

CASE STUDY: IDTECK's one-card solution delivers versatile interoperability and central manageability.



Aekyung Department Store currently has 3 branch stores; Suwon Store(Top), Guro Store(Left), and Samsung Plaza(Right)

Location: Aekyung Department Store (HQ & 3 Branches), Seoul, South Korea

Products Used:

- SR505 Standalone Keypad/Smart Card Readers (29 Units)
- SR30 Smart Card Readers (25 Units)
- iCON100-SR Access Control Panels (25 Units)
- STARWATCH DUAL PRO I Management Software

Application: 13.56MHz Smart Card Solution for Access Control, Time & Attendance, and Cashless Meal Payment (One-Card Solution)

Aekyung Department Store

Aekyung Department Store is one of the biggest South Korean department store franchises, owned by Aekyung Group. As a result of the 2006 affiliation with Samsung Plaza Department Store, Aekyung Department Store now has 3 branches in and around the capital city of Seoul, and 1 additional branch is scheduled to open in late 2009. The headquarters are located in Guro-gu, Seoul.

"Among other things, we were impressed with the IDTECK's software that not only offered all the access control and time and control features ... but also allowed the headquarters to monitor all the access events at our branches over the internet"

- Hwal-sun Bae, Aekyung HR Manager

Challenges

The existing access control systems at the branches in Guro and Suwon were comprised of standalone RF card readers, which had caused Aekyung's management staff and employees quite some trouble with frequent errors and system crashes. The costs of issuing cards had been escalating due to the recent personnel changes, giving Aekyung increased motivation to replace the existing system.

The other branch, Samsung Plaza, and the headquarters had been using an access control system provided by a security dispatch company. This system, despite its relatively stable performance, had presented a major inconvenience; incompatibility with the existing access control systems in the Guro and Suwon branch. Due to the incompatible systems, the HR management at the headquarters had not been able to centrally collect and manage the time and attendance data from the branches - not to mention the hassle and extra costs of issuing and carrying around multiple cards for access to the branches. A newly-identified need to manage the employees' debit meal plan had recently arisen, too.

Why IDTECK?

In order to replace their existing system, Aekyung's HR manager, Hwal-sun Bae, started to look for a stable solution that incorporated a 13.56MHz smart card technology and efficient CMS(central management software) with TCP/IP support.

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"We received quite a number of proposals from solutions providers and finally selected IDTECK as our accredited partner. Among other things, we were impressed with the IDTECK's software that not only offered all the access control and time and control features an HR professional could ever ask for, but also allowed the headquarters to monitor all the access events at our branches over the internet," said Hwal-sun Bae.

Requirements

- A stable smart card system that offers error-free operation and upgradeability for various applications
- Central monitoring/management of the branches by the headquarters
- Management of debit meal plans
- Interface with the dispatch service provider's security system
- Cost reduction in installation, implementation and operation



The SR505 is IDTECK's standalone 13.56MHz smart card reader/controller with a keypad and an LCD screen.



The SR30 is IDTECK's network 13.56MHz smart card reader.



The iCON100SR is IDTECK's 13.56GHz single-door access control panel with the capacity to control up to 2 readers.

Solution

IDTECK designed the solution with 10 and 11 SR505 standalone smart card/keypad readers for the Guro branch and the Suwon branch, respectively, and 12 and 13 pairs of the SR30 smart card reader and the iCON100SR single-door access control panel for Samsung Plaza and the headquarters, respectively.

The reason behind choosing an SR505 standalone system for the Guro and Suwon branches was largely a cost consideration. Since those branches had previously been using standalone access control systems, IDTECK could simply replace the existing readers with new SR505 readers without any cabling work, bringing the installation costs significantly down.

Meanwhile, pairing an SR30 smart card reader with an iCON100SR control panel proved to be an optimal solution for Samsung Plaza and the headquarters, as it seamlessly integrated with the dispatch service provider's existing security system. In the event of a security breach, the iCON100SR sends alarm signals to the dispatch service provider's security panels, which then report the alarms to the central monitoring center so that they can decide whether or not to dispatch security officers to the location.

In addition to the access control system, 8 SR505 standalone readers were installed at the employee cafeterias for meal plan management. In this smart card-enabled meal plan, the employees are allowed to purchase a certain number of meals per month with their employee cards, and with each purchase, the balance stored on their cards declines.

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For central monitoring/management of the entire system, TCP/IP communication over the internet was used between the branches and the headquarters. The STARWATCH DUAL PRO I management software was installed on a server computer at the headquarters to monitor the access events and manage the time and attendance data from the branch offices and the headquarters alike.

A significant cost reduction was realized in a synergetic partnership with a credit card company that agreed to provide the employees with smart chip-enabled credit cards with their photos printed on them. The credit card company was happy to expand their customer base while Aekyung Department Store saved on the costs of cards. The employees can use their employee cards for multiple purposes; as an employee ID card, as an access control card, as a cashless meal card, and as a credit card.

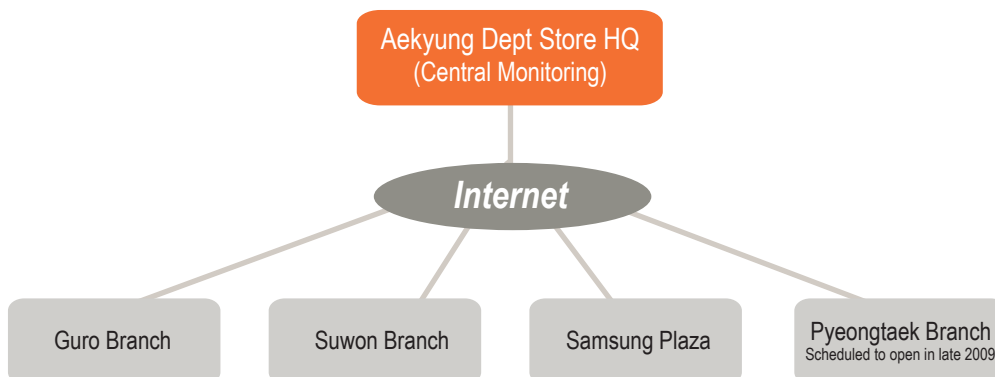


One-Card Solution: The employees at Aekyung Department Store can use their employee cards for multiple purposes; as an employee ID card, as an access control card, as a cashless meal card, and as a credit card.

After Successful Implementation

“With IDTECK’s help, we have achieved a stable access control and security system. The new system is very convenient for the HR team as it gives us the ability to manage everything centrally at the headquarters. The employees also like the new system because it saves them hassle by allowing them to use just one employee card for everything – really, EVERYTHING,” commented Hwal-sun Bae, Aekyung’s HR manager.

Having achieved success with IDTECK’s access control system, Aekyung Department Store plans on equipping its new branch that is scheduled to open in late 2009 with IDTECK’s access control system so as to deliver versatile interoperability across the board, according to IDTECK’s Aekyung representative, Do-hyeong Kim,



Central Monitoring/Management System: Via TCP/IP communication over the internet, the headquarters can monitor the access events and manage the time and attendance data from the branch offices and the headquarters alike.