

3M Mobile ID Reader is a EURO 2008 Winner for Swiss Border Police

Every second counted on and off the field for both players and border guards during the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) EURO 2008 soccer tournament in Switzerland and Austria. With an estimated 50,000 fans attending each of the 31 matches in stadiums throughout Switzerland and Austria, and millions more flocking to these countries for the local parties, the month-long tournament presented a unique set of safety and security challenges for the Swiss Border Police (Grenzwachtkorps).

With the majority of fans traveling by international trains from Italy, France and Germany, authorities knew they had to enhance security at the borders. Officers required a secure border management system that could assist front-line border operations staff on trains in capturing the right data quickly, accurately and reliably in areas without radio contact or cell phone connectivity.

Traditionally, in varying terrain where signals can be lost in tunnels and valleys, the Swiss Border Police would manually check travel documents and communicate information to central operations staff using radios. But this year, specialized Grenzwachtkorps teams turned to 3M for its Mobile ID Reader, a completely portable data terminal, for reading passports and identity documents of fans traveling by train to UEFA EURO 2008 matches in Switzerland.

3M offers proprietary technology designed to deliver more information – in real time – to help border officials make better and faster decisions at inspection points. Leveraging its strengths in secure data management, policy and workflow integration, data capture, document authentication and biometrics integration, 3M developed a border management solution, Mobile ID Reader, that Swiss Border Police were looking for.

“The 3M Mobile ID Readers met very special requirements for the EURO 2008 tournament. We needed a lightweight, portable device that could accurately read identity documents on trains without reliance on the transmission of data over radio waves,” said Roger Zaugg, Grenzwachtkorps Commander. “With this technology at our disposal, we were able to stop people who thought trains

offered a soft border entry point before they reached Switzerland and the tournament, quickly disrupting their travel plans.”

Designed for maximum portability, ease of use and reliability, the 3M Mobile ID Reader combines 3M’s own reader technology with Psion Teklogix’s WORKABOUT PRO data terminal. It is a rugged, versatile, hand-held unit capable of reading MRZ and RF chip data from passports, ID cards and other documents that serve as proof of identification.

Commander Zaugg added, “The 3M Mobile ID Reader is a fully-automated solution. There were no authentication problems, as the information is downloaded directly on the device from a securely-encrypted central database. Rather than waiting minutes, we could authorize a document in a matter of seconds.”

In a typical operation, 3M Mobile ID Reader scans passengers’ identity documents and captures their biometric data, verifies the data against a watch list stored locally or accessed via wireless link and compiles a manifest for export to a border control system. The unit’s integrated, color touch screen and alphanumeric keyboard allow the operator to correct or manually enter data, and battery operation enables use in any situation – airports, ships, trains and vehicles – while the on-board processing capability allows real-time verification of documents, data and individuals.

“Officers carry lots of equipment and are pleased that we have a device that is small-enough to be transported in cars and easy to operate in the confined space of a train carriage. The 3M Mobile ID Reader not only made authentication faster and more accurate, but is a multi-role device that can be used in a number of other areas in which we operate,” concluded Commander Zaugg.

3M brings more than 30 years of experience, a global presence, technical innovation and a strong customer focus to the secure document marketplace. 3M solutions cover a broad spectrum of enhanced travel and border security, including document issuance and border management.

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A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M’s core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$24 billion in sales, 3M

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