

5 TIPS FOR SECURING DISTRIBUTION, LOGISTICS, AND WAREHOUSE FACILITIES.

Manufacturing facilities and the supply chain are the lifeblood of commerce around the world. Warehousing and distribution management, logistics, and security operations all play vital roles in our ability to meet new and emerging loss prevention and safety challenges across the supply chain. Hence, it is critical to protect each link in the supply chain from potential threats.

The biggest threats include supply chain and labor shortages, regulatory mandates and certification restrictions, workplace violence, and cybercrime. Although some of these challenges are personnel-related, there are security entry and exit solutions that can help reduce risk while protecting personnel, high-value assets, and property as well as the reputation of an organization.

Here are five tips to help secure distribution, logistics, and warehouse facilities:

1. COMPARTMENTALIZE INGRESS AND EGRESS INTO TWO SEPARATE WORKFLOWS

Ingress workflow design focuses on providing a safe working environment. To reduce risk and protect employees, assets, and property you must address the following:

- Tailgating and piggybacking detection or prevention
- Weapons-free workplace
- Line-of-sight restrictions and even bullet-resistant materials
- Cell phone divestment for a safe equipment operations environment

Egress workflow design focuses on loss prevention shrinkage. Any implementation of screening should be automated for bias elimination and not at the discretion of screeners. Things to address include:

- Establishing line-of-sight in open areas to ensure great visibility for cameras and analytics capture
- Limiting places at exits to hide or stash products
- Screening options for a high probability of theft inventory
- Preventions to keep products from walking out the front door
- Reducing collusion opportunities between employees
- Segmenting break areas from exits and ingress divestment areas

2. IMPLEMENT SECURED ENTRANCES FROM INTERNAL HIGH-VALUE AREAS AND WORK OUTWARDS TOWARDS THE PERIMETER

Implementing security measures starting from critical inner areas to the outer perimeter is pragmatic with limited budgets. The ideal process begins with the creation of a layered physical security strategy based on the security level of each area within the facility. Consider the type of work being done in each location and which employees, visitors, and contractors should be granted access to these areas. The user experience actually flows in reverse, from the outer perimeter to the internal areas, as follows:

- Perimeter fencing/gatehouses, employee vehicles, truck/trailer parking lots
- Loading docks, driver access points
- Power supply, communications systems, and waste disposal areas
- Employee/visitor entrances, divestment lockers, and weapons/cell phone screening
- Breakroom and employee gathering places
- Employee egress loss prevention screening areas
- High-Value Inventory (HVI), server rooms, and sensitive services areas

3. INTEGRATE INGRESS SAFETY AND SECURITY WITH EGRESS LOSS PREVENTION

Segment and compartmentalize ingress limited line-of-sight and egress open line-of-sight if possible. Realistically, in most cases, the two must be blended at the same physical space. In many cases, the automated screening is pushed into the warehouse space prior to proceeding through the ingress and divestment areas. In some cases, the metal detection used to screen for weapons and cell phones inbound are utilized for specific inventory or packaging designs outbound.

Integrating life safety goals and the associated brand risk, with loss prevention dollars and potentially customer retention, provides the best opportunities to broaden the internal funding stakeholders and create ROI models to obtain the funding for the design implementations.

4. ADD ANALYTICS TO ENTRANCES

The best security entrances can do more than simply read credentials to allow or deny entry to each individual. Using biometrics technology, it is possible to verify if the person trying to enter is in fact the same identity as the credentials. This substantially increases the level of security and is ideal for HVI and highly regulated facilities.

Additionally, analytics can capture information about user behaviors. For example, analytics can detect if a specific identity repeatedly presents credentials and does not enter, or attempts entry with a second person in the compartment, a behavior known as piggybacking. This information can be used to help develop threat and risk assessment policies and processes to further improve security.

Analytics data can further be used to provide information about the operational condition of the door, evaluate risk levels at the entry, and improve up-time.



5. CONSULT WITH THE EXPERTS

With so many choices available, making the best selection for each specific area can be challenging. It can be beneficial to discuss your needs with a well-versed entry solutions specialist who can evaluate your physical environment and assess your situation to help you make the right choice.

This will help ensure that you realize the following benefits:

- High-capacity throughput
- Proper disabled access (ADA compliance)
- Create a pleasant user experience
- Create first impressions that fit with your brand
- Ensure safety throughout all shifts
- Enable rapid technical troubleshooting for reduced downtime
- Establish reliable and dependable deployments based on mean cycle before failure
- Build a partnership with an entry expert from project conception to installation and beyond into PM uptime, service, and maintenance

The process of establishing new ingress and egress policies and processes can be daunting in large distribution, logistics, and warehouse facilities. Boon Edam has successfully deployed thousands of secured entry solutions in these applications. Our team of secured entry professionals can help you through every phase of the process to help document ROI to obtaining funding from your organization.

Deploying Boon Edam secured entry solutions and security workflow strategies prevents unauthorized access while providing a strong deterrent and defense to combat workplace violence and improve loss prevention goals.



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