

BIOMETRIC IDENTIFICATION FAQs

What is biometric identification?

Biometric identification is the use of automated methods to recognize a person based on a physiological or behavioral characteristic. Biometric features that can be measured include face, fingerprint, hand geometry, handwriting, iris, retina, vein or voice. While it traditionally has been only used in high security applications, it is now gaining acceptance in mainstream consumer use worldwide, especially as a result of September 11, 2001. *identiMetrics* utilizes biometric finger scanning in its products because it is fast, accurate, cost-effective, non-intrusive, and the most popular.

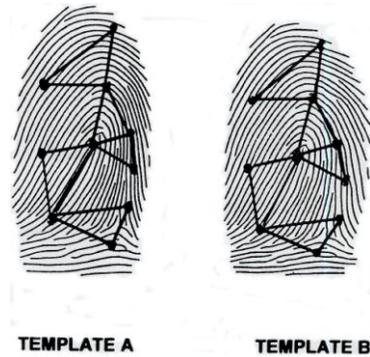
Why choose finger scanning identification?

Fingerprints have been used for identification as far back as ancient China. They are the standard without question. In addition to signatures, fingerprints are the only other form of identification that have a legal standing. A key issue in this area is privacy and the ability for misuse of a person's fingerprint. This has been addressed by not making a copy of the fingerprint. Instead, a computer program creates a template of the unique fingerprint characteristics. This is sufficient for one-to-one or one-to-many matching and insures the privacy of the person.

How does fingerprint identification work?

All fingerprints are unique and that makes them ideal for personal digital identification. Using fingerprint scanners, the software scans the ridges, furrows and minutiae points of the fingerprint to create individual templates that identify each person. The template is then stored in a database (Template A). At a later time, when a person places their finger on the scanner, the software again scans the fingerprint and creates a new template (Template B). The software

then compares the newly created template (Template B) with those stored in the database. When a match is made, the person is identified. AT NO TIME IS A FINGERPRINT IMAGE EVER STORED. NO FINGERPRINTS CAN BE RECREATED FROM THE TEMPLATE.



What are schools using today to identify and track students?

Many services in schools (school access, attendance, cafeteria, library, nurse's office) require identification of students and staff. The most common kinds of identification currently in use are smart, swipe, bar code or picture identification cards; PINs (Personal Identification Numbers); and, of course, visual identification. Because students regularly lose or mutilate their cards or forget their PINs, each day teachers or aides must issue and collect the cards. In the case of PINs, adults must be present to help the students remember their numbers. Lost or mutilated cards must be reissued. Cards and PINs can also be stolen and student IDs can be forged. And visual identification is a poor solution especially with today's considerable security concerns and reporting issues.