PWPW

customer story

AEOS meets stringent criteria for this world-class security printing house

Facts at a glance

- 3500 cardholders
- 470 doors
- 2 locations (more to follow)
- Integration with 3D biometric readers

Establishing a high level of security and freedom for PWPW

AEOS meets stringent criteria for this world–class security printing house

PWPW (Polish Security Printing Works) is one of Europe's most advanced companies in the security printing sector. It's responsible for printing high-security items such as passports, visas, banknotes and payment cards. And, as such, needs an access control system it can absolutely rely on. After much in-depth research, PWPW decided that AEOS fits the bill.

Complex requirements for a new system

PWPW's existing access control system was no longer supported by the manufacturer, so it wanted a replacement to ensure the high levels of security it needs. The PWPW factory isn't a straightforward site to protect, however. It's a complex of eleven buildings built at different times and the layout is complicated due to many disparate passageways and staircases.

This meant PWPW couldn't draw on the experience of other facilities of this type. The team had to think innovatively and create a completely new concept for securing the company's sites to meet the standards applied to world-class printing houses.

Manufacturer's stability a key requirement

As the manufacturer of PWPW's existing access control system had stopped offering support, it's understandable that one of the key criteria for PWPW's new system was the manufacturer's stability. And, of course, its approach to the long-term support of its system.

Piotr Sitko, at PWPW says:
"This is a very difficult and complicated market. It often happens that a recently purchased system will no longer be supported due to the acquisition of the manufacturer by another company. And this can be a serious problem with the use of devices securing our company."

A rigorous search for the right system

For this reason, PWPW was extremely diligent when researching a replacement system. The team visited domestic and international trade fairs and held meetings with at least 12 manufacturers. They also visited end users to see some systems in action. And, as well as considering emerging innovations and product portfolios, they researched each potential supplier's business history and future plans.

Ultimately, PWPW decided that Nedap was a good fit for its stringent criteria. And that it could trust Nedap's AEOS access control system to provide the protection it was looking for.

In relation to the access control system itself, PWPW's criteria was as follows.

1. **A reliably high level of safety and security**
   This was the number one priority for PWPW. As it produces items requiring high-level security, it's crucial it can rely on its access control system to provide the protection required.

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   Implementing AEOS has enabled PWPW to achieve INTERGRAF (ISO 14298) certification. This confirms the highest level of production security and gives a competitive edge in the security printing market.

2. **A modern, hi-tech system**
   PWPW was looking for an access control system that uses the latest technology and meets all of today's rigorous safety standards.

3. **Open to integrations**
   It was very important to PWPW to choose a system based on an open platform to enable integrations with other technologies. In particular, the team wanted to integrate biometric readers to enable unique air locks.

4. **Futureproof**
   PWPW wanted a system that can be easily adapted in the future. If, for example, regulations change and demand additional security measures – such as counting the number of people in a room – PWPW wanted to ensure its new system would allow that.

5. **No vendor lock-in**
   PWPW didn't want to be locked in to using its access control system's manufacturer, or another specified party, for service and maintenance. Its main concern regarding this was inflated pricing, which can amount to a large expense in the long-term.

One centralised, unified system is the end goal

AEOS access control met all the above criteria and more. So PWPW chose the integrator Team Systems to install AEOS at its headquarters in Sanguszki and a site in Niepodleglosci – both in Poland. It plans to continue expanding its AEOS system to other sites in the coming years. With the ultimate goal being for employees to use just one access control card across all PWPW facilities.

Piotr Sitko, at PWPW says:
"After such a thorough search of the market, we're confident we've made the right choice in Nedap and its AEOS access control system. It provides everything we need now, and we know we can easily expand and adapt our system to meet any future needs. What's more, we appreciate having the freedom to appoint different installers and integrators, so we can choose the right company for each project and location. And we can ensure competitive pricing for servicing and maintenance."

Anna Twardowska, from Nedap adds:
"We're thrilled that AEOS stood up to PWPW's rigorous search criteria and has enabled it to overcome a complex security challenge. This is the kind of project where AEOS's flexibility really shines."