

## Safeguarding against the real Time Bandits

### Tyco protects the world famous Glashütte German Watch Museum



Under the motto „The Fascination of Time – Bringing Time to Life“, the Glashütte German Watch Museum offers a fascinating insight into the world of timekeeping and watchmaking. More than 400 priceless exhibits draw in visitors to the large, 2-storey contemporary show-room. In this historical building, founded in 1878 and formerly the Glashütte German Watchmaking Institute, you are invited on a journey through „spaces of history and time“. You can also immerse yourself in the topic of time in demonstration workshops, a specialist library, an historical archive and a multimedia „time room“.

Bearing in mind all of these considerations, the foundation faces the challenge of safely managing the museum: providing an impressive platform for its unique exhibits while protecting the historic building as well as its visitors and staff against fire, theft, and vandalism. For that reason, precision is not only paramount to the watchmakers' guild, but also a requirement in terms of safety and fire protection.

#### A holistic solution

The German Museum Foundation commissioned Tyco to fulfill this complex task, through their demonstrated expertise and tailored, comprehensive security solutions.

Close cooperation with the customer was always the main focus, from the needs and risk analysis, conception and planning, right through to the implementation and after-sales service.

The Glashütte German Watch Museum opened on May 23rd, 2008 in Glashütte, Saxony, in the former school building which, until 1992, was home to the Glashütte German Watchmaking Institute for Watchmaking and Precision Engineering. The world-famous museum is promoted and sponsored by the Glashütte German Watch Museum Foundation. Today, the next generation of watchmakers is taught in the new Alfred Helwig School.

Photo: © Glashütte German Watch Museum Foundation (Stiftung Deutsches Uhrenmuseum Glashütte), René Gaens, [www.uhrenmuseum-glashuette.com](http://www.uhrenmuseum-glashuette.com)

**“Where time comes alive!” was the motto under which the city of Glashütte, founded in 1506, celebrated its 500th jubilee – accurately reflecting its worldwide fame as a city of clocks and precision engineering. The city has enjoyed its tradition of the fine art of watchmaking and training watchmakers for over 170 years.**

Today, the high-quality, Glashütte Original' timepieces are produced exclusively at the Glashütte Watch Company (Glashütter Uhrenbetrieb GmbH).

**The German Watch Museum Foundation is dedicated to preserving the historical heritage of Glashütte craftsmanship, exhibiting priceless timepieces to a wide public at the Glashütte German Watch Museum.**

**The foundation relies on Tyco Integrated Fire & Security to protect both the historical museum's visitors from fire and its valuable artifacts from burglary and theft. Tyco had previously implemented a comprehensive security solution in the production department, to the customer's entire satisfaction.**

## Case Study

Key points to take into account when tailoring the right solution were the structural features of the historical building, and which extinguishing and security solutions could be used without harming people or artifacts in case of emergency.

It was imperative that the safety solution is effective in its protection against fire and intrusion yet unobtrusive to the museum's visitors with little to no downtime for daily operations. Based on these requirements, Tyco developed a tailor-made solution that effectively and intelligently networked all security components into one integrated system.

### Precision is everything

In terms of fire safety, the ZETTLER® Tyco Fire Alarm System was expertly installed, made up of a central fire alarm system and its connected sensors. The circuit-networked detectors send their data to the central system, which uses algorithms to analyze and process them. Interferences are determined and eliminated at this point, providing reliable protection against false alarms that needlessly disrupt the operation of the museum and disturb its visitors.

In case of fire, the incoming signals are quickly transmitted, meaning fires can be fought as immediately as they start. As water would irrevocably damage the highly sensitive watch exhibits, the extinguishant of choice is gas.

The gas extinguishing system is environmentally-neutral and in an emergency will neither destroy the highly sensitive historic timepieces nor harm anyone inside the building. The inert gas mixture of argon, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide works on the basis of oxygen deprivation, suffocating a fire before it can take hold.



Pocket watches, wristwatches and clocks from different eras – like these pilot watches from the 2nd World War – as well as historical documents and patents, tools and workbenches and even astronomical models and metronomes, these museum attractions reflect the outstanding efforts of the foundation to preserve cultural heritage, promote the art of watchmaking and to pass on knowledge of the watchmaker's craft.

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### No chance for thieves

As well as fire safety, protection from burglary, theft, and vandalism is a key component of the security solution. Tyco's special risk alert system guards the perimeter of the museum building and keeps the exhibits safe.

Individually selected sensors protect windows, doors, walls, rooms, and individual objects, such as cabinets and standalone clocks. Motion or robbery alarm systems, as well as focus switching equipment connected

to the main point, can be adapted accordingly – depending on the showrooms' updated security requirements. The risk alert system programs, displays, and checks each connected sensor and makes it easy to locate the source of the alarm.

As well as robbery and burglary reports, the system can process additional technical signals. Thanks to the Local Security Network, alarms and devices from other manufacturers – as well as the fire alarm solution – all of which can be easily integrated into the system.

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