



RFID Credential Management Deployed for World Youth Day 2008



Over 30,000 workers, volunteers, performers and clergy were accredited for World Youth Day

Sydney, Australia WYD08 – World Youth Day 2008 has been a successful event for young Catholic pilgrims of the world from age 16-35 which took place in and around greater Sydney from 15th July 2008 to 20th July 2008. The event culminated with a peak attendance of almost 500,000 people at the final mass in Randwick.

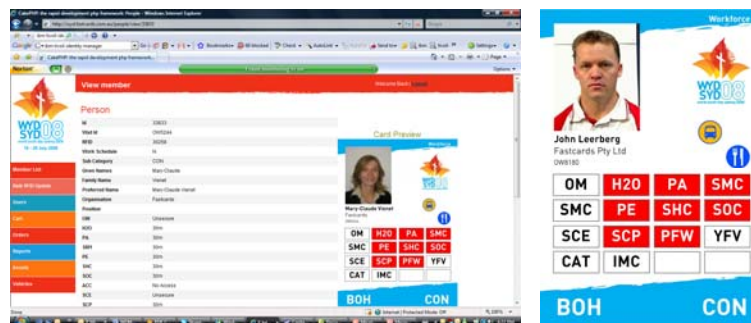
In what was a world first for the Sydney WYD Organisation, RFID technology was implemented at the event across multiple operating sites. **Over 30,000 RFID embedded credentials were used** during the event. The ID Solution from Fastcards, also catered for the production and management of Vehicle access passes and day passes. The solution also included a **mobility application running on Rugged PDA Style Computers with inbuilt RFID readers**, enabling in field verification of credentials especially within high security access zones.

Challenge

WYD08 wanted to use secure accreditation and access control devices at all events across multiple sites in Sydney with special security zones.

Solution

Fastcards provided a global solution including a very competitive and efficient web based program operating at multiple sites during the event. RFID embedded credentials were issued with specific security zones. The details of all credentials enabled authentication (anti-counterfeiting) as well as workforce schedule checks via portals built with Alien antennas and via RFID handheld readers.



An example of the Fastcards Credential issuance solution and The end result – an RFID Secure Holographic ID Credential Depicting venue access rights.

The advantages of RFID have proven to be relevant for such an event for authentication (anti-counterfeiting) and for time keeping of workforce / volunteer schedules. The solution peoples ID's upon arrival at the Workforce Check-in point and referenced their attendance against the WYD workforce schedule.





The **web based solution**, secured through the WYD08 Organisations VPN, operated at multiple sites during the event issuing credentials where required. Credential information was generated through the WYD08 Organisations purpose built Egeria 2 solution where background checking information was stored. Credentials were only passed through for production through the Fastcards solution once the background checking elements had been accepted.

The credential, a colourful memento in their own right, carried the name of the person, title or company name, a photo with a unique hologram, as well as a group code to differentiate, for example, contractors from volunteers or performers.

A **pre-encoded and uniquely printed RFID smart label from Alien Technology** enabled people to check in easily and quickly, the crowd going through the portals smoothly. **It proved to be an excellent crowd management system, helping to regulate traffic volume and automating the credential verification process.** Every person not allowed on site was easy to identify on LCD Screens at the check-in points and WYD08 Staff had a clearly identifiable person to assist in checking their access rights.



Bulk printed and encoded RFID labels

Fastcards has worked closely with Toshiba in Japan over the last 2 years to develop this **printing and encoding process for RFID Squiggle labels from Alien technology.** The process prints and encodes thin strip RFID labels which are then laminated by a Fastcards Label and Paper converter to be an integral part of pre-printed credential media.



Alien Technology RFID Squiggle Tag

Every person had on their pass, different access codes corresponding to a number of defined zones and events. They were organized in a way to also facilitate visual control.

Special secured zones were created and visual control was reinforced with random control with handheld readers.

“This major event has path the way for use of RFID in the future for anti-counterfeiting, time management and work force / contractor verification “ says the solution provider Scott Austin, CEO of Fastcards, a Syscan International Inc subsidiary. **“We had at one time 7 Remote Accreditation Centres and Work Force Portals operating across Sydney and the product worked extremely well despite the huge number of credentials that needed to be produced on the spot.”**



WYD08 credential (back view) with integrated RFID





350,000 people have seen these passes and will probably recognize the samples and the use of such commodity.

GS1 spokesperson Joseli Munive, the RFID Standards organisation building Supply Chain RFID standards, also recognises the introduction of high speed, high throughput RFID for this application as a great demonstration of the technology's capability which has recently been thrust into the security world with release of Alien's new secure UHF platform.

But how did everything happen?

WYD organisers had aspired to use secure accreditation and access control devices for many people and events. WYD requested a supplier to provide the best solution to fulfil the security requirement of both the Government and the Catholic Church. This also included an online induction video which was produced by Fastcards for the event!

Early this year, WYD turned to Fastcards an Australian RFID solution company – member of Syscan International – to provide all access control devices and secure accreditation credentials. "WYD08 wanted to control the physical ingress and egress of accredited persons and vehicles at a number of sites. This began at the preparation of all sites and continued during the event and while dismantling as well." says Dave Neal, Accreditation Manager.

WYD08 selected Fastcards for its successful track record at other RFID deployments, such as being **a provider of the MSIC cards** (anyone working within a secure area of a Port, Ship or offshore oil and gas facility is required to display an identification card known as a Maritime Security Identification Card or MSIC). As such, Fastcards has been approved by the Department of Transport and Regional services (DoTaRS) as an **Authorized Issuing body**. Fastcards had the knowledge to fully understand background checks, which was one of the key elements for the accreditation team, who had to process thousands of demands.



WYD08 Remote Accreditation Centre Staff in action using the Fastcards Credential Management Solution with inbuilt webcam photo





With RFID Credentials

"We were able to come on board the Accreditation team with a very competitive and efficient web database solution that complied to all WYD08 requirements thanks to our experience with MSIC cards, BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance RFID deployment and other projects" says Scott Austin.

"Involving RFID in our process has proven its efficiency. Throughout the preparation of the event, both teams have worked closely to find the best way to create an access control pass common to all users but having different access rights. **Different levels of access were created to accommodate different locations, special events and zones of restrictions.** All information was introduced into the WYD data base and transferred to the Fastcards-WYD database developed according to WYD needs" comments Ian Steingrad, Director, Event Planning & Operations. The customized web solution also enables the search of a person or a group, capture of photos, creation of new persons, visibility of different reports, bulk or single printing as well as a link to their internal database. "Their solution was user friendly, proved to be reliable and flexible. The RFID Portals were a reliable solution ensuring that nobody was allowed on site unless they were properly accredited by our HR Team."

RFID was essential to fulfil WYD requirements and Fastcards provided an efficient, cost effective, customized solution based on their previous internal development. Event organizers can rely on a well experienced team and a complete solution for complex events with multi-facets.



WYD08 Staff and Volunteers ready for action



Reporting for duty late at night at the Randwick Remote Accreditation Centre and workforce check-in.

