

ON THE FILM SET WITH ZEUS®



Access Control, Time & Attendance and WebWorkflow at the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg in Ludwigsburg

Plagiarism in the music industry is quite a common practice. Fortunately, this problem is not a frequent issue within the film industry. Therefore, protection against plagiarism was not the reason why the Film Academy Baden-Württemberg decided to install the ISGUS Access Control system ZEUS®.

Taking a look around the academy premises in Ludwigsburg including six buildings, it seems quite evident why protection against unauthorised access is so important there: The cutting edge technology of the high quality film production equipment requires particular security precautions.

The new sound studio, the cutting and the camera room and also the soundproof recording studio are fitted with absolute state-of-the-art equipment. There is hardly any difference between this studio and the set of professional film studios. The rooms are used for holding lectures and making films, which are also shown on TV or on cinema screens. The film business requires important financial input and expense in favour of the 500 students, attending study programs such as stage direction, script writing, screenplay, editing and mixing, animation, sound or film music.

Apart from the security aspect it is also important to trace back the users of the various pieces of equipment, irrespective of whether it is mixing consoles, cameras or lighting technology. The importance of this aspect was demonstrated when reels of film disappeared. Based on the access control bookings, it

was possible to find the student, who had not archived them properly.

Günter Herwig, Head of the HR Department, outlines: „Besides the students themselves, on average there are 20 external staff on site in the studios during our annual 300 film productions – statisticians, cameramen, sound engineers, craftsmen, etc. In addition, we have around 500 guest lecturers per year and of course our own regular staff of 73 employees.

Such a challenge can only be overcome by means of a professional access control system, particularly as the Academy is open around the clock – due to the fact that creative artistry is evolving and does not stop, irrespective of time. Soundtrack composers or animation artists often happen to work at night, taking advantage of the academy facilities located in

the city centre, well secured against unauthorized “visitors”. That’s why 25 rooms with a single access point are provided with electronic security locks, fully integrated into the ZEUS® Access Control solution.

2006 ISGUS had won the tender thanks to ZEUS®, being the only system to fulfil the complex requirements of the Film Academy by ensuring a comprehensive and integrated solution. Helmut Brechlin, General Manager of the ISGUS Sales and Service Centre in Stuttgart, is very proud having managed this project: „It is not only the excellent reputation of the Film Academy, but also the size of the project which makes us proud.“ To the initial access control module with a capacity of 2.000 employees and 50 access control terminals, later on the Time & Attendance and WebWorkflow module and 7 additional T&A terminals have been added to the system.



Students checking the results of their work.

Each employee or student has got individual time and zone access assignments. The badges, provided with name and photo, are also used either as student identity cards or for booking on the Time & Attendance terminals in case of the employees. All badges are printed in the HR Department of the Academy.

The recorded times are then transferred to the HR department for further processing. Most variable working patterns have been defined – full time and part time patterns, patterns in accordance with the collective agreement conditions and individual patterns. „It took time to gain overall acceptance from our employees“, remembers the HR Manager Herwig. „However, in the meantime everybody appreciates the precise and well-documented records.“ Also the WebWorkflow module, enabling easy employee-self-service for absence and booking updates via a simple mouse click, making the process totally efficient for all participants.

Apart from the security aspect for the high tech equipment, efficiency and flexibility are the most important arguments in favour of ZEUS®. „There is a lot of activity within the grounds of a film academy and the fluctuation of people is very high. Film productions are complex and time consuming and there are many workshops and various events coming up. All this intense activity requires absolute precise administration in matters of access control and time management. Thanks to ZEUS®, our administrative efforts have been considerably reduced“, concludes Sabine Nicke, the General Administration Manager.



CURRENTLY IN USE

Software:

- » ZEUS® Access Control
- » ZEUS® Time Management
- » ZEUS® WebWorkflow
- » ZEUS® Picture

Hardware:

- » 50 IT 400 Access terminals
- » 25 Electronic security locks
- » 7 IT 7001 T&A terminals
- » 3 Badge printers