



ALLEGION™

Historic buildings and security

**Technology advancements make it
easier to upgrade building security**

By April Dalton-Noblitt, Allegion
October, 2012

Advancements in electronic access control systems provide possible solutions for upgrading hardware in older buildings.

Electronic door locks are available as stand-alone or networked and incorporate components traditionally located around the door into the lock itself to yield a smarter solution, less intrusive installation and more value for the investment. As a result, a facility can secure more doors and increase overall security.

Standalone models are easy to install, battery-powered and can be programmed to limit access to defined days and times. These models are programmed individually at the door, either manually or with a hand-held device that uploads/downloads information.

Networked locks that connect to an access control system are available with either hardwired or wireless options. For retrofits, and especially in historical buildings, wireless locks allow for installation in areas where it's difficult to run wires and have a lower overall cost than hardwired models.

With modular, open architecture electronic locking systems, locks can be configured to create a custom fit right at the lock. For example, the AD-Series from Schlage offers multiple, interchangeable credential reader modules, as well as interchangeable offline, wired and wireless networking modules. Without replacing the lock, or even taking it off the door, users can upgrade readers and network modules to bring offline locks into a networked system. Or they can change credential technologies at any time and add future innovative technologies as they emerge.

Replacing locks or re-keying, which formerly required much of a locksmith's attention, can be eliminated with an electronic access control system. The maintenance function will be reduced dramatically through the addition of diagnostics to the door, a practical feature that will make it possible to determine when to maintain the door before something breaks. This is much like the predictive maintenance that is applied to industrial equipment or a car's engine.

It is important to consider all the components of each opening, including how they work together, and how they can be integrated into the overall building network. This should include the mechanical hardware, as well as stand-alone electronic locks, network systems with biometrics, and integration of all technologies such as fire, video, time and attendance, lighting, HVAC and more.

More and more, integrated building systems are internet driven, which allows remote monitoring of a door over the internet from any location. This not only improves security but makes it more efficient to administer with lower staff costs. For example, if a user presents an invalid credential, a signal will alert a security officer, who can redirect a camera to view the opening.

Even mechanical hardware can increase user value and profitability. For example, vandal-resistant lever trim gives way under abuse or attack instead of breaking. By eliminating these incidents, it saves replacement costs and protects security as well.

Older model panic exit hardware with tubular push bars is being replaced in many buildings with exit devices that have a more flush push bar that cannot be chained shut. This creates a safer egress situation in the case of an emergency.

Allegion can work with you to make small changes now that will add up to a big impact in the future, while staying within your budget. We can also help you plan and implement the right solution for every area of your campus.

Learn more about updating your security

For more information about securing your historic building, please contact a professional security consultant in your area by calling **888.758.9823** or fill out the **Contact Us** form on our website at allegion.com.

About Allegion

Allegion (NYSE: ALLE) creates peace of mind by pioneering safety and security. As a \$2 billion provider of security solutions for homes and businesses, Allegion employs more than 8,000 people and sells products in more than 120 countries across the world. Allegion comprises more than 25 global brands, including strategic brands CISA®, Interflex®, LCN®, Schlage® and Von Duprin®.

For more, visit allegion.com/us

aptiQ ■ LCN ■ SCHLAGE ■ STEELCRAFT ■ VON DUPRIN

