



Technology to Licence T-20-041

Lab ID



Overview

Researchers at TU Dublin have developed Lab ID.

Lab ID is a product that allows technical staff to control access to electrically powered equipment in schools, universities, or other educational settings. It allows technical staff to be administrators of physical equipment and machinery in workshops / labs etc, and ensures that only students who have received training on standard operating procedures, proven their competency in class, and signed a terms of use agreement can operate equipment.

There are two elements to this system – a card activated in-line switch device that uses Near Field Communication to identify student cards and regulate power to the machine, and a digital portal that the switch devices are connected to wirelessly.

The Lab ID Staff Portal is used by staff to assign permissions to individuals or class groups, monitor and log student's time on equipment, and remotely control power to machines from a dashboard.

The Lab ID Student Portal is used by students to view multimedia training content, view the equipment they have been granted permissions to, and agree to “terms of use” for specific pieces of equipment. Permissions can also be revoked from individuals who are seen to not be adhering to safe operating procedures or other reasons deemed appropriate by staff.





Advantages

The advantages of the product are:

- The device is an inline switch that can be activated with a student or staff ID card.
- Permission can be granted by relevant staff to class groups or individuals after completing training on equipment on Lab ID's Student Portal, and demonstrating competency in class.
- Once permission is granted, a student can place their student card on the card reader, and power to the machine will be activated as long as the card remains in place.
- Permissions can be revoked from individuals who are seen to not be adhering to safe operating procedures.
- Power to equipment can also be remotely controlled by technical staff for various reasons including times when there are no staff available to supervise a lab, or during out of office hours.
- Equipment can be turned permanently on or off remotely by admin
- Student permissions and time on equipment are logged on the digital portal.
- Time on equipment can be "booked" by staff / students on the portal, and made available to them during specific times / days.

Stage of Development

TU Dublin is seeking commercial partners to assist in bringing this technology to market.



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