Owens Corning gains secure access with Schlage HandKey® II

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—Roger Orr, IS Professional, Owens Corning

Summary
World leader Owens Corning attains secure access with the Schlage HandKey® II biometric reader.

Business need
When Owens Corning’s main office receptionist retired from the company’s 250-acre campus in Newark, Ohio, management decided not to replace her. They searched for other options for monitoring and securing the manufacturing plant and other facilities. Although employees wore badges, many would forget them and not be able to access the facility. They chose a biometric HandReader as their primary access control device. “Let’s face it, your hand cannot be lost, forgotten or stolen like a password or ID card,” said Roger Orr, IS Professional at Owens Corning.

Challenges
The company needed a secure device that would permit access to salaried personnel and provide temporary access for contractors and vendors quickly and easily.

Statistics
Industry: Manufacturing
Application: Access control
Biometric: HandKey® II
HandReaders: 6
Users: 1,300
Geography: United States
**Solution**

Owens Corning installed a Schlage HandKey II reader system in their Newark facility. The HandKey II verifies a person’s hand within one second based on the unique size and shape of his or her hand. “We’ve had a positive response from our users,” said Orr. He adds that he can set an expiration date for contractors and salespeople who need temporary access to the facility. As a result, the HandKey II will only accept the hand up until a certain date. “We’re also impressed that the system provides a duress code,” said Orr, referring to the code that a person in need can enter prior to their normal code to notify company personnel that they are in trouble.

“This system is especially efficient because multiple users with authorization can access the panel from their PCs over the computer network,” said Orr. When he was recently approached in the hallway by a vendor requesting access to the company’s building, Orr downloaded the software from his PC, scanned the vendor’s hand at an installed HandKey II, keyed in his name and assigned him an ID number on the spot. “The entire process took only minutes,” said Orr.

**Results**

Owens Corning now provides secure access to its Newark facilities to salaried personnel and visitors quickly and easily.