



20700 Rt. 23 Chillicothe , Ohio 45601

Phone (740) 642 - 3600

Fax (740) 642 - 5001

“Reading Barcodes on Colored Cassettes”

Histology samples are often batched by using colored cassettes. In order to assure the proper patient source and traceability of each tissue sample , we promote the utilization of automatic identification (bar codes).

Conventional bar code readers (moving beam or CCD scanners) almost all utilize red light and read by detecting the contrast differences between the black bar code elements and the cassette surface.

The colored cassettes shown below have been successfully scanned (read) using the following hand held readers ;

- A Welch Allyn Scanteam ® 3400 CCD Long Range reader
- A Symbol® Model LS-3683MX (Scanned laser diode reader)
- A Hand Held Products ® 4710LR CCD reader.



The incident scanning red light is best reflected by the white and red colored cassettes. Because the other colors shown here are “pastels” they contain enough “white” to permit robust scanning.

We strongly suggest that you do not use Dark Blue or Dark Green cassettes if they are to be bar coded and read by conventional red light source scanners. Of course Black or Dark Brown cassettes should also be avoided.

Vialabel (through InfoSight Corporation) can provide specialized readers which will robustly scan all pastel colors plus Darker Blue or Green .