

# Socket adds barcode scanner to BlackBerry

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A California company has come up with a way to turn portable BlackBerry devices into barcode readers for field applications.

Socket Communications said Thursday its Cordless Hand Scanner (CHS) Series 7 application enables users to enter barcode data into RIM BlackBerry 7290 and 7100 models as well as various other PDA and PC models.

Company officials in Newark said the device would be a particularly useful tool for anyone involved in inventory management out in the field.

The CHS 7 employs a CMOS linear technology that reads popular linear bar codes. It also has a fuzzy-logic feature that makes sense out of poorly printed or damaged barcode labels. A Bluetooth radio device keeps the CHS in contact with computers up to 300 feet away.

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