
Your school isn't safe

with unsafe technology



IMPORTANT: Effective January 12 2016 any visitor management system using “ActiveX” technology is NOT safe for your school. Read this important information to keep your school safe.

What is Activex?

ActiveX is a technology developed by Microsoft in 1996 to allow a web browser to run outside applications for enhancing the browser experience. Some visitor management systems require the use of ActiveX to operate hardware devices such as badge printers and driver license scanners.

What's the danger?

Since its early stages ActiveX was used by hackers to spread viruses and to obtain unauthorized access to systems using the technology. ActiveX was only supported by the Microsoft Internet Explorer browser and is banned by Google, Apple and all other major browser providers. Microsoft recognized the weakness of ActiveX and stopped supporting its use in the final version of Internet Explorer (version 11) and the new Microsoft Edge browser. To put the nail in the coffin of ActiveX, Microsoft announced that effective January 12 2016 the company would no longer provide security updates to browser versions that run ActiveX. On its own web site Microsoft advises all customers to immediately upgrade to stay safe:

“It means you should take action. After January 12, 2016, Microsoft will no longer provide security updates or technical support for older versions of Internet Explorer. Security updates patch vulnerabilities that may be exploited by malware, helping to keep users and their data safer. Regular security updates help protect computers from malicious attacks, so upgrading and staying current is important.”

<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/WindowsForBusiness/End-of-IE-support>

If you have a visitor management system that uses ActiveX you will be required to use a web browser that is vulnerable to malicious attacks. New browsers don't support ActiveX, and the old browsers that do support it are no longer receiving security patches or upgrades.

How you can protect your school

When evaluating visitor management systems for your school you should ask 3 very important questions of the vendor:

- 1. Does the system use ActiveX in any way, shape or form?**

Avoid any system that uses this technology in any form.

- 2. Does the system FULLY run on the latest versions of popular browsers including Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome and Apple Safari?**

Some systems promise to run with "partial support" in modern browsers. Be sure it runs with all the features advertised.

- 3. What is the update and release history of the software?**

An easy way to avoid buying "old" technology is to ask for the product release history, and to understand how often the system software is updated for your school. Avoid systems with fewer than 10 updates or releases per year.

Don't use yesterday's technology.

The LobbyGuard Visitor Management System supports all modern browsers and has NEVER used ActiveX or any other exploitive technology. LobbyGuard provides no-cost updates to its customers every 3 weeks including new features and other items.

Contact sales@lobbyguard.com today to learn why thousands of customers count on LobbyGuard to track visitors and secure their school.

