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Acumen Debuts AcuFare 200 Card Reader System with NFC Capability

Innovative engineering firm brings rugged, secure transit terminal equipment know-how to contactless payment and building and medical record access

Oakland, CA, June 9, 2011 — Acumen Building Enterprise, Inc., a leading provider of professional consulting services to the transportation industry, today announced the release of its innovative AcuFare 200 Smart Card Reader System with Near Field Communication capabilities (NFC) — wireless technology that allows devices to communicate without the need for physical contact.

The <u>AcuFare 200</u> enables secure, contactless payments and is an affordable automatic fare collection device for transit agencies and other organizations that need a versatile, contactless solution. This development is the latest move in keeping with Acumen's mission to improve the nation's transportation infrastructure through innovative systems design, robust product development and top-notch project management.

Acumen's AcuFare Smart Card Reader System offers a wide array of data management, reporting, smart card management and smart card fulfillment options designed to serve transit agencies of any size looking to integrate their fare collection operations with larger, regional transportation programs. The system also provides secure building access control and medical record access.

AcuFare 200 takes proven technology one step further, as secure, contactless payments are on the verge of becoming the preferred choice for consumers. Many industry experts hold that if people have contactless payment options and can understand and trust in the improved security that contactless payment offers, chances are strong that it may become a preferred payment method. One caveat: The public's acceptance of NFC-driven payment will require wide availability of terminal equipment to accept those payments.

"This is where I believe Acumen, specifically our AcuFare 200 Smart Card Reader System, can play a significant role," says Walter E. Allen, Acumen president and CEO. "We know that public transit applications require fast, convenient, rugged and secure equipment that can stand up to tons of use and transit abuse. Acumen staff knows NFC technology and has worked with it for years to produce terminal equipment in the transit industry. We also know AcuFare 200 will scale to work for other applications such as secure building access control or medical records access in the health care industry."

AcuFare 200 equipment features a powerful Linux-based processor that can easily add new business rules to complement closed-loop payment operations, and Acumen is starting the bank certification process to support open-loop payment solutions. As another strong sign of NFC's relevance, Allen points to recent news that Apple is throwing its hat in the ring with reported plans to integrate NFC capabilities into next-generation iPhones and iPads.

With this recent enhancement of the powerful AcuFare system, Acumen continues to find innovative ways to increase productivity, improve effectiveness and give back to the community. To learn more about NFC and other transportation infrastructure trends, read Walter E. Allen's blog, <u>The Transit</u> Advantage.

The fast-growing firm also supports a wide array of local and state government initiatives with top-flight engineering, cost-effective project controls and ground-breaking technology implementation. Acumen is improving the nation's infrastructure — and its business profile — one project at a time.

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<u>Acumen Building Enterprise, Inc.</u> is a professional consulting services provider that specializes in infrastructure management and intelligent transportation systems.