



VAGGERYD MUNICIPALITY

IT for a safer and simpler life



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Tomas Johansson,
IT Manager, Municipality of Vaggeryd

Task: Help the organization do its job

The Municipality of Vaggeryd operates in a spirit characteristic of the Småland province of Sweden, with its long tradition of entrepreneurship and successful industrial culture. The municipality was also one of the first in Sweden to look over its IT security and implement a cutting-edge security solution based on smart cards and PKI. The journey to improved security was launched about six years ago when the municipality's IT management team set two clear goals: improve internal IT security and simplify work for municipal employees. Tomas Johansson, IT Manager for the Municipality of Vaggeryd, says:

“Our fundamental mission as an IT department is to help the organization do its work as simply and conveniently

as possible. We realized early on that a combination of thin clients and smart cards was the key to both increasing IT security in the organization and simplifying the workday for our mobile employees.”

As pioneers in smart card-based security, the Municipality of Vaggeryd had outlined the guidelines for its security project before the idea of a nationwide security initiative through SITHS was born. Tomas Johansson explains:

“We began the search for a partner by simply Googling ‘smart card.’ We quickly decided that SecMaker was the strongest alternative, mainly because they shared our vision on smart card-based security. When the SITHS project chose the same solution several years

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later, it was proof that we were on the right track.”

A security solution that is easy to sell in

The first step in the rollout of Vaggeryd’s security solution combined thin clients from Oracle with smart cards and server security software Net iD Enterprise from SecMaker. Since project start-up in 2010, more employees in healthcare and municipal administrative units have access to the new solution. Today, employees with traditional PCs are also using smart cards and Net iD to log in, regardless of whether they are at their physical workplace, working from home, or on the go.

“For us, it has been important the entire time to focus on the end goal, but to also ‘hurry slowly.’ In my experience, forcing things doesn’t speed up the change process, but instead just creates opposition in the organization. When we decided to sell in the solution and show the benefits of this new way of working, everything just rolled out on its own,” explains Tomas Johansson.

Focus on high-quality care – not IT

With a consistently positive reception, one group in particular has recognized the benefits of the new solution: Vaggeryd’s nurses with nursing care facilities in other areas than their workplace. All workplaces are now connected to the municipality’s central servers. Healthcare staff has access to patient information and care services through thin clients wherever they are.

Support functions in Net iD contribute to simplifying the workday: Single Sign-On makes the right applications and information accessible to each user, session roaming makes it easy to quickly switch between workplaces, and automatic shut-down of applications protects data from unauthorized view. Quick login and logout is highly valued in mobile and often stressful healthcare environments, where the staff can now focus on providing good care to their patients.



The smart card – a recurring theme in the organization

For employees in the Municipality of Vaggeryd, smart cards have taken an increasingly important role in the workday. In addition to offering secure login to all IT systems both externally and internally, one single card is used as graphic ID, keycard for physical access to municipal buildings, and for “follow-me-printing” where each employee individually decides where and when documents will be printed. Through pre-configuration, all employees have direct access to Telia Citizen ID with their smart card. The multi-functional smart card has helped sell in the solution to the organization’s employees, who were quick to recognize the benefits of having one card for all applications.

“With the new smart card-based security solution, we’ve come a long way: both in terms of the technical solution itself and in a new way of working. We’re continuing to hurry slowly and develop our solution step by step. We are now confident that we have chosen a platform that lets us take advantage of new possibilities and utilize more services as we go along,” summarizes Tomas Johansson.



SecMaker is the Nordic region’s leading supplier of smart card-based security solutions to companies, public agencies and organizations. With our Net iD product family, we protect and secure information, systems and data communications for over a million users.



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