

A world-leading life science manufacturer implements NanoLock OT Defender to secure its legacy Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs).

**With quick deployment, NanoLock Security protects all PLCs - new and legacy, connected and offline, ensuring secured access control, visibility and traceability of Operational Technology (OT)**

Company profile:	<b>Multinational life sciences manufacturer</b>
Annual revenue:	<b>€30B</b>
Employees:	<b>Over 100,000</b>
Number of facilities:	<b>100+ locations across the globe</b>

A multinational life sciences corporation with over 100,000 employees and operations spanning more than 80 countries implemented NanoLock OT Defender to secure its legacy Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs). With annual sales exceeding €30 billion, the company manufactures pharmaceuticals and biotechnology products across hundreds of facilities worldwide, relying heavily on PLCs, primarily legacy models, and external contractors to ensure efficient production and uncompromising standards.

## The Challenge

The company faced significant challenges in securing their legacy PLCs, leaving plants and global manufacturing operations vulnerable to cyberattacks. Inadequate security measures left PLCs easily accessible, risking unauthorized manipulation by on-site employees and third-party contractors. Moreover, 80% of the PLCs lacked network connections, preventing centralized monitoring and control.

The company urgently needed to secure their legacy S7/300 PLCs against cybersecurity threats, but wanted to avoid replacing or upgrading them. They sought a solution that provided robust access control, an audit trail for all PLC changes, and simplified password management across hundreds of units to enhance accountability and traceability.

Despite exploring multiple solutions, none could address the need to control and track access and changes made to the PLC configurations. While Network-based protection provides an important security layer, it does not prevent unauthorized access to the PLCs. Additionally, security measures provided by the device manufacturer, could not provide full protection against internal threats at the device level, further limiting available options.

## The Solution

NanoLock Security's solution was chosen for its device-level prevention approach, securing access to both new and legacy PLCs. It eliminated password management burdens while maintaining performance. Crucially, it addressed the security gap by implementing stricter access controls to prevent unauthorized access and configuration changes.

NanoLock OT Defender provided the company with clear visibility and audit trails for PLC configuration changes, essential for breach or error investigations. Its centralized management interface simplified PLC management across multi-vendors and models, and provided full protection even to the offline, disconnected PLCs. NanoLock Security's solution helped the company gain control over third-party, outsourced automation engineers. Its seamless integration with existing systems ensures a smooth deployment process with minimal disruption to operations, further supporting the company's decision to choose NanoLock as their OT security solution.

## Results and Benefits

By implementing NanoLock OT Defender, the manufacturer achieved the following benefits:

- Prevented security breaches from insiders and external threats
- Provided access control for third-party contractors with multi-factor authentication
- Enhanced visibility via centralized management with user traceability and audit trails
- Protected both legacy and new PLC models with multi-vendor management and centralized PLC password management, reducing overhead
- Enabled quick and easy deployment with minimal operational disruption

With NanoLock, the company successfully integrated prevention and safety measures into their operational processes, securing access to all their PLCs, whether new or legacy, connected or disconnected.



Secured user management  
and group policies

+



Secured credentials  
repository

+



Audit  
and traceability

=



**Protected!**

**For more information:**

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