



Recognition Systems®

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To whom it may concern:

Regarding the health and safety of the HandKey and HandPunch HandReaders, here is additional comprehensive information that should be adequate to assure that these HandReaders pose no threat to users.

Recognition Systems, Inc. has been building HandReaders since 1986. Tens of thousands of units are currently in use in a variety of applications such as day care centers, hospitals, nursing homes, airports, universities and schools, commercial buildings and many other types of government installations. There have been millions of transactions with these scanners and not one health problem has occurred to any user which include pregnant women, factory workers, nurses and doctors, executives and people from all walks of life. We have installations in the U.S., Europe, Latin America, the Far East and Africa. There are currently millions of enrolled users of Recognition Systems, Inc.'s Hand Reader systems.

Installations of particular interest include:

- Over 65,000 athletes, coaches and volunteers used our HandReaders during the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, including the USA's Dream Team.
- New York Presbyterian Hospital with hundreds of staff members punching in and out daily.
- The University of Georgia with 5,000 student users using the Hand Reader three times a day. As of the end of 1997 they had performed over 106 million transactions without any incident.
- The San Francisco International Airport with over 18,000 users.

From a technical aspect, the optical system of the Hand Reader consists of a simple CCD camera, similar to ones used in a camcorder, using infrared light. Together, they produce a 3 dimensional picture of the hand. The picture generated looks similar to the shadow that would be cast if a flashlight was shined down over the hand. Length, width, thickness and surface area information is then computed from the image. This information is then converted into a 9 byte mathematical representation that is stored in the unit. No image or picture of the hand is stored by the system. In addition, no fingerprint information is gathered thereby ensuring the privacy of all users. This point can be demonstrated by the fact that the left hand may be used palm up if properly enrolled in the Hand Reader.

The lights used in the hand reader are the same as that used in the remote controls of VCRs, TVs, and audio equipment. It is absolutely harmless. The light's power level is 0.1 watts or 100 milliwatts. This power level is the same as TV remote controls and much less than that found in home heating or cooking equipment. Outdoors, the sun also produces a much greater amount of infrared light. The electronics of the HandReaders has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A computing device pursuant to sub-part J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against radiated radio interference. This is the same or similar FCC requirement that computers and consumer electronics must conform to. Users of medical electronic equipment such as pace makers should not be effected by these devices unless their physician has advised them to stay away from all computing or consumer electronic equipment.

From a safety standpoint, our HandReaders are powered by 12 volts DC and the current requirements are 0.4 amps. This is less than 5 watts of power, roughly the equivalent of a home night light.

From a disease transmission perspective, micro organisms are prevented from spreading by the implementation of a special silver-based material, using BioCote® silver antimicrobial technology. The material is embedded into the platen of the HandPunch, providing a hygienic finish that resists bacterial degradation and reduces bacteria levels on the platen's surface. This high-tech material reduces the concerns of people worried about germ transmission when using hand geometry biometrics. The active agents in BioCote® products are incorporated during the manufacturing process and remain active for the life of the biometric reader to protect it from degradation.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) contacted Recognition Systems Inc. and we supplied the information they requested. OSHA did not prohibit or otherwise restrict the use of our hand geometry readers.

RSI certainly hope these comments will assure your users that the use of the Hand Reader is safe. It is always important to make sure that people feel comfortable with new technologies and if we can be of further assistance in achieving this goal, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Recognition Systems Management