



Warehousing Use Case:

Leading ambient and chilled food & drink specialist

Working in partnership with some of the biggest household names in the sector across the UK and Ireland, this leading third-party logistics company provides total supply chain support to the food and drink industry.

With 8 million square feet of warehousing spread across multiple depots, this company has developed an extensive nationwide structure that provides a robust and efficient supply chain. Future proofing and investing in their teams, networks, and systems has played a key part in their success, reinforcing their status as market leaders.

Requirement

Access control was required to play a fundamental role in supporting this infrastructure, controlling who is on site to effectively manage the health and safety, security, and assets within the operations.

The requirement was for a future proof and scalable system to provide perimeter-controlled access for all shop floor staff. The company turned to access control specialists TouchStar ATC to manage the process, from planning and design, through to installation, training, and commissioning of the new system.





Solution

At the core of the system is TouchStar's MicroTrak Evolution software and hardware. TouchStar's own Evolution software, a modular based access control system provided the user interface. Designed around an IP addressable controller which is plugged directly into the company's existing network, the system controls access rights by means of a variety of hardware options including vehicle barriers, turnstiles, and gates. Staff entry and exit is permitted following the successful verification of credentials via in/out proximity card reader. Additional "go – no go" traffic light system was also implemented to facilitate random searches.



Outcome

Since first site installation over ten years ago, TouchStar have now successfully rolled the system out across eight more sites. With each site installation varying in requirement, careful project management was required to ensure a successful rollout. Not only has the system delivered a number of tangible benefits, but it was also well received by the staff working within each of the sites. Future installations are now planned which is testament to the ongoing successful relationship with this company.

Implementation

As all sites are operational 24/7, it was fundamental that TouchStar ensured minimal disruption during their installations, working closely with their end user to specify the system and confirming the site layouts to ensure a smooth deployment.

Since the initial access control systems were commissioned, there have been several changes to the company's IT infrastructure. When all the data servers were moved to one central site a few years ago, connection to this was fundamental for the successful install and commissioning of a new system. With each system needing to be commissioned remotely, TouchStar had a team of engineers working closely with each team on site to ensure the correct setup of input flags and output locations.



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