ACCESS CONTROL
# IN THE CLOUD

SYNERGY
WORKFORCE
MANAGEMENT

Just a few years ago when cloud-based Access Control solutions first became available, there were understandable concerns about reliability. It was a question of whether businesses could rely on a system which was being controlled via software sitting on a server which is off-premises. Would the system be resilient in the event of network disruption and would communication between the access control readers and the server be fast enough to ensure the smooth flow of card holders into restricted areas?
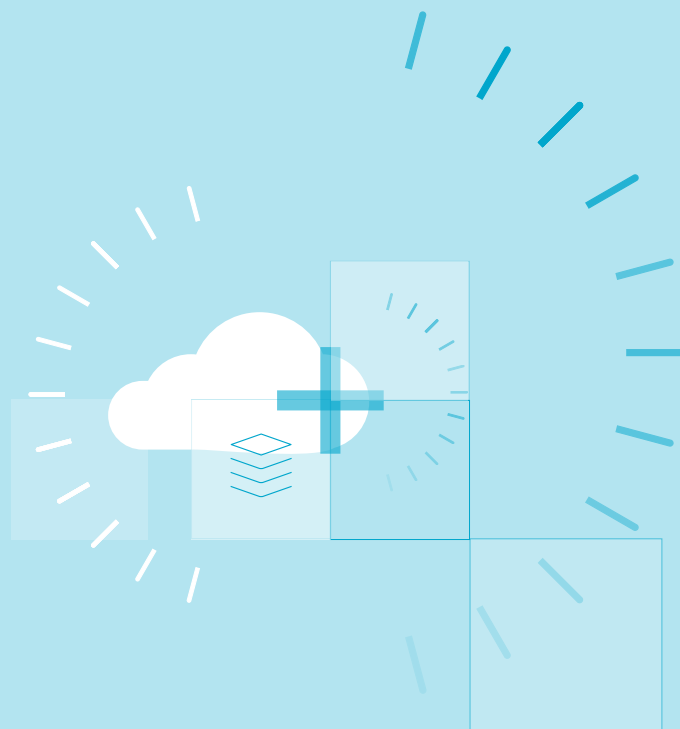
Access control solution providers such as Synel have been able to dispel these concerns with their cloud-based systems proving to be even more robust than conventional on-premises server-based systems. The cost-savings and enhanced functionality on offer are therefore now hard to ignore and it seems likely that most new Access Control systems will be cloud-based. This prediction is supported by a Memoori World Market 2020-2025 report on the physical security sector in which it is estimated that demand for Access Control as a Service (ACaaS) will grow from a base of $620 million in 2019, to $1.6Bn by 2024.

Key Advantages Of Access Control In The Cloud

Managed from anywhere, at any time Users with administration rights can monitor and manage the Access Control system without having to be within an on-site control room. A wide range of functions can be accessed via a web portal from any PC, laptop or web enabled mobile device, such as remotely opening doors, adding or modifying the access credentials of employees, contractors and visitors, as well as cancelling cards which may have been lost or stolen.

Reduced hardware costs Unlike a traditional on-site access control system, an ACaaS solution negates the need for the user to purchase a server on which to run the Access Control software, as well as store data and record events. The capital savings, as well as reduced energy requirements and maintenance charges, means total cost of ownership (TOC), is significantly reduced.

Automatic updates of operating software There is no disruption and businesses do not need to call on the services of an IT expert or employ someone in-house to ensure they are benefitting from the latest version of an Access Control software platform. The manufacturer's 'pushed' updates are automatically and seamlessly downloaded, making the system futureproof.

Resilience Whilst it would be wise to carry out due diligence, most ACaaS providers will have built in a high level of redundancy into their cloud-based solutions.

Scalable ACaaS offers future-proof solutions for access control applications of any size, from businesses operating from one building with just a few doors, through to multiple sited organisations that need to secure many thousands of entrances and exits.

Easy to upgrade As a user's requirements change, ACaaS makes it easy for new features to be added. A business only needs therefore to pay for the functions it immediately needs with the option for vehicle number plate recognition (ANPR), for example, or other specialist applications to be added at a later stage. It is a simple matter for the user or their preferred installation company, to license and activate the relevant software.

Synergy Access Control in the Cloud

Synel's scalable and highly cost-effective ACaaS solution, Synergy Access, provides all the benefits of a conventional access control system with significant additional advantages in that it can be monitored and managed via a web browser from any Internet enabled device. This allows security personnel and other authorised users within your organisation to remotely secure and control access points throughout your premises and gain real time data of who present on your premises, regardless of whether they themselves are on-site or perhaps working from home.

Synergy Access is hosted at high security datacentres in the territory where the user is based, such as UK customers hosted in the UK. This not only ensures fast access times, but also satisfies concerns in respect of data staying in the territory which the customer operates from. Naturally, Synergy Access is fully GDPR compliant.

Synergy Access works with a broad range of access control hardware encompassing traditional card, fob and PIN readers, as well as the latest fingerprint-based biometric readers and facial recognition devices which are available from Synel as part of a complete solution, with options for any mix of internal and external installation. In addition, Synergy Access can be specified with an optional Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) module which allows an on-site ANPR engine to be managed and administered via the cloud.

Off-line mode

Should there be network disruption for any reason, users can be assured that Synergy Access will continue to operate in off-line mode and allow authorised personnel to gain access to restricted areas. Data in respect of access control activity and events will be stored locally and then automatically and seamlessly uploaded to the Cloud when the network connection is restored.

Updates

Synel regularly adds additional functionality to Synergy Access and users can benefit from automatic updates which unlock new features, compatibility with new hardware and ongoing user-experience improvements.

Why Synel?

Over recent years, Synel has acquired extensive knowledge of what it takes to deliver effective access control solutions, having previously fulfilled the requirements of many existing clients, including banks, data centres, education facilities, commercial offices, retail, warehousing, and manufacturing plants.

The experience and expertise of its pre and post sales personnel, places Synel in an ideal position to offer advice and support businesses through every stage of your migration to a cloud-based Access Control solution.

SYNEL™

ACaaS represents a win-win situation for all involved in the electronic security supply chain, with Synergy Access offering system integrators a competitively priced Access Control solution which will enable them to win new business and enjoy long-term recurring revenue. Most importantly, they have the opportunity to meet, if not exceed, their end-user clients' requirements by delivering a cost-efficient and futureproof solution.

Synergy Access is available as a stand-alone system or as part of the wider suite of software from Synel which includes Time & Attendance and other workforce management modules.

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