After the introduction of the new Italian Citizen ID program in 2003, the Italian National Police Force ("Carabinieri") mandated a similar standard in secure ID credentials by specifying HID Global’s LaserCard® optical security media platform, two chip technologies, secure printing and durable card construction for its new employee ID card. The cards extend the technology mix and system philosophy of the Citizen ID, plus they arm all police employees with a multi-technology, multi-purpose ID card that simultaneously serves as a citizen ID and provides secure access to key facilities and e-government services.

The Problem

The “Carabinieri” polices both military and civilian populations, and engage in foreign peacekeeping missions and diplomatic protection. Historically, Carabinieri employees were assigned four separate credentials for ID, facility, services and information access. To overcome the risks associated with carrying multiple documents, and to further enhance its overall functionality, a single ID credential was needed to provide the highest levels of security, be compatible with the national ID infrastructure and serve a diversity of applications.

Functional Goals

The new ID card needed to provide authoritative proof of citizen and employee identity, access to e-government services, logical access to civilian and military information systems, and secure right-of-entry to facilities.

Requirements

Watertight security and fraud resistance were key elements for the Carabinieri program. In addition, because of the card’s multi-purpose nature, it necessitated a technology-inclusive approach. The cards also had to securely store large amounts of personal data, including employment, biometric identification and health information.
Fulfilling Modern Government Needs

The Carabinieri card is the most advanced ID card to utilize HID Global's tamper-proof and highly counterfeit-resistant Lasercard® optical security media technology. In a single platform, HID Global custom-designed a card structure that integrates optical media, covert and overt security features, and a contactless chip and antenna for facility access. The card is also fully ready for the embedding of a contact chip by HID Global's industrial partner Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato (Poligrafico).

Meeting Today’s Multi-Functional and Security Imperatives

Features for Today’s Reality

- **Counterfeit Resistance**: The optical media data recording process is physically irreversible, additionally safeguarded by the tamper-proof “Personalized Embedded Hologram.”

- **Multiple Technologies**:
  - Optical media for visual, digital and physical security and high capacity data storage
  - Embedded IC chip for access to e-government services and logical access to information systems
  - Contactless proximity chip for physical access control, time attendance, and employee services such as car parking or government restaurants
  - Follows the standards and format of Italy’s Citizen Identity Card (Carta d’Identità Elettronica, or CIE)

- **High Data Capacity**: The high capacity optical media provides sufficient capacity for all required demographic and biometric information and can be added to as needed. Information stored on the IC chip may be backed up securely on the optical media.

- **Cost Effective**: True multi-application capability, future flexibility and growth, tamper-proof data storage, durability, and long life deliver significant return on investment.

- **Secure Issuance Process**: The demanding production, initialization, personalization and issuance of a multi-application, multi-technology card requires the highest levels of security and control, from manufacture to issuance.

- **Compatibility/Interoperability**: Complies with relevant international technology and application standards, including those defined by the European Community and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

- **Eye-visible security**: Optical security media enables confident authentication with or without access to electronic readers or computer databases.

The Italian Government has also selected secure ID credentials from HID Global use as citizen ID cards and employee ID cards for all Ministry of Justice employees.
**Security Advantages**

Leading security features:

- Tamper-proof optical security media
- Portable digital images
- Personalized Embedded HologramHD, a unique optical variable device
- High resolution security images and patterns
- Multi color dry-offset security print
- Overt and covert features

**HID Global Government ID Solutions**

Dedicated to delivering highly secure, custom government-to-citizen ID programs worldwide, HID Global’s Government ID Solutions offer government customers an end-to-end source for their most demanding state and national ID projects. The complete portfolio of solutions includes expert professional consulting services, as well as Genuine HID™ data capture, card management and issuance solutions, world-leading credentials and e-documents, readers, inlays, prelaminates, LaserCard® optical security media technology, and FARGO® card printers. With Genuine HID, customers benefit from the industry’s broadest portfolio of trusted, interoperable secure identity solutions across all aspects of the government identification market. Genuine HID solutions are designed and built in ISO 9001 certified facilities, include worldwide agency certifications, and are backed by global product warranties.