



The KEY to Less Theft and Vandalism Cashless Vending

Duncan Industries

Duncan Industries is a world leader in the production and delivery of parking meters and related management systems. Located in Harrison, Arkansas, Duncan serves a global market of large and small cities in the U.S. and customers in 60 countries on six continents. Duncan has for decades set the standard for state of the art parking management systems.



Cashless Alternative

Duncan Industries wanted to be able to offer their customers a meter that provided an alternative to cash by using a portable memory device. Duncan's goals for this new device included:

- Discouraging meter vandalism and theft
- Reducing costs & "shrinkage" associated with coin collection and counting
- Reducing security required at the meter site and the coin-collecting site
- Making meters easier to use
- Getting revenue in advance of use



The Solution is KEY

Duncan contacted Datakey Electronics to develop a custom data carrier system that would perform reliably in the demanding outdoor environment of parking meters. "Our competitor decided to use credit cards, but we wanted a more durable, longer-lasting, easier-to-use solution. That's what led us to Datakey Electronics," said Bob Diekhoff, Duncan's Director of Engineering. The jointly developed product, which Duncan calls the "CashKey", works in the following way:

- The Keys are programmed with a prepaid amount of electronic credit

- The user inserts the Key into the meter
- The appropriate time is programmed into the meter and value is deducted from the Key
- When the credit in the Key is used up, it can be replenished via a special payment terminal at multiple locations
- A microprocessor provides high security and controls overall Key transactions

After extensive field testing, Duncan has now installed its CashKey meters in several cities around the world – with rave reviews, including a feature article in Newsweek Magazine.



Custom Engineered

Datakey Electronics engineers combined their experience in portable data carriers with Duncan's parking meter design. The result: a custom Key and Receptacle contact design that can handle the high volume of repetitive insertion cycles demanded by the application. It has a high-cycle life (200,000 insertions minimum) and has been proven in harsh outdoor environments for over 15 years. The Receptacle features a unique "push-through" capability to clear debris from the keyhole. Also called the PentaKey™, this Key/Receptacle system is also available from Datakey Electronics for non-parking meter applications.

Over, please...





Duncan, cont.

They Chose Datakey Electronics

Duncan Industries chose Datakey Electronics as their serial memory device partner because of their ability to provide a rugged product that could withstand the harsh outdoor environment for a long period of time. The familiar form factor of the Key helps to increase users' comfort level, shortening any user adjustment period. Additionally, Datakey Electronics' experience in developing custom memory devices decreased Duncan's R&D costs, technical risks and time-to-market. This is another great example of why Datakey Electronics has been a leader in rugged, portable memory devices for over 30 years.



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