

QUEENS GRADUATE to a Smarter Future

Queen's University Belfast, is recognised as one of the Top 20 UK universities out of a total of more than 170 which have been independently assessed to measure both the quality of teaching and the excellence of research.

The main university campus is the size of a small town, situated within the three designated conservation areas. More than 250 buildings make up the University, half of which are listed as being of special architectural merit.



Queen's has about 17,500 full-time and part-time undergraduate and postgraduate students, plus a further 10,000 enrolled part-time students in the Institute of Lifelong Learning. Around 7,000 full-time and part-time students come to Queen's each year and the total number of primary degrees awarded annually is more than 3,000, with around 1,200 higher degrees also being gained. With more than 3,500 employees, including nearly 1,600 teaching and research staff, Queen's is one of Belfast's biggest employers.

Infineer have enjoyed a close relationship with Queen's and Infineer's EasyCard system was used for

many years to charge students for the use of photocopiers, network printers and other reprographic resources. Over 250,000 disposable EasyCards were used by students every year illustrating the vast amount of material copied and printed, every day, in such a large establishment.

When Queen's decided to consider upgrading to a campus card that would allow a single smartcard to be used for many applications, not just the control of reprographic resources, it was obvious that any proposed solution would have to be just as robust and reliable as EasyCard had proven to be over the years.

Queen's wanted the campus card to be used to: pay for photocopies and network prints; pay for food in various food service outlets; carry photographic ID; provide for student voting and also to be used in conjunction with existing access control systems on campus.

Once a specification was drawn up, the project was put out to European tender and after an exhaustive selection process, Infineer's ChipNet3 was chosen as the successful technology.

Integrated Card Issuance on SP55 Printers Wins Major **ChipNet3** Order in Europe.



The historic Queen's University of Belfast, one of Europe's leading centres of learning, with over 27,000 students and 3,500 staff, embarked on the challenge of upgrading their legacy magnetic-stripe card to an integrated solution combining multiple technologies on a single smartcard.

One of the key requirements was the provision of an ID management system that could integrate with the University's registration process. This required the card to be printed in real time by extracting information from the corporate databases.

The first major challenge was to issue all of the university's students with a brand new card for the start of the first semester. This would allow applications to be switched on as they became available during the academic year.

A fusion of Datacard's ID Works and ChipNet3 provided the nucleus of the card production solution, running on eighteen Datacard SP55 printers. ChipNet3 was extended to access both the University's Ingress database, and FTP server for data and photograph retrieval, **all of which was triggered by a single button click from the ID Works production application**.

The simplicity of the solution enabled Queen's University to issue over 2,000 smartcards per day during the peak periods, over 27,000 cards were successfully issued in this way.

Whilst cards were being issued, Infineer staff were busy replacing the existing EasyCard terminals with ChipNet3 terminals to ensure a smooth transition between the old and the new systems. **Over 50 ChipNet3 application terminals were installed as well as 10 self-service card centres during this phase.**

In addition, the university required customised solutions for both Student Voting and Meal Plan which were delivered promptly by Infineer's development team working in close conjunction with Queen's Project Manager Ricky Rankin and his team.

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Having a strong tradition of IT excellence at the university, one of the key aspects of the project that Queen's wanted to expedite was a link between the existing student web portal and ChipNet.

Queen's students can go to a personalised web page where they can change their PIN, view recent transactions, use a credit or debit card to revalue their ChipNet3 account, move funding from the smartcard to Pcounter system for printing or hotlisting a lost card.

ChipNet3 was designed specifically with integration in mind and Queen's were impressed with how easy it was to integrate ChipNet3 with their existing systems such as Ingress and the Web Portal.

Access control at Queen's is currently being rationalised with several systems used in different parts of the campus, by issuing a range of cards, some with a printed barcode, some with a magnetic stripe and some as integrated combination cards (with both a contact and a contactless element). Infineer were able to provide the University with a system that integrated with their chosen access control systems.

With the first phase completed and ChipNet3 working successfully, Queen's and Infineer have started work on phase II of the project which involves extending card usage to an number of different areas.

Catering – Infineer's close integration of high quality Uniwell POS devices with ChipNet, which allows for the full control of the Uniwell units from the ChipNet Taskpad, will provide the power and flexibility needed to meet the stringent requirements of the university.

Attendance Recording – For some practical courses it is essential to record that students have attended the course. A proof of concept is being developed for nursing and if successful may be expanded to recording attendance at examinations and other courses.

Visitors – Another aspect of phase II will be the provision of visitor smartcards that can be issued on a temporary basis, to day release and other short term students and visitors, which will allow them to make full use of the university's facilities.

Now that Queen's University have successfully implemented one of the most advanced campus payment solutions available on the market today, they can consider many new innovations. **What does the future hold?**

There are many ways that the system could be expanded. Infineer could provide Queen's with ChipNet3 loyalty schemes to encourage and reward card usage, extend card payment to vending machines or help the university to develop their student voting systems to maximise the use of the smartcard. Indeed the full range of ChipNet off-the-shelf applications is now open to the university.

In reality, **ChipNet3 has provided the university with a solid application backbone which is reliable, completely scalable and integratable with other software systems.**

Queen's University recognise the potential of ChipNet and Infineer have provided Queen's University with a Software Development Kit, so that Queen's can develop their own solution around the ChipNet core.





Established in 1993, CHS has expanded from their base in Auckland, New Zealand, to 4 additional centres in Australia, from where they continue to build on their reputation for high quality equipment for the parking, vending and cash handling Industries.

Long time associates and exponents of Infineer solutions across a range of card technologies, CHS continue to successfully market the latest in print, copy and vending solutions to both the education and commercial sector.

As one of the first Infineer partners to install and commission the new range of print and copy terminals operating with Pcounter software, CHS demonstrate an intelligent and effective implementation of new technology, and the ability to install and support solutions in sites of any size.

Alan MacKinven, CHS Product Manager, IT and Access Control, who recently visited Ireland to attend a ChipNet3 technical training Course, Puts the success of CHS down to "a solid reputation for quality solutions and top class after sales support."

Keep up the good work down under



Alan MacKinven
www.chs-global.com

TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT
www.infineer.com



Our website got a major makeover recently, to make it the focal point for our most up to date marketing and technical information. New features include a Catalogue section, offering a selection of presentations, brochures and datasheets on all products, and a Download section where our Partners can instantly source the latest versions of software and firmware.

ChipNet3 GOES CONTACTLESS



Introducing **ChipNet3** a brand new version of ChipNet3 operating with a range of contactless smartcards. Initially released to Xifax to present at a number of important Exhibitions in Holland this year, it has already created interest within both the education and corporate sector where there are large numbers of Mifare cards already in circulation.

Designed to read ID's from existing cards, **ChipNet3** centres around a pre-configured server, controlling all the user rights and privileges of customers on site, with the focus on a simple set-up and go-live implementation. The full terminal range is nearing completion and first orders are already secured.

Contact sales@infineer.com for the latest information and pricing.



PCOUNTER & INFINEER JOIN FORCES



Pictured at a recent meeting in San Francisco are, from left, Brian Borgerding (Datacard Group), Gareth Law (Infineer) and Andy Charatz (A.N. D. technologies).

Infineer have launched a range of terminals configured to operate with Pcounter Print Management Software from A.N.D. Technologies in San Francisco.

Designed to connect to all major brand copiers and multi-function devices, the series of terminals ensure that both print and copy activity is brought under Pcounter's control, delivering a complete management and control solution to a broad base of customers worldwide.

A wide variety of custom options are available, with terminals supporting a range of ID and Debit card technologies, across a variety of terminal styles.

Contact sales@infineer.com for pricing and details of your local Pcounter partner.

FIRST TIME VISIT TO IRELAND FOR INFINEER PARTNERS



A wide range of countries was represented at a recent ChipNet3 training event held in Ireland. Our partners from Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United States attended and survived the onslaught of Irish cooking and strong drink.

If you are interested in product training at Infineer, or on your own premises, contact smartin@infineer.com for details.

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INFINEER

Infineer Ltd, Balloo Avenue, Bangor, BT19 7QT
Phone: +44 (0)28 9147 6000 Fax: +44 (0)28 9147 6001
eMail: sales@infineer.com www.infineer.com

