



GCHQ

SECURING THE UK GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION HEADQUARTERS

The UK Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) is based in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, the heart of the Cotswolds. After many years of operating from two outdated World War II sites (Oakley and Benhall), GCHQ finally commenced relocation to its new premises in 2003.

The new site has been under development since October 1998, when the contract was awarded to Integrated Accommodation Services (IAS) - of which G4S Technology is one of three members - under the government's Private Finance Initiative (PFI).

The £340 million project, led by Carillion PLC, involved the design, construction and management of the new premises, with responsibility for the security in and around the building falling to G4S Technology. This was a large scale integrated electronic security project, on a site greater than that of the former Wembley stadium complex.

G4S Technology are market leaders in the design, development, manufacture, installation and service of state-of-the-art security solutions, ranging from small to large scale stand alone access control and Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) systems, through to integrated security management solutions encompassing access control, alarms management, CCTV and perimeter detection systems. With over 30 years experience of designing and developing integrated access control solutions, G4S Technology was one of the obvious suppliers for a high profile project of this stature.

"This was an extremely exciting and challenging project to be involved with and has provided every member of the project team with immense satisfaction, throughout the various phases," said Ian Groves, Principle Project Manager for G4S Technology. "Our procedures have stood up well and have

proved flexible enough to be able to adapt to the requirements of a project of this nature."

The security solution is a fully featured, cost effective access control and Security Management System (SMS), providing the required network capabilities for an installation of this size. The SMS is a scalable enterprise system, capable of coping with unlimited cardholders and configurations. It is an intuitive, user-friendly software package, simple to maintain, operate and upgrade as necessary. The system utilises the Microsoft® SQL format, enabling the simple import and export of data to other software packages, and employs simple command icons such as those illustrated below. The SMS offers the following features and benefits:

- Centrally controlled software - this provides a user-friendly interface from which to create and/or amend security profiles easily and efficiently;
- Instantaneous CCTV coverage triggered by unauthorised access - this ensures that events may be responded to as they occur, in 'real' time;
- Door alarms / 'event to action' alarms which utilise on-screen mapping - this ensures that suitable manpower may be deployed swiftly, and directly to the alarm activation point;
- Implementation of lost, stolen or unauthorised cards immediately identifiable - this enables immediate action to be taken in order to recover the card and avoid further security breaches.



"Our procedures have stood up well to flexible requirements"

Ex-Prime Minister, Tony Blair states: "Secret intelligence gives the Government a vital edge in tackling some of the most difficult problems we face....intelligence forewarns us of threats to our national security; helps the Government promote international stability; provides support and protection to our forces; contributes to our economic health and strengthens our efforts against terrorism and serious crime."

With this in mind, it is essential for a government organisation such as GCHQ to be kept highly secure at all times. An integrated security solution from G4S Technology offers the reliability, security and professionalism necessitated by a project such as this, and other integrated security projects throughout the UK.

About G4S Technology

G4S Technology is part of G4S plc, the world's leading international security solutions group.

G4S Technology designs, manufactures, installs and maintains fully integrated building security systems, protecting everything from small offices and schools to large multi-national organisations and high security Government facilities. G4S Technology has been providing unified security solutions for over 30 years, delivering 30,000 systems across 80 countries, to mitigate risk and protect staff, premises and assets.



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