Traditionally building access control focused on regulating physical access to and within a site, and cyber access to IT, IoT, and OT systems. The COVID-19 pandemic, and subsequent health organization guidelines for reducing infections, has forced enterprises to expand controlled access to include the health posture of anyone visiting or working at a site. Enforcing safe social behavior requires vigilance throughout the site journey, starting at the entrance portal and extending across roaming behavior and proximate contacts.

Entrance portal monitoring can take many forms, from manually controlled turnstiles to automated thermographic kiosks that register identity, detect abnormally high body temperatures, and manage access door locks. The former can be implemented in a manner of hours but is subject to manual error during entrance registration and can create significant backlogs during peak entry periods.

Automated kiosks have the advantage of high throughput, highly accurate temperature measurement, and integration with visitor management, badging systems, and both physical and cyber access control systems. Implementation can be expedited by using proven, off-the-shelf kiosk designs.

Meridian Kiosk is a North Carolina-based provider of indoor, outdoor, and customized kiosk-based self-service solutions. Founded in 1999, the company is a fully integrated manufacturer of Personnel Management Kiosks (PMKs) that feature user check-in, temperature verification, and optional facial identification.

PMKs are designed to protect health and safety by preventing anyone with a high temperature from entering a facility. Kiosks are available in pedestal, countertop, and wall mount versions, with and without a credential printer. All models have a standardized user interface, so regardless of the kiosk style or location users enjoy a consistent access experience. This feature also minimizes the time required to train personnel on kiosk operation.

Meridian Kiosk’s MzeroManage software application allows administrators to remotely manage kiosks without needing local access to the site. The software provides e-mail and pop-up alerting, report generation, account management, and APIs to building control and other facility applications.
Aruba and Meridian Kiosk have partnered to integrate Aruba switches and wireless 802.11ax (Wi-Fi 6) and 802.11ac (Wi-Fi 5) access points with Personnel Management Kiosks to securely address the need to rapidly deploy real-time workforce entrance portals indoors and outdoors on a temporary or permanent basis.

Better Together

Meridian Kiosks operate on both existing and new Aruba infrastructure, allowing the solution to be retrofit to deployed networks. PMKs work with Aruba campus, Instant, and Instant On access points, as well as Aruba LANs (using the Aruba 3810M as a reference). This flexibility enables PMKs to be deployed anywhere, from the smallest satellite sites using Instant On or Central-based Instant access points, to large campuses using controller-based wireless.

Given the variety of mounting and metal housing options, a site survey is required to ensure adequate wireless coverage for the specific PMK deployment. Also, certain Android-based PMK models only support legacy 2.4GHz 802.11g/n operation, so it is important to ensure availability of 2.4GHz channels in those areas.
Meridian Kiosk is a leading provider of automated kiosks that feature user check-in, temperature verification, and optional facial identification.

CERTIFIED INTEROPERABLE

The solution uses existing Aruba infrastructure, making it economical to deploy and enabling the network to do double-duty for other IIoT, voice, video, and data applications. Set-up is straightforward so joint deployments go in faster and are easier to maintain.

SUMMARY

Aruba's secure infrastructure is the ideal way to support Meridian Kiosk's Personnel Management Kiosks at entrance portals throughout a facility of campus. The joint solution provides an automated, high throughput, highly accurate means of integrating temperature measurement with visitor management, badging systems, and physical and cyber access control systems. Contact your local sales representative to see how together, Aruba and Meridian Kiosk help enterprises comply with health organization guidelines for reducing infections.

To learn more about Aruba wireless, please visit: arubanetworks.com/products/networking/access-points/

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