



APPLICATION NOTE

Fingerprint Sensor Cleaning and Care

Introduction

The fingerprint sensor is a rugged solid-state device designed to provide years of trouble-free service. Although maintenance and handling requirements for the Bioscan II® are few in number, observance of a few basics in caring for it will help to ensure a high level of performance over the life of the sensor.

Cleaning the Fingerprint Sensor

Oily deposits from your finger accumulate on the surface of the fingerprint sensor after repeated use. These deposits can inhibit the functionality of the sensor. CMI recommends that the sensor be cleaned at least once per week, but it should also be cleaned anytime an oily residue is visible on the sensor surface.

Use isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) and a clean cotton cloth or tissue paper to remove oily deposits. Do not use a soiled cloth or tissue paper to clean the sensor. A clean cotton cloth or tissue paper will absorb the deposits, but a soiled cloth will smear the deposits over the sensor surface. Rubbing alcohol is the preferred cleaning solution because it dissolves the oily residue and evaporates quickly.

The use of nylon brushes or scouring pads, abrasive cleaning fluids or powders, or steel wool is not recommended.

Caring for the Fingerprint Sensor

The Bioscan II® is designed to perform well even under harsh conditions; nevertheless, some precautions should be taken to avoid damaging the sensor:

- The Bioscan II® can be damaged by a discharge of static electricity from your body. However, the fingerprint sensor is surrounded by conductive plastic which is connected to a ground plane. You should always touch the conductive plastic before touching the sensor in order to safely discharge any static electricity that may be present on your skin or clothing.
- Do not place the fingerprint sensor close to a heat source, such as a radiator or hot plate. The reader can be stored in temperatures ranging from -65° C to +150° C, and can operate in temperatures ranging from 0° C to + 60° C. In addition, the sensor should not be exposed to rain or excessive moisture. The sensor can operate within a range of 5% to 95% relative humidity (non-condensing). With the exception of isopropyl alcohol, do not spill any liquids on the sensor.
- Do not subject the fingerprint sensor to heavy shocks or vibrations.
- Do not allow the sensor to come in contact with metallic objects.