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Guaranteed Security



Germany as a high-tech location is characterized by companies like ESG Elektroniksystem- und Logistik-GmbH whose organizational efficiency and transparency in access control and time management characterizes Interflex solutions.



Gerhard Seidel
ESG-project manager

ESG Elektroniksystem- und Logistik-GmbH, Fürstfeldbruck, is an impressive example of the fact that a leading system and software house does not have to be located in Silicon Valley. Additionally, ESG shows that know-how in system development does not have to concentrate on only one segment, but can be a seed for development in other business fields. The company comes from the dynamic area of the aviation industry and plans, develops, and integrates customized avionics and IT systems as an aviation technology development enterprise. The service portfolio extends to all phases of the life-cycle of complex avionics systems. The company has been ensuring high availability and profitability of the systems in use by offering logistics along the supply chain for the last four decades. ESG's customers include firms in the automobile, aviation, and space industries and from the areas of telecommunications, consumer and producer goods, plus national defense, armed forces of various nations, official agencies and ministries. ESG owes its success not only to the professionalism and dedication of its roughly 1200 employees, but also to the farsighted leadership and organization of the company. The security of personnel and the company's 14 locations play an important role. In order to overcome these challenges with a combined solution, ESG carried out a selection process and chose Interflex Datensysteme, Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies.



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State-of-the-Art

The motive for the search for a new system was the central office's new building in Fürstentfeldbruck. Gerhard Seidel, ESG project leader for the selection and implementation of a new identification and access system for the new building: "In the course of planning the new building, many processes and systems were checked. The decision to make replacements was a logical consequence in order to have solutions for current demands. We simply wanted to update everything. We finally chose Interflex because the total package came closest to our extensive requirements. And the fact that the award-winning design of the terminals also fits perfectly to the modern architecture of our new building – that's even better!"

Detailed Planning

ESG itself provided extensive preparatory work. They already began planning at the end of 2005. Besides a detailed description of requirements, ESG worked out the project plan to the smallest detail. During the screening of the available suppliers on the market, they discussed the implementation of innovative ideas with various companies. The corresponding interest groups within the companies, like employee representatives and the central areas of personnel and commerce were integrated from the beginning by the responsible employees at ESG. Thus, ESG was able to provide a performance specification describing the technical requirements in detail when calling for bids. ESG's professional preparatory work allowed the call for bids and implementation phase to proceed smoothly. In August 2006, the call for bids was put out and the suppliers' quotations thoroughly vetted. In the spring of 2007, the leadership of ESG made its choice and the time management solution has been in live operation since September 2007 at the company's locations in Munich, Wolfsburg, and Ottobrunn. The security solution from Interflex is running in ESG's administrative departments in Fürstentfeldbruck and in Munich. The implementation of the required company-specific adjustments and the installation of the software platform IF-6020, approximately 50 online and 30 offline access terminals, as well as 13 time & attendance recording terminals took less than six months.



Bookings at the Interflex readers



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Segmented Chip Cards

The incorporation of segmented chip cards of the latest RFID generation proved a genuine challenge for all the participants. With this kind of multifunctional card, not only access rights can be checked at access control terminals, but cashless payments can also be made in canteens and at vending machines. Credits can either be uploaded onto the defined segment of the chip at will at an automat or collected and deducted monthly from the salary. This is expressly stated in the works agreement. This does not come close to exhausting the possibilities of the LEGIC-based card. Furthermore, this type of card can also be used for controlling access to IT infrastructures and computers. All employees have a card. ESG also provides temporarily restricted cards with the required access profile to visitors and personnel from other companies. This guarantees that visitors or employees from other companies only have access to certain areas, e.g. to perform tasks or participate in meetings.

Future-Proof

Additional uses for chip segments are anticipated, such as biometric access control for projects with particularly high security standards. "A matter of course for ESG, which is itself a pioneer in customer-specific RFID systems. We are obligated to guarantee confidentiality, not least for contracts involving military and civilian security, where secure access control plays an important role. If a customer wants biometrically secured access control for a project, we are equipped for it," Gerhard Seidel emphasizes.

Interflex is responsible for integration into a single system and for important components like terminals and software. IDpendant, a designated expert, is responsible for the heart of the system, the multifunctional card. Their expertise allowed for the convenient production and distribution of the cards. A unique feature: A new card is made in one manufacturing process using a single printer. During this process, the data for encryption and an electronic signature are stored on the contact chip of the card. The process consists of a single step during which the key data is stored onto the contact chip and a photograph and data are then printed on the front. The re-transfer printer is directly linked to BlueX, IDpendant's encryption system, through an Interflex interface.