHz proximity systems and, while 125 KHz proximity cards can be simply waived at the reader, MIFARE cards need to be PRESENTED to the reader, meaning the read time may take a second or two. Users need to be educated in the use of these cards to prevent frustration and

to limit calls of non-working cards or card readers.

Many manufacturers offer their own versions of secure cards and card readers based on the MIFARE standards. Many use a unique identifier, or encryption code, to prevent cards from being copied. Be sure to tell your vendor what your primary priority is (security, cost, expanding an existing system, card cloning, ease of use, etc.) so that they can help in your choice of a card system.



## Bosch releases new software update version 1.50 (V1.50) for Praesensa public address and voice alarm (PA/VA) system



Bosch has announced a new software release for Praesensa, the IP-based public address and voice alarm (PA/VA) system. The new software version 1.50 features an improved user experience and enhanced connectivity, especially for large installations requiring multiple controllers and subsystems, along with more options for system redundancy.

System designers will receive more flexibility designing large system networks with this release. It is now possible to better use and directly assign multiple controllers in large networks with subnets, which is very often indispensable in typical projects, like airports or oil/gas industrial applications.

Up to 3,000 networked devices and 10,000 audio zones can be managed, by a total of up to 20 system controllers, while both master controllers and subsystem controllers can be optionally utilised for controller

redundancy.

The seamless EN 54 certified networked solution allows high-level priority calls from fireman microphones, to any zone or group, throughout the entire Praesensa system, optimising security and fall-back options. In case of a connection failure of a subsystem controller to the master controller, the subsystem controllers will continue to operate as an independent, self-sufficient system.

Due to extended options to work with multi-controller systems, Bosch has established a new, future-proof and easy-to-manage licensing system. The user now only needs to acquire one licence per subsystem, with no additional hardware purchases required.

The latest software allows the user to activate Push-To-Talk (PTT) messages more quickly, when the call station is in idle mode, with a single push of a button. This is especially convenient when no extension keypad is

connected and a handheld microphone is being used.

In tandem with software improvements come several hardware enhancements. All Praesensa network components have EN 54-16 certification, including the Cisco IE 5000 industrial Ethernet switch, which can be utilised as a backbone switch in larger Praesensa installations.

Both switches, Praesensa PRA-ES8P2S and Cisco IE 5000, can be easily supervised via SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) for direct fault reporting and daisy-chained for greater flexibility in network designs.

In addition, overall network performance has been improved by the OMN-ARNIE and OMN-ARNIS audio routing interfaces from Bosch, contributing to a fully EN 54-16 certified Dante audio routing solution for multiple subnets.

from 80% in 2003 to 93% in 2021. This figure alone demonstrates the importance of this vital piece of firefighting equipment. Yet, it would appear that individuals still need to be reminded of the value that portable fire extinguishers deliver to society.

In 2019, IFEDA was alerted to a news article advising that a Housing Association responsible for managing more than 7000 premises in the North of England had removed fire extinguishers from communal areas in their properties.

Residents were apparently told that 'it is not considered necessary to provide fire fighting equipment in the buildings and such equipment should only be used by people who have been trained.' This however entirely contravenes existing legislation.

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 recommends that all premises are provided with appropriate firefighting equipment. It says: 'Where necessary in order to safeguard the safety of relevant persons, the responsible person must ensure that the premises are equipped with appropriate firefighting equipment and firefighting equipment is simple to use and indicated by signs. The responsible person must take measures for firefight-

ing in the premises and nominate competent persons to implement those measures and ensure that the number of such persons, their training and the equipment available to them are adequate.'

It also states that for the majority of buildings, 'fire aid' fire fighting equipment – typically, fire extinguishers, blankets and buckets – should be sufficient. For more complex premises it advises that automatic fire suppression systems may be necessary.

In fact, the portable extinguisher landscape has improved significantly in recent years. The standard BS 5306-8 that focuses on the installation of fire extinguishing equipment in premises has been revised twice. One of the main improvements includes making sure the most suitable extinguisher is the nearest one to any known hazard, for example a Wet Chemical extinguisher near a deep fat fryer in a kitchen.

Another significant discovery from the new survey was that the contents inside extinguishers has become more efficient since 2003, whilst the way we use them has become more uniform and intuitive.

In some areas there has been little change. For instance, the percentage of fires that the Fire

& Rescue Service (FRS) is called to has increased slightly to 27%. In addition, respondents in both surveys agreed with the same interpretation that any extinguisher will put out a small fire and that, once a fire becomes too big, it will be difficult to tackle with any size or number of extinguishers.

As a leading provider of fire safety solutions, Chubb considers the use of portable fire extinguishers a vital and common sense solution to tackle and extinguish small fires before they escalate.

Aside from the value that portable fire extinguishers offer in terms of saving lives, they also offer monetary savings too. Based on 2003 statistics, recent estimations are that fire extinguishers actually save £8.6 million each year in terms of FRS resources, while also saving the UK's economy over £840 million.

Perhaps most surprising of all is that in the 2021 survey just 52% of users had received training in the use of fire extinguishers yet the correct extinguisher was used 93% of the time. Whilst the use of a portable fire extinguisher is reasonably intuitive as they are easily identifiable and operable, training is essential to help employees choose the best and safest type to tackle each incident.

## Smoke detection market driven by new regulations



in battery technology have led to the development of smoke detectors, which in turn, is driving the demand for battery-powered smoke detectors from various end-use industries.

The dual-sensor smoke detector segment in the smoke detectors market was valued at USD 0.4 billion in 2022. These detectors or alarms are a combination of ionisation and photoelectric technologies. The use of dual-sensor smoke detectors is based on the type of applications in a room. For instance, healthcare institutions comprise various rooms and departments, such as wards, staircases, and pharmacies, which require efficient and reliable smoke detection systems due to the presence of people as well as combustible equipment and medicines. For this rea-

A new research report published by Market-sandmarkets, estimates that global smoke detector market revenues will be around USD 2.3 billion in 2022 and projects it will reach USD 3.4 billion by 2027, at a CAGR of 8.2%.

Rising government support as well as initiatives for the installation of smoke detectors and rising expenditure related to fire of various enterprises are driving the demand for the smoke detectors market. Additionally, the installation of smoke detectors is in-

creasing rapidly in various mobile applications such as coaches, buses, and specialty vehicles; as mandated by the government bodies which are also responsible for the growth of the market.

Battery-powered smoke detectors are easy to install and work during power outages. In addition, these types of smoke detectors are powered by sealed lithium-ion batteries, which have a longer life of 10 years. These detectors come up with the Do-It-Yourself instructions. The rapid innovations

## New survey highlights the importance of fire extinguishers



The 2021 Fire Extinguisher Use Survey has highlighted that some significant trends have appeared which cannot be ignored, for example, the value of portable fire extinguishers. The portable fire extinguisher that has been a staple requirement for commercial buildings for decades is playing an increasing role in putting out fires according to the results of this recent sur-

vey organised through a collaboration between the four main UK trade associations representing the fire industry.

As Chair of the Fire Industry Association (FIA) Services Council, Chubb's Guy Middleton was elected to head up the group conducting the Fire Extinguisher Use Survey. This involved bringing together tech-

nicians from companies in the four main trade associations in the UK – British Fire Consortium (BFC), Fire Industry Association (FIA), Independent Fire Engineering & Distributors Association (IFEDA) and UK Fire Association (UKFA) – to ask businesses that had used an extinguisher on fire the same questions in 2021 that had previously been asked for the original survey undertaken in 2003.

The 2021 survey found that most notably the number of fires being successfully extinguished by portable fire extinguishers has increased



son, dual-sensor smoke detectors are preferred in healthcare institutions.

Managed services manage the complete system remotely and offer various advantages, such as cost-saving, easy setup, real-time notifications, customisation, and reliable services. Managed service providers not only ensure the security of business information but also ensure the smooth functioning of business operations. These services help in managing fire safety and security in case of an emergency of fire. As a result, the managed services segment is expected to grow in the coming years.

The commercial segment has been further

segregated into healthcare; academia & institutional; hospitality; retail; and BFSI. Smoke detectors used in commercial spaces are either conventional or addressable. They are usually connected to a central fire alarm control panel and are interconnected. The commercial segment accounted for the largest share of the smoke detector market in 2021. The rising construction of commercial buildings globally, especially in the emerging economies, is responsible for the high adoption of smoke detectors in the commercial industry.

Europe is expected to hold the largest growth rate of more than 9% of

the smoke detector market during the forecast period. The governments in Europe have collectively or independently developed fire prevention and protection guidelines. There are strictly regulated European norms that every smoke detector manufacturer must abide by. Additionally, the governments of countries such as Austria, France, and Germany have mandated the installation of smoke detectors or smoke alarms in homes. Thus, increasing government regulations to safeguard building occupants from fire accidents is boosting the installation of smoke detectors in the European region.

## Motorola Solutions launch MXM7000, an innovative mission critical in-vehicle solution that integrates TETRA and 4G LTE communications



Motorola Solutions has launched the MXM7000, an innovative mission critical in-vehicle solution that integrates TETRA and 4G LTE voice and data communications in a robust and secure platform, in order to keep public safety and military organisations connected, safe and informed, wherever they go.

The solution's resilient TETRA communications provide high transmit power to keep teams connected even in low coverage areas. It also features 4G LTE connectivity within an

LTE control head and Android 11 operating system, giving users access to rich data applications in the field and the ability to share video and data communication with control rooms for enhanced incident awareness, decision making and safety.

The MXM7000 provides public safety and military organisations with access to reliable push-to-talk voice communications and the work applications they use every day within a single, robust and secure platform.

The MXM7000 can

be used as a vehicle communications hub to connect a number of devices together, including body-worn video cameras, smartphones and tablets.

Highly versatile and flexible, the MXM7000 can either be used as a desk-based solution or taken on the road to tether a number of different devices together via Wi-Fi or Ethernet, transforming service vehicles into mobile communication hotspots. Motorola Solutions has also unveiled a hand-held version of the technology, the MXP7000.

## PPSS Group launches EN ISO 20471:2013 certified stab resistant body armour



UK firm PPSS Group have perhaps designed the very first and potentially only EN ISO 20471:2013 certified stab resistant body armour in the UK. This means security professionals would no longer be required to wear a hi-vis vest over commonly used body armour, in environments where it would be crucial.

The company claims that in the ever-growing sectors who demand body armour, more and more frontline pro-

fessionals also require high-visibility workwear. According to PPSS Group, using the right safety workwear is not only important to the wearer, but also the employer, who are required to comply with national, European or sometime international guidelines or directives.

The EN ISO 20471:2013 is the standard for high-visibility clothing. It is the unquestionable benchmark for anyone wishing to design or supply

high-visibility clothing. Robert Kaiser, CEO, is making potential customers aware: "Please note that many manufacturers provide an option, which appears to be Hi-Viz, but is not actually certified under EN ISO 20471:2013."

"Our fluorescent Cordura® material boosts visibility during the daylight hours, but more importantly it also increases levels of visibility during the night. This is further maximised by our highly reflective tape, which runs around the body and over the shoulders." PPSS Group's latest high visibility stab-resistant body armour also offers thoroughly field-tested and officially certified CAST KR1/SP1 (stab and spike) and VPAM W5 (blunt force/impact) protection.

## Sepura launches new VHF TETRA radios at Critical Communications World 2022 event



Sepura has launched its first VHF TETRA radios, providing a solution for mission critical users in challenging conditions such as extensive underground networks and remote, expansive outdoor environments.

Sepura's VHF solution fills a notable gap in the market for quality VHF TETRA radios, complementing the reliability, security, and mission critical protocols of TETRA, with the powerful audio processing of the SC Series radios, thereby ensuring crystal clear audio in loud, wet or dusty conditions.

Variants of the prov-

en SCG22 mobile and the hand-portable SC20 TETRA radios make up the VHF solution, operating within 136-174 MHz. Users will benefit from a globally trusted, proven, and robust solution, the SC20 and SCG22 are relied upon by public safety professionals, oil and gas services, transport, and airport providers.

These devices benefit from an extensive ecosystem of audio, power and carrying accessories, as well as advanced functionality from the AppSPACE applications portfolio and wireless programming capability.

Ben Tabor, the Product Manager at Sepura, explained the benefit of VHF to users in extensive, outdoor working environments. He stated, "Because VHF signals carry further in open spaces, operators can make significant infrastructure savings by investing in a VHF TETRA network."

Ben Tabor adds, "Sepura's newly released radios, when coupled with currently available TETRA infrastructure, provide a cost effective, end-to-end solution for the most demanding mission critical operations."



# The top 3 scams targeting mobile phones



From online banking to storing sensitive personal information, from running business to availing services, mobile phones have become an extension of our identities. Fraudsters know this and that's why phones are a top target for ID theft and financial crimes. Nearly one in three Americans



(68.4 million people) have fallen victim to mobile phone scams that amounted to almost \$40 billion in financial losses.

So how do mobile phone scams work? Let's understand the top three techniques used by fraudsters to target mobile users:

## 1). Smishing

SMS phishing (or smishing) is probably the most widely used tactic in mobile phone scams. The average American consumer receives about 20 text messages per month, a number that has more than doubled over the past three years. Text messages usually start with a link (using a shortened URL) to some kind of survey, prize winnings, sweepstakes or lottery, or it's an urgent notification about your bank account, credit card or tax refund.

Victims are typically asked to either visit a website, download an application, enter login credentials or fill a form on a page controlled by attackers. Once victims complete the desired action, attackers take hold of the victim's credentials, bank account, other sensitive information, or infect the device with malware to carry out additional attacks.

## 2). Vishing

Voice phishing (or vishing) is another form of phishing where scammers call unsuspecting victims by impersonating legitimate business-

es or trusted individuals. Attackers can use a combination of scare tactics and emotional manipulation to gain the victim's trust and deceive them in carrying out an action.

Common examples include neighborhood calls, tax refunds, health-care scams, and technical support calls. In addition to this, robocalls (scam calls that use recordings instead of humans) are also a widely used tactic in vishing.

Americans received 50.5 billion robocalls in 2021 and is the number one cause of complaint to the FCC.

## 3). SIM Swapping

Mobile phones are used for authentication purposes by banks and other service providers (via one time passwords or access pins) as a means of verifying identities. If scammers can somehow get access to a phone's SIM card, they can gain control over text messages, emails and other sensitive information.

SIM swapping is the fraudulent act of transferring a mobile SIM card to the ownership of a scamster who then leverages it to compromise the victim's digital identity or banking credentials. Attackers do this by either stealing the victim's SIM card or using the victim's personal information to con the mobile phone company into porting the victim's number to another device controlled by the scammer. Earlier this year, the FBI issued an alert, highlighting \$68 million in losses attributed to SIM-swapping.

## How Users Can Avoid Being Victimized

Some mobile phone scams can be highly targeted, making it difficult for even the most security-savvy user to spot them. Here are some best practices that can help:

- When receiving an unexpected text message

watch out for common warning signs such as misspellings, grammar mistakes, unexpected prizes or gift cards.

- Be careful with links in SMS messages. When in doubt, visit the website directly instead of clicking on the link.

- Do not connect your mobile Wi-Fi with unfamiliar networks or unknown Bluetooth devices. Avoid sending sensitive information over public Wi-Fi unless the network is secured.

- Only use mobile apps from your phone's official app store. Avoid downloading apps from a browser. Be wary of unknown developers or apps with bad reviews. Do not grant admin privileges unless you truly trust the individual. Keep the apps updated to ensure they have the latest security fixes.

- Be wary of ads, giveaways and contests which can lead to phishing sites that steal information. Pay close attention to URLs. Avoid saving login credentials to web browsers -- they can be hacked easily.

- Do not respond to phone, social media or email requests for financial data or sensitive information like credentials or access PINs. Never return missed calls from unknown numbers or unfamiliar country codes. Provide account information to only those with whom you have initiated the call, not the other way around.

- If you own a business, ensure your users receive regular security training and follow cybersecurity hygiene best practices when using mobile phones. Run tabletop exercises and phishing simulations with real-world examples so that employees develop muscle memory in recognizing and reporting phishing and social engineering scams.

More than 80% of cyber incidents stem from human error. Being alert to what spam looks like in all its various disguises will go a long way toward reducing the probability of a successful phone hack. Because the fact is, phone and text scams are not going away anytime soon.

# Innovative security: The key to business efficiency, cost savings and more



Organisations have shifted business focus countless times since the onset of the pandemic. While many leaders have been primarily concerned with the immediate health and safety of their customers and employees, 2022 has given rise to a new trend: More than ever, business leaders are seeking security solutions that increase operational efficiency and cost savings as well as improve logistics and business insight.

As working environments become more complex, organisations looking to drive higher productivity and profitability margins should consider security upgrades that prioritise integrated analytics and automation.

Organisations across the globe are seeking innovative technologies that can help improve operational efficiency without expending valuable and ever-shrinking resources.

Although traditionally adopted to fulfil essential security requirements like access control and video surveillance, modern security technologies also offer a massive opportunity for increased cost savings and efficiency.

## Automated operations

Updated security systems can operate automatically by gathering information about daily operations through existing security tools. This information aids profit generation and business growth by identifying crucial areas for improvement.

Insights gathered, vary between industries. In the healthcare industry, security technology can use unobtrusive monitoring information to provide a unified dashboard of fall and accident reports in senior living communities.

## Using AI and ML

Using artificial intel-

ligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), these same systems can analyse data to help predict when a fall may occur, thus helping to prevent unsafe situations and reduce hospitalisations. In the restaurant industry, AI can signal when safety equipment may be close to malfunctioning, resulting in quicker repairs and avoiding the cost of customer dissatisfaction.

In both cases, the insights provided are actionable and easy to implement. This type of automation is top of mind for many business leaders. About 78% of leaders are considering AI implementation, according to the STANLEY Security 2022 Industry Trends Report. Among those leaders, 45% are primarily interested in AI-generated analytics.

According to a recent Boston Consulting Group (BCG) report, 70% of managers identified full or partial remote work as a factor in increased productivity. Yet, the same report found that only 30% of managers believe their organisation is actively innovating, down 10% from the previous year.

As assets move to fully remote or hybrid working environments, business leaders know their organisations must address new on-site health, safety, and security concerns. STANLEY Security research found that 72% of business leaders identify asset security as their top priority for 2022. The health and safety of employees and customers remain another primary concern at 59%.

## Asset tracking

Even as businesses emerge from the pandemic, change remains a constant. About 30% of businesses have implemented a permanent hybrid work model. Those businesses that intend to return all employees to the office (59%)

will implement those changes over the next 18 months. As the world shifts rapidly, innovative security technologies with real-time inventory and asset tracking will be crucial for maintaining a full business line of sight.

## Real-time location systems

Real-time location systems (RTLS) ease the pain of expanded business locations and provide greater insurance for top assets, from retail inventory to critical vaccines. Up-to-date tracking information also empowers business leaders to make data-driven decisions about asset management. By monitoring asset traffic patterns, leaders can determine peak hours and strategically assign assets to improve space management and workflow.

Modern businesses constantly struggle to do more with less. Organisations suffering losses from 'The Great Resignation' are particularly impacted, like labour shortages and supply chain disruptions impede daily operations, but consumer demands remain high.

Resourceful business leaders are looking for ways to fill the gaps, and one solution lies in the future of machine learning, AI, and automation.

## Increased individualised care

When a workplace adopts automation via AI, routine tasks are fulfilled intuitively, freeing time for the human workforce to address high-impact, profit-generating initiatives.

When employees focus on more complex tasks, they improve their skills in service. Adjustments like this could mean a patient receives a greater degree of individualised care or a customer gets their order in record time.

## Integrated security systems

Business leaders seeking automation should consider building a cohesive security ecosystem. When implemented successfully, integrated security



systems provide rapid threat detection and response, more accessible management tools, and unmatched peace of mind.

Security systems rooted in machine learning grow with an organisation. For example, once a system determines that all employees have exited a controlled

facility, it can lock doors and power off heating, cooling, and lighting systems.

Innovative security solutions

The savings of a properly implemented security system go beyond an electric or heating bill. Automation improves security fallback features at all levels of an

organisation, thus improving efficiency and safety. Most business leaders acknowledge the importance of security systems for asset safety, but true efficiency and safety must go further. As we navigate the modern working world, successful organisations will be proactive in adopting innovative security solutions.

## Integration streamlines in-home peace of mind



The advances of technology have meant a dramatic rise in the amount of devices we use in our homes. In fact, the European smart home market is expected to grow to USD 39.6 billion by 2025.

This ranges from entertainment to practical everyday tasks like drawing curtains and dimming lights. But perhaps the most useful are those that allay our base fears around security in the home. Alarms, security cameras, and access systems are becoming increasingly popular as people strive to make their homes a secure and comforting haven – even within the context of their busy lives. Hikvision has a range of smart devices to provide that in-home peace of mind – and they can all be controlled from one place.

With multiple devices comes a variety of different controlling mechanisms – usually one for each device separately. Remember the days when you had only one remote control for your TV, for example? Now you could conceivably have four or five for your entertainment system – TV, sound system, DVD player, satellite box, etc. This is a kind of ‘tipping point’ – when technology advancement can cause frustration, rather than making your life easier.

It's this frustration that's led to the popularity of systems that bring various elements of the home together. These range from smart speakers that allow the family to play music in different rooms, to apps that control lighting. And then there are the ‘digi-

tal assistants’ that can bring a number of IoT devices together all over the home.

Imagine being able to do this for your security. A central indoor station can provide access to all your alarms and security cameras. And this can also be available on an app, so you can verify alarm alerts even remotely. Add to this the ability to control your access point – ie front door – and you start to see how an integrated security system can provide great peace of mind, rather than adding multiple ‘interfaces’ to your daily life.

Hikvision's All-in-one Indoor Station provides a central device to be able to manage a homeowners CCTV, access control, alarm and intercom technologies. It has a range of functions allowing the user to keep an eye on all of these devices, giving them a holistic overview of their home security.

If an intruder sets off an alarm, the system can provide a video ‘footage’ clip from an adjacent camera, thanks to smart linkages. They can see this on the pre-installed HikConnect app too, with added functionality of zooming in and out on the image, and fish-eye mode for relevant cameras.

The front door is usually where the home starts – and where the peace of mind also needs to begin. The All-in-one Indoor Station allows users to see who is at their door, and even let them in with the click of a button below the screen. This works too if they are using the app – so they can let someone in remotely once they

have been able to verify their identity using the door intercom camera. Intercoms can also be fitted with a two way intercom – which means the user can have a conversation with the visitor, either through the Indoor Station or their app. This is particularly useful in a world of multiple deliveries encroaching on busy lives!

The story for installers is great too. The Android (v10) base of the device means its open architecture, so adaptations and 3rd party software can easily be integrated. The user experience is continually being improved, making it intuitive – both for users and installers. The fact that this means they don't have to install multiple devices to manage an in-home solution saves them a lot of time and cost.

Alongside the HikConnect app is HikProConnect – an app designed for installers to be able to manage and configure devices remotely. This also streamlines their after-care efforts, with a wide range of activities being possible remotely, once they have their customer's approval to do so.

While technology enters our lives at an increasing level, the smart money is on the methods of bringing disparate technologies together. Open platform architectures and platforms mean more and more devices will be able to talk to each other. This is the beginning of the world of advanced IoT, where we start to really see the benefits of smart connected technologies in our homes. No more scrabbling behind the sofa for a remote!

## Reasons why connected access control makes life easier for security managers



To enjoy the benefits of connected security, businesses need security technologies that work seamlessly with each other. In a recent survey of industry professionals, over 90% noted the critical importance of integration across building management functions.

But why is integration judged to be so important? What exactly are its benefits? And how can an organisation reap them? There are several ways a connected access solution can help a business to do more both enhancing security and contributing to overall business success.

“Access control systems are often viewed as the starting point for a building to shift from operating in silos, towards a more functional, connected and ‘integrated’ building management system,” explains a new IFSEC Global white paper on security management.

The white paper considers integration's cost and efficiency impact on organisations. Control from a single, integrated interface boosts efficiency in many ways.

Advantages of integrated systems

Some are individual to the industry or business, but some advantages apply almost anywhere.

- Firstly, integration reduces training needs and therefore costs: Everything is administered from a single system, rather than several working in isolation.

- Secondly, when facilities staff only consults or updates one interface, they save time and reduce manual errors. In a real-world situation, integration can even save facility managers' journey time. At the InHolland University of Applied Sciences, for example, a Nedap AEOS system integrated with Aperio wireless devices controls access

for 7 different campuses from a single, integrated point.

- Thirdly, analytics can deliver more value and better insights when multiple sources of data provide input.

Connected access control helps businesses to retool building management for the challenges of the 2020s. The smart building is integrated and automated, relying on standards for interoperability to keep data flowing in every direction.

OSDP, for example, streamlines the interoperability of access control and security devices. ONVIF Profile D & Profile M help access control devices connect with analytics. Access control hardware which is designed for interoperability with accessible APIs and SDKs for app integration creates a security that is ready for what's next, even when predicting “what's next” can be difficult.

In a survey conducted by consultants McKinsey & Company, 63% of employees said they would prefer a “hybrid” or fully remote work schedule.

To offer this kind of flexibility cost-effectively, security provisions must be able to adapt. Smarter use of space is ever more important as employees come to favour hybrid work patterns.

To assist in a move to hybrid working, access control credentials can be authorised to unlock doors during specific timeframes, so staff enters only when scheduled, for example. Facility managers can regulate daily access so building occupancy stays within capacity.

A single hub for issuing, amending, and revoking access rights streamlines the administration of a hybrid system. Trying to implement such a change via multiple electronic and/

or mechanical access systems in parallel could create an enormous workload.

According to analysts Verdantix, more than a third of building occupiers in the office sector is now planning to invest in space utilisation analytics. An integrated access control system generates critical data for understanding building use and potentially reducing office rental costs. If a space is not being used, why waste a valuable budget on renting it?

“Whereas security has mostly been a reactive profession before now, integrated solutions allow data to be transformed into knowledge,” explains Danny Laurier at Securitas, in an exclusive interview for the white paper. “And, when you know, you can move from a reactive to the predictive risk management approach.”

Extending a security system with integration-ready wireless locking can contribute to any business' energy efficiency or sustainability strategy. Wireless electronic locks use less cabling and consume less energy at installation. Carrying a single, flexible credential stored securely on a mobile phone reduces the use of plastics (cards) and metal (keys).

The emergence of electronic locks powered by energy-harvesting technology may even bring electricity consumed at the door down to zero. Quite a contrast to traditional wired door locking, which is often power-hungry.

Integration itself may also offer an efficiency boost, according to some sustainability experts, “A properly functioning BMS should deliver energy efficiency savings in the order of 15–20%... Improving the operation of your BMS is probably the single most cost-effective energy efficiency measure you can take.”

Connectivity is the driver of these improvements, contributing to commercial success while making life easier for everyone at the sharp end of facilities management.



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2, Essen,  
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