



### ABOUT GLOUCESTER COUNTY



### THE PROBLEM

#### Selecting the right physical access control solution increasingly involves IT professionals

→ The Gloucester County Educational Campus covers 298 acres in Deptford, New Jersey USA. The site includes 2 separate educational establishments, located in 4 schools, with a total of around 2,000 staff.

The campus provides educational opportunities, innovative and best practice programs in state-of-the-art facilities.

Gloucester County Institute of Technology (GCIT) is a public high school, operating as part of the Gloucester County Vocational-Technical School District.

The Bankridge Elementary, Middle and Regional/High Schools offer educational and therapeutic services for students from across the county who have emotional or physical disabilities.

→ Door access permissions for large numbers of people sometimes need to be changed centrally and implemented quickly – for school vacation periods for example, or in immediate response to an emergency lock-down.

Changing door access rights was just way too time consuming and slow with the existing door access system, but any new solution would have to retain the existing ID cards – also used by the ‘time-and-attendance’ and ‘follow-me-printing’ systems.

As is increasingly the case in many types of organisation, the IT team took on the task of finding a new door access control solution – something that was traditionally the role of a different department. This trend makes total sense – IT professionals are accustomed to delivering core infrastructure that ‘just works and goes unnoticed’, enabling other teams to focus more productively on their own goals.

Gloucester County’s Systems & Applications Administrator wanted a solution that could leverage the existing set-up process for IT-users’ permissions within Microsoft Active Directory (which already aligned with the organisation’s financial and administrative structure), and operates over the campus’ three network domains.

### THE SOLUTION

*“The EdgeConnector team have always been responsive and helpful, backed-up by real expertise in both IT & physical security”*

**Gene Rettig**  
Systems & Applications  
Administrator at  
Gloucester County  
Educational Campus

→ EdgeConnector provides both central and delegated permissions management, with dynamic and real-time control over scalable access-groups, all built on direct integration with an existing database of users (such as Microsoft Active Directory).

The Director of Campus Technology and his team found several vendors who said they could provide door access controls integrated with Active Directory, but discovered only EdgeConnector uses the AD database directly – providing as standard the required central, real-time, scalable control across their whole network.

In the project’s early stages, the Gloucester County IT team needed to get to grips with the key considerations for door access control implementation. The EdgeConnector support team provided on-going guidance to help avoid the many possible pit-falls.

Now with the EdgeConnector software installed within their hybrid infrastructure (on-premises AD and cloud Azure AD), Gloucester County have been able to dramatically streamline access administration – making use of AD defined permission groups. Authorised staff can maintain user access rights, without compromising directory security, through the included EdgeConnector Manager app.

EdgeConnector works with all industry standard card technologies and readers, so retaining existing ID cards and installed readers was no issue. Replacement door controllers (HID Vertex V2000) were installed by JC Magee - Gloucester County Educational Campus’ long established locksmith and security provider.

### FIND OUT MORE

EdgeConnector is a product of  
**DOT ORIGIN**

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