

CSCS

# Working smarter to increase safety, security and efficiency on construction sites



# In an industry that's constantly evolving, SmartCard technology ensures that safety, security and efficiency remain top priorities now and in the years ahead.

The CSCS SmartCard reinforces the construction industry's commitment to **working smarter for safer, more efficient construction sites** – key factors in winning business in a fiercely competitive marketplace.

The CSCS SmartCard says that these issues are taken very seriously.

A CSCS SmartCard is a credit card sized plastic card containing a simple computer chip that can store and process electronic data in a highly secure manner. This technology offers employers, contractors, clients and workers many benefits.

SmartCards are much harder to forge than plain printed cards, and counterfeit cards can easily be detected when the card is checked using an inexpensive card-reader. Best of all, the CSCS SmartCard, could be all that's needed to access construction sites.

Information can be stored electronically in the card chip and the CSCS SmartCard has the potential to be used for a host of new applications that can bring about even greater efficiencies when linked with existing systems. For example, it can be used for tracking tool box talks and site inductions; recording continuing professional development;

controlling access to building sites through turnstiles; monitoring time and attendance; verifying occupational health restrictions and much more.

**The construction industry is 'going smart'. This revolution will deliver significant benefits for the whole supply chain.**



## How the business benefits from the CSCS SmartCard

### Eliminate access by fake or incorrect cardholders

This gives certainty that workers on construction sites should actually be there and that they are competent to carry out the work expected of them.

### Enhanced Safety

Ensuring that only bona-fide workers are on site significantly reduces the risk of accidents.

### Save time

Manually verifying a card's authenticity takes up valuable time. With a SmartCard details can be checked in seconds.

### Attract more work

Construction clients will soon be requiring SmartCards on sites and will demand that all contractors *go smart*.

### Encourages continuing professional development

SmartCard provides additional proof of IIP commitment, and other professional accreditations.

## Why we're going Smart

- SmartCards are much harder to forge than plain printed cards.
- Counterfeit cards can easily be detected using an inexpensive card reader.
- Because information is stored electronically in the card chip, the CSCS SmartCard can be used for a host of new applications. Things like tracking tool box talks and site inductions; recording continuing professional development; controlling access to building sites; monitoring time and attendance; ticketing for public transport; enabling chip and pin payments; verifying occupational health restrictions and much more.
- SmartCard technology eliminates the need to ring the CSCS Helpline to verify a card's authenticity.
- A cardholder's identity can be verified using a card reader even if the printing on the card is badly worn.
- Information on the card has the potential to be updated electronically without having to issue a replacement.



## How do CSCS SmartCards work?

The CSCS SmartCard works in much the same way as the traditional CSCS Card. The big difference is that instead of just looking at the card and perhaps calling the CSCS Helpline to check the card's details, the site supervisor will have the option to check the validity of the card using an electronic SmartCard reader.

Two kinds of reader can be used for this purpose: a simple handheld device costing from £113.99+VAT, or the solution that CSCS recommends, which is a PC or laptop connected reader available for as little as £16.95+VAT.

## PC connected readers

Reading a CSCS SmartCard using a PC or laptop connected reader will display the cardholder's details and photograph on the computer screen. As with the handheld reader, this will demonstrate that the card is genuine and will verify the information printed on the card.

The CSCS SmartCard is a dual interface card, which means it can be read using a contact reader (one where the card is inserted into a slot in the reader), or a contactless reader (one where the card is simply

The CSCS SmartCard says a great deal about your company and how you do business.

placed on the outside surface of the reader). Contactless readers cost slightly more but read cards more quickly.

A selection of models that have been tested for compatibility are available from CSCS's preferred supplier. There is a link to information and the ability to buy online from the CSCS website.

In the absence of an electronic card reader, the card can continue to be used exactly like a traditional printed card.

## Handheld readers

The handheld reader is a self-contained, battery-powered device that can fit into a pocket. When a genuine CSCS SmartCard is inserted into the card slot at the top of the unit, the cardholder's name, CSCS number, qualifications, and the expiry date of the card, will be viewed on the display. This will demonstrate that it is a genuine CSCS card and will confirm the cardholder's details. All that remains is to check the cardholder's face matches the photo on the card.



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For more information and regular updates about SmartCards, visit

[www.cscssmartcard.co.uk](http://www.cscssmartcard.co.uk)

or call the CSCS Helpdesk on **0844 576 8777**

