Are your events as secure as they should be?

Or as secure as they could be?
ESCA’s Worker Identification System

The Exhibition Services & Contractors Association (ESCA) has developed a national Worker Identification System (WIS) ID badge program that allows entry into participating facilities by the contractor’s workers who have been registered with the WIS program.

Each worker who is registered is issued a distinctive badge that includes…

- Badge Identification Number
- Full Name
- Employer or Union Local #
- Photograph

ESCA maintains a complete database of all workers in a web-based program that is available to venue management and contractors 24/7. The database is updated in “real time” and is therefore completely up to date at all times. Internet access allowed by all approved administrators allows registration of new workers, and review of existing records, at any time.

The objectives of the program are to (1) provide a national database of workers approved by contractors, (2) reduce redundant administration costs arising from the repeated issuance of credentials (3) dramatically increase the speed of approving entrance to the building by workers, and (4) to enhance venue security on one of three levels...

WIS 4.1 This version of the software allows for visual identification of the individual and confirmation that the badge matches and is current, allowing access.

WIS 4.2 By utilizing ESCA provided scanning technology, this version will create a daily log of all workers entering and leaving the venue with time stamp verification. These logs are maintained in the database for review by the venue’s Administrators at any time in the future.

WIS 4.3 Through the use of scanning technology and the Advance Labor Call Report the system is transformed into a true security system, allowing access only to workers whose I.D. numbers have been sent to the venue in advance of move-in/move-out. Workers are then permitted entry into the venue only on days they are scheduled to work by contractors.

“When the Georgia World Congress Center worked with ESCA in developing and implementing the WIS System several years ago and it has really helped enhance our existing safety and security measures. By closely reviewing the movement of individuals in and around the center, the WIS program has reduced theft issues and created a safer environment for all our attendees.”

Mark Zimmerman - Management Consulting
Zimmerman Consulting Group LLC
"Safety and security are a primary focus at the DECC and the WIS system has played an important role in our everyday efforts. In our 6th year of utilizing the WIS system, approximately 95% of contractors visiting our facility have an ESCA badge. Having the ability to monitor who enters and exits our facility is a key component to providing a safe environment. In addition, this system has allowed for improved efficiency in our dock operations and increased productivity for both the facility and visiting contractors. By utilizing the WIS system, we can be confident in providing a top notch guest experience for everyone."

Ric Booth, General Manager
Duke Energy Convention Center

"Assuming management of a major exhibition venue in a compressed time period is complicated to say the least, regardless the parameters that prevail. We had some particularly challenging situations to deal with immediately and cannot thank ESCA and its member companies enough for the support they provided in many different ways. Their help sped the evolution that our customers desired even faster than we could have hoped. One of their assets, which was quickly and efficiently implemented, was their Worker Identification System (WIS). With the program in place for only a short time now we are already seeing an improvement in processing time, positive identification and distribution of labor to their assigned tasks daily not to mention improved security protocols. The inclusion of the WIS program is a part of the winning formula for the Pennsylvania Convention Center and will help to insure future growth."

Lorenz Hassenstein - President & CEO
Metro Toronto Convention Centre

"Our ability to identify workers in the facility has improved tremendously since adopting the ESCA WIS badge system in 2012 at the George R. Brown Convention Center. The WIS program has enhanced the security efficiency for our venue and filled a void for both our event and building security. Our security personnel and show organizers have become accustomed to the reliability of identifying the proper personnel at each event. Use of the program improves our security system into the future and we will continue to find opportunities to work with ESCA to improve the technology."

Luther Villagomez, Chief Operating Officer
George R. Brown Convention Center

"At the MCCA we badge hundreds of contract labor and visitors each day at our two Boston facilities. To add an enhanced level of safety and security at our convention facilities while generating efficiencies, we collaborated with ESCA to implement their WIS badge scanning system into our existing visitor management system. WIS has not only cut down on wait times for labor badging from 90 seconds to 10 seconds per person for entrance into our facilities, it has also prevented the misuse of access associated with traditional wrist banding methods, ensuring a greater sense of overall security for our customers, exhibitors, attendees, contractor partners and our staff."

Fred Peterson, General Manager
Miami Beach Convention Center

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ESCA, IAEE and IAVM are founding associations of the EMSSI program.