



Care of Identity Card

User habits have a decisive influence upon the lifetime and usability of an identity card. For this reason it is impossible for the manufacturer of Identity cards, to offer information concerning the lifetime or offer a warranty for identity cards.

There is no shortage of ideas when it comes to utilization possibilities for a plastic identity card. Identity cards should not be misused, because the medium is not designed organizationally or from the material for utilization as for example as an ice scraper, door opener, scraper, spatula or shoe horn. This form of utilization is normally repaid with a shortened lifetime for the transponders. Every form of misuse causes external, mechanical as well as chemical stress factors on the identity card, which can be the cause of deforming, brittleness breakages up to and including the disintegration.

Mechanical influences

The very much loved habit of many people is to carry the identity card in the wallet in the trouser backside pocket, which leads to an increase in the negative effects on the identity card:

- the card takes on an irreversible curve in a very short time
- according to the accessories in the wallet pressure points caused by coins lead to breakage (for example predetermined breakage points for the physical photos in the identity card). Especially for transponder identity cards the danger exists of the antenna tear-off point from the chip or even a chip breakage.

Thermal influences

Identity cards stored in motor driven vehicles should always be kept in a special identity card cover in the shade, under no circumstances on the dashboard behind the windscreen, so that deforming through heat as well as hardening-out, which can be the cause of possible malfunctioning. Identity cards are also not washing machine resistant.

Chemical and physical influences

It is often the influence of chemicals which causes the identity card to disintegrate. When carrying in a handbag it is possible that ethereal solutions (for example nail polish and remover, perfumes etc.) that it becomes brittle which can lead to breakage. Even wallets, purses, carrying covers made from alien plastics can lead to brittleness breakages. This list can be supplemented through the following experiences:

- Contact with tannic acid (wallets, handbags)
- alien softening agents (all types of plastics with softening agent contents), because the identity cards are produced from **softening agent free PVC**
- Body sweat (ph value), alkaline effect (soap, washing agent) and petroleum gases (petrol)
- Utilization of adhesive labels (softening agent adhesive glue) **can** in connection with the previously mentioned effects cause, individually or together, brittleness and lead to the breaking of the identity card.
- Magnets (for example in the lock on a ladies handbag) can lead to data loss on the magnetic strip!

Conclusion

Identity cards should be stored in as close to flat neutral environment as possible. If you wish that your expensive identity card has a guaranteed long life, then you should store it away in a special identity card protective holder.