Product focus

STid: Touchless high security access control

The access control market is taking a decisive turn towards contactless. This is the latest revelation from our discussion with Gordon Mackay, STid's UK Director and Vincent Dupart. STid's CEO. All sectors including hospitals, most obviously but also banks, local government, Police and indeed all large organisations are receptive to replacing access control cards with smartphones as the credential. For those who still feel the change would be too much or that covid will not be around forever, STid point out that migration can be at the end-customers pace.

To recap, STid, one of the leading developers of contactless identification solutions, have been developing STid Mobile ID which digitalises traditional access control since 2015.

How is the access control market impacted by the health crisis? What are the new expectations of organisations?
Gordon Mackay: I have been demonstrating the numerous features and benefits of a virtual access control world to the majority of global OEMs and security integrators for three years. 'Great concept but our customers just accept rigid plastic cards' was the all too common feedback until now, until Covid-19. Since March, my working weeks have been consumed by demonstrating STid's contactless entry solutions to security professionals who are eager to become STid Mobile ID and

virtual credential experts. They are now challenged, not by their internal management but by their end customers, who ask: 'Find me a contactless solution to open doors and with maximum security levels.' This has been a truly amazing global transformation in attitudes and appetites to adopt this new technology and quickly to protect their colleagues.
How does STid Mobile ID evolve towards instinctive and secure access control?
Gordon: STid Mobile ID offers several marketplace USPs. From our six identification modes: tap-tap, hand slide, card, remote buttons, hands-free and now to voice control. Simply walk towards the door and say 'Siri, open the door' and you're granted entry …. and securely. STid employ extreme and robust methods of identification encryption and exchange mechanisms that are identical to all current global banking

Above, STid reader with QR code for access; left, CEO Vincent Dupart; and centre, Gordon Mackay, UK and Ireland Sales Director
Photos courtesy of STid

apps and payment authentication methods.
Vincent Dupart: Instinctive must not mean unsecure. We accepted the 'security sector' challenge to combine seamless identification and flawless security between the card and the reader and between the reader and the controller. This last part is the distinct role of the SSCP and OSDP protocols. To build trust through certification, freedom and inter-operability delivering end-to-end security throughout the entire system. Open and interface agnostic protocols like SSCP are based on certified security and transparent technology which delivers total customer independence and autonomy to their security management.
How do you adapt easily to new end users challenges?
Gordon: STid readers and solutions are compatible with all access control systems available. STid's unique Reader modularity futureproofs end-customers estates and allows the security provider to offer additional levels of security functionality in-line with their estates growing security needs. STid are always developing new and market inspiring products. The latest being the Architect RFID, NFC and Bluetooth reader with a QR code module. Access control systems with QR code offer a cost-effective and reliable solution to visitor management within an office or facility. QR codes can be generated by existing systems/software and used in paper format or onto the smartphone (by email, virtual cards, and so on). One effective and yet secure way to easily manage user profiles such as visitors, employees, drivers and deliveries! ❑
● *To learn more about STid, contact Gordon*

STid - Bluetooth reader with QR code