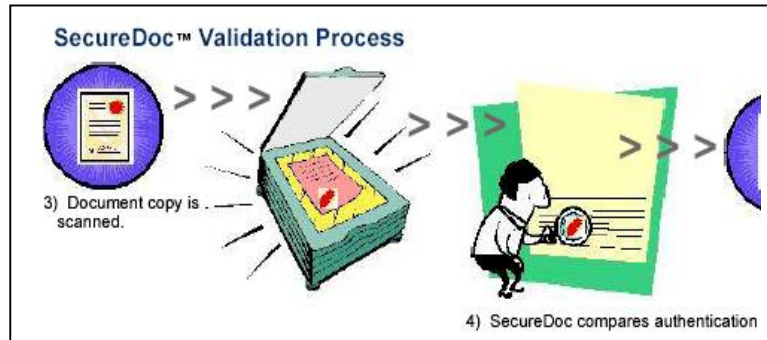


New Technology Automatically Authenticates Document Copies; Coded “Stamp” Verifies Copy is the Same as the Original; or, if Altered, “Stamp” can Recreate the Original

Almost like magic, an emerging technology to confirm that a paper copy is a true and accurate depiction of the original will soon be available. This new technology scans a document and creates a unique authentication “Stamp” that is printed on

either the face or the back of the document. Confirmation occurs when the document is re-scanned and the coded “Stamp” is matched to the document image.



Los Gatos, CA July 8, 2005 – A major scanner manufacturer will soon release a powerful new tool in the fight against document fraud and deliberate document copy alteration. The new system combines the original document image with an “Authentication Stamp”. When printed on the document, the “Stamp” prevents people from using scanners and image editing tools to make document alterations.

“Authentication Stamp” software converts the document image into a complex but tiny sub-image. This sub-image, similar but more compact than a bar code, contains a “virtual” image of the original. Confirmation occurs when the document is rescanned and the “Authentication Stamp” is compared to the balance of the document.

Falsifiers who want to alter documents use the best tools available. Up to now, they simply scan in a document and use image editing tools to change the document. For example, a transcript could be scanned and an “F” turned into an “A”. It would be very difficult to detect the change in the newly printed document.

However, if a “Authentication Stamp” were printed on the document’s original copy, the forger would not be able to change the document without detection. A simple scan at an authentication system would detect the forgery. The difference between the “Authentication Stamp” and the altered document is automatically detected. In fact, the “Authentication Stamp” could tell the authenticator exactly where the alterations were made and what the original document looked like.

For additional information on this new anti-fraud technology, to add your suggestions to others interested in preventing document fraud, or to receive official notification at its’ formal release, contact Peter Harnak or visit www.powermarketing.homestead.com .

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