PROJECT

Project Area
ACCESS CONTROL AND SECURITY

Executed for
CONI SERVIZI

Requirement
COMPLETE ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE OLYMPIC STADIUM OF ROME

CLIENT PROFILE

CLIENT:
CONI SERVIZI
SECTOR:
VENUE MANAGEMENT AND CONSULTING
INTERNET SITE:
www.coni.it

CONI Servizi SpA, 100% owned by the Ministry of Economy, is the operational branch of the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI). It performs this function through a service contract with CONI.

The mission of CONI Servizi is to create value for sport in Italy:

- through the efficient management of the mandate assigned by CONI
- by enabling CONI to allocate more monetary grants to the National Sports Federations (FSN)
- by providing the FSN with high value-added services
- by developing its unique know-how in Italy in the field of sports and other associated disciplines
- by increasing the value of its extensive professional resources and materials

CONI Servizi manages the Olympic Stadium in Rome, the National Olympic Training Centre, the School of Sport and the Institute of Medicine and Science in Sports, as well as providing high level advisory services to sports facilities and redeveloping Foro Italico, the largest sports complex in Italy.

Olympic Stadium

The Olympic stadium is a multi-purpose sports venue in Rome, Italy. It is located at the Foro Italico, near Monte Mario, in the northwestern sector of the capital.

Since it was inaugurated on May 17, 1953, it has been hosting football games, athletics and rugby matches, as well as non-sporting events such as concerts and stage performances.

The stadium has a capacity of 70,634 spectators.

CLIENT REQUIREMENTS

Due to the rise in violence near and at Italian stadiums, in 2003 the Italian Minister of the Interior, Giuseppe Pisanu, approved law no. 88 containing 'dispositions to stop violence at sports competitions'. The law imposes certain security measures on sport facilities, intended to reduce these violent episodes and prevent and repress dangerous behaviors. One of the most important measures imposes the facilities to be equipped with an access control system, with proper turnstiles at access points and appropriate ticket and badge readers.

Like other Italian stadiums with a capacity of over 10,000 spectators, Coni Servizi needed to adapt the Rome Olympic Stadium to these security measures and to implement an access control system at the access points leading to the stairs. In choosing the suppliers, the company's main requirements – considering the project's complexity – involved **finding a fully reliable partner capable of completing the project quickly**, in line with legal requirements, and of guaranteeing the **highest level of quality**.

After carefully evaluating the client's requirements and characteristics, the company found Zucchetti to be the ideal partner in terms of quality and prices, but also with regard to its efficiency in planning and implementing projects. Furthermore, due to its ability to integrate its solutions with third party components, Zucchetti would serve as a one-stop partner for Coni Servizi, capable of developing all the access control hardware and software, at every stage of the project: preparing the system, installing the equipment, offering technical assistance.

PROJECT

ACCOMPLISHED PROJECT

Zucchetti is capable of accomplishing complex projects requiring the creation of a complete access control system for stadiums. Zucchetti creates access control hardware and software designed to operate turnstiles automatically. The Olympic stadium has been using Zucchetti access control solutions since 2006 for all events held inside the stadium, including football matches and other events such as concerts.

HARDWARE

106 ticket and subscription card readers are installed at the Olympic Stadium entrances. These control 53 double turnstiles (for a total of 106 access points), unlocking them (and therefore granting access) once the access ticket has been verified and authorized. The turnstiles are approved by UEFA. Being very high, they cannot be climbed over and therefore guarantee rapid visitor transit (only one person can pass at a time; a total of 800 people can pass through each gate per hour).

The reading terminals are equipped with readers with 1/2D barcode symbologies, capable of scanning directly through a smartphone display, and with 13.56 MHz RFID multi-standard readers. They have a monitor that displays all entrances, as well as visitor flow per sector and per turnstile. If necessary (for example in case of public security problems), a keyboard is available for unlocking and deactivating the access gates manually.

This system verifies the validity of the entrance ticket, blocks access to those holding fake tickets, and effectively verifies the actual number of entrances: the system registers both automatic entrances and manual unlocks, which means that the number displayed is accurate.

The readers are also used to grant access at special gates (e.g. for disabled people or to access VIP areas), and are installed on a small column created ad hoc. Moreover, to ensure a second level of control or to grant further access if necessary, a stadium-wide wireless network was created for Wi-Fi handheld terminals with barcode readers.

ZUCCHETTI
SOFTWARE & ICT SOLUTIONS

Project info:
Zucchetti S.p.A. Via Solferino, 1 – 26900 Lodi (Italy)
Tel. +39 0371/594.24.44
E-mail: info@zucchetti.com

SOFTWARE

Both the handheld readers and the terminal readers use Zucchetti's top ON-Line Access Control software, which enables active and real time monitoring of access points. This means that access rights and white lists are directly and univocally controlled by the application, and that the transit data is registered directly by the software. Whether the ticket is read by handheld or terminal readers, the information is managed in a centralized manner.

The management server is installed near the offices inside the stadium, with direct connection to the ticket-office system. A monitor displays real-time system and access statuses in the SOG (Security Operation Group) room - the police office equipped to control and monitor the stadium.

Guardian ticket reader

Some years ago, Coni Servizi decided to equip many of the entrances with Guardian, an innovative and intelligent access control terminal developed by Zucchetti. Guardian is an open PC-based system that reads every type of ticket and subscription card available on the market.

Each Guardian terminal is managed remotely through the access control software installed on the central server of the facility: all entrances are managed through the identification IP address assigned to each Guardian, checking the validity of the pass in real time.

Being an intelligent system, Guardian can store the list of users and can distinguish between valid and whitelisted/blacklisted passes, also in offline mode.

Guardian has a colored graphic display, both user side and steward side, which improves communication with employees in charge of security and with fans as well. The display informs supporters of the validity of their pass and grants access. Moreover, it offers the possibility to put together operational and promotional messages: e.g. to provide supporters with information on forthcoming games or to show sponsor advertising.

Integration with video surveillance

The flexibility and modularity of the access control system meant that it was easy to integrate the spectator entrance data with a video surveillance system. This made it possible to provide the event organizers, who are also in charge of security, with a further supply of information: videos and photos of spectators entering the stadium.

The access control system analyzes images via browser to verify entries and the correct use of tickets and turnstiles, either in real-time or after the event. Finally, some features are mobile and tablet compliant, so that the organizers or the security staff can verify entrances from any position.

Subsequent implementations

In 2015, Coni Servizi expanded the Zucchetti solution to guest vehicle access, which means that all the Foro Italico car parks and those made available to the organizers are controlled by a Zucchetti access control system.

The system manages 6 entrances through 12 handheld terminals connected to the software via 3G/Edge/GPRS. This makes away with the need for network infrastructure. The ticketing system sends information on valid tickets/cards to the access control software via the web. This data is sent to the handheld terminals, which allow or prevent entry based on specific policy rules.

In 2009, the Olympic stadium hosted the Champions League final, and this gave Coni Servizi the opportunity to implement a particularly important project in partnership with Zucchetti; indeed, the most important one so far, and one that can be replicated at all subsequent events: in short, Coni Servizi convinced UEFA to hold the first ever ticketless event, meaning that paper tickets were not printed.

This allowed UEFA to achieve a virtually zero counterfeit rate. At the same time, Coni Servizi proved that it is possible to integrate football matches, public transport and museums, with the same card granting access to the stadium, the city's underground turnstiles and the Vatican museums. Approximately 40,000 public transport journeys were recorded du-

PROJECT

ZUCCHETTI
SOFTWARE & ICT SOLUTIONS

Project info:
Zucchetti S.p.A. Via Solferino, 1 – 26900 Lodi (Italy)
Tel. +39 0371/594.24.44
E-mail: info@zucchetti.com