

## **Strom Thurmond High School Deploys Biometric Identification Software, Eliminating ID Cards & Improving Overall Productivity**

*Cost effective solution eliminates need for students to carry ID cards, expediting identification while improving system accuracy*

With 77 percent of its 1,012 students on a free or reduced lunch program, the Strom Thurmond High School staff sought an accurate student identification system that would work with their current cafeteria and library software. The solution had to be cost-effective and secure. The high school, located in rural Edgefield County, South Carolina, selected identiMetrics' solution, identiFi™, based on BIO-key International's award winning, patented biometric matching software and installed by Retail Dynamics.

"As Principal, I am always interested in improving safety and efficiency in my school," says Greg Thompson. "One challenge has been accurate student identification in our cafeteria and library. Before identiMetrics, we used student ID cards with PINs. Many students showed up every day without their cards and would be sent to obtain temporary or replacement IDs. This was extremely disruptive and significantly extended the time it took us to settle the school down every morning. We obviously needed a better solution."

"We wanted something that students could not forget, lose, damage or steal," Greg continues. "At the same time, it had to be compatible with our existing cafeteria and library software *and* be cost-effective. We decided that finger-based biometrics was the solution. Students would never forget their fingers. identiMetrics' solution scans a student's finger for identification and seamlessly integrates with any cafeteria application that uses swipe cards, PINs or bar codes. The software can also be used to identify students in other areas of the school for classroom attendance or in the library, nurse's office or even for security access to the front door. "

"Biometric finger scanning identification was well accepted by the Board, Superintendent, teachers, parents and community," Greg says. "They all understood our need to correctly identify students and realized the disruption and cost required to administer the card program. Initially, there were questions regarding privacy. Since the identiMetrics solution, using BIO-key's finger scanning algorithms, doesn't store an actual fingerprint – it uses unique identifying points – everyone felt comfortable that the fingerprints couldn't be recreated."

So, what impact has the new fingerscan process had at the school?

"The school now settles down within 10 minutes most mornings, a major improvement over when we used badges," Greg notes. "We have also significantly reduced the number of disciplinary actions required when students forget their badges. An unexpected benefit was reducing the number of student suspensions!"

“Our food service and library staffs mastered the program easily,” Greg says. “Lines move quickly and account records are accurate. Our cashiers and librarians no longer have to type in student identification numbers for students who forget their cards.”

“Our students have adapted quickly as well,” he continues. “They no longer need to look for their cards, get replacement cards, go to the end of the line when they don’t have their cards, feel embarrassed if they are on free or reduced lunch, or spend time in detention for not having their cards. Now, students **always** have their IDs with them.”

### **About BIO-key**

BIO-key develops and delivers advanced identification solutions and information services to law enforcement departments, public safety agencies, government and private sector customers. BIO-key's mobile wireless technology provides first responders with critical, reliable, real-time data and images from local, state and national databases. BIO-key's high-performance, scalable, cost-effective and easy-to-deploy biometric finger identification technology accurately identifies and authenticates users of wireless and enterprise data to improve security, convenience and privacy and to reduce identity theft. Over 2,500 police, fire and emergency services departments in North America use BIO-key solutions, making BIO-key the leading supplier of mobile and wireless solutions for public safety worldwide. (<http://www.bio-key.com>)

### **About identiMetrics**

*identiMetrics*, Inc, a privately held company headquartered in Malvern, PA, is a leader in the development, integration and marketing of biometric finger scanning products. *identiMetrics*' solution, *identiFi*<sup>™</sup>, is a comprehensive biometric fingerscanning identification platform that provides a cost-effective and accurate biometric identification replacement for swipe card readers, bar code readers, and PIN pads. *identiFi*<sup>™</sup> eliminates the problems and costs created by cards and PIN pads and gives irrefutable proof of identification for security and recordkeeping purposes. *identiFi*<sup>™</sup> provides a single sign-on solution and integrates seamlessly with different applications already in place. For more information, visit [www.identimetrics.net](http://www.identimetrics.net).

### **About Retail Dynamics**

**Retail Dynamics, Inc.** is a complete point-of-sale hardware and software solutions company for many industries. Its products will fit virtually any environment by offering both PC and ECR based systems. Retail Dynamics is selling, installing and supporting *identiMetrics* biometric solution, *identiFi*<sup>™</sup>, into its customer base of schools and retail POS installations in New York, Georgia and South Carolina. For more information, visit [www.retaildynamics.com](http://www.retaildynamics.com)

**BIO-key Safe Harbor Statement**

This news release contains forward-looking statements that are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those projected on the basis of these statements. The words "estimate," "project," "intends," "expects," "believes," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are made based on management's beliefs, as well as assumptions made by, and information currently available to, management pursuant to the "safe-harbor" provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. For a more complete description of these and other risk factors that may affect the future performance of BIO-key International, see "Risk Factors" in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-KSB and its other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date made. The Company also undertakes no obligation to disclose any revision to these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date made or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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