



Zebra scan engines and QR codes for access control solutions provide reduced touch interaction and a growth area for OEMs

In the post COVID-19 world, the need for less touch interaction is key. Zebra scan engines can be embedded into a range of OEM access control solutions for QR code functionality to provide customers with devices that reduce contact with places and people. This sector is ready to be exploited by OEMs and Zebra is here to support you with the technologies and guidance to help you get your solutions to market faster.

From access control at airports, sports stadiums and high-security locations, to healthcare restricted areas where medicines are stored, and retail locations holding high-value goods, there are many applications for access control solutions. Interest in this sector is growing quickly and the OEMs that are able to get their products to market fastest can expect significant gains.



About QR codes

QR codes have predominantly been used in marketing campaigns to provide consumers with access to content or messages. Yet QR codes are now being used in corporate environments for access control and identifying and locating assets.

The benefits of QR codes

- Inexpensive
- Easy to deploy
- Can form an inventory and asset tracking system
- Suitable for use in many consumer and business applications
- Environmentally friendly
- Time saving
- Increasing opportunities for OEMs

EXAMPLE APPLICATIONS

The applications for QR codes for access control are endless. Examples include (and are not limited to):

Corporate access control

Commercial facilities and secure locations often use plastic ID cards for staff or residents, as well as inspectors and contractors who need access on an ad-hoc basis. Instead of investing in scanning and database maintenance systems, QR codes are a cost-effective and flexible way to provide simple and easy-to-manage access control services. The phone number and identity of any guests can be recorded upon entry, and a QR code can be forwarded to the registered number. The code can be designed in a way that provides only selective access to various locations.

Furthermore, when displaying an access code on a smartphone, dynamic QR codes can be used. These change at regular intervals (e.g. every five seconds), making it almost impossible for the code to be re-used by anyone else.

Plus, by eliminating the traditional plastic access cards, your customers minimize any negative impact on the environment and improve their carbon footprint. There are no cards to purchase, print or distribute so it also reduces time-consuming manual processes.

Choose the RE40 for contactless RFID and the MS4717 boxed fixed imager for scanning phones and QR codes.

Cost effective tracking of high-value equipment

Expensive technologies and systems need replacing and servicing from time to time. They may need to be disassembled for repair and transported to different locations for this to happen. Such activities call for accurate tracking and management of all the parts and equipment. By having a QR code on every important piece of equipment, your customer can easily designate locations and conditions of operation. Automotive and manufacturing sectors will benefit greatly from asset tracking in this way, with the ability to tag multiple parts (Direct Part Mark) at goods-in and shipping without contact.

Choose the RE40 for contactless RFID and the SE475X DP for Direct Part Marking.



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Security operations

Security cameras are a staple of any security system. They are present at almost every corner of a building and different cameras collect footage of different locations. In some circumstances, the CCTV footage may need to be reviewed from certain locations, yet going through the entire database of all cameras is a time-consuming process. By having a QR tag on each camera, it is possible to scan the code on the relevant camera and receive immediate access to the footage required.

Industrial vending, device and access control

Complex QR codes can provide touch-free access control for high-traffic industrial vending, making access to resources and devices easier, faster and more hygienic. They can also store additional data about user identification, device information and device area usage. For instance if a mobile device is assigned to an employee who tries to go into a restricted area where that device cannot go, the device can feature a unique identifier to restrict access. This is ideal for hygiene control and tracking, device assignment and employee clock in/out.

Healthcare compliance

Zebra scanners with high-density barcodes (such as those used in medical equipment and electronics sectors) can allow you to use QR codes to mark and secure components and products. This information can be recalled to track the lifecycle of healthcare items for greater safety and compliance.

The consumer market

Using QR codes, delivery drivers can arrive at a location – an apartment block for example – and scan a QR code on a parcel for the recipient to receive a notification informing them that the parcel has arrived. The recipient can then allow access for the delivery driver to enter the building. From there he can leave the parcel in the lobby, drop box or in a secure locker, ready to be collected by the recipient – with no human contact or use of a pin pad at all – for greater flexibility, hygiene and speed. Plus, making deliveries becomes far quicker for delivery drivers who are not left at the door trying to gain access or attempting to return for a redelivery.

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Further QR code retail applications include:

- Buy Online, Pick Up in Store (BOPIS) and curbside pickup for a quick and simple way to shop
- Drop boxes for returning unwanted items without a queue
- Secure locker solutions for easily collecting purchases without visiting a store
- The use of wearables to increase efficiency on the shop floor
- Vending machines for quick and easy access to grab-and-go consumer products
- Taking payment and scanning loyalty cards

Unique identifiers are available globally and include WeChat, AliPay and Swish.

Coronavirus – one of the most significant business disruptors of our time – has changed the way we all do business, and is likely to continue to do so for many years. Touch-free access control to places and equipment through the use of QR codes is likely to now become a significant growth areas for OEMs.

Why Zebra for OEM technologies?

Zebra is a proven, time-tested technology partner that has a long history of making businesses as smart and connected as the world we live in. Zebra commits to partnering with OEMs to deliver scan engines for custom requirements. Imagine Zebra engineers working hand-in-hand with your engineering team to maximize the performance of your data capture solution.

Extend your brand

Put your brand on Zebra Technologies white label products to extend your or your customers' brand image and drive consistency across a family of products.

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Reduce costs

Our OEM customers have proven that by working with Zebra, their support costs reduce. This is because they deal with one family of products, a consistent interface and operational characteristics, versus each customer making a different decision on peripherals and coming back to the OEM for support when something goes wrong. A comprehensive OEM-based solution drives quality consistency, compared with ad hoc solutions that don't.

Access to experts

During your access control development phases, you have access to each of our engineering disciplines (optical, mechanical, software or regulatory) to support every aspect of the development process.

Custom products

If there are any custom access control requirements, our engineers can perform requested enhancements. This is usually a fee-based service.

Support

Our OEM product support is second to none, in terms of our field pre-sales engineers, product documentation, and more.

Interested in finding out more about QR codes for access control applications?

Contact our team of specialists:

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