



IDTECH SAFEGUARDS ACADEMIC OPENNESS

With great ceremony, the city of Ghent has inaugurated its new "Haute Ecole Artevelde", part of the University of Ghent, at the Kantienberg campus. An imposing new building housing 3500 students and 400 staff.

A SPECTACULAR CONSTRUCTION AND PART OF THE PROGRAMME FOR RESTRUCTURING AND REGROUPING THE UNIVERSITY SITES ACROSS THE CITY OF GHENT.

Artevelde is one of the largest higher education institutions in Flanders. Almost 9000 students follow its courses and 1000 members of staff oversee the school's daily operations. This prestigious institution trains specialists in management, communication, speech therapy, ergonomics and other disciplines in the sectors of healthcare, commerce and business.

Further information is available at the www.arteveldehs.be website.



We met Mr Jo Boogaerts, Head of Infrastructure, Risk Prevention and the Environment.

Mr Boogaerts is in close contact with IDtech, the company chosen to

install and develop the institution's access control systems.

PROTECTING ASSETS, PREMISES AND PERSONNEL IN AN "OPEN" WORLD

"Due to changing attitudes in society in general," says Mr Boogaerts, "we have had to face the need to install a flexible security system, because we operate in public buildings where freedom of movement is the rule."



The need to implement an access control system arose from a simple, obvious observation: the university has precious assets used for science teaching which need to be protected, premises equipped with valuable instruments and tools and, even more sensitive, rooms where copies of examination sheets are stored. It also houses data centres storing confidential information, high-risk IT areas... in short, spaces where access needed to be restricted. There are also large numbers of students and staff whom the school's authorities needed to protect against any kind of aggression - although the atmosphere at Artevelde's sites generally tends to be peaceful. "The large number of exterior doors and access routes led us to organise our access system according to a number of priorities," emphasises Jo Boogaerts.

The construction of the major new Kantienberg site made it all the more important to install a system of this kind, because current technology now makes it possible to add a range of other functions and services such as room bookings, lift access, the use of catering and photocopying services etc.

A TRIED AND TESTED SYSTEM

Three university sites in the city of Ghent were already using the access system offered by IDtech. Mifare card readers were installed at all three, so the university's technical staff were able to see for themselves the advantages and the quality of the IDtech system chosen from what the various suppliers were offering.

Following automatic visual checks, the system gives access firstly to the main building, and then, depending on the levels of authorisation granted, to the various practical work rooms with their valuable equipment and documents.

THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-2010

The academic year thus begins with a major event: access to a whole new ultra-modern building with everything needed for high-quality teaching and optimum comfort for the lecturers, students and staff.

Located in the heart of the city, the building has its own cafeteria, library, universal wire-

less Internet access, an attractive indoor garden, a huge bicycle park and many other facilities that make it a pleasant place to study.

Forty-two access control readers are planned for the new Kantienberg site. They will be equipped with keypads, and will also be used for access to the car park. Five extra readers will be placed in the lifts to control access to different floors depending on the user's authorisation. About a dozen further readers will complete the installation in the future.

The system is supplied with an additional software interface for booking rooms, such as the rooms where healthcare students carry out practical exercises (chiroprody, occupational therapy, nursing). Rooms can be booked for a given period. The ability to program access cards remotely makes this a very useful feature.

Also planned are special access control security for the bike park and extra security systems for sensitive locations, protection for students' lockers and the installation of cameras in strategic positions.

TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- IDtech has installed its "MiFare" readers, an identification technology that enables multiple applications on a single card.
- The management software is supplied with unlimited licences.

- The card reading system recognises whether the user is a man or a woman, because certain practical exercises in some subjects are reserved for men or women in single-sex rooms.
- Thanks to IDtech's open solution, the university's technical and IT department has been able to design a specific software package to manage all the data and access permissions and keep them up to date in coordination with the data centre.

THE ARGUMENTS THAT CONVINCED UNIVERSITY MANAGERS TO WORK WITH IDTECH

The choice of an access control supplier and service provider depends on a number of criteria, such as experience, reputation, availability, value for money, reliability and the professionalism of the staff. In the case of

Artevelde, there were several other crucial factors:

- The ability to integrate extra functions. The system had to be open.
- The IDtech system is based on Oracle, enabling interaction with other software
- The system does not overload the network. This is a fundamental strength of the solution, which guarantees fast operation with a low level of network load. The IT managers were particularly stringent on this point.
- The ability to manage the system remotely via a web interface. This feature is built into the system installed by IDtech.
- And finally, another persuasive argument: success in a number of on-site tests carried out under varying conditions.

www.idtech.eu



IDtech in brief

IDtech develops and markets high-tech solutions in the fields of access control, time recording, centralised alarm management and personalised badges.

75% of IDtech's staff is dedicated to customer service. IDtech has a considerable sales network made up of approved installers throughout Belgium. In addition, the company has a large network of international distributors, based in Thailand, Malaysia,

India, Pakistan, Hungary, Austria, France, Romania, Turkey, Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Ethiopia, Togo, Kenya, Malta, Morocco, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Cameroon and the United Arab Emirates. Its customer portfolio now boasts more than 6,000 companies. The number of people making daily use of IDtech's identification equipment worldwide is estimated at 3,000,000.

