

case study



School Security: An Elementary Proposition. Milwaukee-Area School Tackles Access Control to Better Secure Multi-Use Facility

St. Eugene School, located in Fox Point, WI, serves 200 students from preschool through eighth grade and shares building space with a Catholic parish and a funeral home. With multiple activities taking place each day, the school relies on Honeywell's NetAXS-123 web-based access control system to provide comprehensive security, enabling personnel to maintain a macro view of building security or drill down to individual doors. And, with the addition of Ethernet virtual loop (EVL) technology to the system, the school also benefits from system's simplified installation, making securing the building even more "elementary."

Honeywell

The Situation:

St. Eugene School needed to cost-effectively improve the security of its building, which also houses a Catholic parish and a funeral home. The school's current key access system was no longer delivering the level of security school officials felt they needed, and it lacked the granular level of control and management they wanted.

The school shares both internal and external entryways with the funeral home and church, which created multiple challenges and issues. For example, during hours of operation, anyone within the church or funeral home could, theoretically, access the school. And parents entering and leaving the school to pick up their children from after school care had to manually sign in and out.

St. Eugene needed an affordable, effective and easy-to-manage access control system that could allow school administrators to set different access zones and easily issue and cancel access cards as needed. School officials also

wanted a way to easily monitor the overall system and receive notification if breaches occurred. Working with the facilities committee, St. Eugene School administrators contacted Munger Technical Services, a technology integrator specializing in IT services for educational institutions located in Milwaukee, to help identify a viable electronic access control system.

The Solution:

After evaluating St. Eugene School's security needs, Munger Technical Services identified a beta program for the Honeywell NetAXS-123 access control system for which the school was an eligible candidate.

As a beta tester, the school installed Honeywell's NetAXS-123, a web-based access control system, which was recently upgraded with Ethernet virtual loop (EVL) technology. Using a facility's local area network (LAN), NetAXS-123 eliminates the need for dealers to run a dedicated wire loop to connect each

access control panel, therefore simplifying installation and cutting associated costs. NetAXS-123 also provides out-of-the-box support for multiple doors. With EVL technology, the system automatically updates each control panel when changes are made—making for easy system configuration and management.

“Our recommendation came down to value without the high price point, and the technology's ability to expand as needed”.

Robert Munger, founder, Munger Technical Services.

To configure the system, Munger Technical installed the control panel and door hardware, and hardwired the system to St. Eugene's existing LAN. Munger personnel added access control readers to the school's gymnasium door and the church door that leads to the school. The system also expanded to include a door connecting a shared parish hallway and an external perimeter door that serves as the school's main entry point.



The Benefits:

With Honeywell's NetAXS-123, St. Eugene benefits from an access control system that provides a high level of security and is affordable and easy for school administrators to manage. The system automatically issues updates to the entire network of protected doors, so when the school adds new cards, for example, the entire system automatically updates to accommodate this new information.

"The simple nature of NetAXS-123 lets us easily train our customers on how to use and maintain the system — and then they can expand it as they grow," Munger

Now, the system generates an electronic record each time a person passes through an entry point, helping the school keep track of who enters the building. And in the event someone loses his or her key card, staff can disable the lost card and reissue a new card, avoiding the chance for a lost card to fall into the wrong hands.

"We can now easily keep tabs on who has access to the building, and when. It's no longer a time-consuming paper-and-pencil process, and that's a relief,"

Terry O'Neill,

St. Eugene School building supervisor.

While St. Eugene is currently using NetAXS-123 to address the security needs of the school, it plans to take advantage of the system's scalability, and will expand it from the four doors it currently manages to a total of nine doors throughout the building. As a result, the church and funeral home will soon benefit from the technology as well.

The Products:

- Honeywell NetAXS-123 with Ethernet virtual loop (EVL) technology



For more information:

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