

Banco do Nordeste of Brasil



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José Boileau
Executive Mgr. of Corporate Security
Banco do Nordeste

Banco do Nordeste do Brasil reinforces the security of its administrative center with the implementation of iCLASS® smart cards and readers with the Corporate 1000 Program.

The Challenge

Security is an important concern for Banco do Nordeste do Brasil (BNB). And when it is a matter of protecting the physical integrity of its personal and corporate information, BNB goes above and beyond the security rules established by the Central Bank of Brazil and adopts additional security measures.

As a state financial entity that acts as a catalyzing agent for sustainable development and fostering economic development of the Northeast Region of Brazil -- besides offering banking services to the public in general -- the institution has innumerable reasons to resort to technology for the purpose of protecting itself from threats encountered by any bank wherever in the world.

Given this scenario, at the end of 2008, BNB decided to reinforce the control system for physical access of the administrative offices in Fortaleza, Ceará. After an evaluation of a number of security devices and a rigorous selection process, the bank engaged the services of the Brazilian integrator Interactive Tecnologia Ltda. and chose the contactless smart card solutions from HID Global.

"Our corporate security policy is based on three pillars: trustworthiness, integrity and availability. And during our market research, we found that HID is praised for these principles," affirms Mr. José Boileau, Executive Manager of Corporate Security of Banco do Nordeste.

Banco do Nordeste found that HID's iCLASS® contactless smart cards and readers provided the high level security needed and technology to form the ideal platform for controlling access to strategic points of the administrative offices with its headquarters in Fortaleza, Ceará. The legal and finance departments, the DPC and the security room had priority in the first stage of the project for a total of more than 50 controlled points.

"Banco do Nordeste has a qualified security team with a differentiated and well directed vision to take advantage of technological innovations and this explains the reason for which they chose contactless smart cards and readers," commented Mr. Marcelo Antunes, of Interactive Tecnologia.

Considering the specific necessities of the bank, the integrator suggested the use of HID iCLASS R10, iCLASS RWK400 keypad readers and the iCLASS RWKLB575 biometric reader to meet the levels of security required in each area. These devices, in conjunction with the 2Kbit smart cards and software from the Brazilian manufacturer Commbox Tecnologia, replaced the old

Technology / Products

- iCLASS® R10 Readers
- iCLASS RWK400 Readers
- bioCLASS RWKLB575 Readers
- iCLASS 2Kbits contactless smart cards
- HID Corporate 1000 Program



proximity system (which did not have autonomous functioning) and the software for access control (that was integrated into the predial automation system).

Additionally, with the objective of raising the level of security, Banco do Nordeste decided to take advantage of the benefits offered by the Corporate 1000 Program of HID Global for an exclusive card format. The credentials are programmed by HID, with a unique identification number, which is tracked during the entire production process in order to prevent duplications.

The Results

Almost two years after the implementation of the project, Mr. Boileau, the Executive Manager of Corporate Security of BNB, feels completely satisfied with the system installed. "There have been no installation or availability problems recorded and also we have not had problems with the performance of the products. It is a robust solution," he added. And he also emphasized that the cards are used intensely in the institution, whether as a part of the electronic access control system to controlled environments or as a photo identification credential of the employees. "Previously, it was not possible to generate access reports since we did not have the precise information on who entered each area. Now we can analyze in detail access to various environments," he affirmed. Currently, the cards programmed by HID are sent to an outside company that personalizes them with the data of each user. Also in the coming months there will be an on site procedure to issue new credentials due to the fact the Bank has changed its visual identity.

The transparency during the implementation and the results in relation to the security discipline motivated Mr. Boileau and his team to speak of the future. "Now we have a reference point to implement a centralized system of access control in approximately 200 banking agencies across 13 states and in the Federal District," he said.

With the 2014 World Cup ahead, Banco do Nordeste will face a new challenge given its physical proximity to the platform of the games in Fortaleza: the Castelão stadium. The access control for all entrance points will be adapted to the new traffic conditions with the installation of gates and automatic turnstiles in order to offer greater security to its employees and visitors. Mr. Boileau states that HID and Combbox's solutions will be essential for this next step.