

product data



Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for laundry sorting

What is a RFID button?

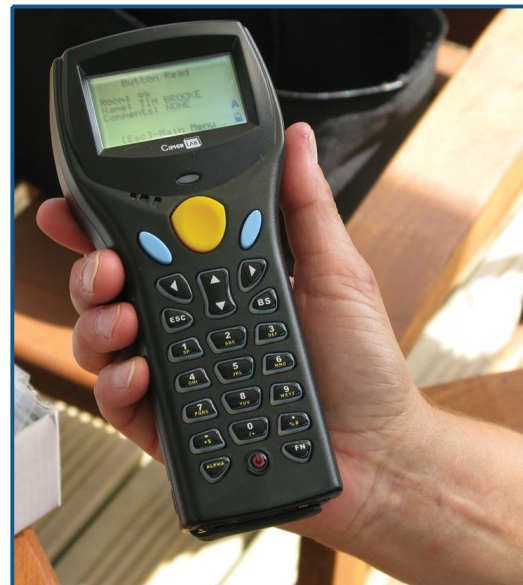
A RFID button is a durable, small and discreet button that can be programmed to hold up to 200 characters of information. The button is then attached to items of clothing to help with easy identification.

The buttons can be quickly and easily attached and removal is also very simple using a special tool that removes the buttons without causing any damage. They are also more durable than using sticking or sewing labels or writing names in permanent ink.

Why is it needed?

A person's clothes in many ways form part of an individual's identity with older people often taking great pride in their appearance. Unfortunately the ability to choose what to wear can become more of a problem for people with dementia.

Lapses in memory can result in people not being able to identify their own clothing and because clothing from several residents may be washed and sorted together, it can be a significant problem for residential or specialist care units ensuring the items are returned to its rightful owner.



Where residents can not identify their own clothing, it is often impossible to return each item correctly and usually results in clothing being worn by the wrong resident.

This causes stress for both the resident and their family who sometimes relate the issue to the level of care their loved one is receiving. This may also result in a collection of anonymous clothing and there is the cost of replacements.

The care unit can sort clothing items by simply scanning the buttons using a handheld reader that displays the pre-programmed information on a screen.

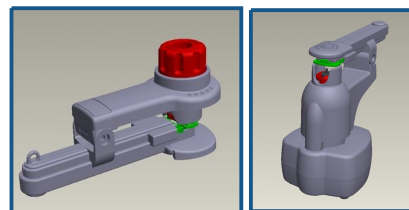
How does it work?

A small button like device is attached to each item of clothing and each button is programmed to store up to 200 characters of information to identify the owner. This information can include the person's name, unit, room number and any other information that they may wish to keep private e.g. skin related conditions or allergies to biological washing powders. All items of clothing can then be collected for washing together.

Application tools

The desktop applicator tool is a motorized (mains powered) device that rotates the black part of the button – through the fabric of the garment – into the white part of the button. This provides a quick and easy method of fitting buttons.

The handheld applicator can be used anywhere to fit a small quantity of buttons.



Features and benefits

- **Promotes individuality, dignity, choice and privacy**
The use of discreet button replaces the need to clearly label clothing.
- **Reduces anxiety and stress**
Residents, their family and staff all benefit from a reduction in stress by ensuring clothing is returned to the correct residents
- **Saves time**
Members of staff will avoid the need to find the correct owner of unidentifiable items or search for lost items, allowing them to spend more time looking after residents
- **Saves money**
Reduces the need to replace items of lost clothing.



For further information on RFID or the full range of Tunstall's advanced telecare solutions please contact 1300 760 333

Tunstall is a founder member of the Continua Health Alliance

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