

EGL USA's New York Laboratory Uses Princeton Identity™ Solution for Secure Access

CASE STUDY:

EGL USA is one of the world's premier independent gemological laboratories. Its headquarters in New York City handles several millions of dollars in gemstones at a time. In their industry, a high level of security is critical. In an effort to improve overall safety, EGL USA decided to upgrade its identity verification system.

The laboratory's existing system relied on access cards and readers to control who entered specified areas. Inevitably, some cards were lost or stolen—posing a major security risk. To ensure that only authorized individuals were able to enter sensitive areas, EGL USA determined that it was necessary to replace its identity verification system with a more secure solution.

In its search, the laboratory found that biometric identification was the most secure option. Unfortunately, many systems were unreliable, intrusive or hard to use. The proposed solution had to be secure and have the flexibility to accommodate future growth.

After evaluating several identity verification systems, EGL USA chose Princeton Identity's Iris on the Move™ (IOM) Access100 to meet its needs. The IOM reader requires minimal user training and is unobtrusive and safe to the human eye. Users simply glance at the system from a comfortable distance without having to place their eye close to a camera. The system identifies people in less than a second and processes up to 12 people per minute. It captures iris images even if a user is wearing eyeglasses or contact lenses.

The combination of accuracy and convenience has made the IOM reader the ideal solution for EGL USA's New York laboratory. Once registered, authorized employees and guests can enter secure areas using only their eyes—eliminating the need for keys and access cards that can be lost and stolen. In addition, the modular IOM design was easily integrated into the laboratory's existing network.

EGL USA is the first gemological laboratory to use this type of identification system for security purposes. "Security is a critical part of our business," said Mitch Jakubovic, director of EGL USA. "The IOM reader enables us to control access to our lab in a reliable and practical way. We plan to implement the system at other EGL USA lab locations."

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