Case Study

infrastructure protection

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCARBOROUGH

"The TZ Centurion System is far and away the most cost-effective and functional system of its type."

The university will play a key role in hosting the 2015 Pan American games to be held in Toronto. Strong growth and preparation for the games required a significant upgrade to IT and Communications infrastructure and implementation of enhanced physical security practices in the university's new data centers.

Two new data centers with high density cabinet infrastructure were commissioned to house IT, voice and data communications equipment, however the collocation of these systems in one facility resulted in an overall increase of service visits from in-house, contractor and vendor personnel requiring 24/7 access to their respective equipment.

A cost-effective security system was required to ensure all visitors to the data centers could only access equipment relevant to their particular service task and to keep an accurate record of all access events to ensure compliance with various privacy mandates.

University of Toronto chose the TZ Centurion System to safeguard critical data and IT assets in its new data centers.

Glen Attwood, Project Head, states "We identified the need to provide electronic access control on every cabinet door, considered a number of options and determined the TZ Centurion System to be the most cost effective and flexible solution available – an order of magnitude less than traditional Building Access Control systems."

"Overall we're very pleased with the TZ Centurion System, which has been in reliable operation for two years," says Atwood. It is delivering quantifiable cost-savings through time reduction spent managing service interventions. We have enhanced visibility of environmental conditions within our data centers, and we have real peace of mind knowing our critical data and IT assets have the highest possible levels of protection."
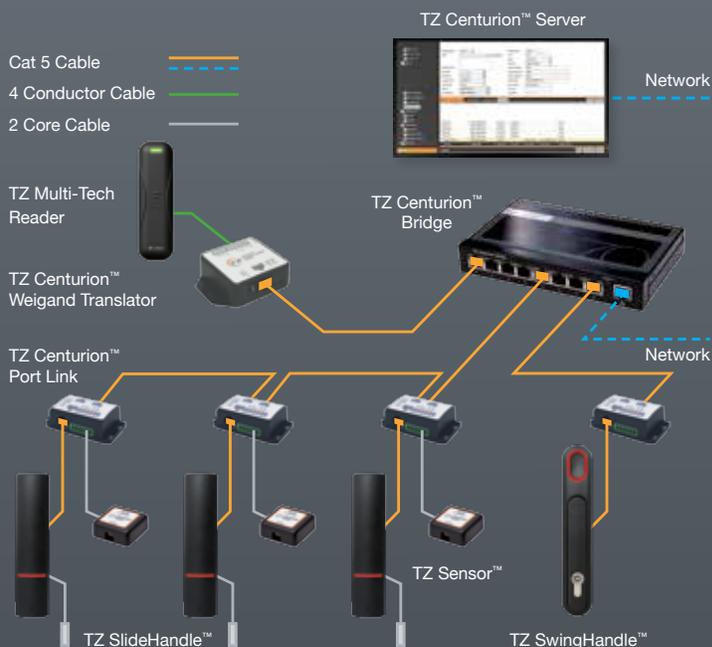
TZ Centurion™ Server

TZ Centurion™ Bridge

TZ SlideHandle™

TZ SwingHandle™

Cat 5 Cable
4 Conductor Cable
2 Core Cable

TZ Centurion™ Server

Network

TZ Multi-Tech Reader

TZ Centurion™ Bridge

TZ Centurion™ Weigand Translator

Network

TZ Centurion™ Port Link

TZ Sensor™

TZ SlideHandle™

TZ SwingHandle™

Centurion System

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Atwood lists these factors as those who drove the decision to implement the TZ Centurion System:

> The TZ Centurion System meets all of our requirements for the data center applications, but its scalability, integration and compatibility with many industrial enclosure types meant it was also a great fit with our longer term security plans.

> The TZ Centurion System is far and away the most cost effective and functional system of its type, available with the added bonus of providing full environmental monitoring in each cabinet.

> The System is easy to administer and manage, with all events and alarms recorded in comprehensive event logs, whilst notifications can be communicated using SNMP.

> The System can be easily scaled and deployed in campus-wide security applications such as network closets, lecture theatres and other critical infrastructure. As the number of protected sites increase, TZ Centurion Server software can be implemented to manage the distributed TZ Network as one logical system.

> It can support many types of credential readers so our existing employee ID badges could be used on the TZ Centurion System, making card management easy and convenient from the end user perspective.

> The browser-based TZ Centurion System software is easy to set up, reliable and requires minimal ongoing management. Adding or removing users, reviewing event logs, editing access rights, setting up alarms or programming alerts is a breeze.

> TZ SlideHandle locking devices can be installed into most cabinet types. In our case the TZ SlideHandle locking devices were retrofitted into CPI cabinets, and the finished installation looks great and performs extremely well.

> TZ Centurion System is an IT system designed for the IT environment. It complies with TIA structured cabling, making it easy and flexible to deploy in our data center environment with existing skillsets.

University of Toronto Scarborough

Established in 1964, University of Toronto Scarborough is a key campus of Canada's premiere research-intensive university offering a wide range of program options that span the arts, sciences, management and teacher education. With more than 11,000 students and close to 1,000 faculty and staff the UTSC campus has become the choice destination for thousands of students from across Canada and around the world and continues to experience unprecedented growth.