

# Project Profile

## *Infinity* Provides Security Solution for The Principal Financial Group



*The corporate complex, close to 2 million square feet of office space, includes five separate buildings connected by a fiber optics network.*

Andover Controls *Infinity's* powerful but user-friendly features and its flexibility to integrate CCTV, an existing in-house HR system, a state-of-the-art photo imaging and badging system, and multiple remote sites—offered **The Principal Financial Group** what they were looking for—a *complete* security management solution.

The Principal Financial Group is a diversified family of financial services companies, offering a wide range of insurance and financial products and services for businesses, groups, and individuals. Their flagship and largest member company, Principal Mutual Life Insurance Company, is currently the eighth largest life insurance company in the United States. The company serves customers in more than 250 offices worldwide. The Principal Financial Group employs more than 17,000 people, including over 6,800 at the corporate headquarters complex in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Principal Financial Group's security system project team, headed by Bob Dove, Director-FM/MCS and Sandy Cowie, CPP, Manager-Security/Safety-FM, conducted a thorough study of several security management systems and vendors. Areas evaluated included:

- System capabilities including user-friendliness, flexibility, interface potential with other security products, response time, overall reliability
- Operating system, communication options, network capabilities, and future expandability
- Photo imaging capabilities, including ease-of-use and integration with access control system and other in-house systems
- Quality and cost of training
- Service contract, ease of maintenance, and long-term support
- Overall understanding of the project
- Bid price vs. value

The Principal Financial Group's needs were demanding, but at the conclusion of the evaluation period, the security project team knew that Andover Controls *Infinity's* sophisticated access control and communications capabilities and its reputable and experienced local supplier were what their company needed. They selected Andover Representative, *Control Installations of Iowa*, to install an *Infinity* security management system at their Des Moines, Iowa corporate headquarters.

The corporate complex, close to 2 million square feet of office space, includes five separate buildings connected by a fiber optics network. The new ten-workstation *Infinity* security system controls 115 doors with card readers and monitors 135 others in the complex and at several remote sites over a wide area network (WAN). In addition, the *Infinity* system interfaces to the company's 75-camera Vicon CCTV system using an Andover Controls *Plain English™* software driver. The new corporate command center in "Corporate 2 Building" serves as the hub for all security control and houses two central SX 8000 workstations, file server, and badging center.

The Principal Financial Group's security team took full advantage of SX 8000 high resolution color graphic system to facilitate the control and monitoring of their buildings' doors and alarm response procedures. *Control Installations* customized SX workstation screens for the Principal Financial Group so that their operators can simply click on a building in the campus aerial view photograph that appears on their SX workstation. A photo of that particular building appears, followed by an AutoCad drawing of the specific floor selected. Click on any door in the floor plan and a status window appears displaying the last valid and invalid person using that door, dynamically updating continuously with any new data.

Currently, the system stores data records for approximately 10,000 cardholders, but with *Infinity*'s network interface capabilities, data entry for thousands of records is not the time-consuming chore it once was. Because *Infinity* bridges onto the company's mainframe Token Ring network, the Principal's human resource department can automatically download data to the *Infinity* SQL database, such as new hires, terminated employees, etc. Tedious and redundant manual data entry by busy security personnel is eliminated. And with SX 8000 software, features such as custom attributes and custom list views allow security personnel to add unique fields such as termination dates, use flexible sorting criteria, or search for virtually any information in the database quickly.

The Principal Financial Group is currently expanding the *Infinity* security system to several remote facilities, including field offices, a warehouse, and the airport hangar that houses their corporate aircraft. Employees in field offices do not have to travel to corporate headquarters for badging. It is done on site using the latest digital camera technology. Personnel photos are taken and then transferred over the network to the file server in the corporate command center and directly into the SX 8000 database. Badges are printed at the central badging center and then delivered to the remote sites.

**Andover Controls Corporation  
World Headquarters**  
300 Brickstone Square  
Andover, Massachusetts 01810 USA  
Tel: 978 470 0555 • Fax: 978 470 0946  
<http://www.andovercontrols.com>

**Andover Controls (Europe) Ltd.**  
Smisby Road  
Ashby-de-la-Zouch  
Leicestershire LE6 5UG England  
Tel: 01530 417733 • Fax: 01530 414225

**Andover Controls GmbH**  
Am Seerhein 8  
D-78467 Konstanz, Germany  
Tel: 07531 99370 • Fax: 07534 993710

**Andover Controls S.A.**  
Immeuble Dolomites 2  
58 Rue Roger Salengro  
94126 Fontenay Sous  
Bois Cedex, France  
Tel: 331 53 99 16 16 • Fax: 331 53 99 16 15

**Andover Controls Corporation**  
Unit 1201-02, Phase I, Cheuk Nang Centre  
9 Hillwood Road, Tsim Sha Tsui  
Kowloon, Hong Kong  
Tel: 852 2739 5497 • 852 2739 7350

**Andover Controls Mexico**  
Insurgentes Sur 1722-501  
Col. Florida  
Mexico D.F. 01030, Mexico  
Tel: 525 661 56 72 • 525 661 54 15

Copyright 1999, Andover Controls Corporation #POF-PRNGRP-C



## PROJECT AT A GLANCE:

### Project Type:

Security

### Project Name:

The Principal Financial Group

### Location:

Des Moines, Iowa

### Market Segment:

Commercial Office Buildings

### Number Of Buildings:

10

### Total Square Feet:

2 million square feet

### Infinity Equipment Installed:

2 CX 9400 *Infinity* Eclipse  
controllers  
10 SX 8000 workstations  
25 ACX 700 and  
ACX 780 access controllers

### Network:

Fiber Optic WAN with TCP/IP  
protocol

### Applications:

Access control and monitoring  
Integration to 75-camera  
CCTV system  
Photo imaging/badging  
Interface to HR department  
data via Token Ring

### Number of Doors:

250

### Number of Cardholders:

10,000

### Andover Controls Representative:

Control Installations of Iowa