

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Carmen Manly
Public Relations Manager
Barcode Automation, inc.
P.O. Box 195268
Winter Springs, FL 32719
800-528-9167
carmen@barcode-automation.com**

Hospital Mends MD Parking Woes

(Winter Springs, FL – May 10, 2005) The Wilson N. Jones Hospital, in Sherman, Texas is a 404-bed, not-for-profit healthcare facility whose mission is to provide state-of-the-art health care services to an extensive four-county community in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma. A steady growth has marked the hospital's first 77 years, achieving goals set in a trust fund by Wilson N. Jones, a Chief of the Choctaw Nation, in the Mississippi Territory. Between 1890-1894, Jones had achieved the highest office of his people and was considered the richest man in the territory, yet he remained committed to meeting the changing health care needs of his community. Even though he died in 1901, a small 42-bed facility was not established until 1928.

Today, the WNJ Hospital Board of Trustees continues with Jones' farsighted vision evident in the hospital's physical and high technological growth. In 2004, records indicate a staff of up to 1,400 employees caring for more than 12,000 inpatients and 40,000 emergency room patients. Subsequently, with more than 200 doctors on staff representing 37 medical specialties, problems soon began to surface with unauthorized parking in restricted areas reserved for doctors.

As part of a planned physical expansion, the directors addressed the parking issue by designating a gated parking area for the doctors. Ideally, the operational system would operate hands-free, to eliminate the necessity for hand-held clickers or cards, since these could prove costly to replace if damaged, lost, or stolen. The system should feature stamped time and date to track entry, be of a discreet design and offer easy installation and maintenance.

Nearly 400 miles away, Luther Bearden, a security products dealer and owner of Bearden Construction in Batesville, Arkansas, faced this challenge following a call from WNJ's project's architect. Upon analysis, the key elements he considered were reliability under any condition, cost-effective, user friendly, and easy maintenance. He suggested the BA-200 Barcode Reader, manufactured by Barcode Automation, inc., in Florida, with retro-reflective barcode decals offered at a low cost. The system had already proven highly reliable for him. He was sure it would improve the operational efficiency at the physician's lot.

“I knew it would work because I had already put one at the Batesville Regional Airport in 2002 and it never fails,” he said. Located at the foothills of the Ozark Mountains in Batesville, Arkansas, the airfield had a BA-200 system installed to provide security toward an aircraft ramp.

“That Reader at Batesville has proven very reliable under all kinds of weather conditions. So with WNJ being about 400 miles away from me, I knew I wanted to install something that would not break down. It can get pretty beat up in the Texas heat and rains. I didn’t want to be running around all that way out there in order to service equipment. So I suggested the BA-200.”

While security was not an issue at WNJ, a cost-effective, reliable system that worked without skipping a beat was important. Since installation, Lisa Widner, security supervisor at WNJ reports the BA-200 operates flawlessly. Because the lot also services the emergency room doctors, it remains quite active working twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

“It works fine considering all the cars entering and exiting all the time,” Widner said. “It keeps the doctors’ lot private and it is low maintenance.”

Bearden said the barcode labels proved to be cost-effective since hospitals replace them frequently because of high personnel turnover. Also, once attached the decals could not be lost, stolen, or loaned. Furthermore, the unique design does not allow the BA-200 to read photocopies.

“The BA-200 system has been a godsend for this type of situation,” Bearden said. “I have been out there to check it once in three years. It hasn’t broken.”

ETL listed to UL STD 294, the Reader is designed specifically to read the retro-reflective barcode decals on a vehicle moving up to 25 miles per hour, up to 6 feet away. The bar code decals and system components are compatible with access control systems via Wiegand 26bit output, or can connect to a computer security system via the RS232 interface.

As for weather resistant, the Reader is encased in a NEMA 4 Standard aluminum box with internal temperature and humidity control for extended laser life and better system reliability. An internal transaction log displays the last 2,000 vehicle identification numbers, time and date.

To learn more about the BA-200 Barcode Reader, visit www.barcode-automation.com or call (800-528-9167).