

UK Home Office



United Kingdom

OVERVIEW

The UK Home Office is the lead government department for police, crime and counter-terrorism. The Home Office along with its technology partner, Northrup Grumman, engaged HID Global to provide biometrics support to transition from a traditional ink-and-paper method of fingerprinting into a completely electronic solution. After acquiring technical requirements, HID built a solution for criminal enrollments and rapid identification.

The new solution saves time, produces more reliable matches and eliminates the requirement to store paper fingerprint cards. It also leverages data in government databases to pre-populate biographic information such as name, date of birth and national ID number into criminal records.

NEEDS

- Replacement for traditional ink-and-paper fingerprinting
- Rapid identification in the field and in the police station
- Criminal booking solution that integrates with government databases

PRODUCTS

- L Scan® Palm Scanners
- Store and Forward for Electronic Fingerprint Transmission (EFT)

THE SOLUTION

Criminal Enrollment and Versatile Identification

For criminal enrollments, HID provided a kiosk which includes a PC, monitor, software and its best-in-class L Scan® palm scanners. These versatile scanners allow for capture of standard ten print enrollments using both flats and rolls. The scanners also provide for the capture of palm images which are critical for matching against latent images found at crime scenes.

The palm scanners capture, store and transmit information through a custom software solution created specifically for the UK Home Office. Using the Home Office's unique database submission format, HID created a platform called "Enrollment Centre" to meet the system's requirements. The software is fully integrated with the government's biographic holdings, allowing for pre-population of data from verified non-police sources.

The HID enrollment kiosks are deployed in over 370 police stations throughout England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The kiosks are in constant use, handling over 2,500 enrollments per day and 3.3 million fingerprint searches every month.

The UK Home Office is commencing a technology refresh. Due to their success with the HID solution, they plan to upgrade to HID palm scanners that include 1,000 pixel-per-inch functionality - a level of detail which will enable even higher automated match rates for palm images in the future.

BENEFITS

- Fast capture of fingerprint and palm images
- Higher automated match rate with 1,000 pixel-per-inch functionality
- Leverages government database to pre-populate biographic data
- Ability to print a fingerprint card for court proceedings

Versatile Identification

To enable a versatile identification system, HID Global created a solution designed to simplify the procedure of determining whether a suspect should be kept in custody. The system uses an easily captured fingerprint image to quickly query the criminal database for any relevant records.

Of course, not all police work is done behind a desk or at a police station. For work in the field, HID provided a Jump Kit which replicates the functionality of a booking kiosk for mobile deployments. Using the HID L Scan palm scanner, law enforcement personnel can capture a full set of prints or merely query the database through a Live ID procedure anywhere in the country.

When fingerprint evidence is used in a court proceeding, the HID solution provides the ability to print a fingerprint card based on the information gleaned from the livescan enrollment procedure. This also allows UK police agencies to share information with other government biometric holdings which are often in different formats.



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