

PRAESENSA

Security precautions

Table of contents

1	Security precautions	4
2	Support services and Bosch Academy	7

1 Security precautions

PRAESENSA is an IP-connected, networked Public Address and Voice Alarm system. To make sure that the intended functions of the system are not compromised, special attention and measures are required during installation and operation. The PRAESENSA configuration manual and installation manual provide many security measures related to the products and the activities described. This section provides an overview of precautions related to network security and access to the system.

- Follow the installation instructions with respect to the location of equipment and the permitted access levels. Refer to the chapter *Location of racks and enclosures* in the PRAESENSA installation manual for more information. Make sure to restrict access to call stations that address very large areas and to operator panels configured for alarm functions. To do so, mount them in an enclosure with a lockable door or configure user authentication on the device.
- It is highly recommended to operate PRAESENSA on its own dedicated network. Do not mix the system with equipment with other purposes. The extra equipment can be accessible by unauthorized people, causing a security risk. This is especially true if the network is connected to the Internet.
- It is highly recommended to lock or disable unused ports on network switches to avoid the possibility that connected equipment can compromise the system. This is also the case for PRAESENSA call stations connected through a single network cable. Make sure the connector cover of the device is in place and fixed to avoid access by a second network socket. Install other PRAESENSA equipment in an area that is only accessible by authorized people to avoid tampering.
- Use an Intrusion Protection System (IPS) with port security where possible to monitor the network for malicious activity or policy violations.
- PRAESENSA uses secure OMNEO for its network connections. All control and audio data exchange use encryption and authentication. But the system controller allows the configuration of unsecure Dante or AES67 audio connections as an extension of the system, both as inputs and as outputs. These Dante/AES67 connections are not authenticated and not encrypted. This forms a security risk, as no precautions are taken against malicious or accidental attacks through their network interfaces. For highest security, these Dante/AES67 devices should not be used as part of the PRAESENSA system. If you need such inputs or outputs, use unicast connections.
- The following switches report their power faults and network connection status directly to the PRAESENSA system controller through SNMP:
 - From PRAESENSA software version 1.50 onwards, the PRA-ES8P2S switch and the Cisco IE-5000-12S12P-10G switch/router.
 - From PRAESENSA software version 2.30 onwards, the Cisco IE-9320-22S4X-A switch/router.
 - The switches can be daisy-chained without an OMNEO device between them for connection supervision. The PRA-ES8P2S is preconfigured for this purpose from custom firmware version 1.01.05 onwards.
- For security reasons, the PRA-ES8P2S Ethernet switch is not accessible from the Internet by default. When the default (special link-local) IP-address is changed to an address outside the link-local range (169.254.x.x/16), the default (published) password must be changed. Even for applications on a closed local network, for highest security, the password must still be changed. Refer to the *Ethernet switch* chapter in the PRAESENSA installation manual for more information.

- To enable SNMP, for example to use the Bosch analysis tool Network Docent, use SNMPv3. SNMPv3 provides much better security with authentication and privacy. Select the authentication level SHA and encryption via AES. Refer to the *Ethernet switch* chapter in the PRAESENSA installation manual for more information.
- The system controller webserver uses secure HTTPS with SSL. The web server in the system controller uses a self-signed security certificate. When you access the server via https, you will see a Secure Connection Failed error or warning dialog indicating that the certificate was signed by an unknown authority. This is expected and to avoid this message in the future you have to create an exception in the browser.
- Make sure that new user accounts for system configuration access use sufficiently long and complex passwords. The user name must have a minimum of five characters and a maximum of 16 characters. The password must contain the characters as defined in the **System settings**. For more information, refer to the *System settings* chapter of the PRAESENSA configuration manual.
- The PRAESENSA system controller provides an Open Interface for external control. Access through this interface requires the same user accounts as for the system configuration access. In addition, the system controller generates a certificate to setup the TLS secure connection between the system controller and the Open Interface client. Download the certificate and open/install/save the crt-file. Activate the certificate on the client PC. Refer to the *System security* chapter in the PRAESENSA configuration manual for more information.
- System access to the devices of this system is secured via the OMNEO security user name and passphrase of the system. The system uses a self-generated user name and long passphrase. This can be changed in the configuration. The user name must have between 5 and 32 characters and the passphrase must have 8 to 64 characters. To update the firmware of the devices, the firmware upload tool requires this security user name and passphrase to get access.
- In case a PC for event logs is used (PRAESENSA logging server and viewer), make sure that the PC is not accessible by unauthorized persons.
- Use secure VoIP protocols (SIPs) whenever possible, including verification through VoIP server certificate. Only use non-secure protocols when the SIP server (PBX) does not support secure VoIP. Only use VoIP audio in the protected sections of the network, because the VoIP audio is not encrypted.
- Anyone with the ability to dial one of the extensions of the system controller can make an announcement in the PRAESENSA system. Do not allow external numbers to dial the system controller extensions.

Find all documentation and software related at www.boschsecurity.com in the **Downloads** section of the PRAESENSA products.

Whenever you think you have identified a vulnerability or any other security issue related to a Bosch product or service, contact the Bosch Product Security Incident Response Team (PSIRT): <https://psirt.bosch.com>.

Use latest software

Before operating the device for the first time, make sure that you install the latest applicable release of your software version. For consistent functionality, compatibility, performance, and security, regularly update the software throughout the operational life of the device. Follow the instructions in the product documentation regarding software updates.

The following links provide more information:

- General information: <https://www.boschsecurity.com/xc/en/support/product-security/>
- Security advisories, that is a list of identified vulnerabilities and proposed solutions: <https://www.boschsecurity.com/xc/en/support/product-security/security-advisories.html>

Bosch assumes no liability whatsoever for any damage caused by operating its products with outdated software components.

2 Support services and Bosch Academy



Support

Access our **support services** at www.boschsecurity.com/xc/en/support/.

Bosch Security and Safety Systems offers support in these areas:

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- [Building Information Modeling](#)
- [Warranty](#)
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