

Follmann & Co., Minden

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Ralf Lücke
Head of Technical Service

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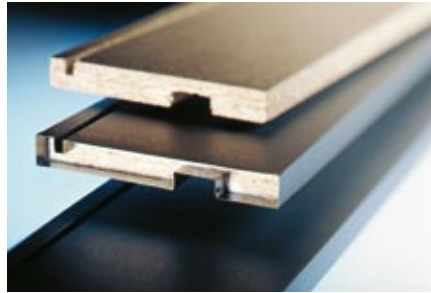


Integrated access control: Cleverly linked via the card

Follmann & Co. is an international player in the chemicals industry, employing 260 staff. The company's main products are printing colors for the finishing of papers, plastisols for wallpapers and technical textiles, wood and paper adhesives and the micro-encapsulation for fragrances. The core competence of Follman lies in special chemicals for the design of shapes, colors and surfaces. An ever increasing number of innovations are helping the medium-sized company to grow continuously. The Minden-based company is, for example, setting accents with innovative wood adhesives and thus underlining its claim to be one of the leading suppliers on this market. Although Follmann & Co. does not appear to the end consumer as the supplier of renowned, globally active companies, every German can be certain that he or she has already held products from Follmann in their hands. For example, in Europe, every third napkin is

produced with printing colors and every fifth roll of wallpaper with printing colors, foams and other «specialities» from Minden, thus contributing to making the living environment of many people nicer. Adhesives developed and produced at Follmann & Co. also find their way into the homes of many end consumers in furniture and packaging. Not forgetting, the micro-encapsulated fragrances that are intended to convince the readers, sometimes of classical, sometimes of trendy perfumes, in numerous magazines. Furthermore, technical textiles across Europe are fitted with coatings from Minden and thus protect, for instance, slopes against erosion and support airbags in cars with their often lifesaving use. Production in Minden is in 1-3 or 4-shift operations around the clock, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The working hours of the industrial employees have been recorded for many years at Kaba Benzing terminals. The time data are processed by the software tisoware.ZEIT from the

Success Story



Reutlingen-based software company tisoware, that is connected in turn with a SAP R/3 system. The access control was done via a general main key system. However, the mechanical locking system no longer offered the required flexibility; in addition, the patent was about to expire. The company thus set about searching for a software both for the time recording and access control and also for the management of offline doors. «We didn't want any additional separate system for access control where master data need to be maintained; we wanted a combined system with virtual networking via the card,» explains Ralf Lücke, the Head of the Technical Service and responsible for the project at Follmann. At the end of 2006, the decision was then taken to integrate the access control in the tisoware system. With the newly developed access solution tisoware.OFFLINE, there was a convenient solution available for the efficient linking of the electronic online access control to the cable-free offline access control. This new module is an integral solution for RFID-based data networking. Online access readers and offline stand-alone components such as e.g. digital cylinders are configured in the same user interface. Data input is thus only necessary once.

Irrespective of the type of access points, everyday tasks such as the creation of a new employee, changing access authorizations, handling of forgotten or lost badges, issuing of visitors' badges, can be conveniently dealt with from the employee's desk. «The concept convinced us. The idea of getting a completely new, innovative system was also attractive for us. That's why we were pleased to be a pilot customer», explains Ralf Lücke. In collaboration with Kaba and the Kaba partner Weckbacher from Dortmund, the system was introduced in stages. Firstly, the outer skin of the company, i.e. all outer exits to the buildings were secured with online readers Bedanet 91 04 or 91 05. Doors inside to important rooms and areas were then refitted with the mechatronic components Kaba elologic c-level (electronic fitting) and digital cylinders. Every employee is given the access authorizations that he or she needs for his/her work, depending on the hours he or she works. The updating of the authorization (validation) is done elegantly with an access booking in the online system. At Follmann, validation needs to be done after 5 days in each case. After approx. 50 doors were refitted in the administrative areas, the system is now to be extended successively in a second step

by another 130 doors. It's now the turn of the production areas and team leader offices. In the long term, the locking system is to be almost entirely replaced. At Follmann, the expectations of the system have already been fulfilled now. A combined, integrated system was created that only requires one administration. The person responsible for the system is able to keep a check at all times on all safety-relevant data such as personal details, access rights, lost badges, locked lists, access data, log books, etc., even with a large number of connected system units. With the help of the validation mechanism, lost or non-authorized media do not have to be locked immediately only in the online system but also with only a minimum delay at the mechatronic components. «With the new system, we were able to increase our overall safety, for it opened up new options for us to secure the access points,» says Ralf Lücke, looking back at the project. «With it, we have achieved a substantially optimized transparency of the authorizations and thus an improved level of safety. We save effort and time because the organization has become simpler. Overall, we are very satisfied with the system and the collaboration with tisoware and Kaba.»