### **VLBA ACQUISITION MEMO #291**

### MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

### HAYSTACK OBSERVATORY

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### 29 November 1991

TO: VLBA Tape Drive Users

FROM: Alan R. Whitney

SUBJECT: Bar-code reader on VLBA transport

A prototype bar-code reader system has been installed and tested on a VLBA transport at Haystack. The bar-code reader itself is a small box that attaches to the front plexiglass door and looks at the bar code through a slot cut in the plexiglass. The bar code is attached to the front flange surface of the tape reel, oriented in a radial direction, and is read as it passes in front of the reader; reel rotation speeds up to  $\sim .25$  revolutions/sec have proven reliable. In our test, the reader has been highly reliable in reading bar codes of various size and qualities.

This memo contains the mechanical and electrical drawings for the attachment of the reader to the transport. Updated versions of VLBA Acquisition Memos 71 and 238 describing the commands necessary to use the reader with the MCB will be issued soon (drafts are now available). VLBA Acquisition Memo 247 describes in detail the bar-coding system in use by the Mark III world.

## FTS-3120 CCD BAR CODE SCANNER



### COMPACT, RELIABLE FIXED POSITION SCANNER

3" read window Fast, accurate data capture rates No moving mechanical parts Non-hazardous illumination Inexpensive alternative to laser scanning Application engineering support

### Well Proven Technology

CCD scanners incorporate the same imaging method found in facsimile machines and camcorders. By capturing the bar code image all at once, the user is assured of a fast, accurate read rate. The FTS-3120 is ideal for many applications including medical diagnostic equipment, ticket/ badge reading applications, document control and security access.

### **Excellent Read Rates**

Featuring high speed scanning without troublesome mis-reads, the FTS-3120 accurately reads high density and marginal quality labels. CCD imaging technology is the best choice where accuracy is a paramount factor because it is less prone to read errors.

### Long Lifetime

There's virtually little that can go wrong with the FTS-3120 because it's built with 100% solid state components and has no moving mechanical parts. You're assured of a reliable, maintenance-free scanner that will provide years of trouble-free service.

### No Warning Labels

Safe LEDs (light emitting diodes) are used as the light source in the FTS-3120. No warning labels indicating potential hazards to the eye from an intense laser source are required.

### Low Cost Automatic Scanning

CCDs are an inexpensive choice when compared to laser scanners. Because CCDs have no moving mechanical parts, repair and maintenance costs are minimal.

#### **Application Engineering Support**

Opticon will work closely with you to make sure we meet your most exacting specifications. Some individual customer requirements include custom shapes and sizes, greater read distances, faster scanning speeds and software modifications. We also provide software upgrade services to make sure your equipment has optimal performance year after year.



### FTS-3120 CCD BAR CODE SCANNER

# Specifications

(subject to change without notice)

### PHYSICAL

Case Material: Case Color: Dimensions: Weight: Cable Length:

### OPTICAL

Optics Systems: Light Source: Scan Rate: Read Distance: Field Width: Print Contrast Ratio: Standard Element Width: Ambient Light Rejection: Steel Black Paint 3.5 x 3.8 x 1.6" 22 oz. 6 ft. nominal

CCD (charged coupled device) 660nm LED 50 (200 scans/second optional) 0 - 1" (up to 3.5" distance optional) 3" 0.50 min. 7.5 mils (5 mil and 6 mil optional) 1500 lux max. (optional notch filters)

### ELECTRICAL

Power Requirements: Operating Current: 5VDC +/-10% 230mA nominal at 5V

0 - 40° C

20 - 85%

-20 - 70° C

### ENVIRONMENTAL

Operating: Storage: Relative Humidity:

#### INTERFACE OPTIONS

LINKER: RS232C: Wand Emulation Asynchronous serial output

NOTE: Ask about availability of other interface options.

### **ORDERING INFORMATION**

Specify:					
Model Number:	FTS-3120				
View Direction:	A = side window, B = front window				
Switch:	Hardware or software				
Interface:	See options				
Interface:	See options				

### WARRANTY

One Year

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### **DISTRIBUTED BY:**

OPTICON









### NOTES

I. MASK PAINTED SURFACES TO MINIMIZE SCRATCHES.

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Photo showing bar-code reader mounted on transport