

Digital pen finally looks set to fulfil promise

The latest digital pens, combined with specially adapted paper and wireless technology, interpret handwritten data for computer use – enabling on-location record filing and emailing, ensuring a “paper-trail” of official documents while taking the monotony out of form-filling

Anoto paper

Each page is identified by a unique pattern of dots which also locate exact position of pen

Magicomm pen

Infrared camera maps pen strokes on paper. Images processed into bitmapped or vector images



Bitmap



Vector

Magic

Image processor

Pressure sensor

Memory

Ink cartridge

Battery
Bluetooth transceiver

Digital camera
Infrared light
Optical unit

Handwriting converted into machine-readable text

Pattern: 0.1mm printed dots read by infrared camera. Different parts of page can be assigned separate functions

STOP/STOP & SEARCH RECORD OF PERSON/VEHICLE
Stop & Search: YES
Time: 5:48:22
Date: 22/03/06

Pen stores data on form – once complete, tick to send

Pen stores data on form – once complete, tick to send

Sources: Anoto, Magicomm

Data sent via Bluetooth to phone

Data relayed to back-office system, e.g. computer database, email or fax

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