Goethe-Institut
Case Study

Goethe-Institut uses VASCO's Digipass GO1 to offer its remote workers secure access to corporate network

The Goethe-Institut (www.goethe.de) is the largest organisation promoting German cultural and educational policy abroad. Currently, the Goethe-Institut has a network of 3,100 employees in 77 countries. The Munich headquartered organisation plans and organises programmes and events focussing on education, the arts, society, science and research, the media and information. Annually, over 175,000 people around the globe study the German language by attending courses organised by the Goethe-Institut. The institute proudly bears the name of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, giant of German literature and one of the main pillars of German culture.
How does the Goethe-Institut use VASCO's products?

To allow employees from local German branches access to the Munich based headquarters' network via a VPN connection, the Goethe-Institut uses VASCO's Digipass GO1 strong user authentication and VACMAN Radius Middleware. Teachers working at the Goethe-Institut can prepare their courses at their home office in a secure and user-friendly way by using their Digipass to enter the Goethe-Institut's internal network. Employees working at the Munich headquarters can use VASCO's Digipass GO1 for home working purposes. Five subsidiaries of the Goethe-Institut based in the US use Digipass GO1 to securely access the Munich office's internal network.
A VPN (Virtual Private Network) connection is an encrypted tunnel through the Internet. End users have the impression to be on a private network, but in reality they are transmitting data over the Internet. For site-to-user VPN connection via the Internet, strong authentication is a very important requirement, because it is of the utmost importance to make sure that only the designated persons can enter a corporate network.

"We opted for VASCO's products because of their cost effectiveness, proven quality and ease of use," said Mr Bernd Fischer, Referent für System- und DB-Management of the Goethe-Institut. "The integration of VASCO's products, strongly supported by VASCO's partner Defense AG, went very smoothly. In a few months time, the system was up and running. VASCO's Digipass GO1 is a very easy to use strong authentication token that was quickly adopted by our employees in order to have remote access to our systems."

"VASCO (www.VASCO.com) is honoured that a renowned worldwide organisation such as the Goethe-Institut is using our products," said Jan Valcke, VASCO's President and COO. The fact that the Goethe-Institut uses VASCO's products is a great example of the successes we achieve worldwide with our network of local partners in the corporate network access area. We thank Defense AG (www.defense-ag.de) for their first rate support and their knowledge of the German market. We are convinced that together we will be able to offer strong authentication to many more companies in Germany and abroad."

What is a VPN Connection?
What is strong authentication?

2 factor strong authentication
- Something you know
  (PIN code to enter in your Digipass)
- Something you own (Digipass)

The Digipass generates one-time passwords
- Change every 36 seconds
- Almost impossible to hack