FEATURE

OFFERING A SAFE HAVEN

Finding the right access control system

By Kyle Gordon

HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUSES MAINTAIN A CERTAIN ELEMENT OF ALLURE AND PROMISE FOR YOUNG ADULTS WHO ENTER THEIR DORMS AND CLASSROOMS, VAST AUDITORIUMS, SPRAWLING GROUNDS AND INVITING COMMON AREAS. THE WORLD OF HIGHER EDUCATION OFFERS STUDENTS A SAFE HAVEN TO LEARN AND MATURE IN THEIR OWN SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE. BUT FOR THE CAMPUS OFFICIALS AND ADMINISTRATORS CHARGED WITH PROTECTING A MICROCOSM OF STUDENTS, FACULTY AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY, THE CHALLENGE TO UPHOLD A SAFE REALITY IN A COST-EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER FOR STAFF IS A GREAT ONE.

However, the development of new, application-sensitive electronic access technologies aims to allow campus life across the nation to thrive freely with minimal apprehension for the entire student and community population.

For Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas and SUNY Geneseo in Geneseo, N.Y., administrators turned to a number of electronic, intel-ligent access control systems and communicating software employed by Stanley Security to ensure that the members of each individual campus community can enter and exit the institution unencumbered by threats to their wellbeing.

TRINITY UNIVERSITY: ENHANCING ELECTRONIC ACCESS CONTROL IN RESIDENCE HALLS

For residence halls on higher education campuses, the matter of electronic access control is both incredibly significant and particularly complex. Beyond the classroom, residence halls and dormitories require access control systems that are flexible, efficient, easy-to-use and easy to monitor.

At Trinity University in San Antonio—a private university with approximately 2,500 undergraduate and 200 graduate students from 44 states and 70 countries—enrolled students are guaranteed housing in one of the university's 16 suite-style residence halls, establishing university housing as a major focal point in student life.

The institution was ready to upgrade the access control systems installed in their residence halls from a mostly mechanical platform to

an electronic access system that would provide more efficiency and allow for future system growth. In order to meet the higher demands for student safety, as well as the need for convenience and efficiency for facility managers, Trinity installed the B.A.S.I.S. G System, paired with the university's existing "Tiger Card" program, in the dormitories.

B.A.S.I.S. G is a highly efficient, stand-alone lock system that uses card reader technology and is driven by software specifically designed for residence halls. ID cards are encoded with all the necessary information to control door access, and the system integrates with virtually any existing database, allowing unsurpassed capabilities in storing and retrieving access activity data. The system involves no costly wiring, is easy to manage and offers a broad range of integrated features. Along with the addition of a video surveillance system to add another layer of protection for students, faculty and staff year-round, day and night, it was just the right solution for the Trinity University administration.

"The B.A.S.I.S. product exceeded our expectations," said Jerry Ferguson, director of business operations for Trinity University. "We found it to be extremely flexible, and the powerful software packages that we received for alarm monitoring far exceeded anything that we could get anywhere else."

With more than 400 online doors, nearly 500 B.A.S.I.S. G and 56 cameras installed overall, Trinity has committed itself to electronic access excellence on campus in ways that are forward-thinking and cost-efficient.

SUNY GENESEO: INTEGRATING ONLINE ACCESS CONTROL PROTOCOL ON CAMPUS

Located in the Finger Lakes region, the State University of New York at Geneseo is a premier public liberal arts college with a tradition of academic excellence. Approximately 5,500 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled in the highly selective institution, a fixture in rural upstate New York since 1871.

In 2011, SUNY Geneseo turned to Stanley Security with the task of electronically securing all the perimeter doors on campus through their already installed B.A.S.I.S. PRO System. Stanley Security exhibited its immense array of resources, products and knowledge, bringing together top-quality experts to design a comprehensive access control solution for the campus.

The installation was comprised of a campus-wide deployment of 2,500 BEST IDH MAX 1300 locksets to be integrated into the B.A.S.I.S. PRO access control system. The IDH MAX 1300 option offers the features of an online reader with an access control reader interface built into the lockset. While an aesthetically pleasing access control device, the IDH MAX 1300 also offers the flexibility and potential to control access to every door on campus. This helps avoid future costs for renovation and retrofitting if the access control system reach is expanded.

"Stanley Security stepped up to the challenge of providing SUNY Geneseo with a complete, expandable access control system to serve now and in the future here at Geneseo," said Bryan Jackson, site representative, facilities planning and construction for SUNY Genesco.

In each of these applications, college and university administrations and the consulted electronic access control experts have exhibited the increasingly significant need to put campus and student safety first in the design of facility infrastructure. These solutions serve to enhance the extensive higher education learning environment to allow students to flourish.

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