Claims

1. A method for operating a system for the control of entrances that comprises a plurality of access control units, wherein each entrance is allocated an access control unit with a data acquisition device assigned to it and wherein the access control units are coupled to a control device via a network, the method comprising:

detecting an error signal by the control device, wherein the error signal indicates that a first data acquisition device at a first entrance is not ready for operation and is unable to capture authorization data of a person wishing to gain access at the first entrance;

receiving a data signal by the control device, wherein the data signal is produced by a second data acquisition device at a second entrance, when the second data acquisition device captures the authorization data of the person wishing to gain access at the first entrance; and

transmitting an activation signal by the control device to the access control unit at the first entrance, in order to release the first entrance and grant the person access.

2. The method according to Claim 1, in which the activation signal is generated when the authorization data captured by the second data acquisition device authorizes the person seeking to gain access at the first entrance to enter at the first entrance.

3. The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the display of a message at the first entrance indicating that at least the second data acquisition device is available at the second entrance for capturing the authorization data.

4. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
requesting status information from the data acquisition devices by the control device, in order to determine at least one error signal therefrom.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the transmission of the error signal by the first data transmission device at the first entrance when the first data acquisition device is not ready for operation.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

checking an identification code contained in the data signal as to whether it is valid for the first or second entrance; and

generating the activation signal if the identification code is valid for the first entrance.

7. A system for controlling entrances, the system comprising:

a plurality of access control units, wherein each entrance is allocated an access control unit and wherein each access control unit is assigned a data acquisition device; and

a control device which is coupled to the access control units by a network and comprises a processor with a software program for access control that can be run in the processor, wherein during operation the processor:

receives an error signal that indicates that a first data acquisition device at a first entrance is not ready for operation and cannot capture any authorization data of a person wishing to gain access at the first entrance,

receives a data signal that is generated by a second data acquisition device at a second entrance when the second data acquisition device captures the authorization data of the person wishing to gain access at the first entrance, and

sends a control command to the access control unit at the first entrance, in order to release the first entrance and grant the person access.

8. The system according to Claim 7, in which an access control unit comprises an electronic lock.

9. The system according to claim 7, in which a data acquisition device comprises a reading device, wherein the reading device is provided to:

read data from magnetic cards, chip cards or RFID cards,

capture data from an optical code which is presented on a carrier material or an electronic display, or capture biometric data.

10. The system according to claim 7, further comprising a database which is communicatively coupled to the processor and comprises at least one data set in which an access authorization is assigned to an entrance.

11. The system according to claim 7, in which the entrances are configured as doors, barriers, turnstiles or revolving doors.

12. The system according to Claim 11, in which the doors, barriers, turnstiles or revolving doors are arranged in a building and in which the control device is arranged in the building.

13. The system according to Claim 11, in which the doors, barriers, turnstiles or revolving doors are arranged in a building and in which the control device is arranged remote from the building in a service centre.