



'World first' security pilot at West Midlands Police proves a huge success

- roll-out now planned across 15,000 users -

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West Midlands Police has successfully completed the world's first pilot to test the feasibility of combining secure physical and logical access, smart card/chip and pin technology and the creation of a Single Sign-On to all applications. The pilot, developed and implemented by integration experts, Enline plc, is now set to be rolled out across the rest of the force.

The two disciplines of physical and logical access security have been prominent issues for Police Forces and other organisations for some time, as has the desire to achieve convergence between the underlying technologies. Through this pilot, combining Lenel On Guard and Imprivata OneSign™ solutions, West Midlands Police have become the first UK police force to achieve this .

Paul Williamson, the lead for the Gateway Programme explains: "I am very pleased that West Midlands have become the first to prove that integrating Physical and Logical access really does work. Feedback from both a strategic level and from officers at the heart of the trial has been very positive. This pilot has set a baseline for future identity management control within our force."

Paul explains: ""In partnership with AC Controls, Enline played a key role in the developing the strategy underpinning this project. Their experience in identity management has proved invaluable, not only in terms of setting up all the business processes and rules which were key to its success, but also in terms of guidance regarding the best use of authentication technology. The initial POC didn't involve biometric authentication for controlling logical access – but at their recommendation, we added this technology into the mix and it has proved to be highly effective."

Biometric technology has proved particularly useful from a practical point of view for officers in custody or public facing i.e. front office environment - where there is a greater risk of losing or damaging smart cards. Keyboard biometric authentication provides easy, instant direct access to applications/information.

From a strategic point of view, security levels have been significantly increased. Senior managers will have far greater control in terms of managing access within the building environment. They can now restrict authorised access for key personnel to highly sensitive data. The Single Sign-On system also provides an audit trail for all application use/access, thus highlighting any potential abuse of the system.

The new identity management system controls both physical and logical access to police systems. In order to gain logical access (onto the network/domain/to applications), staff must have first been authenticated into the premises via a smart card and biometric authentication .

"Feedback from the pilot indicates that staff appreciate the higher levels of security for both buildings and information systems and understand the need for the levels of sophisticated access that the system envelops. In addition the Single Sign-On access is proving both invaluable on a practical level and reducing the time spent by officers in accessing their information systems,

that they now have instant access to all authorised applications without the need for remembering multiple passwords” Paul concluded.

About Enline plc

Enline plc has established itself as a market leader in Identity and Access Management (I&AM) – providing solutions to customers across Public and Corporate sectors – from SSO through Web Access Control to Roles and Provisioning. Enline’s Identity Connects™ uses a considered approach which ensures the successful delivery of Identity Management projects realising business benefits.

Enline’s client base, to which it provides consultancy, implementation, project management and ongoing support services include Health, Local Authority, Police and Corporate organisations.

For further information, please visit www.identityconnects.com.

