

“awinta and Fujitsu have enjoyed a long-standing, successful collaboration, particularly in the area of server technology. This fruitful cooperation gave rise to the PalmSecure™ vein scanner project for pharmacies.”

Sven Bertram
Managing Director
awinta GmbH

To ensure the secure authentication of employees in pharmacies, awinta GmbH relies on the hygienic palm vein scan technology PalmSecure™ from Fujitsu.

At a glance

Country: Germany
Industry: Software for pharmacies
Founded: 1998
Website: www.awinta.de

Challenge

awinta GmbH requires a secure authentication solution for cash register stations in pharmacies. The solution is supposed to accelerate the medication provision process and warrant the security of patient data.

Solution

The PalmSecure™ technology (detection of specific palm vein patterns) from Fujitsu is a particularly hygienic and secure biometric authentication solution, which awinta is now integrating in its software platform. Pharmacy staff using the pharmacy software can be identified quickly and easily.

Benefit

- Secure and rapid authentication at the point of sale in pharmacies through biometric palm vein detection
- Contactless and therefore hygienic method
- Extremely secure through detection of palm vein patterns
- Viable technology that can also be used in other areas, e.g. access control for pharmacies

Customer

With approximately 7,000 customers, awinta is the market leader for pharmacy software in the German health market. The company enables pharmacies to continue to be successful in the future. awinta's product and service portfolio is based on customer requirements and provides pharmacies with the opportunity to make optimum use of their pharmaceutical expertise and business potential. The company, based in Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany, is a regular recipient of major industry awards.

Products and services

- FUJITSU PalmSecure™ palm vein scanner
- FUJITSU TX1330 tower server
- FUJITSU Software Development Kit



Secure and contactless login to pharmacy software

Pharmacies have strict security regulations when it comes to working with patient data and the provision of medication. In the case of prescription medication, information with regard to which employee provides which medication to which patient must be logged in detail. To this end, employees must be securely and quickly authenticated for the pharmacy software and cash register. Many pharmacies use the fingerprint method for this purpose. But this has several disadvantages: It is not entirely immune to falsification and also prone to errors, for example in the case of minor injuries. Moreover, the authentication process itself can take quite a long time. This is a particular problem during peak hours, when several employees are sharing a consulting and cash register station.

Secure, contactless log-in to pharmacy software

To provide its pharmacy customers with simpler, more secure and faster biometric authentication for the pharmacy software platforms awintaONE and PROKAS and also for the Windows system, awinta GmbH selected the PalmSecure™ technology from Fujitsu. PalmSecure™ is a technology for detecting specific palm vein patterns for the biometric authentication of persons. Authentication using palm vein detection is much more precise than other biometric methods. It does not rely on external physical features, such as those used for fingerprint or iris scans, for example. Rather, internal vein patterns are read with an infrared sensor without any physical contact. As a result, the technology is very reliable and secure. In addition, the contactless process is very hygienic and therefore particularly well suited for use in pharmacies.

"We want to support pharmacies with digitization. With FUJITSU PalmSecure™, customers now have access to a viable, secure, easy-to-use and very hygienic authentication solution at the consulting station and cash register," explains Sven Bertram, Managing Director of awinta GmbH. "In addition, the system can also be used in other areas of the pharmacy, for example as an access control system or for certain medication cabinets."

Co-creation from kick-off to rollout

"awinta and Fujitsu have enjoyed a long-standing, successful collaboration. awinta draws on Fujitsu's know-how and technology particularly in the area of server technology. Ultimately, this fruitful cooperation gave rise to the PalmSecure vein scanner project for pharmacies", remembers Sven Bertram. awinta has already installed several thousand FUJITSU TX1330 tower servers in pharmacies, which are now supplemented with the PalmSecure™ technology.

The first contact with PalmSecure™ took place at the Fujitsu Forum 2017. It is where the long-standing Fujitsu partner became acquainted with the palm vein scan technology and was very excited about the speed, flexibility and security it offers. After a few meetings and discussions, it quickly became clear that PalmSecure™ is well-suited for use in pharmacies and that it represents the ideal authentication solution for awintaONE and PROKAS. To integrate PalmSecure™ in the two awinta solutions, the pharmacy software specialist purchased the FUJITSU Software Development Kit and received multi-day training with several developers. This ensures that the interaction between PalmSecure™ and awinta is precisely coordinated and programming errors do not occur. Afterwards, the solution was designed, developed and piloted.

Development of customized server cabinets for awinta

Fujitsu also worked with awinta to create a special server cabinet for several pharmacies that are part of a network and require a data center infrastructure for this purpose. To this end, the development departments of both companies worked closely together. The result: a rack that in terms of its dimensions and wiring precisely meets awinta's requirements. Fujitsu even built in awinta's own switches, which awinta had delivered to the Fujitsu production plant in Augsburg. "The long-standing cooperation with awinta is a perfect example of successful co-creation. We are pleased to be able to shape the digital future of pharmacies together with Fujitsu," concludes Bertram. "And we foresee a lot more application fields for PalmSecure™ in the pharmacy environment."

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