



## **Access International's RFID System Successful in Stopping University Laptop and Identity Thefts**

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Access International Inc., a leading provider of Dual-Active RFID and Real Time Location Systems (RTLS) solutions, and IDZ RFID Mexico, one of the most active RFID consulting and integration service providers in Latin America, announced the successful implementation of its asset management system at Universidad Regiomontana, a premier Mexican academic institution. The University deployed Access' ActiveTag RFID physical computer asset protection solution in January 2006 with the goal of reversing asset theft and enhancing personnel tracking. Prior to implementation the university suffered a rate of 10-15 percent in laptop thefts on a regular basis; following the use of the system, the thefts have been reduced to zero.

"The Access system has provided our institution with a simple and powerful solution to help us address the issue of laptop theft," said Francisco Javier Hernandez of Universidad Regiomontana. "Since our deployment of Access' Active RFID System we have virtually eliminated the theft of employee laptops on our campus and can say with confidence that our students' and our employees' personal information is safe."

Identity theft is a growing problem for students and young adults domestically as well as abroad. According to the US Federal Trade Commission, reports of identity theft in the US increased 574 percent in three years, from 31,117 in 2000 to about 210,000 in 2003, with the majority of victims -- 28 percent -- between the ages of 18 and 29. The U.S. Department of Education also recognizes that identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in the United States, costing victims over \$5 billion annually, and an estimated 9.9 million consumers were victims of identity theft in 2003. In the state of California for example, Senate Bill 1386 (SB 1386), which was passed on July 1, 2003 and became law under the California Civil Code 1798, also known as the "California Information Practices Act," requires institutions, including universities such as the University of California, Santa Cruz, to notify individuals when their "personal identity information" (PII) has been stolen or inappropriately accessed. Examples of a breach included lost or stolen laptops.

"The successful deployment at Universidad Regiomontana further verifies that Access' ActiveTag solution is proven to deter and protect against the theft of assets which if stolen would compromise personal information," said Allan Griebenow, president and CEO of Access International. "We are pleased that our system has met the University's need to put an end to crime of this nature. Access is busy helping academic and institutions of all kinds protect the personal assets and data of employees and students."

Access' patented ActiveTag RFID/RTLS and sensing systems use small, re-usable battery-powered tags (generically called "Dual-Active" tags) that when automatically activated, transmit a wireless message typically 30 to 100 feet to hidden palm size receivers. The receivers are connected via standard network simultaneously to the enterprise system software, the existing security alarm equipment, and standalone middleware and end-user software provided by Access under the OnlineSurpervisor label. With tags being activated only on-demand and only at control point locations, the system is highly reliable and accurate, with the tags lasting five years or longer depending on the battery being used. The Access Control Point architecture has been found to be more reliable than other local positioning methods using Wi-Fi systems or signal strength measurements. Its activation-based positioning can determine if an asset has left a secured area down to 1 foot of accuracy and can also determine its direction. The system alerts responsible personnel on an exception basis, freeing up asset management personnel for other critical tasks.

Axcess recently introduced a new, low profile high-powered RFID asset tag measuring only 1" by 3" by 1/4" high. It is uniquely capable of reliably tagging solid metal IT assets, a feat typically difficult for wireless tags. The Axcess systems are used for a variety of enterprise productivity applications including automatic personnel access control and tracking, automatic vehicle access control and payload management, automatic asset management and protection, as well as special purpose sensing. Additional information is available on the Company's Web site at [www.axcessinc.com](http://www.axcessinc.com).