

Best Practice: Vehicle Booking System (Cargo, Vehicle and Driver Control System)



Category:	Access Control
Location:	United Kingdom
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Description: The Vehicle Booking System (VBS) is used for controlling commercial vehicle, driver and cargo access control.

Discussion: The VBS integrates security, operational control, entry and movement of a cargo container delivered to the facility by providing the authorized transport company and driver a secure personal identification number (PIN). When the driver inputs the PIN into the system at the front gate, the computer informs operations personnel, including the straddle carriers, as to the container's arrival time, cargo carried and intended storage location. The VBS system automatically sorts cargo by the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code requirements and instructs the truck driver and the facility straddle drivers where the cargo is to be placed. It also links the specific driver and company to the delivery of a specific container.

Potential Down-side: Anyone with access to the driver PIN will be able to gain uninterrupted access to the facility. The information associated with the PIN is not necessarily verified against whom and what are actually gaining access to the facility.

Conclusion: This system is strong example of automation providing enhancements to accountability, efficiency, safety and security.

Cost: The specific costs may vary, however, the physical infrastructure required and the administrative overhead for processing the information and training personnel should be considered.