

Case Study

PostNord

PostNord needs to ensure that only the right people get access to each of their 1,500 branches. Thanks to AEOS they can now manage authorisations centrally and have reduced administration time dramatically.

“We wanted to improve processes for authorisation management.”



'In the past, there were hundreds of disparate servers with databases linked to more than 30 physical access control systems of different manufacturers. The databases became polluted as employees joined and left the company. Someone's authorisations may have been removed in one of the systems, but remained elsewhere. Due to this patchwork of systems, we were no longer effective in our administration processes. We wanted to improve PostNord's processes for authorisation management. By investing in a central security platform, we were able to save a substantial amount of time and money.'

Jonas Kaufeldt *Security Specialist, PostNord*



One central security platform

In 2009, the Danish and Swedish postal companies merged to become PostNord, which is still owned by both states and also serves the rest of the Nordic region. Before the merger, each of the 1,500 branches had its own building manager who had freedom of choice in purchasing access control systems. They also managed access rights locally and distributed access cards accordingly. As a consequence, truck drivers who visit 15 different branches picking up deliveries daily, needed to file an access request at each branch separately. This was very time consuming and truck drivers furthermore had to carry separate access badges for each branch. PostNord Group Security found it was time for a major reorganisation.

Jonas Kaufeldt, member of the project team explains: 'In the past, there were hundreds of disparate servers with databases linked to more than 30 physical access control systems of different manufacturers. The databases became polluted as employees joined and left the company. Someone's authorisations may have been removed in one of the systems, but remained elsewhere. Due to this patchwork of systems, we were no longer effective in our administration processes. Soon after the merger, we started a migration path to optimise workflow. We wanted

to improve PostNord's processes for authorisation management. By investing in a central security platform, we were able to save a substantial amount of time and money.'

“Both Vitani and Nedap are always prepared to support us in determining the best suitable solution, which is a major benefit.”

Every branch is connected

As the project is known as one of the greatest access control migrations in the Nordic region history, the question arises what the consequences for the system are. Jonas says: 'PostNord sought an open access control system to integrate various systems. We wanted something that could link with our central SAP HR system, from

which the personal data of our 39,000 employees and 40,000 contractors and other temporary staff is managed. We opted for Nedap's AEOS in combination with Vitani's Data Manager, because it's an innovative solution that fulfills project objectives scalability and flexibility. Vitani is Nedap's certified business partner in Scandinavia, and they integrated both aforementioned solutions into our existing IT architecture. Both companies are always prepared to support us in determining the best suitable solution, which is a major benefit.'

When asked about the role of these systems, Jonas replies: 'We've been able to replace hundreds of different servers with one central server, which connects with over thirty legacy access control systems installed in our branch offices. This offers PostNord the major advantage of being able to connect all branch offices to one central database, while retaining the ability to delegate responsibility for authorisations to lower-level security management layers. For our truck driver, this has the advantage that he can now file one single access request for all applicable locations via the service catalogue, a central self-service web based application. The building manager must approve it by performing one mouse click, after which access badges with the correct

authorisations are printed centrally. This not only saves our staff a lot of time, but us too.'

Prepared for the future

With AEOS, PostNord can now continue to work with different types of access control systems as long as they need to. Furthermore, AEOS can easily integrate other functions such as wireless access control, video management, visitor management, card production, HVAC and more. This can be determined by the requirements of each local operation. As PostNord is continually investing in its buildings and locations in Sweden, Denmark and abroad, they needed a system that can grow.

With AEOS, PostNord can now continue to work with different types of access control systems as long as they need to.

PostNord can trust AEOS to take care of its legacy systems now and in the future. If one of the legacy systems stops functioning properly, AEOS hardware can take over in the next smooth step of the migration process.

About PostNord

PostNord offers communication and logistics solutions to, from and within the Nordic region. In 2013, PostNord had sales of approximately SEK 40 billion and 39,000 employees. The company serves her customers under the brands Posten, Post Danmark, PostNord Logistics and Strålfors. The parent company is a Swedish public company headquartered in Solna, Sweden.

“If one of the legacy systems stops functioning properly, AEOS hardware can take over in the next smooth step of the migration process.”