

# **Magstripe Card Reader System**

Quick-Reference Installation Guide  
for Magstripe Card-Readers  
Revision 2.2 - 06/19/18

## **Introduction:**

Kadtronix designs and develops card-access systems for applications including security, industrial control, access systems, and more. The Magstripe Card Access System (MCAS) for USB may be used for a number of purposes including the following:

- Card logging
- Access control
- Equipment tracking
- Industrial automation

MCAS-USB features quick and easy installation due to USB Plug-n-Play operation. The system includes these elements:

- Card reader
- Control relay
- Windows host software

MCAS USB software for Windows embeds a variety of features and options including card user database maintenance. Supporting upwards of 50,000 card users, the application affords the distinct advantage of a larger capacity than traditional standalone systems. This is possible because the MCAS-USB relies on the host application for database processing and card validation. As such, a continuous link to the host application is required.

Note: The Windows application software is an integral element of the access control system. It is required to execute continuously on your computer in order to provide round-the-clock access and control to card users.

## **Card Readers:**

MCAS USB accepts a USB card-reader with one of the following interfaces:

- HID
- Serial com port (virtual or physical)

Please consider the following additional details:

- Although readers offer multiple tracks, only track-2 is utilized by the host software.
- Most USB card-readers are bus-powered and therefore require no external power supply
- Interface cables are typically limited to six feet or less. In some instances, a USB extender device (not included) may be used to increase the operational distance.

### **Software Installation:**

Use the link below to download the Windows application software:

[http://www.kadtronix.com/downloads/mcas\\_usb30setup.zip](http://www.kadtronix.com/downloads/mcas_usb30setup.zip)

Next, run the setup installer executable and follow the on-screen instructions. (If the installer is provided in a .zip file, you must first extract the installer using WinZip or compatible program.) After installing, your software will require license registration for permanent activation.

Note: If your card reader requires a special driver, please follow the manufacturer's instructions for installing it.

### **Hardware Installation:**

To install the reader, simply plug the cable into an available USB port on your computer.

*Important:* If your card reader requires a special driver, please follow the manufacturer's instructions for installing it on your PC. Software driver installation may be required *prior* to plugging in the USB card reader.

### **USB relay:**

The USB relay is required for applications where it may be necessary to control a door, gate, or other equipment. The device contains dual onboard relays (with 2-amp contacts) for activating an electrical circuit. The relay(s) are activated automatically at the occurrence of a valid card swipe. The device provides two sets of wiring terminal blocks with the following screw terminal connections:

- N.C. - Normally closed relay contact
- COM - Common
- N.O. - Normally open relay contact

**Care and Maintenance:**

The product requires no special care or maintenance other than protection from direct exposure to the elements. It is vital to shield the reader and electronics from exposure to hazards including vandalism and the elements.

**Warranty:**

This product is warranted for a period of 1 year from the date of purchase and is guaranteed to be free from defects. The warranty covers the entire system, except if any part or component has been modified or otherwise converted from its original form. The warranty does not cover damage or failure due to neglect, improper use, or exposure to the elements.

**Disclaimer:**

Kadtronix and Delahoussaye Consulting shall not be held liable or responsible for incurred damage or injury which may result due to use of this product.

**Contact Information**

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