



Access Control Guideline - Dye Sublimation Printing Practices for PVC Access Control Cards

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SIA gratefully acknowledges the efforts of the many volunteers from the security industry that helped the Working Group to develop this standard.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope

This guideline defines recommended practices for dye sublimation printing on cards made with Polyvinyl chloride (PVC), Polyvinyl chloride acetate PVCA, or PVC combined with other materials used in Security, Access Control, Time and Attendance, and other related industries.

This report provides specifications for the mechanical elements that make up a PVC card and defines the precautions that are to be used in handling and printing on these cards.

This guideline is for adoption by card and printer manufacturers to establish compatibility and interoperability of cards and printers. This guideline is for reference by consultants, specifiers, and users to aid in the selection and use of this evolving technology.

The guidelines define the minimum set of features a card or printer should provide. This report does not preclude manufacturers from including additional features on cards or printers, so long as they are not in conflict with the recommended practices contained in this guideline. This guideline is voluntary and self-enforcing.

1.2 Purpose

These recommended practices, for both the physical aspects of a card and the use of various printer capabilities, are meant to establish compatibility among cards and printers. The "standardization" of the "interface" between card and printer makes the design, manufacture, and use of cards and printers more uniform. This uniformity and compatibility is of benefit to both manufacturers and users, since

improper matching of cards, printers, and handling techniques can result in damaged cards or flaws in the printed images.

1.3 Establishment of Need

Manufacturers of existing cards and printers have attempted to design their products to be compatible with industry de facto guidelines. However, due to the lack of actual definitive guidelines, products from different manufacturers may or may not be compatible or produce acceptable results with each other.

2 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

2.1 Related Documents

This report is intended to allow compliance with the following standards of the International Organization for Standardization and American National Standards Institute

- *International Standard ISO 7811 - Identification Cards*
- *ANSI x4.16-1973 Magnetic-Stripe Encoding for Credit Cards*

It should also be pointed out that in many instances, ISO/ANSI standards must be exceeded for satisfactory dye sublimation printing to take place.

2.2 Supporting Documents

The following standards are employed.

- *IEEE 260-1977 Standard Letter Symbols for Units of Measurements*