

University of Georgia

A Schlage Recognition Systems Access Control Case Study

How can you be sure that only authorized students get into dorms and athletic facilities or participate in a prepaid meal plan? Use the HandReader.

"It's quick, convenient, accurate and has a high acceptance rate among our student customers."

- Donald Smith, Program Coordinator,
University of Georgia card support systems

The University of Georgia needs to identify students who enter its residence halls and athletic facilities to provide a safe, secure campus. It also needs to ensure that only students who have paid for a meal plan can enter the school's dining halls. To meet these needs, an access control system has to be easy to use, fast, and foolproof. That's why the University's administrators chose HandKey® readers.

Donald Smith, program coordinator of UGA Card support systems, says, "We could rely on a human, but the biometric device is more accurate, faster, and more cost-effective." To achieve an extra level of security, the readers are used in conjunction with magnetic-stripe card readers, which are mounted directly on top of the hand readers. The combination works so well that the school now has more than 40 HandKey® readers installed in three areas.

The University of Georgia was a pioneer in biometrics, using two dimensional hand geometry since 1972. When it was time to replace the old readers in 1990, the University did a thorough evaluation of biometric technologies, including facial, fingerprint, iris and signature devices. They chose HandKey readers as the best solution. The first readers were installed in the food service area, where they ensure that only students with valid meal plans can enter the dining area. Students can choose to enter their ID number using either the hand reader's numeric keypad or by swiping their magnetic stripe card. Having this choice is one reason the system has such a high level of student acceptance, says the University's Donald Smith.



STATISTICS

Industry: Education

Users: 30,000

Locations: 24

Challenge: Verify authorized students quickly and easily

Solution: HandKey®

Results: Fast verification without hassle

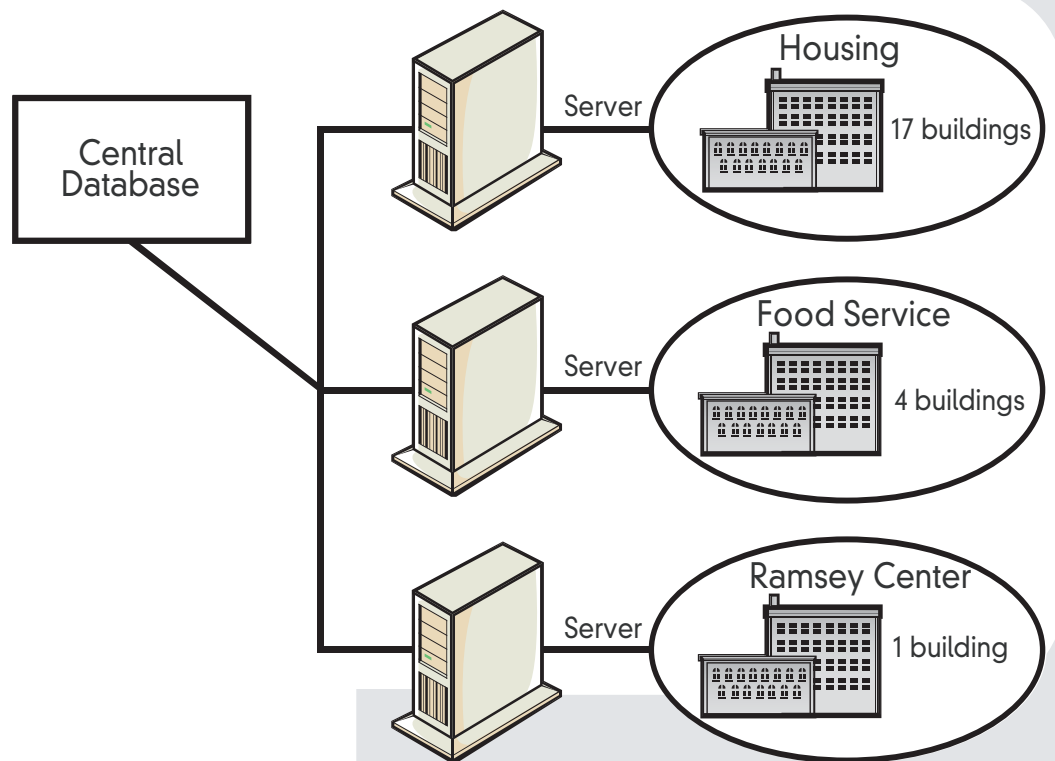
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Based on its success in the food service area, the University installed a similar system to control access to the Ramsey Center, a recreational sports facility. Then, for its housing facilities, the school tightened security further by replacing its magnetic stripe-only readers with the HandReaders and requiring that a student's ID card be used to enter his or her ID number. The University found it easy to adapt the hand readers to varying applications in the three separate areas. In housing, some outer doors are controlled by a special weather resistant version of the HandKey, while standard indoor readers control access to the residence wings. At the Ramsey Center, two of the special outdoor readers control access to the residence wings. At the Ramsey Center, two of the special outdoor readers control outer doors, while others inside the building control entry via turnstiles.

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25,000 transactions per day are sent to the central database by a combination of direct RS-422 communications, modems, and Ethernet communications.



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