Our mission: your security
Access control systems made to measure

www.ces.eu
Security – a matter of precision

Security is our business. For more than 175 years have been protecting the assets and the privacy of our customers. These many decades of experience are reflected in the quality and engineering precision of our products.

At our Velbert location, we manufacture high-value key systems for real estate properties and develop the security solutions of tomorrow. As innovation driver of our industry, we rely on state-of-the-art equipment and the knowledge of our experts who already now focus on the future needs of the market. This has proved to be a convincing proposition for our customers all over the world, be they public, industrial and commercial or private users.

Bespoke solutions are key to our understanding of security. Every locking cylinder manufactured by CES is unique. Our objective is to provide every customer with the ideal solution for his or her requirements.

In the technical implementation, precision on the smallest scale is an essential requirement. The fine mechanical processes within a locking cylinder leave no room for mistake. The result of our efforts: reliable functionality for decades.

On this we stake our name and reputation. CES.
Tradition meets the future – our key to success

As the oldest manufacturer of cylinder locks in Germany, CES can look back on a long tradition. In 1840, Heinrich Schulte, son to a family of locksmiths, set up his own shop in Velbert, on the brink of the Ruhr. His son Carl Eduard took over the company in 1857 and his initials form the company’s name till today. He also successfully managed the transition into the industrial age.

CES soon recognized the potential of the cylinder lock, an invention of the American Linus Yale. In 1909, CES became the first German company to start the industrial production of locking cylinders. As the demand for these cylinders grew, CES rapidly became a prominent player in the marketplace. Soon, the company developed the first highly complex grand master key systems, such as the one for the University of Cologne in 1934.

Also the first electronically controlled cylinder lock was a CES product. Innovation has become our trademark: with a large number of other patents, CES has gained international recognition and established its reputation as a specialist for reliable security systems.

All over the world, the products with the CES logo are appreciated for their high quality. While we exploit the opportunities for growth on the international markets, we remain true to our location in Velbert – the cradle of our success.
Precisely coordinated processes make the difference

The appreciation of our products by the marketplace is not least due to our state-of-the-art manufacturing techniques and the efficient workflows in our production. All incoming customer orders are processed by small and flexible teams of cross-functionally qualified employees – from milling the key section through to handing over the completed order to the dispatch department.

Thanks to our versatile equipment, we are able to manufacture several CES product lines. In next to no time, our production staff can convert the machines from one key system to the next. This enables CES to reduce the set-up times and boost productivity.

All workflows are tailored to allow a speedy implementation of new and improved solutions in our manufacturing. For this purpose, we have implemented an advanced innovation management, with expert teams from various department implementing the most promising approach for series production.

Also in our materials handling operations, we put great store by efficiency. Thanks to our high inventory turnover rate, new components can be integrated in the production chain within two weeks – this way, we continuously upgrade our products to the latest state of the art.
CES products are as diverse as the demands of our customers. For us, the individual wishes of the users always take centre stage – from a purely functional door lock to jewel keys made of the most precious metals and gemstones.

Many products in our portfolio can be combined to customized and easy-to-use multifunctional solutions. For instance, a company can use one of our electronic access control systems to also record the time and attendance of its employees or even control the office printers.

An essential driver of the consistently high standard of our high-technology offering is our systematic innovation management. Our “Agile Product Development” is designed to come up with innovative solutions for our customers every three months.

With efficient development strategies, we shorten the time to market for new products.

Just as important as the first-class quality of our products is the individual service we provide to our customers. This comprises the entire fulfilment chain – from consulting and the acceptance of orders through to delivery and after sales service, of course also in the exceptional case when there’s a spanner in the works.
Safety first: In our current mechanical lines, we have further perfected the security engineering. With their extremely sturdy setup, the fine mechanical cylinders made up of as many as 120 individual parts offer dual or triple safeguards against manipulation by burglars, whether as a registered individual locking cylinder or as cylinders for complex locking systems.

Also as regards unauthorized duplication, CES consistently comes up with innovative solutions. In our DU key system, we have combined experience and ingenuity to ensure utmost protection against an unauthorized duplication of the key. This new key section series derives its name from the double undercut (hence DU) which is used when manufacturing the key to provide it with a three-dimensional profile.

Since traditional key duplicating machines only work in two dimensions, they are of no use for keys incorporating this new technology, so duplication is virtually impossible.

Our portfolio of mechanical access control solutions is complemented by Anti-Amok knob cylinders for use in public buildings such as schools, security cylinders for private properties and a comprehensive range of furniture and special cylinders.
Convenient access control system with wireless electronic control are increasingly popular with developers. All you need to gain access is a compact transponder, for instance in the shape of a key and the door will be unlocked. If a key gets lost, it is simply deleted in the system.

The electronic and mechatronic systems by CES excel in functionality and are compatible with all the usual transponder systems available on the market.

The electronic locking system CES OMEGA FLEX offers full flexibility to the user. Whether electronic cylinders or shields: Solutions for every door situation are available in the OMEGA FLEX range. From a simple wireless networked lock cylinder for home use to complex access control systems.

Perfectly in line with the individual wishes of the customer, access authorizations for the doors can be granted and managed at a central computer and be programmed online via the in-house IT network or off-line with Master cards or RF-Sticks. An interesting alternative is provided by the new virtual network where the access authorizations are programmed in the keys rather than in the locking device.
CESlocks – door locks for every application

CESlocks, a product line of CES, supplies high-quality door locks standing out by their versatility of use and their uncompromising security. The offering comprises a complete range of solutions, from locks for simple room doors to special locks e.g. for installation in the sliding doors of operating theatres.

Our Premium Class locks are tested and certified according to the current DIN/EN standards and hence meet all the requirements of demanding applications in industrial and commercial buildings.

Especially attractive for the users is the easy handling. The range comprises a wide array of lock types, so the customers can select just the kind of lock they need for their specific purpose.

In practical use, these locks offer a unique combination of user-friendly features, such soft and silent latching to protect the door frame, locking latch bolt, fire rating and panic function.
At CES, we are continually striving to fine-tune our product offering to the requirements of our customers. Particularly attractive for dealers, planners and architects is our Express delivery service. With this offer, which is unique in the industry, CES has responded to shorter execution periods in building construction.

The starting point is our “Agile Production” system, the result of a complete reengineering of our workflows. Key to new system is the optimization of manufacturing processes by using small and flexible units.

This makes it possible to implement process innovations faster and shorten the delivery periods.

Customers directly benefit from this strategy: within 48 hours after placement of the order, our customers can be supplied with bespoke locking systems of up to 100 cylinders. With this quick delivery, CES has established itself as the industry leader. Since the introduction of this new structure, productivity within the company has increased by about 30 percent.

Moreover, we warrants the availability of replacement cylinders and keys for at least 20 years after purchase. In some cases, the company still supplies spare parts for locking systems that were first installed more than 50 years ago. This secures the investment long into the future.
Locational advantage – from Velbert into the world

Short distances to the customer thanks to good connections to the traffic network are the be-all and end-all of logistics. Our headquarters in Velbert, centrally located between the Rhineland and the Ruhr region, offers all the benefits of a globally networked location. From here, we have access to all the usual transport routes so that our products can be speedily delivered to destinations all over the world.

Apart from the domestic sales, our foreign business is becoming increasingly important. The share of exports already amounts to one-third of our total sales, and in the medium term, this is expected to rise to about 50 percent. To support this growth, we have our own sales branches in France, the Netherlands, Italy and Romania.

Also the non-European business has acquired significant momentum. Especially in the Gulf region and in Southeast Asia, we profit from the continuing construction boom. German locking engineering from Velbert enjoys a particular good reputation in these expanding markets.

Our international customers appreciate the combination of impeccable quality, highest security standards and flexibility of application that is offered by our products.
Among colleagues – team players with expert knowledge

The CES brand is supported by 430 skilled and committed employees. They are the backbone of the group – their know-how and experience are the key drivers of our economic success. Many of them have been with the company for years and thus bring valuable expert knowledge of products and manufacturing processes to their daily work.

At CES, we support the integral personal and professional development of our employees. In this respect, autonomy and empowerment play an essential role: optimizing processes requires a proactive quest for the best solution. Through structured training, CES employees learn to contribute their own ideas on how work structures and products can be improved.

This continuous improvement process is controlled by the Industrial Engineering department. Together with the employees, the team identifies optimization potential in production and administration. Solution concepts are developed, innovation processes triggered and the implementation accompanied.
Responsibility for junior talents

To secure the company’s success in the long run, CES needs skilled junior staff to grow through the ranks. With targeted training and development plans, specialist knowledge is passed on to the next generation. On the one hand, we highly emphasize in-house training: future specialists are given a sound, practical training at the company’s Velbert location in both engineering and commercial functions. It is part of the policy of CES to take over the apprentices after they have successfully completed their training.

On the other hand, CES also offers development perspectives for young engineers: they can take part in a combined degree programme in Mechanical Engineering, Computer Engineering and Mechatronics, which can also combined with Information Technology.

A “cooperative engineer training” scheme combines practical phases at our company with university education. The young academics not only graduate with a degree but also with a craft certificate. As an alternative, talented youths are offered an internship with CES in parallel to their university education under a “cooperative engineering studies” programme. Even for industrial management assistants we offer combined degree programmes.

Research and practice also come together in the CARL-EDUARD-SCHULTE-STIFTUNG, a foundation that supports young researchers and engineers who develop future-oriented innovations in the field of locking systems and related manufacturing technologies – both an investment into the future and a reflection of our social responsibility.
From the Chancellor’s Office to luxury yachts

Products of the CES brand are appreciated all over the world for their superior quality.

The mechanical, mechatronic and electronic security systems can be found in business enterprises, event centres, in sports arenas such as the Veltins Arena (AufSchalke), in museums, in government buildings in Berlin, in universities and hospitals, in the Burj Khalifa – at the moment the tallest building of the world – and the newest landmark of Hamburg, the Elbphilharmonie.

References (Examples)
Federal Chancellor’s Office, Berlin
ZDF broadcasting centre, Mainz
Frauenkirche, Dresden
Veltins Arena (AufSchalke), Gelsenkirchen
Reichstag, Berlin
AIDA cruise ship
Burj Khalifa, Dubai
Elbphilharmonie, Hamburg
Deutsche Bank, Frankfurt
Employees then

Press shop around 1900

Office routine around 1900

Employees around 1900

First steam engine in Velbert

Employees now

Modern manufacturing

Focus on the customers

Special designs

Innovative electronic access control