MSC Home Terminal Antwerp

Modern port organisations

Security & Safety is the order of the day at all the port organisations, especially since the implementation of the ISPS code. The prospect of the EU Port Directive means that matters of security is now more important than ever. The MSC HT (about 50% MSC (Mediterranean Shipping Company) and 50% PSA/HNN (Port Singapore Authority/HesseNoordnatie) in Antwerp have also undergone many changes with respect to access control, visitor registration and camera surveillance. Keyprocessor not only offered a helping hand in converting the total area (which was accessible to the public) into a private site, it also assisted in the complex logistical cargo transportation process.

MSC Home Terminal

MSC HT is a container terminal. Every day a wide range of shipments in containers arrive at its two-kilometre quay. The containers are then divided among various means of transport such as lorries, inland vessels and transport trains. The productivity & capacity of a terminal is crucial to its success. MSC's capacity for up to 3.6 million TEU's means that it is highly successful. Previously, this MSC site was not fenced off from the public road nearby. Anyone could enter the buildings and access the quay freely. When the ISPS was being implemented, MSC HT had to consider this matter carefully, as it is regularly confronted with various groups of 'visitors' and complicated measures ensuing from the needed guidelines of the ISPS code.

Integrated system, optimum security

MSC HT has chosen an integrated solution for access control, visitor registration and camera surveillance: iProtect™ security management from Keyprocessor. This system helps control and manage access via the barriers, speed gates and turnstiles. A range of Pillars fitted with access control readers and cameras have also been placed at the entrances to the buildings.

The lorry entrances (gates) are also secured. The access card with which drivers gain access to the site is also used for administration and technical registration.

Staff and visitors

MSC HT is visited by various large groups of people, first and foremost by its own staff, who must be granted access to the site and predetermined areas. All Antwerp port staff use the Alfapass card.

Pillars fitted with access control readers, cameras and intercoms have been placed at the entrances to the site, where staff insert their cards. The intercom and camera have been placed in order to enable visitors to check in and for their identities to be verified. Visitors must first report to the main office and provide proof of identification, where they will receive a temporary access card. This card will be swallowed by an insertion reader at the exit gate

Lorry drivers

The next group consists of all the lorry drivers who collect the containers. Many of them already have an Alfapass card, but if this is not the case they must check in. Before entering the site the drivers check in at a registration office where they insert their Alfapass card or visitor's card into a reader. By doing so they register their identity and the containers they are collecting in a central database. They are then told which gate to go to. Subsequently, they leave for the lorry entrance with their Alfapass card or guest card in order to check in at the allocated gate using the card.

Security and safety

The strict requirements that apply to operations do not only relate to security. Safety is also extremely important at MSC HT. On the quays in particular, where ships are unloaded and the containers are transported to all the storage depots, the safety of staff and visitors is the order of the day.

Management

The iProtect™ Security Management System is managed by the MSC HT's IT department. This department also started and conducted the project. The technical department was responsible for the installation of the system.

Future-proof

With iProtect™ Security Management System, MSC HT has opted for a future-proof security management system. This is important for this dynamic organisation, which - given the growing productivity – is definitely set to expand. Furthermore, the EU Port Directive will also bring with it the necessary measures. These important European port security guidelines extend beyond the ISPS code and call for yet more (electronic) security measures. If port installations decide to comply with this EU Port Directive, it will provide them with enormous improvements in efficiency and reduce the amount of time lost during the logistical process. Whatever the future may bring, iProtect™ is modular, scalable and easy to expand. MSC Home Terminal is therefore guaranteed a well-secured future!