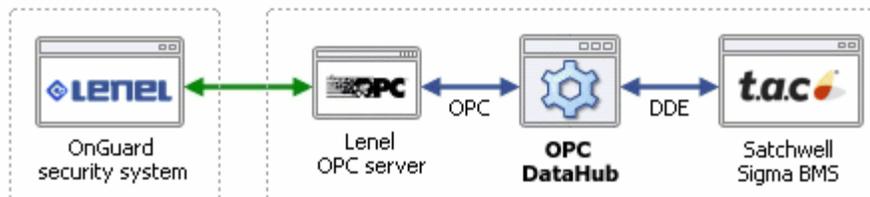# Schneider Electric FZE – Dubai

Integrating access security and building management

Schneider Electric specializes in energy management, with products and solutions to help consumers and companies get the most for their energy dollar. In a prestigious Dubai project recently, Schneider Electric FZE engineers used the OPC DataHub to integrate a building's security system with its energy management system to provide state-of-the-art energy efficiency at substantial cost savings.

To implement the project, Schneider Electric's BAS Field Supervisor, Pradeep Viswanathan and BAS Application Specialist, Duncan McChlery worked closely with Boyce Baine, Technical Support Engineer at Software Toolbox, Cogent's sales and technical partner for North America, as well as Koshy Thomas, Project Manager at Al Hani Gulf Contracting. Together they implemented a solution in which the OPC DataHub relays information from a Lenel OnGuard security system to Schneider Electric's TAC Satchwell Sigma building management system.

The Lenel OnGuard security system monitors and controls building security equipment (access, intrusion dectection, and closed circuit TV) while the TAC Sigma BMS handles HVAC, energy management, lighting, elevators, electrical systems, fire alarms, emergency equipment and other energy needs. With the data integration in place, the Lenel OnGuard system can, for example, read data from a Badge ID of someone entering the building, and pass the information to the TAC Sigma BMS to automatically switch on the lights and air conditioning in his office. When he arrives there, the office is cooled and well-lit. Then, when he leaves for the day, the system shuts things down to save energy.

The integration of data for this project required an OPC connection to the Lenel system's OPC server on the one hand, and a DDE connection to the TAC Satchwell Sigma building management system on the other. Since the OPC DataHub abstracts the data, and converts it from one protocol to another, making the connection was simply a matter of configuring the OPC DataHub to make an OPC client connection to the Lenel system, and a DDE client connection on the TAC system.

"The project was straightforward to implement," said Mr. Viswanathan. "With the excellent support from Software Toolbox and Cogent for the OPC DataHub, and Al Hani

Gulf Contracting and Lenel for their expertise with the Lenel OPC server, we were in very good hands. The system has been online for a few months now, and is working very well. This is where the world needs to go in this age of high energy prices. We not only save money for the customer, but protect the environment as well."

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The OPC DataHub is a highly optimized integration tool for real-time data. It provides quick, reliable and secure access to valuable process and production data and makes it available to management systems, database archives, and remote clients. Combining a number of innovative technologies, the OPC DataHub makes it easy for you to access the real-time data you need to make informed and timely decisions that save time, reduce waste, and increase profitability.

Founded in 1995, Cogent Real-Time Systems is the leader in real-time data integration between Windows, Linux and QNX systems. Customers include the Bank of Canada, Cadbury Chocolate and the European Space Agency. Cogent leverages its experience in real-time data communications to provide the next generation of OPC products. For more information, please contact Cogent at info@cogent.ca or visit our web site at www.opcdatahub.com. You can also call us at +1 (905) 702 7851.

Since 1996, Software Toolbox has served over 7,000 clients in 70+ countries around the world in the automation industry with drivers, components, development tools, and HMI/SCADA add-ins/enhancements. Software Toolbox is an OPC Foundation member and presents as part of the OPC Road Show. Customers include many Fortune 500 companies as well as small plants and facility users.