

Magnetic solution for the University of Huddersfield

Onerous and time-consuming tasks can often be made much easier and more reliable through the use of appropriate technologies. Even simple verification processes can benefit from automation, as the University of Huddersfield has discovered. The University has purchased a Hand Held Products SCANTEAM® 6920 Magnetic Card Reader, which was supplied by Spirit Data Capture Limited.



The University of Huddersfield is a dynamic and expanding institution in West Yorkshire. The students come from all over the UK, and also from over 80 countries worldwide. The University has strong links with industry, commerce and the arts and is among the UK's top five providers of 'sandwich' courses, which allow students to take advantage of a paid work placement in industry or commerce.



Case Study

The University needed a magnetic card reader that could check that the information used on the cards in its campus identity card system has been encoded correctly. Andrew Sharp, the University's Senior Computing Officer, says: "We searched for a suitable product on the web, and came across an independent supplier, Spirit Data Capture."

Spirit supplied the establishment with a SCANTEAM® 6920 Magnetic Card Reader from Hand Held Products. The ST6920 connects with PCs through a keyboard wedge interface. It is a bi-directional card reader – it can read cards that are swiped in either direction. A beeper and LED show the operator whether each swipe has been a good read or a bad read.

The new card reader was installed last year, and has been working well. Andrew Sharp continues: "The SCANTEAM magnetic card reader provides a simple but effective way of checking that the ID cards will function correctly. It ensures that we no longer have errors when the cards are swiped during normal use, as any faulty cards are caught by the reader before they are even issued."



"The SCANTEAM magnetic card reader provides a simple but effective way of checking that the ID cards will function correctly."

Andrew Sharp
Huddersfield University's
Senior Computing Officer

