

The Australian N Series Passport - nature and technology working together

On the reverse of the passport datagrip is a security information section designed to highlight to border control officials seven readily identifiable security features. This will assist border control agencies inspecting the N Series Passports to detect fraudulent alteration. In particular, it will aid those border control agencies that are less familiar with the security features of Australian passports. Other covert security features remain undisclosed.

The Australian Government has worked with the 3M Company to develop a unique laminate to secure the bio-datagrip against fraudulent alteration. The laminate consists of tiny glass beads that have been laser cut to create floating images of kangaroos and emus. While similar to the existing passport series, these images have been further enhanced and now include the word AUSTRALIA printed in an ultraviolet EMV wave across the laminate. This feature is virtually impossible to replicate and difficult to simulate. It will also assist international border control authorities to distinguish genuine Australian passports.



The paper component of the N Series Passport uses Australian Paper's 100 per cent carbon neutral EMV paper range, which is certified by the Australian Government Greenhouse Friendly program as carbon neutral. This certification means that all direct and indirect emissions have been measured, assessed and then offset through the purchase of approved carbon credits. The use of carbon neutral paper in the Australian Government's N Series Passport demonstrates a genuine commitment to reducing the impact of greenhouse gas emissions.

Full details are available at www.ovi.com.au

Australia's ePassport, like those of other countries, is secured by Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) certificates. At border control facilities the public keys can be read and validated to give an assurance that the ePassport is a genuine document, issued by a known authority, and that the document has not subsequently been altered.

To complement other new security features, the N Series Passport will incorporate Active Authentication technology on the Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) Chip. This technology provides further assurance at border control facilities that the electronic chip is genuine and not a clone or copy.

Active Authentication also offers an additional level of confidence to passport holders that their personal details contained on the chip are secure and protected.

With the introduction of the N Series, all future issues of Australian Certificates of Identity and our United Nations Convention Travel Documents will also comply with the International Civil Aviation Organization's ePassport standards. As with other ePassports, these documents will be secured using PKI technology.

The N Series Passport offers a significant advance in passport security and integrity as an Australian travel document. The documents will make the job of loggers even more difficult and will ensure that Australian passports continue to be trusted by border control agencies internationally.

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Uniquely Australian, distinctly secure

The Australian Government's new N Series Passport skillfully blends images of Australia's unique fauna, flora and lifestyle with the latest passport technology. Combining aesthetic elegance with the highest levels of identity protection, the passport fully complies with the standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for machine readable travel documents.

The passport's design draws on the rich tapestry offered by Australia's landscape and its distinctive inhabitants. Images of Australian fauna – kangaroos, koalas, emus, dingoes, crocodiles, goannas and waddobird species – join with various representations of one of the country's best-known symbols, the eucalypt for gum trees. Australian themes are shown in a range of everyday activities. The range of pastel colours used throughout the booklet evokes Australia's sense of space and climate. This has resulted in a passport which is both visually impressive and very difficult to falsify through page substitution or other tampering.



Passport

A showcase of passport technology

The N Series Passport incorporates a number of highly advanced printing and manufacturing techniques to produce Australia's most secure passport design. The Australian Coat of Arms, the word *Passport* and the ePassport logo are hot stamped on the cover with high lustre silver metallic foil.

The Governor General's message page incorporates a distinctive design of gum leaves and gum nuts. A latent image of the text AUS appears on five of the gum leaves when the passport is tilted to 20 degrees. A raised silver metallic strip is horizontally embossed with the text AUS PASSPORT and vertically embossed with the microtext AUSTRALIA. An Optical Variable Image (OVI) of the first letter – the letter F – in the Governor General's message changes from gold to green to magenta when the passport is tilted.

A showcase of passport technology



The more traditional images in the booklet are balanced by a representation of the Australian Palladium Beacon, projecting the nation's modernity and energy, as visible behind the datagrip.

The unique passport book number (one letter and seven digits) is visibly printed on the top right-hand corner of the datagrip. It is also printed in the top left-hand corner in UV ink and is only visible under UV light. It is repeated throughout the booklet, using laser perforated circular holes.