# Using the Network as the Platform for Physical Access Control

Physical security is becoming tightly woven into the fabric of the IP network, making the industry as a whole extremely exciting. The network is the platform for connecting physical security systems of all types with other enterprise systems. This development helps bring the promise of converged security to life.

Cisco® Physical Access Control is a comprehensive IP-based solution that uses the IP network as a platform for integrated security operations. It works with existing card readers, locks, and biometric devices and is integrated with Cisco Video Surveillance Manager and with Cisco IP Interoperability and Collaboration System (IPICS).

The hardware component, Cisco Physical Access Gateway, provides a modular and scalable platform to connect readers, inputs, and outputs to the system. The gateway scales from a single door to thousands of doors at a fixed cost per door. The software component, Cisco Physical Access Manager, manages the hardware, monitors activity, enrolls users, and integrates with IT applications and data stores.
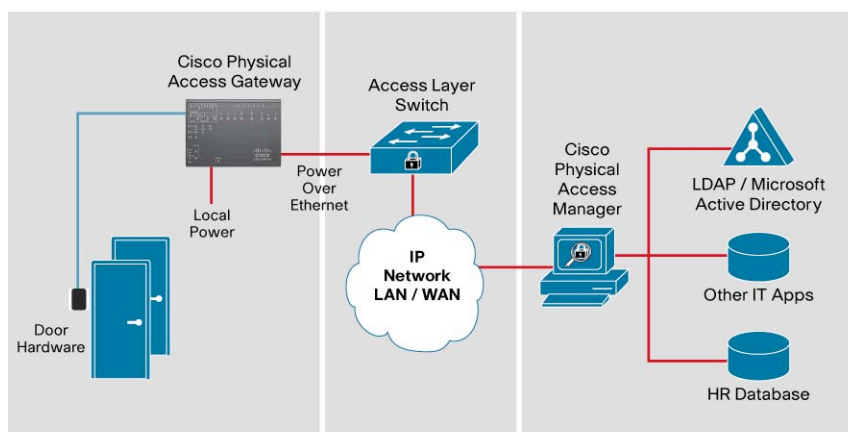
Key differentiators

- Access Control as an IP endpoint allows incremental rollout, one door at a time
- Distributed architecture
- Ability to apply network services, such as Power over Ethernet (PoE), Network Time, and pre-provisioning
- Integration with Microsoft Active Directory and external HR databases
- Webservices API allows any IT application to integrate with Cisco
- Web Page URLs can be launched based on events and alarms
- Quick Launch module provides one-click access to complex actions for security guards
- Easy access to live or recorded video through integration with Cisco Video Surveillance Manager
- Automated response and radio or data communications to security personnel through integration with Cisco IPICS

In the future, advances in network-based access control include creating and enforcing policies that grant network and application access based on the physical location of employees; that ensure physical identity before granting wireless network access; and that better enforce network access for remote workers and teleworkers. These capabilities will be critical to an organization's ability to enforce network security and reduce business risk.

What Our Customers Say

"Our IT department is asked constantly to come up with new solutions to operate the district more efficiently. For example, with our old security system, every camera and door controller needed separate connections to the network. Fortunately, we had already invested in a solid IP network, so we decided to use it as the platform for video surveillance and physical access controls using Cisco's solution. Now, we need only one connection to the network to operate the entire system. What's more, our electricians learned how to install the hardware in just 15 minutes, and campus resource officers needed only a few hours to learn how to operate the system. This ease of use saves money and helps us get the best use from taxpayer money."

—*Matt Frederickson, Director of IT, Council Rock School District*

"We selected the Cisco solution because Cisco is a trusted advisor. We are confident that Cisco will introduce safety and security features as campus needs change and technology advances."

—*Naveed Husain, CIO, Queens College*

"The Cisco Physical Access Control solution lets us add doors one or two at a time, instead of having to buy a control panel for a large group of doors. This is helpful because we can add doors gradually, when we have the budget."

"The biggest benefit of Cisco Physical Access Control is that we have confidence that doors are locked when they should be. Administrators no longer worry or have to go around and check individual doors."

—*David Vignery, Director of Technology, Harrisonville Schools*

Conclusion

Cisco Physical Access Control is a cost-effective solution that helps organizations protect their assets and the safety of their personnel. The Cisco solution connects physical and logical security within an organization, making it easier to manage the IP and physical security network. Partners and systems integrators can reduce their total cost of ownership while providing innovative converged physical security capabilities to their customers.

To learn more, visit www.cisco.com/go/eac

ılıılıı
CISCO™
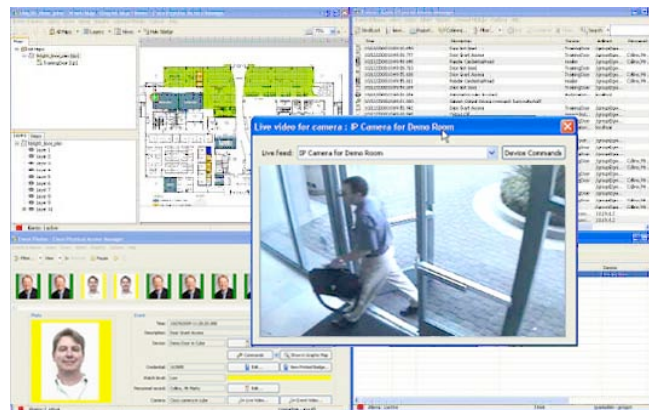
Americas Headquarters	Asia Pacific Headquarters	Europe Headquarters
Cisco Systems, Inc.	Cisco Systems (USA) Pte. Ltd.	Cisco Systems International BV
San Jose, CA	Singapore	Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Cisco has more than 200 offices worldwide. Addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers are listed on the Cisco Website at www.cisco.com/go/offices.

Printed in USA

C22-601686-00   05/10