

Proximity vs. Smartcard



Keyscan's K-SMART reader and K-SECURE1K/4K cards utilize Mifare technology and AES Rijndael 128 bit encryption to bring you the highest level of credential security.

Security Concerns with 125kHz Proximity

Proximity readers and cards have been on the market for over 25 years. The 125 kHz proximity technology is susceptible to counterfeits and duplication, in fact, card "sniffing" devices that can easily pull the card number and replay it at critical access points are readily available online, and can be purchased for approximately \$200.00. The availability of these devices makes it very difficult to monitor unlawful access to your facility, and leaves the security of the system vulnerable.

To ensure the highest level of security, Keyscan recommends K-SMART readers and K-SECURE1K/4K cards.

Security Benefits of Smartcards

Smartcards operate on 13.56 MHz technology which provides significantly more data transmission. With this extra bandwidth a smartcard issues a series of encrypted challenge and response codes to identify that the card and reader are a match before the card number is transmitted. With this increased amount of encrypted information flowing between the card and reader the potential to pull the card number information is significantly reduced and the possibility of fraudulent card duplication is dramatically reduced.

- Higher Security
- Same wiring and installation as 125 kHz proximity (no training required)
- Card encryption reduces duplication
- Same operation as 125kHz, has no impact on card holders



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	SMARTCARD READER	PROXIMITY READER
Technology	13.56 MHz	125 kHz
Level of Security	High	None
Encryption	YES	NO
Threat of Counterfeits	Low	High
Read Range	1-2 inches	4-6 inches
Wiring	6 Conductor 22 AWG	6 Conductor 22 AWG

Cost Differential

Over the past five years, smartcard readers have dramatically reduced in price, and are comparable to proximity readers. For the benefit of the added security, and peace of mind for end-users, the choice to use smartcard readers in all new installations is clear. For existing systems that are making the transition to smartcards, KeyScan offers the K-SMART-125, a combination reader that can read both card formats, for a seamless conversion.

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