CARD TECHNOLOGIES

for

RFID card readers and door controllers

October 2022





Introduction

The following pages offer a brief outline to some of the most common RFID card technologies available, together with their respective security levels and capabilities.

The list is by no means exhaustive, but gives a comparison of technical information against which an installer, or end-user, might make an informed decision.

About Us

Third Millennium has become a multi award-winning manufacturer of advanced access control readers, and specialises in the introduction of new technologies to the access control market.

Supplying many of the world's leading security specialists, our products offer innovative style, coupled with the broadest range of RFID technologies available ...

... all from a SINGLE manufacturer.









SECURITY LEVEL

Comparison of RFID card technologies used by Third Millennium Systems Ltd.

| SECURITY LEVEL | 125 kHz | MIFARE® CSN | MIFARE® Classic | MIFARE® Classic SE | MIFARE® DESFire® SE | LEGIC |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------|---|---|---|
| Summary | Very Low Security | Low Security | Mid Security | High Security | Best Practice | Best Practice |
| Encryption | NONE | NONE | CRYPTO148-bit | CRYPTO148-bit | AES 128-bit | AES 128-bit |
| Secure Envelope | NONE | NONE | NONE | 3 x AES 128-bit Keys | 3 x AES 128-bit Keys | 3 x AES 128-bit Keys |
| Additional Security Features | NONE | NONE | NONE | Diversified Keys with AES-128 bit generated MAC | Diversified Keys with AES-128 bit generated MAC | Diversified Keys with AES-128 bit generated MAC |
| Can Be Duplicated | YES | YES | YES | NO | NO | NO |





125 kHz

- Wide range of formats.
 - Prox
 - GE Casi
 - Farpointe
 - Kantech
 - etc.
- Read by a wide variety of manufacturers.
- Cheap cost of credential.
- Easy to duplicate.





MIFARE® CSN

- Cards ready 'to go' from the factory. No encoding required.
- Read by a wide variety of manufacturers.
- Limited number scope, unable to specify a range.
 - Could result in clashes with a large user base.
- Easy to duplicate.



MIFARE® Classic



- Choice of format can be customer specific.
- Reader needs specific configuration.
- Additional data can be written, if there is space.
- Can be duplicated.
 - But takes some effort.

Third Millennium Secure Envelope

- Builds security features on top of the card.
 - Can no longer be duplicated.



MIFARE® DESFire®



- Choice of format can be customer specific.
- Reader needs specific configuration.
- Additional applications may be written.
 - Verified application IDs managed by NXP.
 - More options than MIFARE® Classic.
- No known methods to duplicate.

Third Millennium Secure Envelope

An additional layer of security to ensure future resilience.





LEGIC

- Reader requires specific configuration.
- No known methods to duplicate.
- Keys and technology managed by LEGIC.
 - Often, an end user will have ownership of their own keyset obtained directly from LEGIC.



Card Formats

- Within reason, if a card is encoded, that encoded data could be anything.
- Some common formats include:
 - Sensor 26-bit (H10301)
 - Geoffrey 34-bit
- More bits give more space for more data.
 - You can have increased card number ranges and more possible facility codes.
- The card format must be entered on the controller, so it can recognize how to use and check the data it receives.
 - If you use a common format, it may already be entered for you.







- MEARE Classic SE MIFARE DESFire SE
- Third Millennium's Secure Envelope (SE) is a smartcard encoding method that enhances the credentials' functionality, and data security.
- Secure Envelope mitigates duplication threats to MIFARE® Classic, by:
 - AES 128-bit encryption of the access control data with 3 keys.
 - Diversified keys with AES 128-bit generated MAC (each card has a unique set of keys).
- Reader output format is stored on a card in the Secure Envelope.
- Custom SE keyset can be encoded on MIFARE® Classic or MIFARE® DESFire® platforms.
- Available SE keysets:
 - Third Millennium (standard on RX*80 and RX*90 product lines).
 - Customer specific.
 - End-user specific.



Credentials

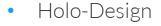
ISO Cards, Fobs an RFID patches (stickers).

Optimized for best performance and read-range on RXSERIES readers.

High quality cards enable complete overprinting.

- Various multi-technology options.
- Added value services:
 - Custom encoding.
 - Standard and custom print.
 - Anti-duplication security features can be incorporated:















Card bureau service



Registered Partner







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