

# CARD READER HARDWARE

For your convenience, a list of known magnetic card reader hardware is provided.

## *Keyboard Wedge*

The most cost effective and easiest to implement type of reader is the keyboard wedge. A keyboard wedge plugs into the keyboard cable and sends the card data as keystrokes to the computer. Thus no special software is needed on the PC and no special AS/400 display file programming is needed. Currently this is the only practical method known to BDS to read credit cards magnetically. Credit Card/400 provides an example program that reads data generated by a keyboard wedge and displays it on the screen. Refer to members TESTREAD\* in the sample source file BRODERICK/BCCSRC. There are many manufacturers of keyboard wedges. We recommend you search the Internet with keywords “keyboard” and “wedge” or similar search criteria.

Below is a list of wedges we have tested.

Manufacturer: American Microsystems, Ltd.  
<http://www.amltd.com>

Model: Magnetic Stripe Reader Models 100/102

Distributor: Barcode Outfitters  
(877) 502-2633  
<http://barcodeoutfitters.com/>

Remarks: Easy to install and program. The entry level model (Track 1 only) returned all needed data.