

# Case Study

A Fortune 500 chemical corporation leverages the Cloud to solve tough challenges – on a budget.



## The Situation

A global Fortune 500 chemical corporation wanted to implement a corporate-wide security program due to more stringent government regulations. But, they had a variety of sites, such as manufacturing, distribution, and office space, and each site had its own security system. It was impossible to provide one person access to multiple sites or maintain consistent security at all the sites.

## The Security Strategy

Thus, the IT, Security, and Procurement departments set out to implement a nationwide security access technology that had all of the following requirements:

- *A centralized database for all security systems.* If it was possible, this would allow them to centralize the security management and ensure compliance to corporate and regulatory requirements for all sites.
- *Integration with their new IT infrastructure.* The company had recently hired a third party IT company to expand and enhance their IT infrastructure nationwide. If they could utilize this new infrastructure, they might be able to get more system for less money.
- *A system that could grow with their needs.* Since they were constantly evolving their security due to new government and corporate threats, they needed a system that could be upgraded quickly.
- *The ability to have a third party remotely manage the system.* Many sites were challenged at keeping their access system up-to-date due to manpower or a constantly changing workforce. If possible, the new security system needed to be accessible by a third party company to assist in managing the credentials and access.
- *Low cost, low cost, low cost.* Cost is always a factor and this project was no different. The company was not interested in investing in onsite hardware and servers that required constant maintenance from local integrators and service technicians.



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## The Security Solution

This company chose to install a hosted access control system. Unlike normal onsite solutions, a hosted access control system provides the needed security without the cost and hassle of having a traditional onsite system. The company chose this solution because it gave them the following features and benefits:

- *The database for the system is hosted in a single offsite server.* Hosted access control systems are designed to have the bulk of the technology in offsite servers hosted in a server farm or in a security monitoring center. Ethernet enabled access control devices are then installed onsite and communicate through a secured IT connection.
- *All locations are updated at once.* Since the software for all locations is centrally located, the company can update the credentials and features for all of the systems at once. This maintains the consistency of security at all locations across the country without having to dispatch a single technician.
- *The system can be managed by anyone, anywhere, anytime.* Hosted access control is managed through a web-based user interface. Thus, the system can be managed from anyone with a web browser opening up the opportunity to hire third party experts to assist, if needed.
- *The cost per site is much less than an onsite solution.* Because the system's main technology is centrally located, the cost for the entire project per site is drastically less than installing a full system at each site. Also, with little to no service or upgrade costs at each site, the system's long term cost advantage grows as more sites are added.

## The Implementation

The company started off by implementing this solution at its global headquarters. Then, over a 3 year period continued to roll it out at 5 more large office complexes, 2 major manufacturing plants, and 2 distribution locations. They have plans to continue implementing this solution until all locations in the United States are using the same system. As they found out, the access control became the foundation for additional security technology. At their corporate office they integrated video to the access control system to provide more transparency to their security and corporate operations. At other locations, they added intrusion alarms to the system to allow a third party monitoring company to manage the access and respond to security situations. Finally, they implemented a sophisticated card technology to better enhance their regulatory and corporate security requirements for some of the high profile locations.

## About AMT

AMT provides hosted and private cloud "mobile-first" physical access control solutions for HID Edge & VertX and Assa Abloy IP locks. The independent data center is SOC3, SSAE 16 certified.

Founded in 1997, AMT's cloud experience ranges from single door systems to a 3 million card, 3,500 reader system spanning 10 countries in a single installation.

AMT is an HID Platinum and Assa Abloy Elite Access Control Partner.  
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