

Allen-Bradley 2755-L4FBA

## Front Scanning Enhanced Medium-Speed Scan Head



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### Installing the Package Detect Assembly (Catalog No. 2755-NP1)

The Package Detect Assembly consists of:

1. A self-contained photoelectric switch.
2. A 3-inch diameter reflector.

The switch has the following specifications:

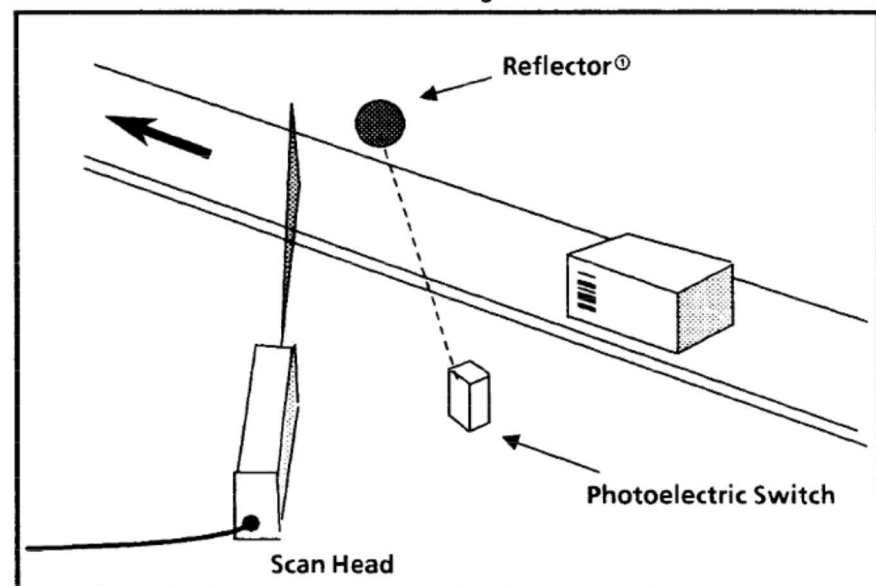
- Maximum operating range: 18 feet.
- Operating temperature: -13° to 158° F (-25° to 70° C).
- Tolerance to ambient sunlight: 10,000 foot candles.

When installing the switch, we recommend you observe the following guidelines:

- Install the switch at an angle to the labels to minimize the affect of light reflecting off the labels.
- Install the reflector so it does not exceed its operating range.
- The package detector beam must be broken before the label is in position to be read.

Figure 4.4 shows a typical package detector installation.

Figure 4.4  
Recommended Placement of the Package Detect Switch and Reflector.

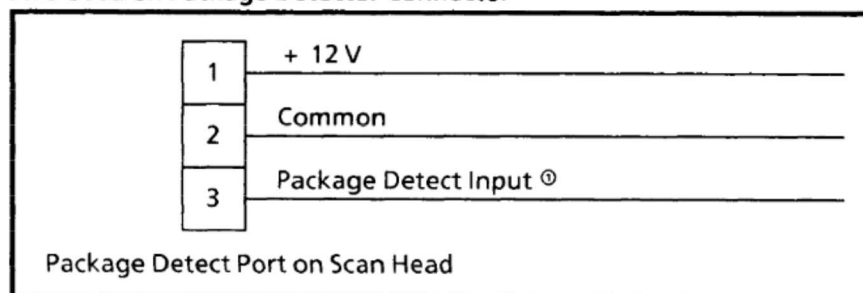


① The laser beam should not strike the reflector, or you may get inaccurate reads

**Installing the Package  
Detect Assembly  
(Catalog No. 2755-NP1)**  
(continued)

Figure 4.5 specifies which pins on the Package Detector Port Connector (Catalog No. 2755-NC7) are used.

**Figure 4.5**  
**Pins Used on Package Detector Connector**



① If triggering on package detect, with Pin 3 open, no bar code information is decoded and the Package Detect LED is OFF. The package detect input must be pulled low in order to decode information. The package detect LED on the Decoder will light when the package detect input is active.

**Note:** If the laser is programmed to be ON only upon a package detect, the laser will be OFF until the package detector is triggered.

# Chapter 5 Maintenance and Troubleshooting

## Chapter Objectives

Maintenance procedures are stated and troubleshooting charts are provided in this chapter.

## Maintaining the Equipment



**WARNING:** No user maintenance of the scan head is required. **Do not open the enclosure!**

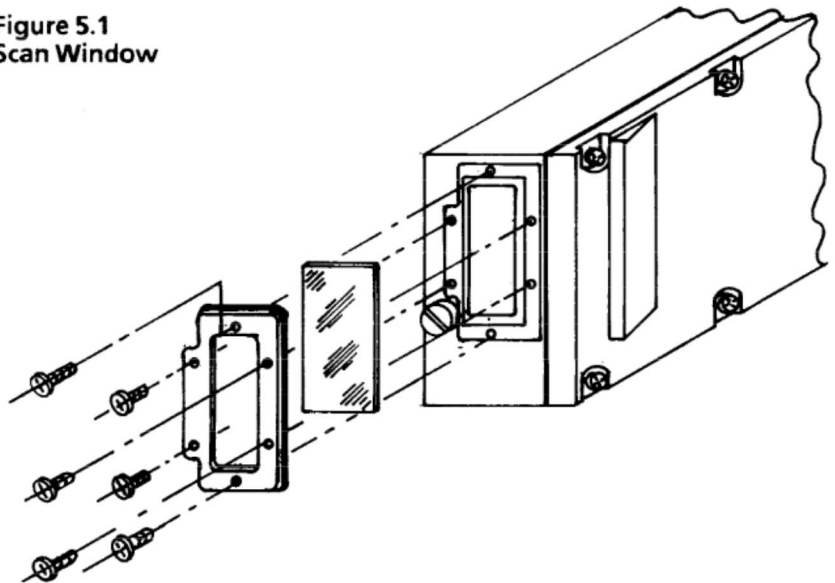
## Scan Window Removal

The scan window fits into a cut-out in the front or side of the scan head. A gasketed cover is then tightly secured over the window to ensure a Nema 12/13 rating.

To remove the scan window:

1. Remove the six Phillips head screws from the cover.
2. Lift the cover away from the scan head. Handle the scan window by the edges to avoid finger prints. Make sure the scan window does not fall out. Refer to figure 5.1

Figure 5.1  
Scan Window



### ***Cleaning the Glass Window***

Do not use abrasive materials, such as disposable paper wipes, to clean the glass scan window. Most disposable wipes, or paper towels, use glass fibers which will scratch and cloud the window. Instead, you may use the following materials:

**Solvent:** Isopropyl alcohol (100% solution).

**Wipe:** Optics quality lens cleaning paper and cotton-tipped swabs.

Use the following procedure to clean the glass:



**CAUTION:** Do not use abrasive materials, such as disposable paper wipes, to clean the glass scan window. Most disposable wipes, or paper towels, use glass fibers which will scratch and cloud the window.

- Step 1** Turn the decoder OFF. The switch is located on the rear of the decoder.
- Step 2** Check that the PWR ON indicators on both the decoder and scan head are OFF.
- Step 3** Remove the scan window. Figure 5.1 illustrates the removal.
- Step 4** Use the lens cleaning paper to wipe any dust or foreign material from the window. Be careful not to scratch the window with any grit that might be on the window.
- Step 5** For stubborn film and finger prints, use isopropyl alcohol (100% solution) and cotton-tipped swabs. To avoid smearing film and fingerprints, rotate the cotton-tipped swab, while it's on the glass, nearly one revolution then discard it.
- Step 6** Replace the scan window.
- Step 7** Turn the decoder ON. The PWR ON indicators on both the decoder and scan head should be ON.

**Note:** When the window is clean, you will barely be able to see the reflection of the laser beam on the clear glass.

### ***Cleaning the Plastic Window***

Do not use abrasive materials, such as disposable paper wipes, to clean the plastic scan window. Most disposable wipes, or paper towels, use glass fibers which will cloud and blur the window, thus reducing the effectiveness of the scan head. Instead, you may use the following materials:

**Air:** Optics rated clean air

**Solution:** Optics rated cleaning solution designed for use on plastic coated lenses

**Wipe:** Optics quality lens cleaning paper designed for use on plastic lenses

Use the following procedure to clean the plastic window:



**CAUTION:** Do not use organic solvents on the plastic window.

**CAUTION:** Do not use abrasive materials, such as disposable paper wipes, to clean the scan window. Most disposable wipes, or paper towels, use glass fibers which will scratch and cloud the window.

- Step 1** Turn the decoder OFF. The switch is located on the rear of the decoder.
- Step 2** Check that the PWR ON indicators on both the decoder and scan head are OFF.
- Step 3** Remove the scan window. Figure 5.1 illustrates the removal.
- Step 4** Use the optics rated clean air to blow any dust or foreign material off of the window.
- Step 5** For stubborn film and finger prints, apply any optics rated cleaning solution designed for plastic lenses. To avoid smearing film and fingerprints you should blot, not rub, the surface of the window. Each time you blot the surface, use a new (dry) section of the optics quality lens cleaning paper.
- Step 6** Replace the scan window.
- Step 7** Turn the decoder ON. The PWR ON indicators on both the decoder and scan head should not be ON.

**Note:** When the window is clean, you will barely be able to see the reflection of the laser beam in the window.

### Troubleshooting the System

Problem	Probable Cause	Possible Solution
PWR ON indicators on both scan head and decoder do not light.	Decoder is not turned ON.	Turn decoder ON.
	Improper connection to power supply.	Reconnect power cord to source.
	Line fuse on decoder is blown.	Replace fuse on decoder:
	Faulty power cord or switch.	Check that voltage is present at service outlet.
	No incoming power.	
PWR ON indicator on scan head does not light, but PWR ON indicator on decoder is lit.	Interconnect cable between decoder and scan head is loose.	Reconnect cable and check connections.
	Interconnect cable is damaged.	Replace cable.
	Scan head is damaged	Replace scan head
No laser beam emitted from window of scan head	Shutter on scan head is closed.	Rotate shutter control knob.
	No scan trigger signal.	Verify sending of scan trigger by either package detect or host command.
Unable to read a label.	Improperly positioned labels.	Check that reading distance is correct and orientation of labels to scan head is correct.
	Poor quality labels.	Check that labels are good quality and within specifications.
	Shutter control knob is not fully open.	Rotate shutter control knob on Scan head.
	Decoder is improperly programmed.	Refer to the appropriate User's Manual
	Loose cables or connections.	Check cables and connections.
Laser beam expands and contracts.	Shutter on scan head is not fully open.	Rotate shutter control knob.
	Scan head is not securely mounted.	Improve mounting.
<b>Warning!</b> Laser beam is an intense dot of light.	Laser scanning mechanism is not operating correctly.	Rotate shutter control knob in order to close window and then turn decoder OFF.

# Chapter 6 Specifications

## Chapter Objectives

### **Scan Head** (Catalog No. 2755-L)

#### **Electrical**

Receives power from decoder.

#### **Mechanical**

Enclosure  
LED Indicators

Cast aluminum NEMA 12/13

- Power On
- Valid Read

Weight  
Dimensions

4 lbs (1.8 kg)  
10.25" x 4.25" x 2.50"  
(26.0 x 10.8 x 2.50 cm)

Environment

Ambient temperature range, 32° to 122°F (0° to 50°C)

CDRH Standards

Meets Class II standards

#### **Optical**

Light Source

Focused helium-neon (He-Ne) laser  
(632.8nm)

Power

1.5 mW max.

Fixed Scan Rate

200 scans/second,  $\pm 5\%$

Scan sweep angle

Raster at 20 cycles per second

Front scanning unit 47°

Side scanning unit 47°

Raster scanning unit 40°

Scan Range

5" to 50" from scan window ①②

Depth of Field

5" to 50" from scan window ①②

Label Skew

5° to 50° from normal ③

Label Pitch

5° to 45° from normal ③

#### **Package Detect**

Min. OFF-State Voltage

11 VDC

Max. ON-State Voltage

2 VDC

- ① Depending on the model selected
- ② Distances will be reduced by 10% on all side scanning models
- ③ Depending on label quality

# **G** Glossary

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## **A**

### **AIM**

Acronym for Automatic Identification Manufacturers.

### **alignment**

The relative position of a scanner or light source to the target or the receiving element.

### **alphanumeric or alphameric**

The character set which contains letters, digits, and other characters such as punctuation marks.

### **aspect ratio**

The ratio of height to width of a bar code symbol. A code twice as high as wide would have an aspect ratio of 2; a code twice as wide as high would have an aspect ratio of  $\frac{1}{2}$  or 0.5.

### **attended system**

A Scanner/decoder combination that must be activated, or attended, by an operator.

### **average background reflectance**

Expressed as a percent, this is the simple arithmetic average of the background reflection reading from at least five different points on a sheet.

### **average edge**

An imaginary line bisecting the irregularities of the character edge.

## **B**

### **background**

The area surrounding a printed symbol.

### **bar**

The dark element of a printed symbol.

### **bar code**

The vertical bars and spaces found in a bar code symbol.

### **bar code density**

The number of characters which can be represented in a lineal inch.

### **bar code label**

A label that carries a bar code and is suitable to be affixed to an article.

### **bar code reader**

A device used to identify and read a bar code symbol. Also known as a decoder

### **bar code symbol**

A group of vertical bars, that represents a character or group of characters whose spacing is determined by a specific set of rules. In most cases, human readable characters are also printed below the bars.

### **bar length**

The bar dimension perpendicular to the bar width.

**bar width**

The thickness of a bar measured from the edge closest to the symbol's start character to the trailing edge of the same bar.

**bi-directional symbol**

A bar code symbol that can be read in complementary (two) directions.

**binary code**

A power-of-two code; each bit position has a weighted value.

**bit**

An acronym for Binary Digit. The smallest unit of information in the binary numbering system. Represented by the digits 0 and 1.

**C****CCD**

Acronym for Charge Couple Device; a linear image sensor that scans at high speeds (approximately 4,000 times per second) and detects the presence or absence of marks passing under the device.

**character**

A single group of bars and spaces representing an individual number, letter or punctuation mark. A graphic shape representing a letter, number or symbol.

**character alignment**

The vertical or horizontal position of characters with respect to a given reference line.

**character density**

The dimension, in linear inches, required to encode one character.

**character reading**

Reading of alpha or numeric characters, and/or symbols, by optical means.

**character set**

Those characters available for encoding purposes.

**character skew**

See skew.

**character spacing**

The horizontal distance between two adjacent characters.

**check digit**

A digit included within a symbol whose value is based mathematically on other characters included in the symbol. It is used to mathematically check the accuracy of the read.

**clear area**

A clear space, containing no dark marks, that precedes the start character of a symbol and follows the stop character. That region of a document reserved for OCR characters and the required clear space around these characters.

**code**

A set of rules governing how the bars and spaces of the symbol will represent characters and groups of characters. **bar code**.

**code medium**

The material used to construct a machine readable code. Such materials may be retroreflective or opaque.

**code reader or scanner**

A device that examines a spatial pattern, one part after another, and generates analog or digital signals corresponding to the pattern.

**contact scanner**

A code reader that requires physical contact with the code medium.

**continuous code**

A bar code or symbol that does not use an intercharacter gap between characters in the code. Code 128 is an example of intercharacter gap.

**D****decoder**

An unattended device used to decode, or make usable, a digital or analog signal transmitted from a scanning device.

**decoder logic**

The electronic package which receives the signals from the scanner, interprets the signals into meaningful data and provides the interface to other devices.

**depth of field**

The distance between the maximum and minimum plane where a symbol can be read.

**diffuse reflection**

Reflection of light in all directions. Diffuse reflection occurs from non-glossy surfaces. (Also see specular reflection)

**dirt**

In paper, refers to the presence of relatively non-reflective foreign particles imbedded in the sheet. The size and lack of reflectance of the particles may cause the optical scanner to mistake the dirt for inked areas.

**discrete code**

A bar code or symbol where the space between characters, intercharacter gap, are not part of the code; as with Code 39. (Also see continuous code)

**diverging beam**

A beam of light that is optically controlled so the light extends in different directions from the source.

**E****EAN**

Acronym for European Article Numbering System, the international standard bar code for retail food packages.

**edge error**

Irregularities with respect to the average edge of an element.

**element**

1) A single binary position in a character. 2) Dimensionally the narrowest width in a character, bar or space.

**encoded area**

The total linear dimension consisting of all the characters of a code pattern, including start/stop characters and data.

**extraneous ink**

Ink in a scan area not intended to be there.

**F****first read rate**

The first read rate is the percentage of bar code symbols that are read with the first pass of the bar code wand under ideal conditions. Bar code symbols should have a first read at least 90% of the time. A first read rate of less than 90% usually means that either the bar code symbols or scanning device need some type of adjustment or modification. This does not mean that a system which has a first read rate of less than 90% is unacceptable.

**G****guard bars**

The bars at the ends and center of a UPC and EAN symbol. They ensure a complete scan of the bar code.

**H****hand held scanner**

Refers to any scanning device that must be held over the bar code symbol.

**height-of-scan**

The maximum vertical scanning dimension of a moving beam scanner at a specific distance from the face of the scanner.

**helium neon laser**

The type of laser most commonly used in bar code scanners. Because the laser beam is bright red, bars must not be printed with red ink since they would be indistinguishable from the background.

**horizontal bar code (Picket Fence)**

A bar code or symbol presented in such a manner that its overall length dimension is parallel to the horizon. The bars look like a picket fence.

**I****incandescent light source**

Intense white light used to illuminate an object as it passes under a CCD camera.

**intercharacter gap**

The space between two adjacent bar code characters. For example, the white space between two characters in AIM USS-39.

**interleaved bar code**

A bar code in which characters are paired together using bars to represent the first character and spaces to represent the second; as in USS-I 2/5

**K****key mark or trigger**

A code bit(s) that provides the scanner with the instruction that the code is in a position to be read; used in some fixed beam readers.

**L****ladder orientation**

See **vertical bar code**.

**laser scanner**

An optical bar code reading device using a low energy laser light beam as the source of illumination.

**Light Emitting Diode (LED)**

A semiconductor diode generally made from gallium arsenide, that can serve as a near infrared light source when voltage is applied continuously or in pulses. LED's have extremely long lifetimes when properly operated; being solid-state, they are very resistant to shock and vibration.

**light operated**

Condition in which the control operates when the light beam is uninterrupted.

**M****mis-encodation**

When the characters which were to be represented in symbol form are not correctly encoded. Example: desired number is 1,2, 3, 4; the encoded number is 1, 2, 5, 4.

**misread**

A condition which occurs when the data output of a reader does not agree with the encoded data presented. See **substitution error**.

**module**

A group of elements. The term module is used by the Uniform Product Code Council in its descriptions of the UPC code. A module is the narrowest unit of measure in the code. A module may be "black" or "white". Contiguous modules are used to form bars or spaces that are wider than one unit.

**modulo check digit or character**

A calculated character within a data field used for error detection. The calculated character is determined by applying a code algorithm to the data field contents.

**modulus 43 check character**

Used in Code 39 for data security in addition to the built-in self-checking characters. The check-character is the modulus 43 sum of all of the character values in a given message and is the last character in the code.

**moving beam scanner**

A device which dynamically searches for a bar code pattern by sweeping a moving optical beam through a field of view.

**N****nanometer**

Unit of measure used to define the wavelength of light.  $10^{-9}$  meters.

**no-read, non-read, non-scan**

The absence of data at the scanner output after an attempted scan due to no code, defective code, scanner failure or operator error.

**nominal size**

The standard size for a bar code symbol. Most codes can be used over a range of magnifications from 0.80 to 1.20, nominal.

**numeric**

A machine vocabulary that includes only the numbers as contrasted to alphanumeric which includes both letters and numerals.

**O****OCR**

Acronym for Optical Character Reader. An information processing device that scans and decodes human readable OCR symbols.

**OCR-A**

An abbreviation commonly applied to the character set contained in ANSI Standard x3.17-1974.

**OCR-B**

An abbreviation commonly applied to the character set contained in ANSI Standard x3.49-1975.

**off-line**

Refers to devices that operate independently of a central processing unit.

**on-line**

An operation in which peripheral devices are connected directly to the computer central processor unit.

**opacity**

1) The property of paper that minimizes the show through of printing from the back side or the next sheet. 2) The ratio of the paper reflectance with a black backing to the paper reflectance with a white backing.

**scanning range**

The sum of the scan head's optical throw and depth-of-field.

**optical throw**

The distance from the face of the scanning device to the center of the depth of field.

**orientation**

The alignment of bars and spaces to the scanner. Often referred to as vertical (picket fence) or horizontal (ladder).

**overhead**

The fixed number of characters required for start, stop and checking in a given symbol. For example, a symbol requiring a start/stop and two check characters contains four characters of overhead. To encode three characters of data, seven characters are required.

**P****parallel beam**

A beam of light that is optically controlled so the light travels in a parallel path. Generally used when the object is larger than the lens diameter.

**parallel code**

A code configuration that is optically scanned in its entirety at one time. Since all codes marks are read simultaneously, the code can move pass the reader in either direction.

**parity bar, parity bit, parity module**

A parity bit is added to a binary array to make the sum of all the bits always odd or always even; a fundamental check.

**permanent code**

A code which is indefinitely reused in a bar code application.

**picket fence code**

See **horizontal bar code**.

**pitch**

1) Rotation of a code pattern about the X axis. 2) The normal distance between the centerline or adjacent characters.

**pre-printed symbol**

A symbol which is printed in advance of application either on a label or on the article to be identified.

**Print Contrast Signal (PCS)**

A measurement of contrast (brightness difference) between the bars and spaces of a symbol. A minimum PCS value is needed for a symbol to be scannable.

$PCS = (R_L - R_D) / R_L$ , where  $R_L$  is the reflectance factor of the light background and  $R_D$  is the reflectance factor of the dark bars. PCS values can be calculated and displayed automatically on suitable instruments.

**print quality**

The complete analysis of a printed symbol with regard to reflectance properties as well as bar and space resolution with regard to symbol specification. The inter-relationship of printed material and imprinted material that affects the optimum performance of the scanner.

**proximity sensor**

A method of object detection in which the source and detector are located on the same side; the detector senses energy from the source which is bounce back by the object being detected.

**Q****quiet area, quiet zone**

See **clear area**.

**R****raster scanner**

Also available as an optional raster assembly. Raster scanners are similar to standard scanners. The beam still travels from left to right, but it now does so in a sinusoidal, or top to bottom, pattern. This allows the scanner to see different scan paths so if a bar is deformed or soiled in one place it may still be read due to the sinusoidal sweep of the beam.

**read**

A successful scan of a bar code symbol.

**reflectance**

The amount of light returned from an illuminated surface.

**reflectance, absolute**

The ratio of the total reflectance by a document to the total light incident on the document.

**reflectance, diffuse**

Reflected light whose angle of reflection varies from the angle of incidence of the illuminating light; such as reflection from a non-glossy surface.

**reflectance, specular**

Reflected light whose angle of reflection is equal, or nearly equal, to the angle of incidence of the illuminating light, as in reflection from a mirror.

**reflex**

A method of object detection in which the source and detector are located on the same side; a retroreflector on the far side returns the energy from the source to the detector.

**reject**

See no-read, non-read, non-scan.

**resolution**

1) The measure of the ability of a lens, a photographic material or a photographic system to distinguish detail under certain specific conditions. 2) The dimension of the smallest element which can be printed employing a particular technique. 3) The narrowest element dimension which can be distinguished by a particular reading device.

**retro**

See retroreflective.

**retroreflective**

Characteristic of material causing it to reflect light back to its source regardless of angle of incidence.

**retroreflector**

A reflector, specially constructed, which reflects energy back to the source from which it came. It is also known as a "corner reflector".

**reverse image**

A symbol in which the normal dark areas are represented in the light areas.

**S****scan**

The search for a symbol or marks which are to be optically recognized.

**scan area**

The area intended to contain a symbol.

**scan head, scanner**

A device that optically scans bar code symbols and converts the optical information into digital or analog form and sends it to a decoder.

**scanning curtain**

The effective reading area (width x height) of a moving beam scanner, which is equal to its depth-of-field and height-of scan at a specific operating range.

**scanning range**

The combined distance of optical throw and depth of field.

**scanning wand**

See **wand**.

**segment**

See **element**.

**self-checking**

A bar code or symbol using a checking algorithm which can be applied to each character to guard against undetected errors. Non-self-checked codes may employ a check digit or other redundancy in addition to the data message.

**serial code**

A bar code symbol typically used with a fixed beam scanner where the scanning action is caused by the motion of the symbol past the scanning head. The bits of the symbol are evaluated one at a time (serially).

**skew**

Rotation about the Y axis. Rotational deviation from correct horizontal and vertical orientation may apply to a single character, line or the entire encoded item.

**space**

The lighter element of a bar code formed by the background between bars.

**space encoding**

See **interleaved bar code**.

**special symbol/character**

In a character set, a character that is neither a numeral, letter, or a blank: for example, @ \$ % & \*.

**spectral response**

The variation in sensitivity of a device to light of different wavelengths.

**specular reflection**

Reflection of light from a surface at an angle equal but opposite to the angle of incidence. See **reflectance, specular**.

**spots**

Ink or dirt spots within the spaces or clear area of a bar code which may reduce first read rate.

**start/stop character**

A bar code character that provides the scanner with start and stop reading instructions as well as code orientation.

**stepladder code**

See vertical bar code.

**substitution error**

This error can be seen in a mis-encodation, mis-read, or human operator error. Characters are substituted with erroneous information. Example: correct information is 1, 2, 3, 4; substitution is 1, 2, 5, 4. Substitution errors are usually the result of bar code labels with printing defects. Substitution errors are extremely difficult to determine and are usually not found until the data has been processed and an obvious data error is noticed.

**symbol**

A combination of characters including start/stop characters and check characters, as required, which form a complete scannable entity.

**symbol density**

The number of characters per linear inch.

**symbol length**

The length of the symbol measured from the beginning of the quiet area adjacent to the start character to the end of the quiet area adjacent to a stop character.

**U****unattended system**

A Scanner/decoder combination that is triggered, or activated, by an external source such as a computer, PLC or mechanical switch.

**UPC**

Universal Product Code. The standard bar code symbol for retail food packaging in the United States.

**V****vertical bar code (ladder orientation)**

A code pattern in which the overall coded area from start to stop is perpendicular to the horizon. The individual bars appear as rungs of a ladder.

**void(s)**

The absence of ink within printed bars. The absence of ink within the confines of a character.

**W****wand**

A hand held scanning device used as a contact bar code or OCR reader.

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