Secure Your Business With a Biometric Access Control System

IDENTITY PROTECTION

Name:

Password:

00000 000 0 0000000 00100111
0000 0 0000 00 0 00 100010111

Access control systems restrict unauthorized users' access to facilities and the secure areas and equipment within a facility. Common forms of access control systems include PINs, lock-and-key mechanisms and card readers. However, all come with an inherent security risk: PINs, keys and cards can be lost or stolen or shared with others and provide limited security for any organization whether it requires tight security or just needs to know who is in the facility.

Biometric access control systems, on the other hand, offer an alternative security solution that makes it more challenging for unauthorized users to gain access to facilities, restricted information or materials. The biometric access control systems are suitable for facilities: ranging from those that require tight security measures such as banks, to large international organizations and small mom and pop companies.

Biometric access control systems employ the use of technologies that rely on **physical or behavioral characteristics to differentiate between authorized and** unauthorized users, and grant access accordingly. Some examples include **fingerprint, facial, or vocal pattern recognition systems.**

The following eBook provides an overview of biometric access control systems, outlining the advantages of these systems over traditional PIN, key or card systems. We'll highlight three industries – manufacturing, banking, and food processing – where facility management increasingly prefers biometric security measures over traditional PIN, lock-and-key and access card systems.

What Is Biometric Access Control?

The term "biometrics" refers to a method of identifying or verifying a person's identity based on their physical, chemical, or behavioral profile. These profiles are used for trusted identity management across a wide range of applications, including access control, time and attendance and others.

In biometric access control systems, preloaded user profiles determine whether someone should be granted or denied entrance to a system or facility. Quite simply, if the information gathered about the subject matches the exact profile that was previously enrolled in the user profile database, the subject is granted access. If the information does not match any of the profiles, the user is prevented from accessing the area or equipment.

Two of the most commonly employed biometric access control systems are fingerprint or face recognition systems, which authenticate a user based on their fingerprint or facial patterns, respectively. A reliance on the unique qualities, inherent to a user, rather than a physical object they possess (like a PIN, key or card), makes it almost impossible for biometric access control systems to have a security breach from unauthorized persons.
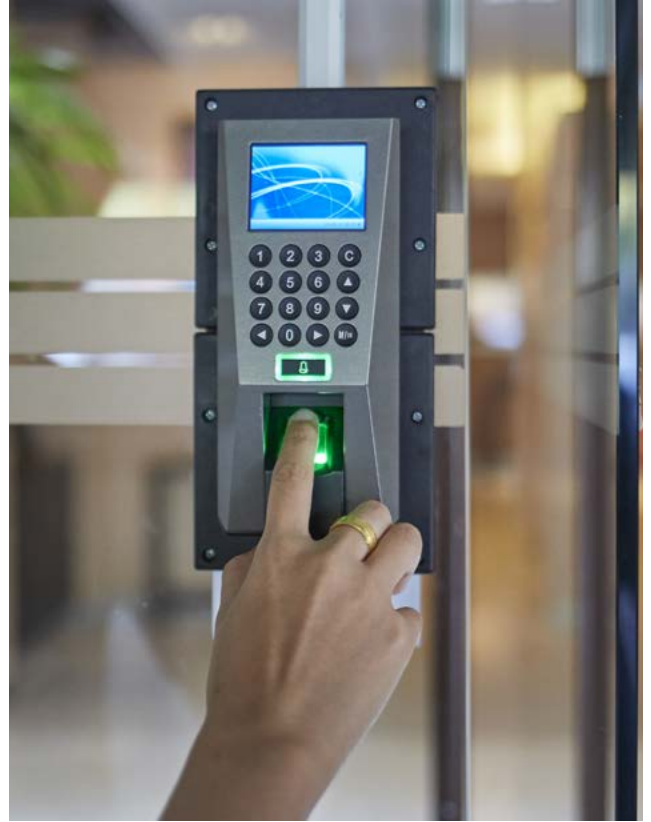
Advantages of Choosing a Biometric Access Control System

Compared to traditional access control technologies, biometric access control offers numerous advantages, including:

— **Security:** Unlike PINs, passwords, cards, or keys, biometric characteristics (e.g., facial, fingerprint, and iris patterns) cannot be forged or shared. This drastically improves the protection of a facility from unwanted intruders, while streamlining its entry process.

— **Accountability:** Biometric access systems enable facilities to obtain reliable and auditable records of all accessors of a room or system. The system eliminates the risk of buddy punching since anyone who passes through a security gate must match an existing biometric profile.

— **Convenience and Economics:** Biometric access systems are more convenient than conventional security technologies, which require employees to carry or remember credentials. Facility managers must also regularly change PINs, keys, cards, passwords, and other traditional security credentials in response to security breaches, or simply as preventative maintenance measures. Additionally, managers often fail to delete passwords and PINs, and retrieve keys or cards when employees are terminated. Alternatively, because PINs, passwords, keys or cards are not required, advanced biometric systems can significantly reduce maintenance fees and downtime.

Efficiency: Biometric systems can integrate seamlessly with existing facility networks to accommodate common business functions such as attendance tracking for the payroll department. Touch-free systems, such as face recognition systems, allow for faster entry or exit since personnel do not need to insert keys/cards or input passcodes, and may reduce the spread of illnesses.

Scalability: As a company grows, its security measures must adapt to accommodate changing structures and processes. Well designed biometric systems allow for easy addition or deletion of authorized user profiles as needed.

Profitability: Once installed, biometric access control systems do not require additional capital investment for things like physical keys or cards, or the admin costs to issue or retrieve those keys or cards when employees leave. Such an intelligent system can also save companies' money by preventing unauthorized persons (notably, competitors) from stealing or sabotaging materials and equipment.

Use and Maintenance: Biometric systems often come with minimal training and maintenance requirements, making it easier for facilities to adopt them for their security applications. Additionally, using face recognition based touch-free technology applications are ideal for maintaining higher levels of sanitation in shared spaces.

Investment: Typically, modern biometric access systems are network based and, if skillfully designed, will save the customer money. The major savings will be in the reduction of cabling, materials and labor, with less training and day-to-day maintenance required. PINs, keys, passwords and cards to lose or share should be relegated to the past.

Industry Applications of Biometric Access Control Systems

Access Control for Manufacturing Facilities

Manufacturing facilities often contain machinery that, when improperly applied or controlled, can cause severe injury to operators and passersby. For this reason, facilities must employ fail-safe security systems to ensure that only authorized personnel can enter and access dangerous areas. Advanced security technologies, such as biometric access control systems, make sure that materials and supplies remain protected from damage or theft by trespassers.

Access Control for Banking Facilities

Banking facilities are a common target of fraud and theft attempts. As such, these facilities must implement and maintain top-of-the-line security measures at all times. Biometric access control systems make it easy for bank managers to grant employees access to different facility areas based on their security level. Well designed systems can support two or more persons' access requirements to further prevent unauthorized entrance. These technologies, employed for vaults, security boxes, and other bank areas, significantly reduce the amount of personnel needed for a facility to function efficiently and securely.

Access Control for Food Processing Facilities

Growing concerns within processing facilities over the tampering of food by criminal or terrorist organizations have led to a rising need for effectively designed security systems at vulnerable points in the food supply chain. Biometric technologies offer a viable solution, as they allow facility managers to keep track of personnel entering and exiting the facility, and can know who is present should food adulteration occurs.

Safe Touch-Free Access Control Systems

Biometric Access Control Systems have a role to play in any facility. As a preventive measure, employees will be benefited by not touching things such as door knobs, especially during times of illness or a pandemic. The application of touch-free access products that use face recognition may reduce the spread of illnesses or prevent additional contamination which might occur from physical contact with door knobs or operation of other equipment.

For others that might feel that touch-free access products are not needed at this time for their facility, access control systems that offer fingerprint recognition provide all the other benefits provided by biometrics.

Contact the Biometric Access Control System Experts at FaceKey Today

FaceKey is an experienced provider of premier security and access control solutions. We offer a line of biometric products that employ facial or fingerprint recognition technology for user identification.

EntryGuard™ and Shepherd™, our core brands, are our basic and advanced biometric access control systems that offer maximum security at competitive costs. The Shepherd™ is recommended for more complex applications. The systems feature a server-client architecture that runs over most IP networks, allowing collected data to be automatically loaded into the facility's database. Network-level changes—such as user profile addition or removal—can be selectively distributed to any of the connected devices.

Other key technical specifications of the system include:

- Hierarchical access areas management

- Data encryption during storage and exchange

- Unlimited user profile and device capacities

- Optional onboard backup battery

- Devices have unique MAC addresses

- Remote access for service

- Retrofit access control card systems

Altogether, these features allow the EntryGuard™ and Shepherd™ systems to facilitate the following operations:

- Access control

- Time and attendance tracking

- Muster control

- Vault access

- Visitor management

- Audits

To find out more about how our security and access control solutions can benefit your facility, **request a quote** today.

About Us

At FaceKey, we've provided superior business security and access control and time and attendance solutions since 1999. Headquartered in San Antonio, our company has pioneered and patented a family of biometric products and solutions that utilize face recognition or fingerprints for identification. From small businesses to global enterprises, FaceKey's family of products has a proven record with employee time and attendance tracking as well as mustering systems, visitor management and access control systems.

CONTACT US

REQUEST A QUOTE

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