HandPunch® pares payroll costs at famed restaurant.

“We can do our payroll in no time now.”
- Judy Goupee, Payroll Administrator, Joe’s Stone Crab

Summary
Miami Beach landmark restaurant Joe’s Stone Crab discards employee badges and cuts time card fraud with Schlage HandPunch® biometric reader.

Business need
Nearly a century old, Joe’s Stone Crab has been a Miami attraction for almost that long. The restaurant employs about 280 people. It needed a 21st Century solution for a costly payroll problem. The badge and time clock system made it easy for employees to “buddy punch” – clock in others who were late or clock out friends after the shift ends, earning them overtime pay.

“We needed to stop buddy punching,” said Judy Goupee, payroll administrator for Joe’s Stone Crab. “We also wanted to improve the accuracy of our timekeeping.”

Challenges
The restaurant wanted a fraud-proof timekeeping system that integrated seamlessly with time and attendance software and a payroll system.

Statistics
Industry: Hospitality
Application: Time & attendance
Biometric: HandPunch®
HandReaders: 2
Users: 280
Geography: United States
Solution
Joe's Stone Crab installed two Schlage HandPunch readers in 2002. The HandPunch eliminates the expenses associated with employee badges as well as fraud caused by buddy punching. Instead of filling out or punching timecards, restaurant employees simply place their hands on the HandPunch. It automatically takes a three-dimensional reading of the size and shape of the employee’s hand and verifies the user’s identity in less than one second.

The HandPunches at Joe’s Stone Crab connect over a computer network to labor management software that tracks time and attendance. Goupee receives the actual hours clocked by the HandPunches, but she also can make changes online if employees forget to clock in or out. The software exports time files directly to a local payroll service, which eliminates manual payroll entry.

Results
“The HandPunch definitely is living up to our expectations,” Goupee said. “We can do payroll in no time now.” She said that the time and attendance system work extremely well with the HandPunch and any problems that arise can be fixed immediately.

“The HandPunch has simplified payroll,” Goupee added. “Notably, we have encountered no resistance to the HandPunch from our employees.”

HandPunch® is a registered trademark of Schlage.

Joe’s Stone Crab
Joe’s Stone Crab started in 1913 as a humble lunch counter known for serving a fine fish sandwich. In 1921, owner Joseph Weiss, a Hungarian-born former New Yorker, was the first person in the area to cook and serve stone crabs to customers. From that time on, stone crabs have been a staple on Miami menus, and Joe’s Stone Crab continues to be family owned and operated.

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