

What do your eyes say about you?

Are you authorised to carry certain weapons? Are you allowed access to sensitive buildings or areas? Just ten years ago the idea of being able to open a door with your eyeball was the stuff of Hollywood fantasies like *Minority Report* and *Mission Impossible*.

But this technology is now in use with its first UK police force at the City of London Police and is set to come to a force near you soon.

It's thanks to a unique collaboration between private technology companies, operational police officers and the Home Office Scientific Development Branch and is the brainchild of specialist police software provider JML Software Solutions Ltd. JML - stated aim: "make your work life easier" - already provides quick, efficient and robust auditing systems to a number of forces, particularly firearms support units with their popular Chronicle Firearms Critical Incident Management Module.

Retaining the same principles of speed, accuracy and simplicity, Chronicle Armoury uses iris recognition to make the weapons issue and return process completely paperless, efficient and extremely fast. Officers have their iris scanned into a tailor-made force database

to ensure maximum possible security. Unlike fingerprints, dirty hands, damaged fingers and insufficient pressure are not a problem with iris recognition. It will work even if used with glasses, contact lenses and CBRN respirators. The cameras, supplied by Aditech Ltd, use the completely unique coloured part of the visible eye to identify the user. No bright lights or lasers are used in the imaging and iris authentication process which is stable, reliable and extremely fast. The process recognises 244 points of the iris and so gives only a one in a 1.4 trillion chance of recognising the wrong person when using both eyes.

Having established the user is authorised, officers issue weapons by passing them over an RFID reader. A tiny RFID Tag on the weapon registers on the reader and links that particular weapon to the officer's record on the database. To return the weapon, the process is simply reversed for a complete audit trail.

If an officer tries to check out a weapon which they are unauthorised for, the system will flag this up and inform the system administrator. Chronicle Armoury also allows the iris recognition technology to be used to control access to the armoury, or other secure areas.

The database of officers is easily administered by supervisors to allow or bar any given person. Other features include setting of weapon maintenance schedules, preventing the re-issue of faulty weapons, clear audit trails, text message alert for unauthorised access attempts and ammunition inventory.

"The City of London Police tactical firearms group are pleased to embrace this state of the art technology: we have recognised the need to provide a user-friendly armoury issue system that is both defensible and easily auditable in order to provide protection for the officers and the organisation," said Chief Insp David Lawes.

"The advantages and possibilities of such a system are vast," said JML Software managing director Luis Ponte, himself a former firearms officer. "Combine the increased security offered by iris recognition with the ability to check the officers' identity, home force, authorisations, specialisms and occupational competency, and what you have is a system enabling commanders to ensure that the right resource is sent to the right place at the right time with an invaluable audit trail. The process would enable the smooth and efficient running of mutual aid and national mobilisation plans, negating officers having to go through slow and potentially flawed identification processes every time they arrive in a foreign force."

JML is offering free demonstrations of Chronicle Firearms CIM and Armoury, and tailor-makes other audit trail software.

To book an appointment please contact Luis Ponte on 0845 8676505, 07773499790 or Enquiries@JMLSoftware.co.uk

See us at the IFSEC international security exhibition at Birmingham's NEC on May 12-15 stand 16132

