

Morse Watchmans Key Control System Enhances Security at Australia's Darwin International Airport

System Safely Stores and Tracks Electronic Keys

Darwin International Airport (DIA) in Australia's Northern Territory is the region's largest airport and the 10th busiest airport in Australia. Serving in excess of two million passengers every year, DIA also shares its runways with the Royal Australian Air Force's RAAF Base Darwin.

A \$60 million expansion approved for DIA will double the amount of passengers and planes it can handle and will help reinforce DIA's reputation as an international transit point between Europe, Asia and Australia. The airport terminal currently services both international and domestic flights with separate cargo handling facilities.

Upgrading Airport Security Procedures

Security operations at the airport have also been under review, including management and control of facility keys. It was found that the manually-managed mechanical master key system in use at the airport had several security risks associated with it, such as lost keys and the lack of oversight as to who was accessing doors and gates and when such access was occurring. To meet the needs of DIA, an automated, more secure system was installed featuring a Morse Watchmans KeyWatcher® key control system and a new access control security system with electronic locks and programmable keys.

The deployment of the new access control and key management system involved replacing all conventional door



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lock cylinders with a Cyberlock access control system; installing USB-connected key authorizers; implementing back of house management control software and servers; and integrating the Morse Watchmans KeyWatcher key cabinet with the Cyberlock system. An additional undertaking was required to enable wireless capability for the access control system at remote locations on the airport property. Morse Watchmans KeyPro software and KeyWatcher's email notifications are utilized to send alarms and transaction data to the access control system.

Enhancing the Investment

In total, more than 180 new electronic keys became part

think inside the box.



of the system. When not in use or permanently allocated, they are secured in the KeyWatcher cabinet. The automated key cabinet allows access only to pre-authorized users and all key access activity is automatically recorded for tracking purposes. Designed for convenience as well as security, the electronic key control system makes it easy for users to access or return keys with illuminated key slots and return anywhere features.



The KeyWatcher system offers the airport an increased level of security and control by preventing unauthorized key access and reducing lost or misplaced keys. In this way, employees or temporary users such as contractors who have reason to be on the premises and are pre-approved in the system can access a key from the cabinet without having to sign in or require the presence of security or management personnel. Once a key is removed from the cabinet, in order to activate it the user must update the access control rights for the key at a USB-connected authorizer. When the key is returned, it must first be presented to the key authorizer to extract the audit trail showing which locks the key had touched prior to replacing it in the key cabinet.

The KeyWatcher automatically records the access history of each key, including user, date and time of key access/return. Reports can be generated as needed and the cabinet's built-in RS-232 communication ports allow ease of use for direct connectivity to printers or other devices, or networked connectivity via Ethernet.



By controlling access to the keys and knowing when they were accessed and by whom, DIA has enhanced their investment in the access control system with an added level of security.

KeyWatcher® FEATURES

- *Illuminated key storage*
- *Advanced network capabilities*
- *Real-time transaction polling*
- *Centralized programming*
- *Up to 2,000 user codes*
- *Biometric access option*
- *Secure single-key access*
- *Secure card slot and locker options*
- *Tamper-proof mechanisms*
- *Secure storage for up to 2,000 keys*

KeyPro III™ SOFTWARE

- *Extensive and detailed reporting options*
- *Centralized programming*
- *Advanced network capabilities*
- *Real-time transaction screens and polling*
- *E-mail notification alerts*



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