GIT SECURITY &

MAGAZINE FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY - WORLDWIDE



CORPORATE SECURITY

Talk with Mahle Head of Security Andreas Knobloch

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The Royal Discipline of Safety and Security



Steffen Ebert





Miryam Reubold



This issue is fit for queens and kings: our cover story is set in the time-honored Westminster Palace in London. The Bosch subsidiary Protec has equipped it with fire and voice alarm technology. When the universally respected head of state died at the age of 96 in September 2022, the Queen's coffin was laid out for four days in Westminster Hall - which was open to the public. While people bid farewell to their Queen, behind the scenes at Westminster Palace, roundthe-clock efforts were made to ensure everyone's safety. Read more from page 12.

Bosch will also be the focus of our reporting once again. Intelligent sensors can monitor environmental factors such as temperature, humidity and air quality, analyze the data and provide targeted warnings of fire risks. We at Wiley and GIT SECURITY International say that this alone can help to save many, many lives. A product from Bosch can be the piece of the puzzle that is needed in a fire protection concept. We therefore took a close look at their "Nexospace" suite - and asked the two experts Theresa Kramer and Stefanie Steudel, also from the company's Building Technologies division, about it.

At this point, we want to really celebrate the security profession. Corporate security has evolved from a reactive force to a proactive business enabler. Jens Greiner sheds light on this change on page 8 and makes three key recommendations in his guest article. So everyone working in the field of corporate security should feel like a king or a queen. In line with this, we interview Andreas Knobloch, Head of Security at automotive supplier Mahle, on page 6.

Our award continues in royal style: starting on page 18, we present the winners of all categories of the GIT SECURITY AWARD for the 2025 season. Some truly amazing products and strong innovations have won the race. See for yourself!

Many other articles make this issue another exciting best-of excerpt from our reporting on www.GIT-SECURITY.com - where we are always at your service with many more interesting reports, case studies and product presentations every week. Because one thing is clear: for us, you, dear reader, are of course the king or the queen.

We wish you good insights!



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Cover Story

A Royal Responsibility

Safety Solutions for a World Heritage Site

Over the past six years, the Bosch subsidiary Protec, acquired by Bosch Building Technologies in 2021, has equipped the entire grounds of Westminster Palace with fire and voice alarm technology.

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PRODUCTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

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Oliver Frese



Theresa Kramer

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FIRE PROTECTION

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manufacture of Security at Mahle for two years. Could you give us a brief job description please?

Andreas Knobloch: As Head of Corporate Security, I am in particular responsible for physical and personal security of the company - that is, the protection of our employees, our valuables, and the commercial operation from crime and physical security threats. The responsibilities of my global teams are manifold and include the physical security of our factories and other locations, the security of our travelling staff and those abroad, the security situation, fraud prevention, business continuity and crisis management, information security (together with the IT department) as well as operative incident management if it falls under one of these headings.

You were at Merck before joining Mahle – and even earlier at the Federal Criminal Police (Bundeskriminalamt - BKA). That was all certainly good preparation for your job today. But you were not always involved in security, were you?

Andreas Knobloch: That is right. I was able to learn many fundamental aspects on the subject of crime prevention, particularly in an international context, and the necessary capabilities on a daily basis, such as a structured approach, clear separation of facts and assumptions, and legally valid actions through my studies and work as a detective with the Federal Police. I was then able to experience the many various challenges of security in a commercial environment in the corporate security department of Merck, to help expand the department and to design much myself. All these stops along the way have taught me a lot, and prepared me well for my current role. I would not like to have missed any of it.

Mahle has an annual turnover of around 13 billion euros, some 72,000 employees and 148 locations. How is security management broadly organized?

Andreas Knobloch: We have two main teams in the corporate security department: one functions as an operations center on information evaluation and the control and coordination of incidents; the other team works more conceptionally on global

programs and is responsible for our security guidelines. Apart from these, we have appointed regional experts who support the local responsible staff at each location and provide concentrated specialist knowledge. This approach meets our needs as a worldwide manufacturing supplier to the automotive industry, and has proven effective in a similar form in many other companies.

We always handle the subject of security at Mahle in a structured and practical way in close cooperation with the IT security, OT security, product security, and specialist departments, such as revision, communication and data protection. We have established reliable and purposeful partners and processes to solve the various challenges where each area contributes its own expertise. This is the only way to manage such an interdisciplinary subject effectively.

What do you consider the greatest challenges that you faced when you started at Mahle as Head of Security? What matters did you address first?

Andreas Knobloch: After doing a status evaluation, I first developed and optimised the aspects of travel security and informa-

tion security. On the one hand, the security of Mahle employees had the highest priority, and on the other hand, we faced the task of protecting the company against cyberattacks better by making the employees competent to deal with phishing attempts. Both projects have been completed, and the resultant new processes have already paid for themselves numerous times, which has raised our reputation within the company significantly. This year we have the subjects of access management, as well as the further development of our emergency and crisis managements on the to-do-list.

Just like the rest of the industry, Mahle is undergoing a technological transformation. The company has long been supplying technology for battery-powered vehicles or other alternative drive systems. This transformation also generates new security requirements, with new customers and markets for example, increased legal requirements, more varied suppliers, and additional development know-how. We have started our own projects to support these businesses. One ever-present subject though – as you say – is crisis management. It is a very broad term and encompasses dealing with pandemics just as with wars worldwide.

How do you handle these in your company? Where are you particularly challenged – and what contribution can your department make?

Andreas Knobloch: With almost 150 factories worldwide and the corresponding complex supply chains, we are naturally affected by geopolitical developments and their consequences for security. Conflicts such as the attacks on the Ukraine or the situation in the Middle East have direct and indirect effects on our business activities. As the corporate security department, we provide in particular method competence in business continuity management as well as emergency and crisis management. We also contribute security situation knowledge to corresponding plans and decisions.

How have you organized the acquisition and processing of information from internal and external sources?

Andreas Knobloch: We primarily use public sources – either directly or via an information service provider. Parallel to that, our contacts at the various authorities are very helpful with regard to commercial protection, even though I can see potential for improvement here in Germany. The

The Stuttgart automotive supplier Mahle operates factories worldwide

new security strategy and initial measures are showing good signs of further development. Security always includes secure and functioning business, and this aim is only achievable together with all involved.

Where do you see the biggest danger for your company at the moment?

Andreas Knobloch: I think that it applies to all companies that the various ongoing conflicts and trade wars are threatening business processes and security. I also consider cyberattacks to be a grave and constant danger.

What strategy do you have to counter these?

Andreas Knobloch: An awareness of risk - in particular at management level - is the essential foundation for coordinated prevention measures. This has been recognized by governments and our customers, and rightly requires significantly more effort now than was the case a few years ago. What started in KRITIS (critical infrastructure) to increase the resilience of companies is now being extended to many other areas of business - either as a legal requirement or at the latest through contractually agreed standards that our customers demand from us. Driven by this, security measures and solutions are increasingly being an integral part of new orders. Our products have to be immunized ever more often against cyberattacks because of various regulations and customer requirements, and we have to be able to demonstrate the protection measures and recovery ability of our factories. Both the IT department and we are required to offer solutions that meet the relevant requirements and to effectively and securely support our business divisions. We do this at virtually all levels.

What does that involve at the physical security level?

Andreas Knobloch: As we do not take 'physical security' to mean just protecting our factories, we support our locations, for example, with the establishment of security plans and achieving the appropriate certification. This require a holistic approach at a technical and process level. For new certifications in particular, regular reminders and the development of a general awareness is necessary – simply the introduction of a new security culture – so that the remaining aspects can work properly.

Your responsibilities include securityrelated aspects of supplier standards, such as those for the automobilerelated TISAX certification.

Andreas Knobloch: TISAX is a widely established standard in our industry, in particular for the information security of supplier companies. We set minimum standards here that ensure that we handle our data and that of our customers reliably and securely - generally and especially, of course, in the research and development environment. We ensure certification to these standards for over 100 Mahle locations, together with a broad internal network of all business divisions, the quality control department, the IT and OT security as well as data protection, controlling and corporate security. The advantage of this is a clearly regulated, structured framework that covers all aspects of information security - i. e. technical, organizational and

The present security situation in cybersecurity, however, is leading to constantly increasing protection requirements. This is happening, amongst other reasons, because of the continual extension of the TISAX

turn page 🕨



requirements, as happened recently in catalog version 6.0. In addition, new aspects or extensions of legal requirements are being implemented soon in many countries.

In general, the requirements of suppliers will continually rise, which naturally requires a legally compliant business operation as well as a higher security standard to win customer contracts. This includes the effort put into disaster recovery and, of course, also prevention and emergency planning. Our corporate security department will continue to contribute significantly to these ever more complex tasks.

Mr. Knobloch, security management is – as this conversation shows – a subject with many aspects. The knowledge of security experts is in demand and is an increasingly important element of business decisions. This is an increase in importance that can be observed in many companies. How do you view this?

Andreas Knobloch: I have seen increasing relevance of the subject by decision makers in companies for some years. The widespread and frequent cyber incidents and crises in recent years have helped the subject with a significant rise in importance. Corporate security at Mahle is involved ever more often in business decisions and makes a significant contribution to sustainable business.

The growing number of tasks naturally brings an increase in expectations. We have to continually build up our abilities to be able to meet these new and forthcoming expectations. This is not always easy in our industry in times of a shortage of skilled workers. Apart from specialists, we need ever more 'generalists' who already have good IT knowledge. One thing is clear: today's solutions will hardly meet tomorrow's challenges. We will all have to constantly develop our abilities through continuous learning throughout our lives and driven by a large portion of curiosity. But that is what makes our profession so unbelievably exciting.

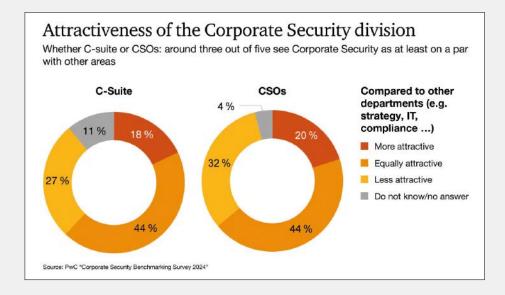


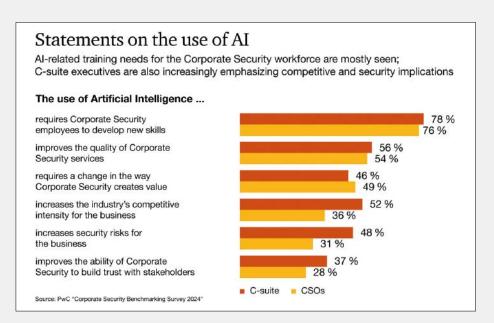
CORPORATE SECURITY

Spotlight On

Analysis of the Changing Role of the Corporate

Corporate Security has evolved from a reactive force to a proactive business enabler, especially in the current era of continuous crises. Jens Greiner, Director of Forensic Services at PwC Germany, highlights this transformation and offers three key recommendations in this guest article.





Corporate Security

Security Department within Companies

From the economic consequences of the Covid pandemic, tensions in the Middle East, and the war in Ukraine to the volatile dynamics of global trade: in uncertain times, security experts with foresight are needed who do not merely react to risks but anticipate them. This is the role that corporate security, as an interdisciplinary management function, can effectively fulfil. To find out how the perception of corporate security has changed within companies, we surveyed executives from 200 organizations: where do they see the greatest challenges for corporate security? How advanced are they in integrating new technologies such as artificial intelligence? And to what extent are they willing to take calculated security risks to seize opportunities?

Attractive to Young Talents

The results of our survey show that corporate security has increasingly moved into the focus of the C-suite. The reputation of corporate security has improved, and the role is increasingly recognized and valued as both a business enabler and a crisis manager. This also impacts the attractiveness of the function to young talent and, consequently, the future viability of corporate security: a career in corporate security is now at least as appealing to many young professionals as a career in IT, marketing, or strategy departments. There are several reasons why a position in corporate security is attractive: the work is seen as varied and meaningful, carried out in qualified teams within an international framework.

Companies Respond Cautiously to Al

A career in corporate security is also appealing because it is associated with the use of innovative technology. Just as in many other corporate areas, new technology and AI applications in particular will play a significant role in corporate security in the future - both positively and negatively. Half of the respondents believe that AI will improve the quality of corporate security services. However, there are also concerns: C-suite representatives in particular fear that the use of AI could pose an increased security risk to corporate security. This may be why companies are relatively cautious about adopting AI. The majority of respondents state that they consider the digital maturity of their corporate security to be sufficient and do not plan to implement additional technology. In an era where technological developments are rapidly evolving, companies adopting this mindset risk falling behind.

Risk-Averse Approach Dominates

Companies are also rather cautious when it comes to their general approach to security risks. The vast majority follow a risk-averse strategy: their primary goal is to reduce security risks and avoid uncertainties rather than consciously taking risks to seize opportunities. Only a minority of respondents are willing to embrace innovation and opt for solutions that may carry higher security risks but potentially offer greater benefits. The biggest current obstacle for corporate security in adequately fulfilling its tasks and responsibilities, according to companies, is the competing operational priorities and limited financial resources.

Take Action

What Do These Findings Mean for the Future of Corporate Security? From the study results, we can derive three recommendations for strong corporate security:

1. Increase the visibility of the function

Corporate security carries significant responsibility within the company - to not only develop or maintain security levels, to quickly respond to security incidents or emergency/crisis situations, but also to accompany strategic business developments with security expertise. To achieve this, it must continuously communicate with other departments, address risks, and remain open to (new) solutions. It is therefore all the more important to continuously strengthen its visibility within the company.

2. Leverage the potential of digital solutions

Corporate Security should analyze even more closely which solutions and technologies can become valuable tools in everyday

operations. This is only possible if companies are open to new technology. The use of artificial intelligence in particular holds enormous potential to support employees in their daily work and to improve corporate security services.

3. Reevaluate your risk strategy

Most companies apparently follow a riskaverse strategy: they focus on reducing security risks and choose the option that carries the lowest security risk. However, the downside of this approach is that those who always err on the side of caution may miss out on significant opportunities. Striking the right balance and sometimes daring to take calculated risks is needed here.

Role Consolidated -**What Comes Next?**

In summary, corporate security has made a significant step towards becoming a business enabler and has rightly moved even more into the spotlight of executive leadership. I am curious whether it will succeed in becoming a driving force in a potential realignment of corporate resilience management, where various security domains and resilience functions are united under a single framework, or at least whether the convergence of corporate security and cyber security can be further promoted. In both areas, strong corporate security can take bold actions and innovate.

> Author: Jens Greiner, Director Forensic





help, and to improve the response ability of rescue teams

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Listen Up

Increasing the Capability of Drones in Emergency Rescue

Every minute counts when catastrophe strikes. Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are often used during the search for survivors in inaccessible areas, to provide an overview of the situation, and to help to locate victims of the emergency – if they are visible from the air. Researchers at the Fraunhofer FKIE want to fill a gap in emergency response by using new technology: In future, drones in the air that are equipped with microphone arrays will be able to locate cries for help and any acoustic signals given by those needing help, and to provide rescue teams with the location of injured people. This will significantly increase the chances of the quick rescue of people who are trapped or buried and cannot be seen by the aerial camera alone.

Floods in Libya, Greece and Slovenia, fires in Hawaii and Tenerife, earthquakes in Turkey and Morocco – every minute saved is valuable in rescuing the injured when a region is hit by a natural disaster. But searching for survivors is a complex task, buildings and roads can be damaged, and large areas can be inaccessible. That is why drones with daylight and heat-sensitive cameras are increasingly being used to fly over large areas where the infrastructure has been damaged, to locate those that need help, and to raise the response ability of rescue teams.

One problem, however, is that trapped victims are not visible to optical sensors. The cameras also have their limits

when there is smoke, fog, and darkness. Researchers at the Fraunhofer FKIE have been working on a solution to enhance the cameras with acoustic sensors for these situations. Their LUCY solution, short for 'Listening system Using a Crow's nest arra Y', has been developed by the Fraunhofer FKIE scientist Macarena Varela together with her colleagues and the head of the research group, Dr. Marc Oispuu, with technology that can save the lives of people trapped under buildings or by fire.

Microphone Array Captures Signals from All Directions

LUCY consists of an array of MEMS microphones, a so-called crow's nest array that is

fitted to the drone to determine the direction from which noises, such as calls for help, clapping or knocking noises, are coming. The tiny, robust MEMS microphones are cheap and are used in smart phones, for example. The special aspect of this system is that the microphones are arranged in a specific geometric pattern on the underside of the drone and can 'hear' noises from all directions. "The highest point on sailing ships is known as the crow's nest, from where you can see in all directions. It is the same for LUCY – our system can effectively hear in all directions," explains the researcher.

LUCY works in a similar way to the human ear, which receives sound infor-

mation and sends it to the brain where it can be analyzed. The ears are replaced by microphones in this array system, and the brain by a signal processing unit that estimates the source direction. The direction of the sound source can be precisely determined because LUCY currently has not just two but 48 microphones. "Spatial hearing naturally works better with 48 or more microphones than with two acoustic sensors, and also active listening in one direction as well as actively not listening works better too," says Dr. Oispuu. The system is also sensitive to frequencies that the human ear cannot hear. The number of sensors will be increased to 256 in future, to process signals in real time.

Ambient Noise Interference Is Filtered Out

Noise disturbances, such as rescue equipment, wind, or birds, but also the humming of the drone's own rotors blades, can be filtered out by the system. Using artificial intelligence methods (AI) and with the help of adaptive filters, such signals can be filtered out but also patterns such as screams, knocking or clapping noises that people make when they are trying to attract attention can be learnt. The system refers to a database of various noises or noise signatures that is used to train AI in advance. In combination with signal processing techniques, such as coherent beam forming, noises can be detected, classified, and their precise incoming direction determined. A compact processing unit makes it possible to process the signals quickly. The locational data of the emergency is transmitted to the rescue teams, who can then see the exact position of the victims, for example on a tablet.

Lightweight

The sensor modules and their microphone arrays can be fitted to many commercially

available drones thanks to their scalability. It makes sense to employ multiple drones to search the affected area effectively because both the MEMS technology and the drones are cheap to buy. Rescue responders can also easily carry the LUCY system because it is lightweight. Alternatively, it can be fitted to land vehicles or used while stationary. The Fraunhofer FKIE researchers are currently working on improvements to the experimental system.

> Further information can be found at:







Highly precise detection and surveillance with REDSCAN mini-Pro

The new REDSCAN mini-Pro sensor series provides highly accurate and reliable short-range detection of intruders and moving objects within a 20m x 20m range. Providing an extra layer of security intelligence, the REDSCAN mini-Pro features an integrated infrared camera for instant verification, while simultaneously recording and saving images for post-event analysis. Designed to work in both indoor and outdoor environments, the sensors can be mounted horizontally to protect roofs and skylights and vertically to create virtual detection walls to protect narrow spaces and high-value assets.

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COVER STORY

A Royal Responsibility

Safety Solutions for a World Heritage Site

Over the past six years, the Bosch subsidiary Protec, acquired by Bosch Building Technologies in 2021, has equipped the entire grounds of Westminster Palace with fire and voice alarm technology. When the head of state died at the age of 96 in September 2022, the Queen's coffin was laid out for four days in the Westminster Hall, which was open to the public. While people were saying goodbye to their Queen, work went on behind the scenes at Westminster Palace around the clock to ensure everyone's safety.

■ They were images that went around the world: people standing in line for hours to pay their last respects to the late Queen Elizabeth II. Hundreds of thousands of people came, with the lines stretching for miles through central London. Reece Haughey still remembers it well. As a Protec service engineer, he is part of the team responsible for fire safety at the palace. "Through my work, I can experience British history up close and be a part of it," says Haughey. "I was even allowed to pay my respects to the Queen." He sits in a tiny room in the Palace of Westminster with barely enough room for more than four workstations. In front of him is a screen showing a 3D model of the palace. From here, he can monitor the entire building and locate each of the 12,000 fire alarms. If a problem is reported by way of the ticket system, the service engineers see where the issue is and set off on their mission.

Being a Part of History

"When I told my family that I was now working in the Houses of Parliament, they thought it was a joke at first," the trained electrician recalls. After all, the building

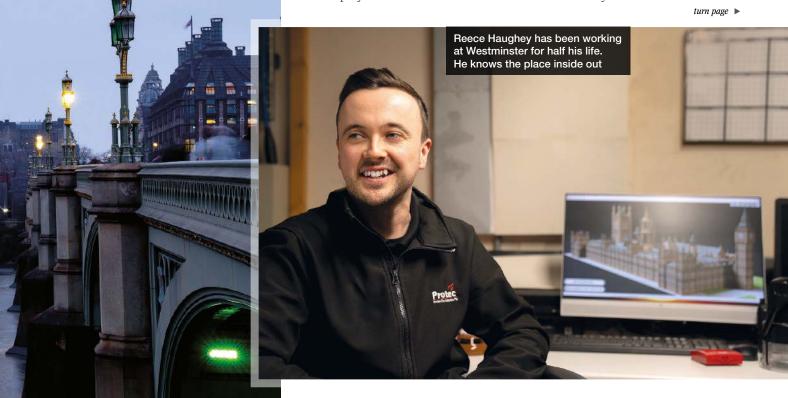




is one of the country's landmarks. Elizabeth Tower, also known as Big Ben, is one of the most famous postcard scenes. "We are very proud to be responsible for developing and updating the life safety solutions for the entire Westminster area," says Richard Heaton, who is responsible for the project at Protec. "In the hustle

and bustle of everyday life, you sometimes forget what an important role the palace plays in the history of the country."

For Haughey, walking through the magnificent red corridors of the House of Lords (the upper chamber of the British Parliament), riding in the same elevator that is usually reserved for the British





monarch, or walking in the footsteps of great politicians in Westminster Hall has become part of everyday life. The 31-yearold has been working here for half his life, having started as a service technician at Westminster at the age of 16. He has been employed by Protec since 2018. "Even though I am very familiar with the building after 15 years, I still get to know new places on my assignments," he says. There are more than 1,000 rooms in the palace, so anyone starting out as a service technician here needs a good sense of direction. The many corridors and parts of the building resemble a labyrinth.

Fully Equipped

Lucy Kolling has been part of the Protec team for a year. "As a new associate, I am responsible for the maintenance of all fire alarm systems," she says. "With 12,000 different detectors installed, the advantage is that I get to know all parts of the building." In addition to fire alarms, Protec's portfolio also includes sprinkler and water mist systems, dry risers, extinguishing systems, and portable fire extinguishers. There is also a voice alarm system comprising a network of twenty control cabinets. In addition, an emergency voice communication system has been installed at specially marked points. In the event of an evacuation, people at these assembly points can communicate with the control center by way of an intercom system and inform the first responders of their location.

The special thing about the technology is that it is virtually invisible. Because the palace is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the parts of the building date from different eras, the life safety technology blends unobtrusively into the historic walls. Kolling demonstrates this using five fire detectors, which she places on the table - they are red, white, and various shades of brown. "At Westminster, we work closely with the heritage team that checks all our designs and, for example, specifies which colors we have to paint our products so that they integrate harmoniously into the building," says Steve Blackmore, who heads the Protec team on site.

Fresh Challenges

Every day is a new challenge, says Blackmore. In addition to the structural requirements, the ongoing use of the facilities must also be taken into account. Parliamentary sessions sometimes go on late

to be flexible," says Kolling. "But my job takes me to places that I would normally never have got to know, like when I went to Big Ben for an assignment and was able to see the palace from a completely different perspective." The service engineer experienced her baptism of fire at the end of last year when King Charles III presided over the opening of parliament for the first time as the new head of state. "Regardless of how long you have worked here, moments like this remain unique, and I am always proud of the great work our team does," says Blackmore.



Bosch Building Technologies www.boschbuildingtechnologies.com www.protec.co.uk







SECURE COMMUNICATION

Secure and high availability communications networks: private 5G campus networks are becoming ever more popular

Private 5G Campus Networks in Focus

... at the PMRExpo 2024

The continuous digitalization in commerce and in the public sector has led to a need for secure, highly reliable and tailored communications solutions. 5G campus networks in particular are gaining popularity for this purpose. The PMRExpo has reacted to this trend and expanded its private 5G campus networks area.

The Kölnmesse (Cologne exhibition halls) invites you once again from 26 to 28 November 2024 to the PMRExpo, the "prime European exhibition for secure communication". This time there will be a new special area called the "5G Hub for Private Networks" as well as an emphasis on this subject on the first day of the accompanying PMRExpo Summit. The event will provide a comprehensive overview of the features of 5G technology as well as the optimization potential for companies, authorities and organization by using private 5G campus networks.

Visitors to PMRExpo will be able to get realistic insights into the current and future uses of private 5G campus networks. They will have the opportunity to learn about the synergies between products, applications and players in the growing 5G ecosystem, and converse with leading companies in the industry.

5G Ecosystems at the PMRExpo Summit

The first day of the PMRExpo Summit this year is dedicated to private 5G campus networks. Highly respected experts from commerce, the scientific community and public services will illuminate the challenges and risks of the technology from different points of view. They will show the entire process of how a 5G campus network is built, from a vision to a func-

tioning solution – from the initial idea to finished commissioning. Among others, the aspects of regulatory conditions and compliance, security, the Dos and Dont's during implementation, as well as edge computing, IoT (sensors) and virtualization (Cloud) will be covered as the driving force behind private 5G campus networks. On the following days, the PMRExpo summit will cover BOS (emergency services radio), KRI-TIS (critical infrastructure) and command and control centers.

"5G Hub for Private Networks"

The construction and operation of 5G infrastructure requires the teamwork of various different players: these include the manufacturer(s), integrators and companies, but also cooperation with the authorities and regulatory bodies that authorize the use of 5G networks. Exactly this cooperative teamwork is addressed by the new special "5G Hub for Private Networks" area. Leading companies and organizations that already successfully use private 5G campus networks will present their specific use-cases. They will share their valuable experience and demonstrate the advantages and multiple uses of private 5G campus networks in realistic miniature models and demonstrations.





The PMRExpo in Cologne: Mobile Communication for Emergency and Security Authorities, Critical Infrastructure Operators and Companies

Secure operations solutions and business-critical communication will once again be on show at the PMRExpo in Cologne from 26 to 28 November. Exhibitors from around the world will be demonstrating their new products and solutions. The accompanying PMR-Expo Summit will provide a platform for experts on topical subjects such as narrow and wideband networks or 5G campus systems. GIT SECURITY spoke with the CEO of the Koelnmesse (Cologne exhibition halls), Oliver Frese.

theme of the PMRExpo has been emergency and business-critical communication for more than 20 years. There were 236 exhibitors from 25 countries here last year, and around 5,000 visitors from 57 countries. What do you expect for this year's event?

Oliver Frese: Our aim is to consolidate the PMRExpo's leading position as the main European event for secure and high-availability communication. The further development of our topics will maintain the event as the leading platform for professional communication and mobile radio solutions. We are not only meeting the current requirements of the industry, but also building the foundation to include future trends and technology. In the long term, we see the potential to establish the PMRExpo as the central meeting place for the national, European and global industry.

What will be the main topics at PMRExpo 2024?

Oliver Frese: Apart from the main topics of emergency services radio/public safety (BOS), critical infrastructure (KRITIS), command and control centers and critical IoT, we will putting the spotlight on private 5G campus networks. Cybersecurity and artificial intelligence are omnipresent and will be found in all areas of the PMRExpo. With regard to public safety, the high-availability networks for secure communication by the police, fire services and ambulances will be at the focal point of the event. Visitors will also be able to get a comprehensive insight into broadband technology can improve the security, efficiency and reaction time of these services.

The list of topics at the PMRExpo reflects some of the core subjects of security in general – KRITIS for example ...

Oliver Frese: Exactly. In times of crisis and with regard to an increasingly unsafe world, the protection of critical infrastructure is becoming increasingly important. The PMRExpo shows just how essential secure communication is for the stability of such infrastructure. The exhibition presents solutions that drive both digitalization

and security in central industries such as energy, transport and public supply. The technology shown at PMRExpo includes key elements to repel cyber-threats and ensure the reliability of systems.

Critical infrastructure operators, but also our industrials and other companies, have to take measures against cyber-attacks - this is well known and being done. Blackmail attempts through malware are almost a daily occurrence, through to the use of hitherto undiscovered security weaknesses, that is, zero day vulnerabilities. What can visitors expect on this subject?

Oliver Frese: Protection against cyberattacks is a significant challenge for KRITIS operators, for industry and commerce in general. Companies nowadays have to ensure the security and resilience of their communication networks more than ever before. That Is why the matter of cybersecurity is high on the list at PMRExpo 2024. The exhibitors are offering practical solutions, various different strategies, and innovative technology that strengthen the protection of our systems and infrastructure in the long term.

A hot topic at the moment is 5G networks or private campus networks whose advantages of data sovereignty and security have already been realized by many industrial companies. What will visitors to this year's PMRExpo see on this subject?

Oliver Frese: They will be able to obtain deep insights into the planning, implementation and operation of high-availability 5G campus networks. The focus will be on the interplay between products, applications and providers in the 5G ecosystem. Leading companies and organizations will be jointly presenting practical application examples as well as the many benefits and the potential that private 5G campus networks provide.

An important part of the event is the program of 'Summit' presentations that you have developed together with the PMeV network of secure communication, the ideal sponsor of the PMRExpo. Could you give us a sneak preview?

Oliver Frese: The lecture program again offers practical insights from industry experts into the newest developments, technologies, and solutions for secure operational and business-critical communication. At the focus are the current challenges, concrete solutions and clear application examples. The first day is dedicated to private 5G campus networks, whereby regulatory conditions, compliance, as well as reports from experience and best practices on implementation will be presented. On the second day, the focus will be on BOS and KRITIS. We are particularly happy that Frank Buddrus, Vice President of BDBOS, will open the second summit day. The third day is traditionally devoted to command and control centers. Whether control centers in the Cloud, artificial intelligence in control centers, or the use of drones: participants can look forward to an exciting and informative program.

Will there be a Hackathon again this

Oliver Frese: Yes, and we look forward to welcoming young tech-talents to the PMR-Expo once again. The motto of the Hackathon this year is "Redesign crisis communication with KI". The aim is to develop KI-based solutions that improve crisis management, support sound decisions, and improve the efficiency of communication in critical situation. We invite all visitors and exhibitors to get an impression by visiting the Hackathon, and to interact with the participating teams. Of course, the results will be presented again at the end on the stage in the Connecting Area.

Mr. Frese, you have been CEO of the Koelnmesse since 2020 - and you have just renewed your contract until 2029. What do you want to achieve during the next five years?

Oliver Frese: At the top of my agenda for the forthcoming years is to develop and extend highly attractive exhibition formats for the Cologne location. My aim is that the events at the Koelnmesse remain not only an unmissable date in the business calendar of the more than 50,000 exhibiting companies, but also become the 'place to be' for new companies and partners, and one of those is of course the PMRExpo.

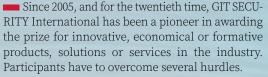






GIT SECURITY AWARD The Winners of 2025

The industry is alive – and more innovative than ever. Once again, users, readers, market participants and fans of certain products and solutions have made their choice, the winners have recently been announced and can now be admired and celebrated. Read here who wins a GIT SECURITY AWARD 2025 and why.



Companies can register for the award at www.security-award.com until March 31 of each year. A neutral jury then nominates the finalists in each category. In the final step, the community votes for their favorites.

Important to mention: Employees are not allowed to vote for their own product. The GIT SECURITY International editorial team would like to congratulate the winners − and presents the 7 x 3 winners in each category below. ■

Category A · Machine & Plant Safety



Category B · Occupational Safety and Health & Explosion Protection





Category C · Video Security & Video Management



Category D · Access Control & Intruder Alarm



Category E · Building Safety & Perimeter Protection



Category F · Fire Protection





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Partners Schuberth and Twiceme with the product F300



For detailed partnership description scan code Contact details for free information can be found in the GIT Business Partner Company Channels of the companies.

An overview with all links to all companies here:



Wiley and GIT SECURITY International congratulate all winners and thank all participants and voters!





For detailed product description scan code

Winner



Small businesses need access control precisely tailored to their needs. The SimonsVoss MobileKey solution is deployed in Golfhalle Ingolstadt, and offers just the right level of flexibility this golf hall requires.



First unlock, then tee off and putt is the name of the game in the golf hall on the grounds of the Ingolstadt Golf Club. Access is for registered sportspeople only who train with the high-quality simulators to improve their technique and 'keep the ball rolling' all year round. The hall was made secure at the beginning of the year by MobileKey, a digital locking solution for small business units. Mechanical keys have been replaced by digital transponders, PIN code keypads, or smartphones in this system. A digital locking cylinder was installed first of all, without cabling and without the need for any drilling or other construction work, and then the system was configured by means of a web app. The all-in-one solution is suitable for up to 20 doors and 100 users.

Entry and Exit Checking

A system was needed for the door used both by the instructors and by the golfers to enter the hall at Ingolstadt's indoor golf course; apart from this main entrance, there is only an emergency exit. Christian Müller, a PGA professional and graduate

in Golf Operations Management, of Ingolstadt Sports and his partner had several factors on their minds when switching from a mechanical locking cylinder with a key to a secure and practical digital solution. "We need to be able to check and monitor who is entering the hall during day-to-day operations. The most important thing for us, however, is remote opening, coupled with the flexibility of being able to unlock the door both by a number combination and by a mobile phone or a transponder." Before conversion, the hall was safeguarded by video surveillance and an alarm system, but the golfers coming in and going out were difficult to check on, and also involved risks

Monitored Customer Access

The search for a suitable solution from other companies was not successful. It was just by chance that Christian Müller came across the SimonsVoss system in a completely different type of building - a church - and contacted the company via their website for advice. The different locking and unlocking options as well as the access monitoring impressed the operations manager. His two main requirements were opening the entrance door without having to be on site himself, and restricting access to a time slot for those authorized to enter. Seven permanent authorizations were assigned for the Ingolstadt golf hall; five people have a transponder for permanent use. In addition to the two managers, these

are one golf instructor and two employees. Around ten people a week enter the hall by PIN or app when neither of the managers or the employees are on site. In the outdoor season, it is fewer.

Maximum Flexibility in Everyday Practice

Installation was carried out by Pfättisch Sicherheitstechnik, Ingolstadt, a company specializing in commercial, industrial, and residential construction, and their Simons-Voss sales representative Christopher Skupke assisted in an advisory capacity. Programming is via a USB drive and the system is administered using a web app, so there is no great effort involved. The system has been in use since the end of January 2024 and the benefits of MobileKey are clearly obvious to the golf instructor and operations manager: "On request, every customer can enter the hall using one of the options – such as a PIN, an app or a transponder, or remotely by me or my partner opening the door. This makes everything considerably easier for us as it means that we do not always have to be on site to open the hall. And I no longer have a key in my pocket." The customers benefit, too, as Christian Müller is able to report from the time after the conversion: "Many are delighted that they can reserve the simulator at short notice. A phone call is all it takes and I can open the door via the app. The system meets all the requirements that are important to us."



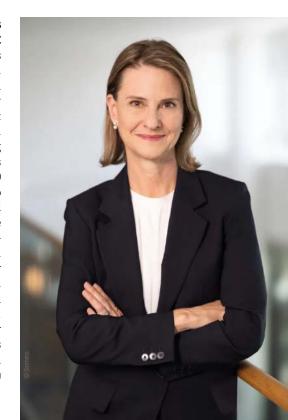
A digital locking cylinder was installed without any cabling or drilling being necessary



SimonsVoss Technologies GmbH www.simons-voss.com

Siemens appoints Susanne Seitz as CEO of Buildings Business Unit

Siemens has appointed Susanne Seitz as CEO of the Buildings Business Unit, which is part of Smart Infrastructure. The unit was newly formed on October 1, 2024 and brings together all Siemens' buildings-related businesses into one entity. The Buildings Business Unit is a technology partner for digital transformation, focused on reliable and cost-efficient building operations, decarbonization and energy efficiency, as well as successful business operations for customers across wide-ranging industries. "Making existing and new buildings more sustainable has never been more urgent. After all, buildings generate more than 40 percent of annual global CO2 emissions and we have a responsibility to drive their decarbonization," said Matthias Rebellius, managing board member and CEO of Smart Infrastructure. "I am excited to have the opportunity to grow this dynamic business. With innovative technology we can accelerate the transformation of buildings to make them smarter, self-adaptive and more autonomous, harnessing the power of Artificial Intelligence, IT/OT convergence and digital services," said Seitz. Based in Zug, Switzerland, Seitz previously served as the Head of Sales and Marketing at Siemens Smart Infrastructure. Prior to that, she was Executive Vice President EMEA at Landis+ Gyr and Member of the Group Executive Management. She is a Swiss native and holds a Master's degree in Environmental Technology from ETH Zurich and an Executive MBA from the University of St. Gallen. www.siemens.com





Martyn's Law Leads to Dundee Uni Upgrade with HID

The University of Dundee is updating its city campus estate with HID Mobile Access and signature Signo readers throughout its buildings to guarantee it has modern, secure and reliable access control for staff and students to enter using both RFID cards and smartphones. The upgrade of access control campuswide is also in response to the imminent enactment of Martyn's Law.

The project will involve buying and installing new mobile-ready HID Signo readers at around 40 buildings – a staged rollout being completed over a two-year period by specialist security installer Scottish Communications Group. In addition, the University has purchased 10,000 HID Mobile Access licenses to offer its academic community the option to use their Apple and Android smart phones for touchless entry into its facilities.

"We wanted a modern system which is safe, secure and easy for everyone to use," said Colin Stebbing, the University's Head of Precinct Services. "Complying with forthcoming legislation was also another important project requirement. With bills like Martyn's Law soon to be enacted, ensuring the University is ready for this was important given that we have a duty to protect and ensure everyone is safe.

"The HID solution enables us to not only lock down buildings immediately, but it has built-in functionality which we can leverage over time, meaning we've invested in 'future proof' equipment which will last us long term."

Renowned for Medicine and Life Sciences

The University of Dundee is a public research university in Scotland renowned for its academic excellence in dentistry, medicine, science and engineering and life sciences. Based in the heart of the city, it is home to over 16,000 students, 3,300 staff and is ranked 33rd in the Sunday Times Good University Guide 2024.

A thriving institution with ambitious development plans, it is currently building a new £40 million facility called the Innovation Hub. This will offer commercial organizations flexible laboratory, meeting and office space and, over the next 10 years, it is anticipated the Hub will help create up to 280 new high-quality jobs.

The new HID Signo readers integrate with the University's existing AEOS access control software from Nedap. Supporting both native Bluetooth and Near Field Communication (NFC) connectivity, they allow



touchless smartphone entry and are fast to install as the wiring uses common protocols like OSDP [Open Supervised Device Protocol] and Wiegand. Furthermore, existing access cards already in circulation can be used with the new HID Signo readers thereby speeding up the rollout.

Plastic Card Issue Laborious and Complex

Historically, the University used to print and issue plastic RFID cards so staff and students could access buildings. This process was laborious and time-consuming, especially during peak times like Freshers Week, when some 2,500-3,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students enroll. Issuing cards was logistically complex due to the high demand and the need for thorough identity checks, which could take up to 10 minutes per card.

Shifting to HID Mobile Access - which utilizes cloud-based HID Origo management software integrating with the AEOS system - completely changes this and delivers wireless credentialling. This significantly simplifies all the licensing, allocation of credentials, setting of building access rights, validating or revoking of IDs - all of which is now done virtually and remotely.

Paul Brady, HID's End User Business Manager for Physical Access Control, said: "Once registered by Student Services in AEOS, a student simply gets an email to their phone, they tap on a link, the app automatically uploads and a mobile credential is granted. Not only does this improve the overall student experience because it's substantially quicker and more efficient, but it's far more sustainable as you're not issuing PVC cards anymore."

Physical and Digital in Tandem

While the strategy and aspiration are for the university population to shift wholesale to mobile access, its approach today is to operate a dual system. "We recognize that some visitors and staff still want to use a physical pass and not all employees have a university issued mobile," Stebbing explained. "HID Signo readers allow us to run both credential types in tandem, with HID Mobile Access giving us the option to scale up to include digital wallets from Apple and Google, as well as integrate with digital campus cards should we decide to go down this route in the future."

Given RFID cards are still required today, the University of Dundee utilizes its reliable Fargo DTC4500e printers to back up this transition to digital transformation. The Fargo range of ID card printers integrate easily with the AEOS software so that Student Services staff can easily issue physical IDs themselves.

Scottish Communications Group director Stuart Leslie said: "HID Signo readers are going in now across the main buildings including the new Innovation Hub site. HID's reputation is built on reliability and security with its solutions supporting the latest encryption, communications and authentication standards. Their devices have an open architecture so they're easy to install and integrate which reduces the cost for the university and makes time to value that much quicker."

In addition, Scottish Communication Group is supplying Motorola MOTORTRBO Ion smart radios to the University's security staff. The radios will be configured to run HID Mobile Access so they can open doors fitted with the new HID Signo readers. Because these smart radios also link to the University's CCTV, alarm systems and CriticalArc Safezone App, security staff need carry only a single device to fulfill their duties.





ACCESS CONTROL

Half a Century

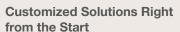
Interflex: From a Pioneer in Flexitime to a Solution **Provider for New Work**

Interflex was celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year. The specialist company for workforce management and access control has marketed its products since 1974. These days, Interflex provides customized hardware and software as well in its DNA.



Being able to work at a chosen time – no matter when and where - has become quite normal for many of us today. Offering a work-life balance and flexitime makes employers more attractive in these times of skilled labor shortage. Fifty years ago, though, it was all very different. Fixed working hours were the norm, with very little opportunity to flexibly take time off in lieu of accumulated overtime. One person who recognized the benefit of flexitime for both employer and employee was Wilhelm 'Willi' Haller. As an expert on 'flexible working hours', he wanted people to have more options with their time, and to go to work when they wanted to. To put his ideas into practice, he founded the Interflex company fifty years ago on 9 July 1974 in Durchhausen. The first milestone was an electromechanical timer for time recording.





Interflex grew quickly and obtained its first international orders. The company expanded its portfolio with access control solutions in 1986 when it fused with its long-standing business partner Interlock. Both companies used a secure and patented infrared card reader that had been developed by Interflex. The company looked further abroad at the start of the 2000s -Interflex had belonged to the international Allegion concern since 2013.

"Right from the start, Interflex always offered customized solutions to meet the requirements of its customers and to develop them further", says Bernhard Sommer, the company's CEO. "That still applies today and our customers appreciate it." The Workforce Management (WFM) and Access Control divisions are changing through digitalization and increasing networking.

"New technology and a close relationship with our customers are deep in our DNA. Interflex made an early move from mechanics to electronics using microprocessors, which provided much more functionality," explains Sommer. "We learnt back then how to use current technological developments for our solutions. Today we have a broad competence spectrum: from our own hardware, and a central software platform to in-house service through which we support our customers with the choice of a suitable solution, right through to commissioning and maintenance."

More Digital HR Processes and **Physical Security**

People will also be at the center of things in future at Interflex: more than ever before, it is becoming necessary to relieve valuable specialists and to strengthen their individual responsibility with efficient solutions – and in the process to consider their personal life situation in the sense of 'new work'. That improves employee loyalty and motivation

The trend toward collaboration tools in workforce management, as well as the digitalization of HR processes, is playing an important part in including employees in worktime planning and encouraging their participation in decisions. For example, staff can organize their working hours regardless of their location using their own smartphone. Interflex offers the native teamtime app for this (iOS und Android) that has been conceived for easy operation.



Interflex developed a fraud-proof and

patented infrared card reader at the time

that was built into all time recording and access control solutions as from 1977

Physical security will also be more important in future - and not just because of the cybersecurity laws such as NIS2, DORA etc. and the KRITIS law on critical infrastructure. It is all about considering security as a mix of digital and physical protection measures.

But the lack of skilled staff can also lead to security risks in companies if security and IT specialists cannot be found. That is why Interflex is investing further in its cloud services. This is particularly helpful for medium-sized companies because they then need fewer personnel for on-premise solutions. A new generation of terminals will soon provide more security: Interflex will progressively equip its cabled access control readers with new security features that were only available in the battery-powered locking devices of the Opendor product family until now. Interflex is thereby meeting the wish of some of its customers for networked access control and system integration into building and security management systems.



Access Insights

Amsterdam's World Trade Center Streamlines Operations with Digital Access

The World Trade Center (WTC) Amsterdam is home to more than 300 companies. The commitment of its security team to providing a safe working environment in its permanent and temporary of-fices goes without saying. However, building managers wanted more from their access solution and specified an eCLIQ system from Assa Abloy.

More than just an office space, WTC Amsterdam has complementary onsite facilities including childcare, a gym, physiotherapy clinic, a bar and café, a dry cleaning service and more. All its facili-ties must be cleaned and serviced regularly, so the building management looked for a more time-efficient way to manage access for the many contractors and suppliers who come and go every day.

They also hoped a modern digital solution would provide a better overview of the movement around the building as well as usage data to improve maintenance scheduling. For convenience, they wanted a wire-free solution during installation and day-to-day management to ensure simpler, less disruptive exchange from mechanical locks to digital access on 1,000 doors, and also intuitive management to enable the easy changing of individual access authorizations, even at short notice.

With all these criteria in mind, WTC Amsterdam managers decided on Assa Abloy's smart key digital access system, eCLIQ. They upgraded doors from mechanical to digital access simply by swapping the existing cylinder for an eCLIQ device. Doors are unlocked by battery-powered user smart keys, with a typical battery lifespan of 10 years. "Providing these doors with wired access control would be a huge job and be very costly. Instead, we opted for the eCLIQ solution," explains Sander Borggreve, Facility Manager at WTC Amsterdam.

Definite Improvements in Operation

The ROI in terms of workflow benefits has been significant. "Granting temporary controlled access to third parties is very easy with the eCLIQ system. We can set access for a certain period of time, but we can also revoke it at any time," says Sander. Scheduling is further simplified by storing keys with a Traka key management system. After removing a key from the cabinet, authorized team members insert it into the adjacent eCLIQ wall-mounted

programming device. The key is issued with its fine-grained access rights in seconds – covering both door-by-door and time validity.

With the eCLIQ system, WTC Amsterdam gained not only control but also insights into usage and user flows. This data now informs the maintenance and operations teams, reducing the overall total cost of ownership for the solution. "eCLIQ works very well in practice. My employees are very satis-fied with how the keys work," says Rutger Barendse of D&B The Facility Group who provide security staff for WTC Amsterdam. "It is easy as pie!" adds Sander.



Vitaprotech Group Finalizes Purchase and Merger with Identiv

Hirsch, a Vitaprotech company, has announced the relaunch of its iconic brand and strengthened focus on the industry's most complete high-security, end-to-end platform. This milestone follows the purchase of Identiv's physical and cybersecurity business units with \$185 million in revenue and 700 employees, including over 150 dedicated software engineers, by Vitaprotech. The expanded platform encompasses command and control systems (PSIM), access control, video surveillance, credentialing, door readers, sensors, intercom, and perimeter protection. Hirsch's identity systems, such as FIDO2 security keys, provide robust digital security, protecting against cyber threats like data breaches and identity theft. This comprehensive product range positions Hirsch to serve a wide range of customers, from small enterprises to highsecurity environments like government buildings.

www.sorhea.com

Siemens to Acquire Fire Safety Business from Danfoss

Siemens Smart Infrastructure has agreed to acquire Danfoss Fire Safety, which specializes in fire suppression technology and is a subsidiary of Denmark-based Danfoss Group. Danfoss Fire Safety will report into the Buildings Business Unit, which is part of Smart Infrastructure, mainly enriching its portfolio with its high-pressure water mist, a superior and fast-growing fire suppression technology. The efficient extinguishing system is non-polluting, allowing Siemens to serve customers globally with an environmentally friendly solution. Since 2019, Danfoss Fire Safety has operated as a fully-owned, non-core business of Danfoss Group, and currently employs 125 people, and will continue to operate as a separate legal entity, under the banner "A Siemens Business". The transaction is subject to regulatory approvals, with closing expected by the end of calendar year 2024. Terms of the transaction have not been disclosed. www.siemens.com

Rohde & Schwarz joins forces with fiveD

The Munich based technology group Rohde & Schwarz has been a strategic partner of fiveD since the end of July 2024. fiveD is an innovative software start-up with the mission of shaping the future of radar development. The company provides advanced software solutions for realistic radar simulations in automotive, industrial, and consumer electronics. With its product portfolio, hyper-realistic data can be simulated across the entire value chain - from raw radar data to enhanced sensor functionalities. The Radar Simulation Suite created by the startup from Erlangen closes the gap between the reality and the virtual world. This expertise will help Rohde & Schwarz in the field of contactless security checks, and the data will further improve the development of their security scanners that use artificial intelligence (AI) to detect potentially dangerous objects. The larger the data set used to train the AI, the better its performance. In the future, it will be possible to expand this data set almost indefinitely using a wide variety of virtual people to enable a rapid response to dynamically changing security requirements. www.rohde-schwarz.com



Intelligent Search Application Upgrade

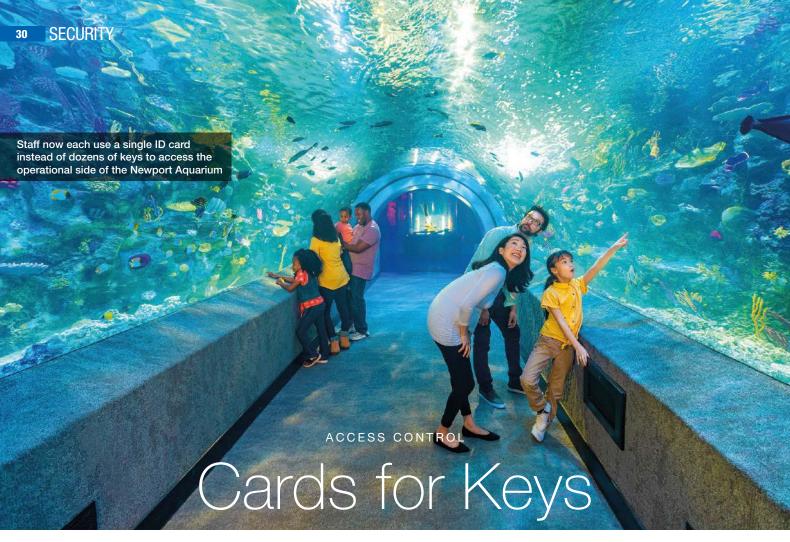
i-PRO (formerly Panasonic Security) has released the latest version of its Active Guard intelligent search application. This ensures that the metadata describing the unique attributes of humans and vehicles captured by i-PRO cameras are seamlessly delivered to popular video management systems from Milestone, Genetec, and others. Version 2 includes enhancements for data search and visualization, while new integrations with third-party developers bring valuable metadata directly into the VMS UI, among them with Vaxtor, developers of high-performance optical character recognition. Another thirdparty integration is with Morpho, which develops AI fall-detection analytics that can now be passed via Active Guard to the VMS. While many systems rely on server-based analytics, i-PRO's AI-enabled analytics are processed completely at the edge, in-camera. This makes efficient use of processing power and bandwidth while minimizing the need for additional server hardware. i-pro.com

Casino Key Management Solution

Morse Watchmans recently showed its premier key control management solutions for casino applications at G2E 2024 in Las Vegas. The company's KeyWatcher Touch and its suite of solutions deliver secure and regulation-compliant key management tailored to the demands of gaming environments. The electronic key cabinet is a scalable key control solution for casinos seeking to secure, manage, and track keys and other assets efficiently. Equipped with a 7-inch touchscreen interface and the



company's patented SmartKey system with KeyAnywhere technology, the KeyWatcher Touch enables staff to withdraw and return keys securely to any key cabinet across the enterprise. It generates and schedules reports for governing agencies as needed. The company's product lineup also includes the KeyWatcher Fleet for automotive fleet management, KeyBank Touch for managing large quantities of keys, and the SmartKey Locker Touch System for tracking larger items.



Newport Aquarium Uses Net2 to Replace Traditional Locks and Keys

Newport Aquarium is located in Newport, Kentucky, USA. The aquarium is home to thousands of the world's most exotic aquatic creatures, such as playful penguins, rare white alligators, and smiling sharks and stingrays. To keep the animals, visitors, and staff safe, Newport Aquarium wanted to replace their old security system with an easy-to-use and high-security access control solution.

Sec-Tron, an experienced access control integrator, recommended Paxton's flagship access control system Net2 to provide a simple and scalable security solution. This is an advanced PC-based access control system that offers centralized administration. It is also designed to easily integrate with other access control systems, so site managers have more streamlined security of their building. With over 35 years of security industry experience, Sec-Tron specializes in providing custom access control solutions to commercial and industrial sites. Tom Riegler, Sales and Project Manager at Sec-Tron, said, "The whole aquarium is surrounded by pipes and tanks, some full of chemicals. They really needed access control at each area that contains dangerous infrastructure to make sure only experienced employees could gain access and prohibit visitors from accessing those sensitive areas."

The IT team at Newport Aquarium also wanted a system that utilized access cards,

allowing them to customize employee ID cards as access cards and increasing access convenience. David Fortunato, Senior Regional IT Manager at the Newport Aquarium, said, "Most of our doors used locks and keys, and some had swipe card readers. We have a lot of doors at the aquarium and a lot of employees who need to carry equipment up and down stairs, so looking for keys in front of a door is not ideal. We really wanted to have one system on our exterior and critical safety doors, and also make access convenient for our employees."

Old and New

When sourcing a security system, the Newport Aquarium needed durable hardware because of its unique environment. David explains: "Even though the products are installed and secured in cases and locked rooms, being an aquarium, we have high amounts of moisture and salt in the air. It can chew up the products." Another factor that needed consideration when design-

ing the installation was the possibility of integrating the aquarium's existing wired infrastructure and security products into the new system. Tom said, "We did a Net2 product demonstration to Newport Aquarium's IT team. We told them we could use all the existing cabling, readers, door handles and panels. We said we could retrofit the existing hardware with the Net2 door controllers and make it a clean installation."

Tom and his team at Sec-Tron installed Net2 at the aquarium, and said, "The expandability of the new system was the customer's main concern. They also liked Net2's pricing structure." The software can manage up to 1,000 doors and 50,000 users and requires no license fees, making it a cost-effective and scalable security solution. The Newport Aquarium now uses employee ID cards as Net2's access tokens. The employees scan their IDs at the staff entrance and go through physical screening to enter the aquarium. Once they are in the park, they need to present badges at each

door to be given access for a certain number of hours, based on their role and duties.

David said, "With our old lock-and-key doors, it was hard to keep track of keys. One of the biggest benefits that Net2 has brought is that we could replace all those keys with badges and just keep a few keys for emergency. It provides better tracking, higher security, and greater convenience for our employees." David further explains how they maximize the features of Net2, "We use the timeline feature to tailor access hours and levels of each door. When it is after the aquarium's opening time, we lock the doors to prevent unauthorized access. "Another feature we use a lot is the intruder alarm relay. If someone accidentally goes through our emergency exit, it will sound the horn through the relay and alert our staff to go check and make sure no one has gone to an area that they are not supposed to."

Extension in Progress

David manages the security systems for three theme parks run by the Herschend Family Entertainment Corporation; the other two are Kentucky Kingdom & Hurricane Bay and Adventure Aquarium. The Newport Aquarium is their first Net2 installation, and they have plans to expand Net2 to their other sites. David said, "We are doing the installation in phases. We started



Better tracking, higher security, and greater convenience for employees are just some of the benefits of the Net2 system

with fifteen doors at the Newport Aquarium and now it is fitted across fifty-three doors. We plan to put Net2 on every possible door as it is just much more convenient and safer than keys, and everything is documented. We have also started putting Net2 in Kentucky Kingdom, which is currently at phase 1 with around twenty doors. At our other Adventure Aquarium in Philadelphia, the

existing security system doesn't offer great access convenience while maintaining the security level that we require, so we have a plan to install Net2 there as well."



Paxton Access Ltd. www.paxton-access.com

Popular License Plate Recognition

LPR is one of the most popular analytics within video surveillance. Many of Milestone's customers use XProtect together with the LPR extension to identify vehicles for traffic and parking lot management. The software lets operators monitor and track video footage based on license plate numbers, aliases and country types. They can also create access control rules based on license plate match lists, and later investigate incidents involving vehicles and export their findings. Foxsys in Uruguay provides building security services and the company's Virtual Doorman solution secures more than 400 residential and commercial buildings that house nearly 30,000 occupants. At the core is a centralized operations center with Milestone open platform video management software (VMS) uniting various cameras, access control, and other sensors into a single monitor interface. www.milestonesys.com





Streamlining the Work of Door Specification

Openings Studio from Assa Abloy takes a rigorous approach, speeding up specification iterations to condense the revision cycle, and improve time management. It provides solutions for more than 750 fire-rated and non-fire doors via the Openings Studio plugin for Autodesk Revit. These include doors and door hardware suitable for data center deployment and many other environments, among them mechanical mortise locks, exit devices, door closers and master-keying solutions from the portfolio of trusted brands such as Yale and Sargent. The Openings Studio suite also simplifies collaboration and data sharing among all building project stakeholders. It helps to manage openings over the full project lifecycle, from planning and estimation to installation and beyond. www.assaabloy.com



SENSOR

One Way Or The Other

Optex's Highly Versatile Award-winnig Indoor Sensor

Optex FlipX Advanced sensors have a bespoke pyroelectric sensor for increased performance that adapts to the human shape, and a unique lens that can be 'flipped' to provide both wide and narrow detection in a single sensor. The Grade 3 sensors feature intelligent antimasking and employs advanced algorithms to ensure stable detection and reduce false alarms, making them ideal for securing high security sites including data centers, logistics centers, and banks.

By simply rotating the lens through 180°, the sensor can be used to protect narrow or long areas such as a corridor or warehouse aisles up to 24m, or a wide, open area like a lobby or a high-value retail store to 15m at 85°. This 'flipped' lens has been designed with flexibility in mind. It effectively gives installers two sensors in one to satisfy multiple customer demands. Built on Optex's extensive track record of providing outstanding sensing performance for intruder detection applications, the sensors help installers to manage both their inventory and their cashflow, while giving them the versatility and confidence of arriving on site with the solution they need to match their customer's needs.

Superior detection performance

The FlipX Advanced sensors feature the highest catch performance of the sensor range, making them the ideal choice for high-risk sites. With 80 detection zones and

a longer detection range (up to 24m), the sensors are the perfect choice for a variety of high-security indoor applications such as banks, high-value retail stores, warehouses and high-end residential sites. The sensors feature double conductive shielding that works by filtering out any light disturbance, changes in temperature or radio frequency interference (RFI), which helps to avoid nuisance alarms.

Active infrared antimasking

With high security applications in mind, FlipX Advanced sensors are equipped with an infrared anti-masking function that generates a trouble signal if the detector is masked or covered. It has two independent antimasking functions one on the lens surface and one on the microwave - so should one of them be covered, it will generate an alarm. FlipX Advanced sensors also feature a 'super high PIR sensitivity' mode which, when

set, enables the sensors to maintain stable and highly reliable detection even when the temperature difference between the human and the environment is very small. This ensures greater catch performance for high-security, high-risk sites where missed alarms are unacceptable.

The sensors have a sleek and compact design, with flexible mounting height options (between 2-3m), so that they can seamlessly blend into building aesthetics as well as be used in buildings with higher ceilings. For quick and simple installation, FlipX Advanced has an easily viewable LED, a terminal block for easy wiring, and an EOL plug-in resistor socket. ■





EVENT

Security At The Edge

Perimeter Protection 2025: The Preparations Are In Full Swing

Perimeter Protection will take place from 14 to 16 January 2025 at the Exhibition Center Nuremberg – and the anticipation could not be greater. Together with its partners Gütegemeinschaft Metallzauntechnik, Verband für Sicherheitstechnik (VfS) and UAV DACH, the international trade fair for perimeter protection, fencing and building security will bring together experts, key players and industry professionals.

"Preparations for the eighth Perimeter Protection trade fair are in full swing and we have already been able to attract more than 100 exhibitors for the event in January 2025," says Julia Urban of the event team. The trade fair has established itself as an international meeting place for the security industry and provides a comprehensive overview of current developments and trends. Visitors can look forward to seeing mechanical, electrical and electronic security solutions. The focus of Perimeter Protection is on fence and gate systems, access and entry control, surveillance, alarm systems and protective measures for outdoor areas, and building protection. A visit to the trade fair will be enhanced by the special U.T.SEC@Perimeter Protection area as well as some expert presentations in the specialist forum.

Unmanned systems

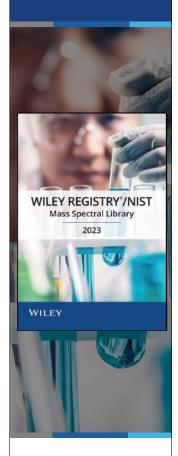
Drones and unmanned technologies will have their own special area in Hall 2. "The integration of the U.T.SEC area into Perimeter Protection is a logical step because drones will be an important part of perimeter protection in the future," explains Ms Urban. "By having our own special area, we are not only giving the subject special importance, but also specifically drawing trade visitors who are looking for unmanned systems defense solutions."

Specialist Forum

The top-class lecture program deals with important and current industry topics. This year, special attention will therefore be paid to the umbrella act for critical infrastructure protection and the associated innovations and effects for the security industry. The specialist forum will be held in Hall 2 and is being organized in cooperation with the Verband für Sicherheitstechnik and UAV DACH. More information on the lecture program will soon be available in fall 2024. There will also be a scientific assessment of the umbrella act for critical infrastructure protection in the knowledge area.



Combine the power of two essential MS libraries



Wiley Registry / NIST Mass Spectral Library

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Learn more





Innovation Showcase

One of the leading trade events dedicated to risk prevention and management, Expoprotection 2024 was recently held in Paris where Ksenia Security showcased its cutting-edge security and home automation solutions. Visitors explored the latest products, experienced live demonstrations, and interacted with the company's solutions designed to enhance security in residential, commercial, and industrial environments. Visitors were given hands-on demonstrations of the products, engaged with the event staff, and also received exclusive Ksenia-branded gadgets. www.kseniasecurity.com



Al Security Solution Boosts Wildlife Conservation

An Australian government initiative has highlighted the innovative use of surveillance technology in wildlife conservation and demonstrated the potential for Vivotek cameras to be utilized in various industries beyond security. A collaborative effort between two Australian government entities - Zoos Victoria and Parks Victoria - the project aimed to monitor seals on protected haulout structures in the middle of Port Phillip Bay. The cameras deliver sharp and crisp footage for enhanced surveillance and are housed in weatherproof IP66-rated, vandal-proof IK10, and NEMA 4X-rated housings, ensuring durability and reliability in various weather conditions. The standalone system is powered by solar energy, with 4G LTE connectivity and a large lithium power pack to ensure continuous operation. Connected to a proprietary server-based AI system, the cameras were trained to detect entanglements, wounds, and monitor seal health, providing real-time vision to the Marine Response Unit for prompt medical callouts. www.vivotek.com



Cloud-Based Video Surveillance

Milestone Systems XProtect and Kite VSaaS live in a cloud-hosted service (AWS and Google Cloud respectively) as opposed to an on-premises data center. This service is managed, upgraded and even monitored for performance by the VSaaS vendor. According to Milestone, whose XProtect is now available on the cloud, while most corporate security projects are still deployed on-premises, cloud deployments are now growing at a faster rate (Source: Omdia, 2024). There are two types of VSaaS: gateway-based and camera-to-cloud. A gateway can help make the most of the cameras that are already installed by talking to the camera and the cloud. New sites and small locations can be great candidates for the VSaaS deployment model called camera-to-cloud, which takes advantage of the processing power of the camera itself, with gateway software running on the device. Camera-based analytics include fence guard and people count (Axis), People Count (Bosch), cross-line detection, intruder detection, loitering detection, object detection and scene change (iPro). www.milestonesys.com

iLoq: Agreement with Heimstaden Bostad

Digital access management company, iLoq, has signed a global framework agreement with Heimstaden Bostad, one of Europe's leading residential real estate companies with a portfolio of approximately 160,000 apartments across nine countries. Heimstaden Bostad aims to create friendly homes and will work in the coming years to phase out mechanical locking systems, retrofitting existing properties and equipping new builds with advanced, secure digital locking solutions. "This agreement is an extension of the partnership that iLoq and Heimstaden Bostad started back in 2022 and proves that Heimstaden Bostad clearly recognizes and understands the benefits of digital access management throughout the housing value chain," states Christer Wiberg, Global Key Account Manager, iLoq. "iLoQ's solutions provide a modern and intelligent customer experience which gives added value for our customers. We are always looking at new ways to improve our tenants' living experiences," comments Anders Thorsson, Procurement, Heimstaden Sweden.



Parc des Princes Stadium Sound System

As part of the latest modernization of the sound system at the Parc des Princes in France, a major technical installation was implemented by TOA, combining acoustic performance and safety standards. This stadium in the 16th arrondissement of Paris has undergone several phases of renovation, notably that of 1972 which marked its current configuration. The new system has an infrastructure of 13 bays of 36 units each, integrating various control, mixing and amplification equipment. The loudspeaker system is 39 clusters of 117 Alpha 7530EN loudspeakers and 39 B1-15 subwoofers. The installation also includes various PC-1867FC in-wall speakers, BS-680FC wall-mounted speakers, as well as various models of sound projectors and speakers for different specific applications. This technical installation ensures clear and powerful sound diffusion throughout the stadium, and meets EN 54 certifications.



Short Wave Infrared 1.3 MP Camera

Teledyne FLIR IIS has launched its Forge 1GigE SWIR camera. It is equipped with a wide-band and high-sensitivity Sony SenSWIR 1.3 MP IMX990 InGaAs sensor that captures images across both visible light and SWIR light spectrums (VisSWIR) with 5µm pixels, providing an extended spectral range from 400nm to 1700nm. This capability enhances anomaly detection and material analysis, making it ideal for applications such as industrial semiconductor inspection, food and beverage quality control, recycling, security surveillance, environmental monitoring, precision farming, amongst others. The camera is just 40mm x 40mm x 43mm, and features pixel correction, a sequencer with region of interest, logic block, and a counter. All IIS cameras are supported by Teledyne Spinnaker 4 software development kits, Sapera processing and a powerful trigger-to-image reliability (T2IR) framework. www.flir.co.uk

Simplifying Multi-Residential Housing Access Management

GWW have chosen Assa Abloy and their eCLIQ electronic locking system for their stock of over 13,000 apartments. When digitalizing access for their multi-residential housing sites, GWW looked for an easy-to-install solution with devices that work wirelessly and without batteries. All eCLIQ cylinders are wireless and battery-free as power is supplied by the battery in the key so that doors with CLIQ cylinders can always unlock without their own power supply. Another major factor in GWW's choice was that authorizations are set and changed as required in the CLIQ Web Manager, accessible from anywhere with an internet connection. Lost keys can be deactivated immediately, and time and room restrictions can also be defined, for example to grant cleaning staff access at specific times. www.assaabloy.com



Smart Parking Guidance Technology

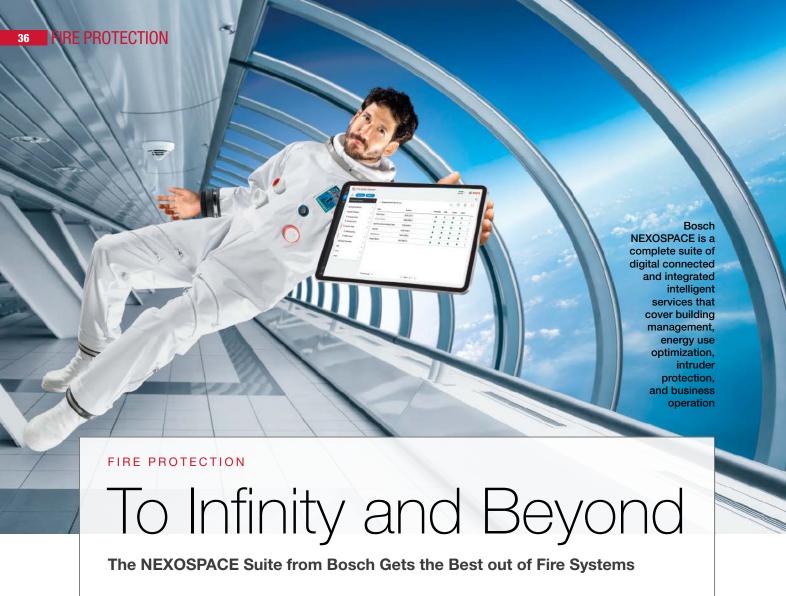
Bradley International Airport (BDL) has selected TKH Security as a partner in parking guidance. One of the most beneficial advancements in the parking industry is data analytics. With the information obtained, parking garage operators can truly transform the way they monitor and manage their facilities. The TKH Park Assist solution will monitor 4,228 spaces across two garages and one surface lot. The foundation of Bradley International Airport's automated parking guidance system lies in the camera-equipped M5 smart sensor, each of which features two CMOS digital cameras that can oversee up to six parking spots (three on either side) from above the driving lanes. With an accuracy rate exceeding 99%, the sensor is enhanced with a customizable full-spectrum RGB LED indicator, providing thousands of color choices to denote occupancy, various parking types, and more. This system streamlines traffic and eases congestion within parking facilities. www.tkhsecurity.com

Radar Simulation

The Munich based technology group Rohde & Schwarz has been a strategic partner of fiveD since the end of July 2024. The Radar Simulation Suite created by the startup from Erlangen takes radar simulations to the next level, closing the gap between reality and virtual worlds. This expertise will help Rohde & Schwarz to further expand its contactless security portfolio. The radar simulation suite realistically simulates radars, and will improve the development of the company's security scanners that use artificial intelligence (AI) to detect potentially dangerous objects. These are used at airports and for critical infrastructure around the world, enabling fast, contactless security checks. The suite also eliminates another bottleneck for AI: the manual labeling of countless individual data points. Neural networks require these labels during the initial training process, in which they learn to categorize information correctly and the fiveD software suite labels the data automatically and completely free of errors.

www.rohde-schwarz.com





The IoT can enhance fire alarm systems by enabling them to monitor and control devices and components such as detectors, panels and sirens both remotely and wirelessly. Smart sensors and connected devices can monitor environmental factors such as temperature, humidity and air quality then analyze the data to detect anomalies that may indicate fire risks. All this goes to reduce the sad loss of around 5,000 lives across Europe each year from residential fires alone. GIT SECURITY International found out about the Bosch NEXOSPACE suite that provides the human interface from Theresa Kramer and Stefanie Steudel from the company's Building Technologies division.

a dynamic growth in the Internet of Things over the past few years that now provides previously unavailable insights into equipment, systems, and distant environmental conditions. Could you tell us how NEXOSPACE helps in this digital world?

Theresa Kramer: In fact, NEXOSPACE is a complete suite of digital connected and integrated intelligent services that cover building management, energy use optimization, intruder protection, and business operation. It allows facilities managers to navigate buildings into the digital age and gain unrivalled insight into all build-

ing data. For example, within the suite is a module specifically built to extract data from fire systems that enables users to remotely manage their installed systems with greater insight than previously possible. This increases the efficiency of remote administration and reduces costs for the maintainer too.

What are the benefits of having more data available, and how can it best be used?

Theresa Kramer: The data from running systems is available 24/7 and will immediately show any anomalies that need attention. Faults or out-of-range values can be

analyzed remotely and a decision taken on what follow-up action is necessary. This translates into more efficient planning and assignment of valuable technical and human resources. The data can also be extrapolated to support predictive maintenance schemes by showing pollution levels, historic temperature extremes, usage hours and other parameters.

What is the suite's interaction with fire systems and how is it used?

Theresa Kramer: Specifically, the Fire System Explorer (FSE) provides remote internet connectivity to any Bosch fire alarm system. As well as reducing human misery,



NEXOSPACE FSE at a Glance

The FSE facilitates remote management of tasks that previously required onsite presence, thereby saving time by minimizing travel requirements. Additionally, the automation of processes and tasks enhances planning and resource allocation, resulting in substantial efficiency gains in both time and costs.

Highlights

■ Minimized on-site maintenance and inspections. With remote capabilities, you can significantly cut down on travel time. Configurations can be remotely adjusted, system updates managed, and issues troubleshooted from a distance. Also, the pollution state of individual detectors can be remotely monitored.

- Reduced time devoted to maintenance calls. The NEXOSPACE FSE enables better preparation for targeted service visits, thanks to comprehensive data provided for each system element in advance. In addition, the integration of the walk test feature allows for faster testing onsite.
- Efficient incident response. All defined recipients receive immediate notifications in the event of alarms or critical events, helping with good advance preparation to react efficiently to an incident.
- Resource reallocation. Valuable resources can be reallocated to other critical areas of your business. This enables you to invest in developing new projects, to expand service offerings, and to enhance customer support, ulti-



NEXOSPACE allows facilities managers to navigate buildings into the digital age and gain unrivalled insight into all building data.

mately driving your business growth and profitability.

downtime and other economic losses, it brings a host of business benefits to streamline operations and reduce maintenance and installation costs. Integrators and their customers gain comprehensive insights into all interconnected fire systems. Maintaining round-the-clock visibility into the entire fire system and its service history fosters transparency and trust between the technicians and their customers. Individual systems can be freely assigned into user-defined groups,

enabling easy management by region, by customer, or by support team for example. The FSE can be accessed through a portal on notebooks or tablets as well as via an interactive app.

What information does a technician have available via the FSE?

Stefanie Steudel: It provides them with updates on the system status as well as on

the alarm history and service records. The 24/7 availability makes it easy to monitor a system's health status, its connectivity, license validity, and the fire panel firmware updates, along with providing the ability to track checked points and generate specific reports. This close monitoring of the fire alarm system can assist with early problem detection and prevent more costly problems later on. From the cockpit, users can adjust configurations, manage system updates,



and troubleshoot issues from a distance. They can also even remotely monitor the pollution state of individual detectors.

So does the system automatically advise maintainers of faults and alarms?

Stefanie Steudel: Yes, it ensures a decreased reaction time to critical situations with instant alerts and customized fault and alarm transmission via email and apps to responsible individuals' mobile devices, such as the tablets or smartphones that are being carried by maintainers in the field.

What about connectivity? Isn't that complex to set up to remote sites?

Theresa Kramer: The system is actually very easy to set up in less than half an hour with no more than a router and license. Administrators benefit from advanced user management with the ability to create and manage different projects simultaneously and to define the roles, access and responsibilities for each person. The connection is also encrypted and secured by the Secure Network Gateway and is managed by Bosch-hosted servers. All the services are managed through the FSE via any browser interface of your choice.

Where do you see this being worthwhile? Is it suitable for every Bosch fire system?

Theresa Kramer: Enabling your fire alarm systems for the IoT is helpful in any application. For certain use cases, the benefits of connectivity are even greater. For example, buildings with a potentially high fire risk either because of the type of work conducted there or the type of materials being handled, or systems that require more frequent system checks to maintain higher safety standards. Fire systems in environments with harsh conditions such as dust or humidity that need a higher maintenance effort to ensure optimal system performance can benefit greatly from FSE connection. - From the maintainers point of view, when multiple premises of the same customer have to be managed that are geographically spread out, streamlined maintenance plans and better resource allocation are the great cost-saving benefits. Cutting out wasted travel time from urban centers to really remote locations brings immediate tangible savings, and we are all happy to avoid wasted journeys.

Many thanks for enlightening us on the NEXOSPACE Fire System Explorer!



Bosch Building Technologies www.boschbuildingtechnologies.com

Generator Connections for DC-Side Surge Protection

Photovoltaic systems (PV systems) are becoming ever more prevalent in today's energy supply, so Dehn has expanded its YPV product range with additional versions that are specially trimmed to the requirements of modern photovoltaic systems. The new surge protection devices provide a compact and connection-ready point solution certified to IP 65. The Dehncube YPV enables uncomplicated retrofitting of surge protection to existing PV systems that protects the DC side of the inverter against any overvoltage. The multipole product versions have various different connections available, such as push-in types or original MC4 plugs, and are designed for systems at up to 1,200 V string voltage. They have been tested to EN 61643-31 and can be used in all PV systems acc. to IEC 60364-7-712. The main components of the Dehncubes are pre-wired and they can be quickly installed. www.dehn.de

Ansell Introduces Multi-Layered Protective Gloves

The AlphaTec 53-002 and 53-003 boast a multi-layered protective design that amalgamates the superior attributes of rubber polymer and plastic laminate technologies. These gloves meet the stringent requirements of EN ISO 374:2016, with 17 out of 18 candidate chemicals achieving Class 2 classification. 16 out of the 17 chemicals demonstrate



breakthrough times exceeding the maximum Class 6 threshold of >480 minutes, underscoring their exceptional protective capabilities against a diverse array of chemical substances. This versatility gives end-users the confidence to rely on a singular product solution, even in the presence of multiple chemical hazards. AlphaTec 53-003 actually goes beyond the EN ISO 374 chemical protective standard by incorporating a nylon liner integrated into the gloves, providing mechanical protection in compliance with EN 388, along with contact heat resistance up to 100 degrees Celsius (212 degrees Fahrenheit) in compliance with EN 407.

FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

From the Nursery to the Retirement Home

A Compact and Convenient **Adjustable Fire Alarm System**

Telenot has developed the Hifire 4100 XS fire alarm system especially to meet the needs of kindergartens, hotels or small B&Bs, and retirement homes. Telenot has started a new chapter in the book of single-loop fire alarm systems with the Hifire 4100 XS. It is compact in size, and the programming can be done either with or without a computer. It is intuitive to use and components can be connected either via a cable or wirelessly.



Telent has enlarged its portfolio of fire prevention equipment with the Hifire 4100 XS fire alarm system

Telenot has continuously expanded its range of fire alarm products. The electronic safety technology experts have now introduced a fire alarm system, the Hifire 4100 XS, that is specifically designed for use in kindergartens, hotels or guesthouses with up to 60 beds, as well as in retirement homes. "This group of building types was largely unregulated for many years. The introduction of DIN VDE V 0826-2 however clearly defines the requirements that fire alarm systems in such situations must meet. So for example, it states that all the components must meet the EN-54 list", explains Simon Schurr, Product Manager for fire alarm systems at Telenot.

Telenot wants to set a new level in the single-loop fire alarm market with this system. It can be easily set up with simple parameters for example, is easy to maintain and is reliable. It is simply commissioned at the main panel with the help of a configuration assistant that is built into the system and controlled via the app-based GUI on the 7-inch color touch display. This is where users are defined and passwords set, groups and detector numbers assigned, as

well as user-specific customer texts entered. Alternatively, the Compas-F 4000 parameter setting software that is already used for multiple Telenot fire alarm products can be used here too.

Installation and Usage

Operation of the system via the display is just as easy. Visual menus and submenus with prompts and app symbols lead the user intuitively to the individual elements. Additional built-in status LEDs help to stay aware of the configuration and status of the fire alarm system at any time.

A further benefit is the installation: the system is compact and cleverly built from just three modules - a mother board in the case made of hot-dip galvanized and painted metal, an electronic unit that is fixed with just four screws to make installation and maintenance quick, and a signal white plastic cover in a timeless design.

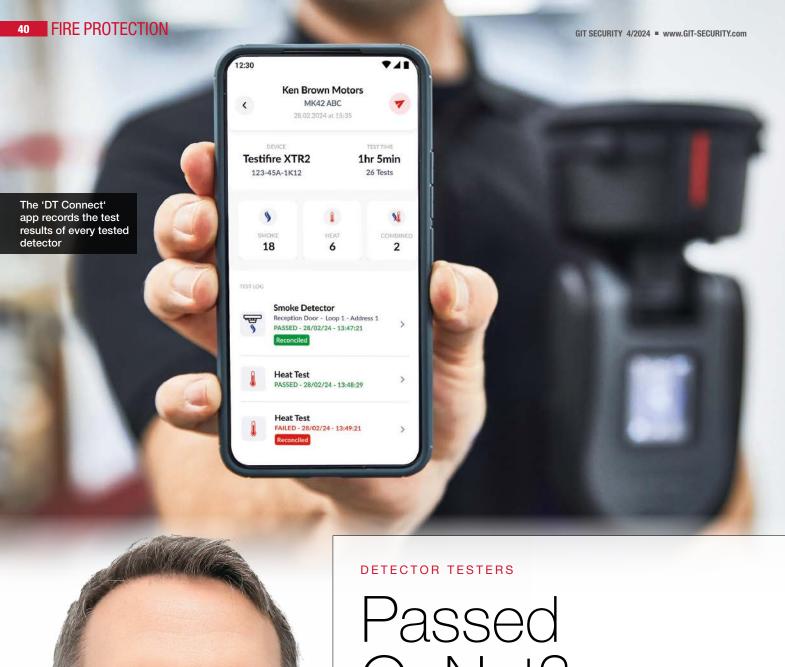
The hybrid connection capability allows all types of detectors from Telenot to be connected to the system, either in the loop or wirelessly, which makes it equally easy to use in both new and old buildings. This means that up to 128 fire detectors or up to 254 loop components can be connected to the system. The loop components can be both automatically and manually addressed. In total, up to 999 detector groups can be set up, and the power supply is built in.

Optional Web Server

The Telenot Webserver 5088 can optionally be built in to provide a visual interface and as an interface for building management. In the future it will be possible to connect the Hifire 4100 XS to a fire brigade panel and/or a separate display.

The system also provides protection against short circuits, broken wires and faulty loop components. The short circuit and broken wire recognition is localized to show the exact location of the problem, directly to the central unit as well as when checking the loop.





Or Not?

With compliance and proof of testing more important than ever, a new solution is making it easy to test detectors and report on the results

UK company, Detectortesters has brought a universal test and reporting solution to the market, Testifire XTR2. It's a universal solution, suitable for both conventional and addressable detectors from all the leading brands. This is a big advantage, in particular for companies that have to test detectors from different manufacturers. GIT SECURITY spoke with Oliver Doerle, Head of Customer Experience at Detectortesters.

market. What is this exactly?

Oliver Doerle: Our new Testifire XTR2 test apparatus raises the functional testing of detectors to a whole new level. In recent years, there has been a concentration in the fire protection industry on compliance. These days, the steps we take have to be recorded better than ever so that those responsible for fire protection can prove that the standards have been complied with. Testifire XTR2 was developed to address this need and bring two core elements of fire system maintenance together – the functional testing of detectors and the documentation of the test results.

How does the device work?

Oliver Doerle: There are 21 individual sensors in the test cup of Testifire XTR2 that together recognize when the detector's LED is illuminated. When illuminated, a pass status is recorded, if the detector fails to activate and no led is illuminated a fail status is recorded. Each result is recorded digitially with a date and time stamp.

There are three parts to the solution, firstly the hardware – the actual test apparatus – that enables functional tests with both smoke and heat and offers a range of new features compared to the previous Testifire range.

The DT Connect App is connected to the test device via Bluetooth to transmit the results of the tests. And last but not least, there is the DT Cloud Portal where all the test reports are stored and can be downloaded.

So the solution enables the automation and digitalization and increases the efficiency of these tests?

Oliver Doerle: It is very important for our customers to be able to test detectors quickly, and we have enabled exactly that with this hardware. We have optimized the generation of the smoke and heat stimuli. Of course, it is much more convenient to have an all-in-one test device for both rather than having to carry two separate test devices around with you. But the biggest change is that we have combined the testing and result collection for the first time in a networked solution – giving technicians, fire protection specialists and building owners a huge advantage.

Although some modern fire protection systems can create digital records, the reality on site can be much more complex because the technicians are faced with a mixture of addressable and conventional systems from various manufacturers. Before Testifire XTR2, in many cases a written note by the technician that the fire system had been tested or a simple printout from the fire panel was the best that was available.

The reporting capability of Testifire XTR2 changes all that by taking the results directly from the test device, recording them in the app, and then automatically converting the test reports for storage and availability in the cloud portal. Working this way accelerates not only the testing and reporting for the technician, but also avoids human errors – with the test data gathered directly from the test device.

And the best part is that this is a universal solution for all manufacturers of fire detectors, whether old or new. Even if technicians come across an old system, there is now the possibility to create a digital test report.

It's not only technicians and fire protection companies that have to be able to prove compliance with the regulations to their customers. Heightened responsibility means that building owners and managers are now much more aware of what compliant testing looks like.

You already mentioned the app – can you manage the whole test process with this?

Oliver Doerle: The DT Connect App is central to the solution and works together with the Testifire XTR2 test apparatus. At the start of the maintenance visit, the location is selected with the help of the geo-mapping function. Then the technician sets up the test sequence – first selecting the test to be carried out before starting to test all the detectors at that location.

After each detector has been tested, the result is passed immediately to the DT Connect App, which creates a digital record that the detector that has been tested. There are also other functions that help the fire technician: for example, the technician can add his own notes or observations to each test or even create complete system lists for their maintenance locations.

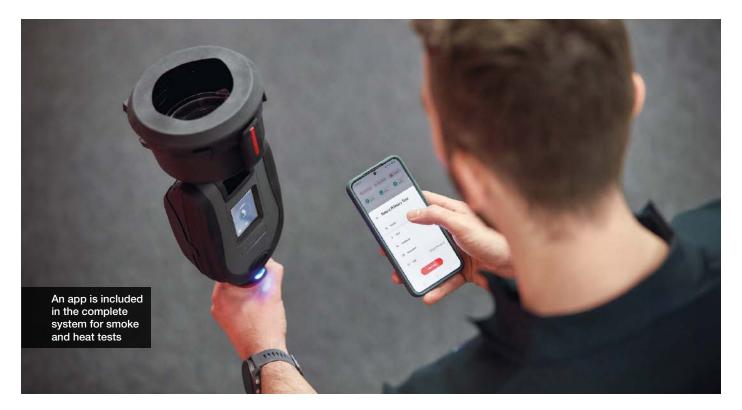
At the end of the maintenance visit, a report is automatically written after all the detectors have been checked that contains the details of each one, and puts those that have not passed at the top of the report – this enables problems to be quickly and easily identified. Before the report is produced, the technician can ask the responsible person on site for a signature for approval in the app as recognition of the work carried out.



Status messages provide exact information about the life of cartridges and batteries so that technicians will be advised when replacement cartridges or batteries will be required. You can also access product support information and helpful videos via the app.

Is an automatic comparison with the central fire panel made?

Oliver Doerle: Yes, the current version of the app provides the ability to compare data from the addressable central fire panel with that gathered by the DT Connect App. In the app, the technician can first of all record the fire panel time. This helps when calculating the estimated alarm time when making the comparison at the end of the test. Once the fire panel time has been obtained and the rest of the set up completed, the



technician can begin his rounds and start testing. The test results can be compared with the fire panel as soon as the test has been completed. The time stamp of every test is checked and compared with the event database of the fire panel. If, at the end of the test, a corresponding event in the database of the fire panel agrees with the estimated alarm time of each test, then the test can be marked as compared. If there is no corresponding event, the entry will be marked as "No alarm", which means that the detector did not send an alarm to the fire panel and there is a defect that has to be investigated.

Which customers find this solution particularly interesting?

Oliver Doerle: The profile of the companies that use our products is quite broad. There are many medium-sized companies, but smaller companies also use the solution to get a unique advantage. These firms in particular are faced with an investment challenge: they cannot simply invest in large IT systems, but with the Testifire XTR2 can get a solution that is immediately ready for use

Mr. Doerle, let us talk a little about the Detectortesters company. This is a rapidly expanding company that is already represented in more than 140 countries.

Oliver Doerle: You are right: we have a long history in the fire industry. Our Solo and Testifire product ranges are considered

as an industry standard when it comes to the functional testing of fire detectors. Our business has grown quickly over the last 35 years because the demand for these solutions came at the same time as an increased focus on compliance and the development of fire protection standards.

Our first European sales outside the UK were back in 1989. Since then, we have continually increased our sales by forming partnerships with leading fire distributors and global fire detector manufacturers. More recently, we have expanded our in country sales teams to increase business in particular regions.

We now sell in over 140 countries and are market leader in most of them. The variety of solutions and the compatibility that they have with all brands and models of fire detectors are two of the key factors of our success. Over the years, we have learnt that although there are commonalities in fire protection, the specific requirements can be very different. This has recently led to new developments, such as the first allin-one test solution, special products to test air sampling systems and of course recently, the introduction of our first IoT solution that combines the testing of smoke and heat with the ability to collect and report the test results of each detector.

Around 100 employees work in our headquarters north of London with a broad spectrum of skills, from product development to manufacturing. This location also houses our famous test lab with literally hundreds of fire detectors. We use these to test compatibility when developing new solutions or to provide proof when testing

particular fire detectors for a customer enquiry.

In 2019, the Sunday Times included us in their Export Track 100, and after we had already received a Queen's Award in 2003 and 2014, we celebrated our third Queen's Award in 2021 as recognition of our successful international trade. Earlier this year, we won the 'Fire Safety Innovation of the Year' award at the Fire Safety Matters Awards in Great Britain for our Testifire XTR2. In September 2021, the company was acquired by Private Equity. We were also able to structure a mergers and acquisitions strategy – the newest member is The Hose Monster Company based in Chicago, USA.

And you also exhibited recently at the Security event in Essen, one of the most important events for the safety industry...

Oliver Doerle: Security Essen has been an important event in our live event calendar for over twenty years. We are able to meet our strategic partners here as well as our end-users. We were happy to show the Testifire XTR2 at Security Essen after having presented it at a number of global events. The dates of the show were shortly after the release of our latest update for the product that brings a palette of new functions to better support compliance and productivity.

Next we are looking forward to introducing Testifire XTR2 to the Middle East when we attend Intersec in Dubai.

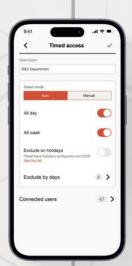
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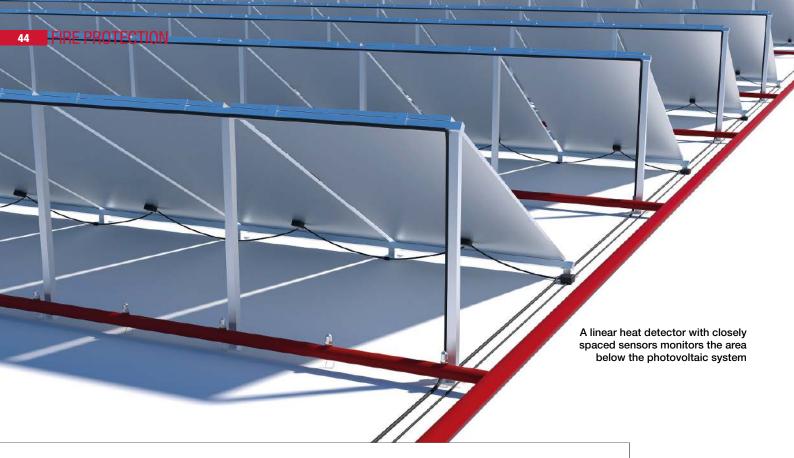






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FIRE DETECTION

Danger on the Roof

Fire Protection for Roofs with Photovoltaic Panels

PVProtect from Minimax is the first fire protection system with VdS certification designed specifically for roofs with photovoltaic panels, as stated by the manufacturer. Its holistic protection approach is conceived to detect fires early and fight them automatically. This helps to minimize the damage caused to the roof.

The roofs of many industrial and commercial buildings have already been equipped or retrofitted with photovoltaic panels over many years to make use of solar energy. A study by the green-tech company CarbonFreed showed that in the first six months of 2024 alone around 2,700 commercial solar systems with a total power of 980 megawatts were registered in Germany. The number of new systems is on track to exceed that of last year, which had already broken the record with 4,100 systems and a total power of 1.4 gigawatts.

While this growing number is good news for the energy transition, it also increases the potential for fires on the buildings on which these systems are installed. Combustible materials and sealants in the roof construction present the biggest problem: they support the quick spread of fires, which can lead to widespread damage.

Cables, sockets and electrical components are all potential sources of fire because they are constantly exposed to the elements and age quicker, wear out, or become damaged. The high currents that flow through these components can cause sparks and easily ignite a fire. Once the roof material has caught fire, it can quickly spread throughout the entire roof. The consequences can be significant damage to the facilities and follow-on costs due to interruption of business, repairs, and purchase of replacement parts, if not the total loss of the building.

Early Detection, Automatic Extinguishing

PVProtect helps to significantly minimize or completely prevent such damages by combining a holistic early detection approach with automatic firefighting. A linear heat detector with closely spaced sensors monitors the area below the photovoltaic system. If a fire starts, the sensors will register a suspicious rise in temperature and report this to the fire detection control panel. This activates the extinguishing system immediately and sounds the alarm onsite. The fire brigade is simultaneously alerted and the exact location of the fire reported.

Rapid firefighting with special PV nozzles enables water usage that corresponds to the risk, and prevents the fire from spreading. Thus, PVProtect safeguards not only the roof, but also the complete building against fire and consequential damage. The emergency services can go directly to the location of the fire and extinguish any remaining embers.

Areas of Application

PVProtect is designed for roofs with the usual sealants such as sealing strips made of plastic, bitumen, or other sealants containing bitumen, PUR sandwich elements (of all fire protection classes) as well as

flammable roof sealants and roof construction components. The list of insulation materials includes mineral wools or other non-combustible insulation materials, PUR/PIR certified to B-s2-d0 as well as PUR/PS or other combustible insulation material. The system should not be used on roofs with vegetation near the photovoltaic system because these are most probably built on an absorbing substrate.

Minimax GmbH www.minimax.com



4 Questions to...

... Thorsten Gieseke, Extinguishing System Manager for Water Extinguishing Systems and Head of the Fire Protection Research Center at Minimax GmbH in Bad Oldesloe

GIT SECURITY: Mr. Gieseke, you introduced a product some time ago that addresses a highly topical problem: fire protection on roofs equipped with photovoltaic systems. Your solution is VdS certified. First of all, how high is the risk of fire in such environments – and how widespread are roofs that were built with combustible insulation? What do you estimate the number to be?

Thorsten Gieseke: Many existing buildings were retrofitted with photovoltaic systems years ago. There was no need to use non-combustible materials when these buildings were constructed, for example for the insulation material. That is why we see a significantly increased fire risk with such retrofitted systems when a fire breaks out on a roof because of a photovoltaic system. Our own tests have shown that even materials that are considered to be 'fire safe' can actually catch fire under these circumstances and must therefore be extinguished. The major danger with all these fires is that they are not detected and are able to burn their way through the whole roof. A fire can spread undetected below the top layer of the roof covering. This cannot be seen with the naked eye from a distance, and is a real danger. It can happen within minutes and is then not easily brought under control.

You have developed a holistic solution. Could you summarize how it works and its advantages over other systems?

Thorsten Gieseke: PVProtect is based on a simple but ingenious construction. A linear heat detection cable is laid over the entire area of the photovoltaic system and reports any unusual temperature increase to the fire detection control panel. This immediately alerts everyone nearby as well as the fire brigade. At the same time, the extinguishing system is activated so that firefighting starts automatically. The extinguishing water is led through pipes under the photovoltaic panels to the roof and spread by special PV nozzles. The big advantage of PVProtect is that the system fights the fire before the fire brigade arrives. This prevents the fire from spreading and minimizes potential fire damage. If you only run a detector cable, you know that there is a fire and can evacuate the premises, but the fire can spread without any containment and cause significant damage before the fire brigade arrive and extinguish

What conditions had to be fulfilled to achieve VdS certification, and what advantages does that bring for the customer?

Thorsten Gieseke: Many different extensive tests had to be carried out in various different scenarios before PVProtect received its system approval. The system passed all the tests without exception. This seal of approval will assure customers who install this system on their roof of its function and effectiveness. Customers can also receive discounts from their insurance companies when they install the system.

You introduced this extinguishing system at the end of last year. How has it been taken up by the market?

Thorsten Gieseke: PVProtect is very versatile. It is designed for all sorts of different roof materials and constructions; it can be installed on new buildings; it can equally well be retrofitted to existing buildings. The system is suitable both for buildings with a sprinkler system and also for those without. This is one reason why the system has been taken up very positively not only in Germany but also internationally. ■





Helmets generally provide too little protection against offset blows. The Mips safety system was developed to deflect the dangerous rotational forces that occur with an offset impact. The Mips technology has already proven itself over many years in various activities such as cycling, skiing and motor sport.

When something hits your head, it rarely hits exactly in the middle. The impact is far more often off center or at an angle. A protective helmet does protect against linear forces, but a glancing blow can also cause tangential forces between the helmet and the skull that turn the head. The rotation can cause significant damage because the brain is very sensitive to rotation. The Mips safety system for industrial safety helmets can provide additional protection against this. Max Strandwitz, CEO of Mips, told GIT SECURITY what the effects of rotational energy can be on the human brain, and how the Mips safety system protects and deflects this from the head.

GIT SECURITY: Mr. Strandwitz, Mips is a name that has been known and established in riding, cycling and motorsport for a long time. Mips recently started a cooperation with Uvex to provide protective helmets for the German market fitted with the Mips safety system. But why is the system also ideal for industrial protection?

Max Strandwitz: The helmet technology company Mips is known for its products for sport and motorcycle helmets and is also very popular with skiers and cyclists.



We have now joined the leading manufacturers of personal protective equipment (PPE) to integrate the Mips safety system into protective helmets. Our aim is to better protect the head by deflecting damaging rotation that is caused by an offset impact, for example, when a worker falls or is hit by a falling object. This will reduce the risk of brain injury.

Those who spend a lot of time on building sites know that head injuries can be part of the job. They are mostly light impacts, but can sometimes be harder blows. The most frequent accidents are impacts from the side, falling objects, slipping, tripping or falling. Head impacts do not only happen in a straight line; more often, they have an offset impact angle that can cause the head to rotate. In spite of the widespread and mostly obligatory use of safety helmets, building and industrial workers are always at risk of head injuries, including various axonal injuries and concussion.

That is why it is important to understand head injuries. The term 'head injury' covers a multiplicity of injuries that can occur to

the scalp, the skull, the brain as well as the tissue below and the veins and arteries in the head. Injuries to the brain that are caused by accidents or physical force are known as traumatic brain injury (TBI). A TBI can be caused by an impact, or a vibration of the head, or a direct blow to the head that moves the head and the brain rapidly to and fro.

Traumatic brain injuries occur in many forms. The most common are light skullbrain traumas or concussion. If you bang your head on the cabinet door, fall over, or injure yourself playing sport, this can lead to a slight trauma, the most common of which is concussion that covers up to 75% of all traumatic brain injuries. These injuries are much more common than you would think; 50% of all serious injuries are not diagnosed or remain undiscovered, and 90% of the diagnosed serious injuries are not accompanied by unconsciousness.

Rotational energy is generated by a side impact on a safety helmet, as you just explained. How is this transmitted and what significant effects does it have on the human brain?

Max Strandwitz: The human brain is a fascinating construction - but sensitive, and in particular to rotation. Almost all head impacts create a turning movement

Helmets with the Mips safety system are also tested for rotation beyond the requirements of the EN397, EN12492 and EN14052 standards in the company's own labs in Täby in Sweden

that stresses the brain matter and can lead to light or serious brain injuries. The brain and the cerebrospinal fluid fill most of the skull. Both the brain matter and the fluid are almost impossible to compress, so the brain does not move much when there is a straight impact. A turning movement of the head though can cause the rotation of the brain within the skull. This can lead to a relative movement between the skull and the brain because the shear stiffness of the brain and brain fluid is low, which can in turn lead to damage to the brain matter or a rupture in a blood vessel, which can cause a traumatic brain injury.

There have been standards that a safety helmet should comply with in various situations for a long time. Among them are EN397 for industrial head protection, EN12492 for climbing helmets and EN14052 for high-performance industrial protective helmets. Are these standards too low in your opinion and, if so, why?

Max Strandwitz: Traditional protective helmets were developed and tested for straight-on impacts and protect against injuries like broken skulls. They are however often not designed for the turning forces that occur with offset impacts. Studies have shown that the brain reacts more sensitively to turning movements (offset impacts) than to linear movements (straight-on impacts). Unfortunately, there are currently no rotation tests within the EN 397 industrial helmet standard. Wearers should therefore be aware that the standard only represents the minimum requirements. Protective helmets are relatively good in absorbing linear impacts, as the EN 397 standard shows. The problem occurs when there is an impact and a rotational acceleration.

The helmet holds the head or skull when it turns, and turns it with the directional force of the impact. This happens not only when slipping, tripping, or falling over on the same or a higher level, but also through falling objects. This can include side impacts from machines too. The EN 12492 standard for climbing helmets and the EN 14052 standard for high-performance industrial protection helmets provide additional protection because these are tested for side, frontal or rear impacts. However, these impacts are always linear through

The Mips system consists of a low-friction layer (shown in yellow), a so-called sliding level, that can be integrated into the padding of practically all helmets, and allows a movement of 10-15mm during impacts to deflect the turning force away from the head

the middle of the head. Also, the head form is fixed during the test so that no rotation of the head is possible, which is why the rotational protection is not measured using this test method.

The Mips safety system is able to provide significantly better protection. How does that work?

Max Strandwitz: The Mips safety system consists of a low-friction layer on the inside of the helmet that enables multidirectional movement of 10-15 mm during offset impacts. During an accident and a blow to the head, the Mips safety system will help to deflect the rotation of certain impacts that would otherwise be transmitted to the head. This minimizes the risk of brain injuries. Protective helmets that are fitted with the Mips safety system therefore provide additional protection beyond the standard.

Let us assume that I want to develop a safety helmet that incorporates the Mips safety system. How does the cooperation work and how does Mips confirm its effectiveness?

Max Strandwitz: As all Mips solutions are adapted to the respective helmet model and size, you have to contact Mips so that we can discuss together how the solution can best be integrated into the helmet.

Finally, it would be interesting to know in which areas of industrial protection you see the biggest potential for use...

Max Strandwitz: The building industry, oil and gas industry, mining, really all industries where there is the danger of an offset impact to the head. Everyone who has to, or should, wear a protective helmet as part of their PPE can potentially be hit at an offset angle, and the Mips system can therefore be their salvation.



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