

Success Story

Haltermann & Schulte GmbH, Asendorf

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Rudolf Antoniewicz
IT Manager

www.haltermann-schulte.de
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Multi-functional biometrics - Fingerprint instead of badge, also used in Time & Attendance

The use of biometric systems is quite common in the field of Access Control. The fact that biometric systems are particularly well suited for the recording of other enterprise data is evident in the solution of wholesaler Haltermann & Schulte GmbH, Germany. At Haltermann & Schulte, fingerprint terminals record working hours, control access, and activate the alarm system. The company is very satisfied with the biometric system. Terminals that were installed outdoors survived Germany's cold winter with ease.

Haltermann & Schulte GmbH concentrates on the import and export of special items. Internationally active, Haltermann & Schulte buys merchandise in bulk and passes the products on to their partners. Partners are not only dealers for special items, but also firmly established superstores, trade chains, and retailers like Edeka and Metro.

Haltermann & Schulte has approximately 40 employees. In the past, they did not

have a satisfactory solution for time recording. That had to be changed. «We wanted precise time data as a basis for payroll accounting», explains Rudolf Antoniewicz, IT Manager at Haltermann & Schulte. During the joint implementation of standard business software by Schilling Software (with Topas modules) and Kaba Benzing terminals, Haltermann & Schulte requested on-site consulting and support from Kaba Benzing. Initially, Haltermann & Schulte chose a card-controlled time recording system with LEGIC badges. But then Kaba Benzing's biometric Bedanet 91 20 FP Fingerprint terminal was introduced during the consulting stage. Fingerprints instead of badges - this idea immediately convinced the project team at Haltermann & Schulte. «Badges are exchangeable, fingerprints are not», explains Rudolf Antoniewicz. No person can book for another person and the respective employee is precisely identified.

Because biometrics is ideal for access control, Haltermann & Schulte decided to implement the biometric time

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recording system in combination with access control. The tremendous values in their warehouse had to be protected from theft. «Our goal was to collect every single key and to control our alarm system with the fingerprint terminals», says Rudolf Antoniewicz. For actuarial reasons all doors had to be modified, because in the evening all doors must not only be closed but also locked. Then, three Bedanet 91 20 FP Fingerprint terminals were installed: one device outside in front of the entrance area; one in front of the server and cash room; and the third one for time recording in the warehouse. This was all done in two days.

The system was put into operation on August 1, 2002. First, each employee's unique biometric data was recorded along with their personnel number and stored in the Bedanet 91 20 FP Fingerprint terminals. The entire staff was trained on the new terminals. They can book their In and Out times as well as absence times via different function keys. Employees simply have to press a button and hold their finger on the sensor. The terminal matches the employee's fingerprint with a template containing the employee's personnel number (a 1:n comparison). The corresponding personnel number is then used in the Access Control and Time & Attendance system. The terminal is connected online to the Bedas 92 90 control as well as to a server (concentrator) for the maintenance of fingerprint data. Each employee's biometric data is stored in the terminal. The terminal identifies the employee by matching the employee's fingerprint with a template containing the employee's personnel number.

If the employee is authorized, the door opens or the working time is recorded. The Bedas 92 90 access manager is connected to an AS/400 via Ethernet (TCP/IP). Time & Attendance and payroll software by Schilling Software runs on the AS/400. The AS/400 is not located in Asendorf, but at the sister company J. A. Woll-Handels GmbH in Soltau, Germany. J. A. Woll-Handels GmbH runs 44 «Jawoll» markets. In Jawoll's head office, Kaba Benzing terminals also record the employees' working hours, although with conventional badges. At Haltermann & Schulte the biometric system is also linked with the alarm system. Therefore, two function keys are used at the terminal that is located outside. Employees with special authorization can, after fingerprint identification, activate or deactivate the alarm system. «A method that works very well», says IT Manager Rudolf Antoniewicz. To protect the terminal against rain, snow, and direct sunlight, a small protection roof was added in the fall. This little roof got the terminal through a very cold winter. Haltermann & Schulte GmbH had only a

few minor initial problems with the system. The staff had no fear of contact and accepted the system well. One reason is that Kaba Benzing's service is fast, reliable and customer-oriented. «We are highly pleased with the system», attests Rudolf Antoniewicz. «All our goals were achieved. Because we do not have badges anymore, they cannot be lost and we do not need a time-consuming badge handling organization. We were able to significantly increase security. Only authorized persons have access and we have the corresponding evaluations and lists in case they are needed.»

