



The electronic access control system was installed in the newly restored wing of the castle

## Discreet access system

PECKFORTON Castle, a medieval-style castle in Cheshire, hosts leisure breaks, corporate events, conferences and weddings. Since taking over the castle in 2006, the management has sought to strike a balance between preserving the heritage of the Grade I listed venue and making it function as a modern hotel. Improving access to the guest rooms was an important part of this strategy.

The castle has been fitted with Paxton's Net2 access control system. The system has been installed on 22 doors, including the lift. Guests receive an access card that works the lift and allows entry to their room. The lift allows guests access to their floor only.

The system features Architectural readers with glass inserts branded with the Peckforton Castle logo. The readers are low profile, providing a discreet locking system for guest rooms.

[www.paxton.co.uk](http://www.paxton.co.uk)

## Smart system at Tune

TUNE Hotels has entered the UK market through a partnership with investor Queensway Group to deliver its properties. The chain is based on the budget airlines business model giving guests the option of purchasing room amenities and room services to suit their needs.

The first Tune Hotel in Westminster uses VDA's Micromaster system to control energy and sell add-on services. The room facility and energy management system works with RFID (radio frequency identification) technology. Typically, at check-in, guests are issued smartcards that communicate with the hotel's central computer and the individual room controller. These cards manage room access and everything in the room that consumes energy when providing guest amenities. They then deliver information back to the hotel's managers.

For Tune Hotel, Micromaster was customised to control heating and lighting and give access to a number of paid-for add-ons that consume energy, such as hairdryers, TVs and safes. These may be purchased when a room is reserved online or during the guest's stay. The keycards relay a signal to turn on or off the flow of electrical current through flat CAT5 cabling (used for ease of

installation and potential reconfiguration) to the add-on appliances – as well as to the overhead lights and the HVAC controls whenever a guest enters or exits the room.

The system also allows supervisors to monitor where staff are in the hotel, track who has entered and departed rooms for security purposes and when doors have been left open.

Queensway plans to open 15 Tune Hotels in London by 2017.

[www.vdauk.com](http://www.vdauk.com)



Micromaster is developing to support the Tune brand as the hotel evolves