Security Featured Article

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Intellicheck Mobilisa TWIC Reader Handheld Device Enhances ID Verification

By Jessica Kostek, TMCnet Channel Editor

In the United States and Canada the most common form of identification is a license. The problem with this is that although each state designs their licenses in hopes that it cannot be duplicated, it can and not all information is readily available that is linked to this identification card.

In an effort to enhance security, Intellicheck Mobilisa a technology company which develops and markets wireless technology and identity systems for various applications including: mobile and handheld wireless devices for the government, military and commercial markets, has introduced Intellicheck Mobilisa's Defense ID System.

"We believe that the ability to validate TWIC credentials on our ruggedized, mobile device will offer a flexible range of capabilities for improving port security," said Dr. Nelson Ludlow, CEO of Intellicheck Mobilisa.

Since August, the Marines base in Quantico has been using the devices as "part of the random anti-terrorism measure," said Gunnery Sgt. Damaion Polite, the physical security chief for Security Battalion.

The base has reported that since the implantation of the devices at various checkpoints, many offenders, most who have suspended licenses, have been caught. ''A foreign national with an expired passport tried to come through the gate and was taken away by Immigration and Customs Enforcement," said Polite.

In March 2009, the system received an Army-wide Authority to Operate (ATO), certification that allows Army installations nationwide to procure the system, officials said, the Defense ID System has scanned millions of IDs and been responsible for the identification of over ten thousand "bad guys," with zero false positives.

When an ID-card is scanned, various databases are checked including military and law enforcement "Most Wanted" lists. The device can read barcodes, magnetic stripes or RFID which enhances security and the ability to identify false identification cards.

Intellicheck Mobilisa's Defense ID System can also be used in retail stores, for example if installed at point-of-sale locations, the system can be used for everything from instant credit card application approvals to age verification for the sale of alcohol, company officials said in a statement.

In addition to military and retail use, the Intellicheck Mobilisa can also be used at sea with its Wireless Over Water (WOW) technologies that allows Wi-Fi to work in-motion and over great distances.

Company officials said that Intellicheck Mobilisa provided the Washington State and British Columbia Ferry systems with a continuous Internet connection while customers traveled on board the vessels. The company also provided ships with its Intellicheck Mobilisa's Floating Area Network (FAN) technology keeping communication between each other wirelessly. Intellicheck Mobilisa's WOW technology is currently being used by the U.S. Navy's SPARTAN unmanned surface vehicles to transmit high-speed video in real-time over several miles.

Officials say that Intellicheck Mobilisa is working on a multi-purpose buoy project with environmental and military applications that will be capable of wireless connectivity and networking capabilities, containing security and environmental sensors and data collectors, and have configurable surveillance packages.

Jessica Kostek is a channel editor for TMCnet, covering VoIP, CRM, call center and wireless technologies. To read more of Jessica's articles, please visit her columnist page.

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