

ONLY LASERBAND® OFFERS LASER AND THERMAL WRISTBANDS THAT MEET ALL NPSA/NHS GUIDELINES



On 3 July 2007, the National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) issued new advice to all National Health Service (NHS) organisations on standardising patient wristbands for hospitalised patients (<http://www.npsa.nhs.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?allId=5346>).

As part of this advice, the NPSA issued a set of stringent wristband requirements (see *Design Requirements: Your guide to implementing wristbands* at (<http://www.npsa.nhs.uk/EasySiteWeb/GatewayLink.aspx?allId=5345>)).

LaserBand offers the only family of automated laser, thermal, handwritten, and insert wristbands that fulfill all NHS/NPSA requirements. This chart compares LaserBand products to other available alternatives. As you can see, LaserBand is clearly the best choice.

The NPSA recommends that all NHS acute organisations in England and Wales take immediate action to implement the advice detailed in their notice.

	LASERBAND®	HANDWRITTEN/MANUAL BAND	IMPRINTED/EMBOSSED BAND	BAND WITH SEPARATE INSERT/LABEL	TRADITIONAL THERMAL BAND
NPSA Requirements	Variety of Sizes (adult, child, infant, bariatric)	*			
	Comfort (shape, soft/smooth edges, fastening, hypo-allergenic material)	*		*	*
	Usability (easy to clean, waterproof, alcohol-proof, secure, patient can wash)	*		*	
	Patient Identifiers (generates from hospital system, easy to read, durable)	*			*
	Information presentation (ample space to record patient info)	*			*
	Colour (Black on white preferred, red is acceptable too)	*	*		*
	New Technology (needs to support future tech, e.g. bar-coding)	*			*
Additional Features	Variety of Product Options (Wristband Only, Labels Only, Wristband + Label Combination)	*			
	Health-Care Hole Punched	*			
	Adhesive-Free Zone Around Edges/Holes to Prevent Printer Contamination	*			
	No Special Equipment/Maintenance Required	*	*		*
	No Special Ribbon/Toner Required	*	*		*
	Ability to Print Check Digit in Wristband	*			*
	Optional Add-On Products to Address Unique Identification Needs	*			
	Fully Automated Process	*			*
	Easy All-in-one Construction, Assembly & Printing on Wristband	*			*
	Moisture, Smudge, Scratch & Flake Proof	*			

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Make No Mistake

"Patient safety can be compromised if patients do not wear wristbands or if wristbands contain incorrect information."

- ▶ 24,382 annual patient mismatches
- ▶ 2,900 est. errors from wristbands
- ▶ 72% of wristband errors were instances where a patient was not wearing a wristband

Source: NHS/NPSA, "Design & Specifications of patient wristbands," 13.05.2007, Sevdalis