

Optimizing Manufacturing Performance with the Ruggedized DS3400 Series Scanners



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Application Brief

Symbol Technologies



Key Benefits

- *Increases flexibility by reading all industry-standard 2D and 1D bar codes*
- *Ensures high performance in the most extreme environments*
- *Increases productivity with omni-directional functionality*
- *Single device eliminates the need for multiple scanners*

Meeting Evolving Needs

As manufacturers look for new ways to cut costs without cutting quality, their attention has become focused on inventory control. New two-dimensional (2D) bar codes and direct part-marking techniques are ushering in capabilities previously unavailable on the factory floor. These advances allow parts manufacturers to encode more information on smaller and otherwise difficult-to-label components, giving their downstream manufacturing customers the ability to track inventory from the time the parts are received in-house through to the finished product. With these tracking capabilities, manufacturers get the benefit of cost savings associated with tighter inventory control while meeting customers' requirements and government regulations.

Yet, while bar-code symbology has advanced, many scanners can't read 2D bar codes, and lower-end imaging and digital scanners often suffer from performance problems. As a manufacturer, you know that timing is critical on the factory floor—you can't afford to waste time with scanners that can't keep up. You need a scanning solution that

will accurately capture all types of bar codes—including 2D and one-dimensional (1D) bar codes such as PD417 and Data Matrix codes—quickly and easily. You need the most efficient technology solutions so you can keep up with manufacturing processes and accurately capture data to attain true enterprise mobility.

Improving Performance on the Factory Floor

The DS3400 Series from Symbol Technologies includes the DS3407, which offers USB functionality and image transfer rates that make it ideal for newer production environments. The DS3400 Series also includes the DS3408, which has a multi-interface that allows it to work with a variety of hosts.

These scanners use digital technology to accurately capture the various types of bar codes found on the factory floor, allowing you to easily track inventory throughout the entire production process. With the DS3407 and DS3408, you not only have the ability to capture both 2D and 1D bar codes, but you also benefit from the high performance typically found only in laser scanners. The DS3400 Series scanners offer omni-directional scanning functionality,

which allows operators to quickly capture bar codes from any angle, eliminating the need to line up bar codes with laser lines. The added functionality offered by the DS3400 two-position smart focus technology allows end users to read bar codes regardless of the size or density of the code. This feature is unique to Symbol and allows you to have a single device that meets all your needs.

The DS3407 and DS3408 have been built for the factory floor. The ruggedized scanners feature a six-and-a-half-foot drop specification and IP65 sealing to virtually eliminate damage if they are dropped. In addition, the handheld design of the DS3407 and DS3408 makes them easy to use—you can simply point and shoot—while the integrated Intellistand offers you the flexibility to quickly convert the scanners into hands-free units. The DS3407 and DS3408 provide the widest working range of any available scanner in its class, performing equally well at a distance or close-up, which helps you increase productivity.

Both scanners offer the high performance you need. Unlike many digital scanners that use the lower-quality sensors often found in cell phone and PC cameras, the DS3407 and DS3408 come equipped with charge-coupled device (CCD) image sensors, which use the same type of technology found in high-end digital cameras. CCD sensors allow the scanners to accurately capture and process bar codes at a faster pace than other digital scanners. In addition, the DS3407 leverages this technology to let you capture and transfer images in less time than when using other types of digital scanners.

Transforming Requirements into Competitive Advantage

Manufacturers can no longer afford to treat part tracking as an option—for many, it's now a requirement. In the United States, manufacturers in the automotive industry are required by the TREAD Act to be able to track critical parts in cars from start to finish, while companies in other industries are under pressure from their customers to track

and mark parts as well. For example, the U.S. Department of Defense now requires its suppliers to directly mark all parts worth more than \$5,000. And for many, printed labels and 1D bar codes are no longer an option. Companies in these industries are now required to use 2D bar codes, such as those using the popular Data Matrix symbology, on the parts they manufacture.

But whether it's required or not, tracking parts can be a competitive advantage if you have the technology to read these bar codes. With the DS3407 and DS3408, you can now trace marked parts throughout the production process. You can track inventory usage in real time and use this information to create more accurate production schedules and avoid scheduling bottlenecks. This level of detailed information allows you to reduce inventory levels throughout the supply chain, which helps to cut carrying costs.

The effectiveness of many scanners has been limited by read errors, and slow transfer rates and poor capture capabilities can slow down production processes. With the DS3407 and DS3408 scanners, you benefit from a scanning solution designed specifically for fast-paced production environments. Operators can quickly scan items and move them to the next station or down the line, speeding throughput. Furthermore, the scanners' CCD sensors ensure accuracy, which reduces the costs associated with manual corrections.

The DS3407 and DS3408 scanners are built to last. Besides offering durability and performance in a ruggedized package, they're designed to protect your investment. Both can scan 2D bar codes as well as older 1D bar-code symbologies. The DS3408 includes a multi-interface that allows it to work with a variety of hosts, while the DS3407 offers USB functionality and faster transfer rates,

making it ideal for newer production environments. This enables you to choose the option that is right for you—without having to worry about making a large investment in your overall architecture.

Reducing the Chances of Downtime

The DS3407 and DS3408 are backed by world-class service and support designed to reduce downtime by ensuring that any problems that may occur with the scanner are quickly resolved. It's this reliability, combined with their ruggedized features, that makes the DS3400 Series ideal for the manufacturing environment.

Creating New Value with a High-Performance Scanning Solution

For many manufacturers, the ability to read 2D bar codes offers new opportunities. But you need the scanning technology that allows you to benefit from the possibilities of these 2D bar codes. In this world, not all scanners are created equal—and lack of performance can quickly eliminate any potential gains.

That's why Symbol has created this new line of digital scanners. Designed for today's manufacturing environment, the DS3407 and DS3408 offer the high performance you need to take advantage of the possibilities of the new 2D bar codes, and provide these features in a ruggedized package that meets the needs of the factory floor.

For more information about the DS3400 line of scanners, please contact us at +1.800.722.6234 or +1.631.738.2400 or visit us on the Web at www.symbol.com/ds3400.



About Symbol Technologies

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