

The programmable controller

One unique feature of AEOS is the potential it offers for programming the behaviour of your controllers. The server contains a growing library, ranging from software components for a simple door to those for a complex entrance such as a tourniquet, from contact monitoring to a complete intrusion detection system or virtual PLC. The appropriate software component is simply downloaded on request from the server to the controllers.

What does this mean for you?

- Your security policy can easily be entered into the system, which allows changes to be made with a minimum of effort, rather than creating complications for a system administrator.
- The behaviour of a controller, and the interactions between controllers, can be quickly and simply modified in accordance with the current wishes and requirements of the users.
- The functionality that is obtained is independent of the hardware chosen.
- Extra functionality without installation costs, or with minimal costs.
- You pay only for the functionality that you actually use.

How do other suppliers do this?

- Behaviour and functionality are almost entirely linked to the hardware. Even a relatively small change in functionality usually requires replacing hardware (and thus also extra installation costs).

Peer-to-peer communication between controllers

- In AEOS, controllers communicate directly with one another rather than through a server. Input on one controller can directly generate output on one or more other controllers.

What does this mean for you?

- It offers the possibility of creating "intelligent behaviour" at the lowest system level.
- It is very fast and reliable, because it's not dependent on the availability and reaction time of a server.
- It places a minimal load on your network.

How do other suppliers do this?

- They use a server and therefore depend on the availability and reaction time of that server.

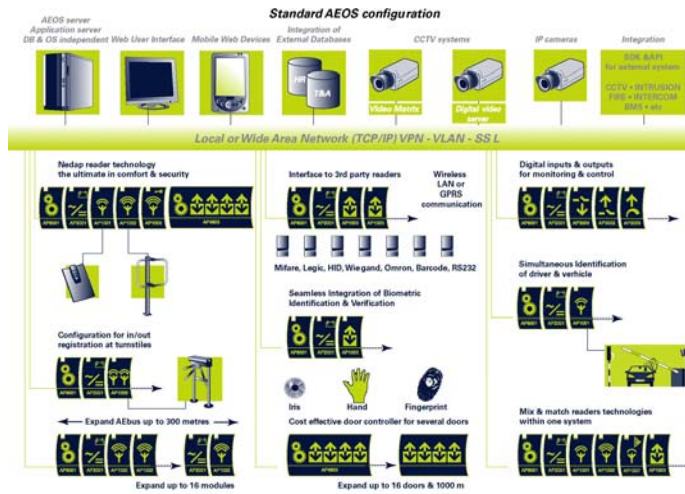
- To increase speed and reaction time, intelligent behaviour is often limited to one controller, and/or hard cabling is used to bridge distances, with all the extra costs and installation difficulties that this entails.

Mobility through the use of the Web

The AEOS user interface is web-based.

What does this mean for you?

- That users are no longer tied to a single workstation. Any PC-type device that contains a web browser can now be used to access the system.
- You don't need to miss a single message, even out of doors, because the new generation of mobile telephones and handheld computers makes it possible to keep in touch with what is going on any time any place.



- Another unique feature is that every member of staff can log visitors onto the system, so that a more refined access policy can be put in place without causing a lot of work for those responsible for reception. A member of staff calls up an interface, for instance via the company intranet, through which a visitor can be logged on. The visitor is then also directly connected with that member of staff, including any authorisations he or she may have. When the visitor logs in, those at reception need only issue an access pass. If desired, the authorising staff member can be automatically informed, via email or SMS.

- No need to install client software, yet all users have access to the same up-to-date version of the software (distributed software principle).
- Optimal benefits from present and future developments in the field of embedded and (distributed) wireless web technology.

How do other suppliers do this?

- They try to demonstrate systems at trade fairs that provide access to a limited portion of the software through an extra web server, usually with a mirror version of the database, which is then linked to the real database with ODBC.

AEOS uses the existing (TCP/IP) network

Communication between the controllers and with the server is based on IP.

What does this mean for you?

- Optimal return on your investment in existing networks.
- No extra costs for system-specific cables.
- Flexibility: functionality can be provided wherever there is a network connection.

How do other suppliers do this?

- They use IP to link a series of existing controllers to the IP network.
- Solutions are now being developed, usually using Lantronix boxes or an "on board" Lantronix chip to connect controllers to the network. The difference, as compared to AEOS, is that the Lantronix solution is only suitable for communication between the controller and server, and not peer to peer (see also *Peer-to-peer communication between controllers*).

Drawbacks

- It's not secure.
- There's a greater load on the network.
- It can't be managed by the ICT department.

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Virtual Private Network and Secure Socket Layer and SAM

Data flows in the system are secured with a Virtual Private Network (VPN) and SSL. A VPN combined with SSL is generally seen as the safest method for IP-based data transmission. Every AEOS CPU (AEpu) can also be equipped with a SAM module.

What does this mean for you?

- Reliable and proven communications security, from the network world itself. Universally trusted and accepted in the industry.
- Improvements are developed by the industry itself, so the latest technology can always be supplied.
- The SAM module makes it impossible for unauthorised persons to gain access to the controllers. The SAM module can be equipped with keys that customers can manage themselves.

How do other suppliers do this?

- Either they have no security, or they use a simple idiosyncratic key code system to protect messages.
- At present no suppliers are offering the SAM module (the highest degree of security).

Multiple card-reading technologies in one system

AEOS supports multiple card-reading technologies in one system

What does this mean for you?

- The readers and cards used in existing systems can be integrated without any problems. This is an enormous saving in costs and time.
- It's also possible to give personnel a convenient hands-free access pass, while visitors can use a cheap barcode pass.

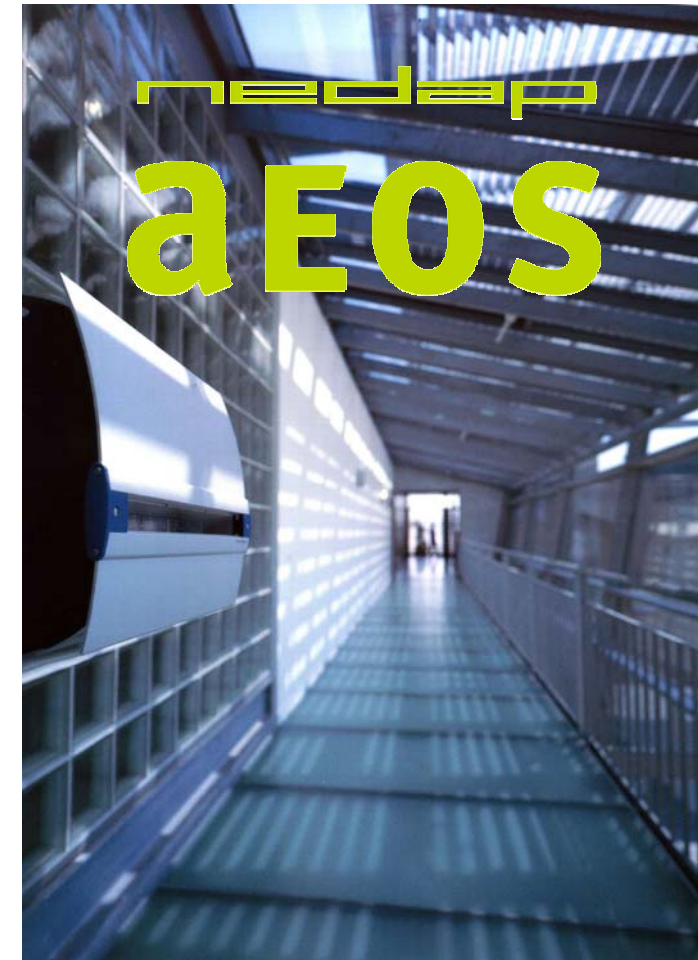
How do other suppliers do this?

- They only offer one opportunity to choose a card-reading technology: when the system is purchased.

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OVERVIEW				
	Supplier A	Supplier B	Supplier C	Nedap
Technique				
Distributed Intelligence	✗	✗	✗	✓
Peer-to-peer Communication	✗	✗	✗	✓
Web-based	✓	✓	✗	✓
Native IP Controllers	✗	✓	✗	✓
Secured, with VPN, SSL and SAM	✗	✗	✗	✓
Optimal scalability	✗	✗	✓	✓
Integration of biometrics with the template in the controller	✗	✗	✗	✓
Support for company processes				
Web-based prior approval of visitors	✓	✗	✗	✓
Contractor management	✗	✗	✗	✓
Vendor management	✗	✗	✗	✓
Automatic recognition of vehicles, incl. drivers	✗	✗	✗	✓
Telephonic management for people and vehicles	✗	✓	✗	✓
Emergency lift management	✗	✗	✗	✓
Blacklist	✓	✗	✗	✓



IP - The advantages in a nutshell