BuildingReports® **Barcode Scanner Testing Process**

Providing our membership network with valuable and actionable support requires us to handle hardware recommendations and requests with the highest priority. Our team performs in-depth research and testing to ensure hardware is reliable and durable enough to withstand the extreme conditions inspectors experience in the field. This rigorous process ensures you receive recommended hardware you can trust. Learn about our barcode scanning testing process below:

MANUFACTURER CHECKS

01

- **History and Longevity**: Is the manufacturer well established? Will it continue offering support for the next 3-5 years?

- **Reputation**: Is the manufacturer respected within the industry?

- **Technical Support Quality**: To ensure high-quality technical support, we make test support calls.

- **Relationship Management**: If we have an existing manufacturer relationship, we'll ensure you receive a comparable level of support.
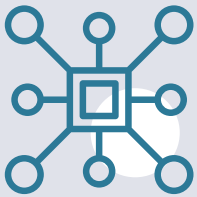
SOFTWARE TESTS

02

- **Open-Source Driver**: Software is tested to help mitigate risk and protect members from malicious and unethically written tracking programs.

- **Ease of Software Development**: In many cases, easy-to-support software development signals that manufacturers use similar principles to design their devices.

- **iOS and Android Support**: Mixed environments require support for all devices and operating platforms. (Note: Many inexpensive scanners only support Android.)

- **Trustworthy Scan**: To verify scan activity and maintain record keeping accuracy, keyboard wedge scanners are not utilized in our process.

- **Driver/Library Extra Function Support**: Includes remote scanning, battery life check, automated connections and pre-power off timeout notifications.

- **Combination Scanner Unit** *(mobile phone and barcode scanner combined)*:
  - Verify OS up to date.
  - Identify if scanner is directly integrated into the OS or if keyboard wedge is utilized.
  - Test compatibility of our apps on the device, including speed, screen size, etc.

HARDWARE TESTS

03

- **3ft/6ft Drop Durability**: In the field, units will inevitably be dropped, so we test durability with repeated 3-foot drops onto a concrete floor. Hardened units are tested with 6-foot drops.

- **Button Quality**: Good quality switches should handle tens of thousands of operations.

- **Battery Life**: Fully charged units should scan for 2 full days. On average, devices are inspected every 2 minutes, which is the common timeout feature for auto-power off scanners and mobile devices. Charging is recommended overnight and during breaks.

- **Battery Replacement**: How easy is battery replacement? Can it be done by the user, BRC or does it require manufacturer support?

- **Device Hardware Ratings**: Class 1 Div 2? IP65? Other?

- **Combination Scanner Unit** *(mobile phone and barcode scanner combined)*:
  - Verify unit's processor and memory speed.
  - If unit has camera, verify facility security protocols for camera use.
  - Test screen quality to verify readability in bright sunlight during outdoor use.
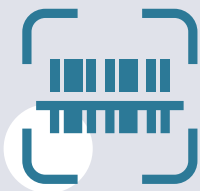
SCANNING CAPABILITY

04

- Ability to scan a BRC barcode from 24"?

- Capable of scanning 2D barcodes for SafetyScan?

- Flexibility to scan curved surfaces, like fire extinguishers and smoke detectors?

- Ability to scan in total darkness and bright sunlight?

- Capacity to scan faded and damaged barcodes?

USABILITY

05

- **Form Factor Assessment**: Identifying the right hardware. Devices that are too large may left behind. And those that are too small typically do not have the required battery life.

- **Storage and Accessibility**: Does manufacturer offer special device cases or mounting systems?

- **Unit Laser Alignment**:
  - Straight line best for 1D
  - Cross in middle best for 2D

- **Price Point**: Does the scanner's cost align with its performance testing results?
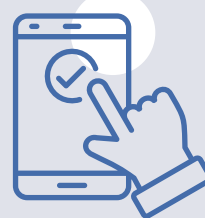
No scanner fulfills all requirements, but hardware selections can be optimized to better meet your needs.

BuildingReports is continuously sourcing the market, evaluating manufacturers and identifying new devices to meet your growing needs. We aim to select new scanners that provide better features and functions than the devices we currently support. This allows us to effectively deploy our dynamic member support offering, including software development, marketing, inventory management and technical support, to ensure you have access to the most advanced inspection tools and capabilities in the industry.

For more info call 770-495-1993, email info@buildingreports.com or visit our website at www.buildingreports.com

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