

# E-Plex 5200 solution for Mexico's electricity supplier

The Mexican electricity supplier Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE) sought a flexible access solution for its server rooms that would also guarantee a top level of security. CFE found the solution with Kaba.

Mexico has the second-highest gross national product in Latin America. The Mexican economy is being liberalized and the railways, airports and sea ports are progressively being privatized. Similar thinking has been seen in the energy sector, too.

Since 1992, private firms have been permitted to produce energy, but they have to deliver it to the Comisión Federal de Electricidad (CFE). In this way, the state ensures that electricity is fairly distributed and no one enjoys undue advantage or suffers undue disadvantage. Measured by turnover, CFE is the seventh-largest company and the largest energy supplier in Latin America. More than 81,000 people work for the Comisión Federal de Electricidad.

CFE does not just produce and distribute energy, it also provides Mexico with telephone and Internet services as well as cable television - for so-called triple play. In the summer of 2009, the utility provider decided to expand the nationwide communications network. The advantages for the customer: the network coverage is enlarged, they receive everything from a single source, and they only have to pay one bill.

## Nodal points on the nationwide network

A central role in expanding the network is played by the many server rooms across the country. In Mexico City alone, one of the world's largest metropolitan areas, there are over a hundred server rooms, full of sensitive and valuable equipment which require appropriate protection. Which is why the Comisión Federal de Electricidad sought an access solution that is efficient and safe.

Because the infrastructure is maintained by both internal and external technicians, access to the individual server rooms needs to be controlled in a restrictive

but flexible way. The locking system needs to let the technicians in when they have work to do in a server room - but only at predetermined times. Unauthorized persons, on the other hand, must not be able to gain access to the rooms. Flexibility with top security.

## A straightforward and easy-to-use solution

"We had lengthy discussions with the engineers at the Comisión Federal de Electricidad," recalls Vicente Juarez, Manager of Kaba México Access Control Business Development, "until we had carefully defined all the requirements and found the perfect solution." The electronic pushbutton lock E-Plex 5200 fulfilled every requirement and CFE were very happy with it.

Anyone wanting to open the lock needs to type in their PIN code, which they will have received by e-mail or text message. Additionally, access can be organized on a timetable, if, for instance, work in the server room needs to be carefully coordinated; in this case, the PIN code will only be valid for a defined window of time and will then expire. "Every lock can handle up to 3,000 users, generate over 100 million possible PINs and keep an audit trail of up to 30,000 transactions," explains Vicente Juarez, "and yet, the E-Plex 5200 is simple to operate, with user-friendly Advanced Access Control Software."

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The E-Plex 5200 lock provides protection for CFE's server rooms.