

“Together with our partner BWO and the PalmSecure™ palm vein scanners from Fujitsu, we were able to implement a secure and comfortable authentication concept for access to buildings, IT systems and printers.”

Steve Erzberger
Group CTO
Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft

Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft uses the PalmSecure™ palm vein scanning technology from Fujitsu for secure access to rooms, IT systems and printers.

At a glance

Country: Switzerland

Industry: Banks and insurance companies

Founded: 1955

Website: www.frankfurter-bankgesellschaft.com

Frankfurter
Bankgesellschaft

PRIVATBANK | Zürich | Frankfurt

Challenge

Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft wanted to increase its security and went looking for a new and unified authentication solution for access to buildings and rooms, such as those at its headquarters in Zurich (photo) as well as for identification on IT systems and printers.

Solution

The bank's partner BWO Systems AG and Fujitsu jointly developed a customized security concept based on Fujitsu's PalmSecure™ technology. This contactless biometric authentication solution permits particularly secure identification and easy employee administration.

Benefit

- Particularly high security through the biometric detection of palm vein patterns and strong encryption
- Comfortable, uniform and hygienic authentication at doors, workstations and printers
- Compliance with all security regulations for banks in the area of access control
- Uniform and centrally administered security concept relieves IT staff workload and lowers process costs

Customer

Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft is "the private bank" within Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe, one of the world's largest financial groups. Headquartered in Zurich, it has a subsidiary in Frankfurt am Main as well as the only multi-family office within Sparkassen-Finanzgruppe: Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft Family Office AG. Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft offers wealthy private customers and family entrepreneurs a complete range of services and supports its customers in line with its corporate philosophy "... in a more personal manner."

Products and services

- 30 x FUJITSU PalmSecure™ palm vein scanners at the entrance and on doors
- 13 x FUJITSU PalmSecure™ palm vein scanners on printer stations
- 150 x FUJITSU Thin Client FUTRO Q940 PalmSecure™ Appliances
- Scanner housing customization for installation on printers (via partner BWO)
- Printer firmware upgrade for integrating PalmSecure™ (with partner)

New, comprehensive security concept

Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft is subject to strict requirements when it comes to the security of its rooms, IT systems and employees. As a bank, after all, it manages critical and personal data and investments. It had been using classic access cards for many years to allow its employees to access the building, individual security zones and printers. However, these cards had significant disadvantages. It was possible to forget or lose them or to give them to unauthorized third parties. User names and passwords for logging into the IT systems involved the same security risks. "The old solution was inconsistent and meant a lot of administrative work for the IT department," explains Steve Erzberger, Group CTO with Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft. "We had to help out, for example if an employee lost his card or forgot his password. This was very time-consuming and laborious and always distracted us from strategic concerns." The bank therefore went looking for a new and uniform method for authenticating its employees.

Need for a uniform concept

Steve Erzberger was certain of one thing: Not only did the solution have to be more secure, but its administration had to be easier and centralized. BWO Systems AG, a long-time sales and development partner of Fujitsu, brought his attention to Fujitsu's palm vein scanner technology. "Not only was I convinced of the fact that the biometric palm vein detection is one of the most reliable and secure processes. I was especially impressed by the way that BWO and Fujitsu presented us with an integrated concept for all applications, from physical access to logging into PC workstations to authentication on the printer, and that they jointly and creatively incorporated our ideas."

Secure access to the building and rooms

BWO installed 30 sensors with add-ons (controllers and software) for physical access to the building as well as access to the staff, protected and security zones. At the entrance, the sensor was built into a decorative stele, which fits in well with the imposing building architecture. Every internal employee and external associate, such as consultants as well as janitorial and security personnel, has to complete a one-time registration process on the system. This involves scanning and encrypting their palm vein patterns and establishing their identity by checking their ID cards. Once people are registered, the bank centrally administers the zones they are allowed to enter and automatically logs every time they enter and exit these areas.



Secure login to bank systems

With the FUJITSU Thin Client FUTRO Q940 PalmSecure™ Appliances, employees can now easily and securely log into the internal IT systems. These ultra-secure clients have an integrated palm vein sensor and are equipped with ultra-secure client software from partner BWO. "We installed 150 of these ultra-secure clients at Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft, which gives all employees optimum access to their virtualized desktops," says a happy Christoph Leuenberger, CFO of BWO Systems AG and project manager for Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft.

Erich Vettiger, COO of Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft, is also happy that he can now easily unlock his computer with his palm. (photo)

Development of a customized printer solution

The 13 printer stations of Frankfurter Bankgesellschaft make up the third application of the palm vein detection system. To run a print job, the employee goes to one of the multifunction printers, holds his hand over the sensor, and only then does printing begin. "To integrate PalmSecure™, we needed to upgrade our printing firmware," Erzberger explains. "We benefited from BWO's good contacts with the Fujitsu development department and with the printer manufacturer, so that this software upgrade was implemented quickly: a true innovation in this area." In addition, the bank wanted to modify the scanner housing's design to optimize the hand position during authentication. "BWO simply 3D-printed a new, stylish housing that met our needs." Erzberger was delighted with the creative solution approach on the part of BWO and Fujitsu. "Our partner and Fujitsu together did an excellent job managing the project. It could not have worked out better."

Integrally higher security

In summing up, Erzberger had only positive things to say. "The new solution is much more secure than the previous one, since the palm vein pattern is unique and cannot be transferred. We can administer all employees as well as external parties centrally, which gives us enormous savings. We have gained transparency over everything that goes on in the bank, and we are therefore also on the safe side when it comes to financial supervision."

FUJITSU

IN COLLABORATION WITH



© 2018 Fujitsu and the Fujitsu logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Fujitsu Limited in Japan and other countries. Other company, product and service names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners. Technical data subject to modification and delivery subject to availability. Any liability that the data and illustrations are complete, actual or correct is excluded. Designations may be trademarks and/or copyrights of the respective manufacturer, the use of which by third parties for their own purposes may infringe the rights of such owner.

Intel, the Intel logo, Xeon, and Xeon Inside are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation in the U.S. and/or other countries.