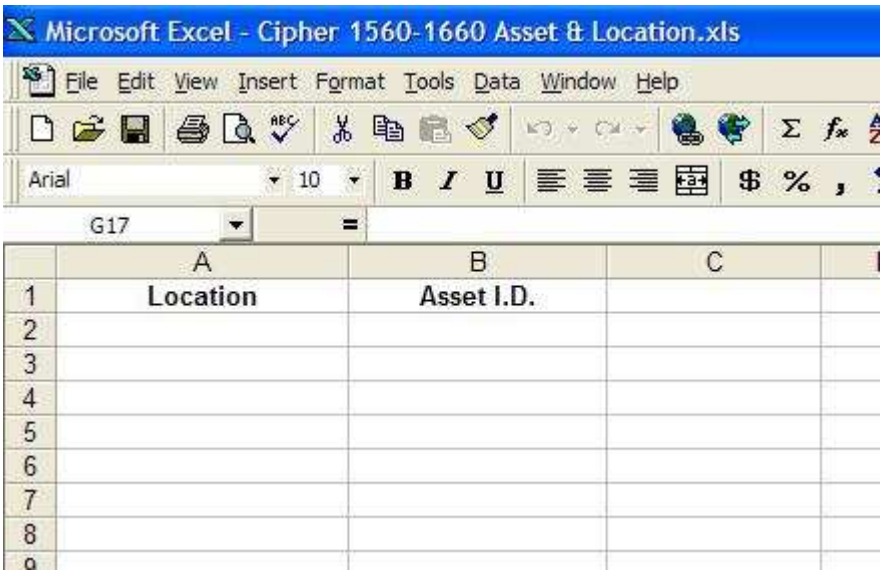
Cipher 1560/62 1660 Excel Asset Collection Example

The following example is intended to demonstrate how easy it is to set up an Excel Spreadsheet to manage enhanced asset collection records using the Cipher 1560/62 1660 portable bar code scanners in conjunction with Dataman Barcode System's Bar-Key data record assembly software utility.

Initially it will be necessary to prepare a Microsoft Excel worksheet using the examples as follows:-

These are only very basic examples to explain the concept and to stimulate ideas.

Open a NEW Excel worksheet and prepare the **Location** & **Asset I.D.** headers as shown.



Once the Excel Asset Recording spreadsheet has been prepared as shown above, the Dataman Barcode Bar-Key software utility must be prepared. This preparation work is only required to be undertaken once, provided no changes are made to the Bar-Key setup after this initial preparation it can be called repeatedly as required to handle the Cipher 1560/62 1660 data input.

The purpose of the Bar-Key program is to intercept the stored data being downloaded from the Cipher 1560/1660 portable bar code reader and direct it to Excel in the required format. In this example we will record the location where the asset is kept as well as the asset number.

Assuming that Bar-Key has already been installed a command line directive must be applied to the startup command to ensure that Bar-Key will handle the Cipher 1560/62 1660 correctly.

A command line directive can be appended to the startup command in two ways:-

a). From the Start and Run Task Bar click Run.

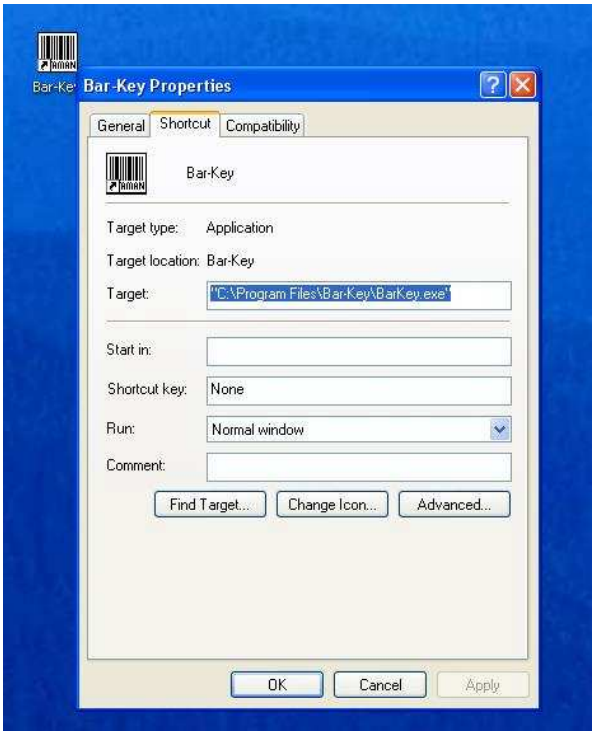
Enter the full appropriate path and program name with the command line directive /CIPHER (or substitute the required directive of choice) as previously indicated, note the **space** between **.exe** and **/CIPHER**. Then start the Bar-Key program by clicking the OK button.

OR

b). From the Desktop using the shortcut icon, and with the right mouse button click on the Bar-Key shortcut icon to display the Bar-Key Properties.

Select Properties.

Note Target line to be edited.



Add the command line directive /CIPHER to the Target Text Box as shown, note the **space** between **.exe** and **/CIPHER.**

Not all systems will display the path and program names within "quotes", for those systems that do add the command line directive outside of the quotes.

Click the Apply button to confirm the NEW properties settings, the Bar-Key shortcut icon can now be used to start Bar-Key with the required command line directive which in this case is **/CIPHER**.

Once the command line directive has been set all subsequent start-ups of the Bar-Key program will default to using the indicated bar code reader.

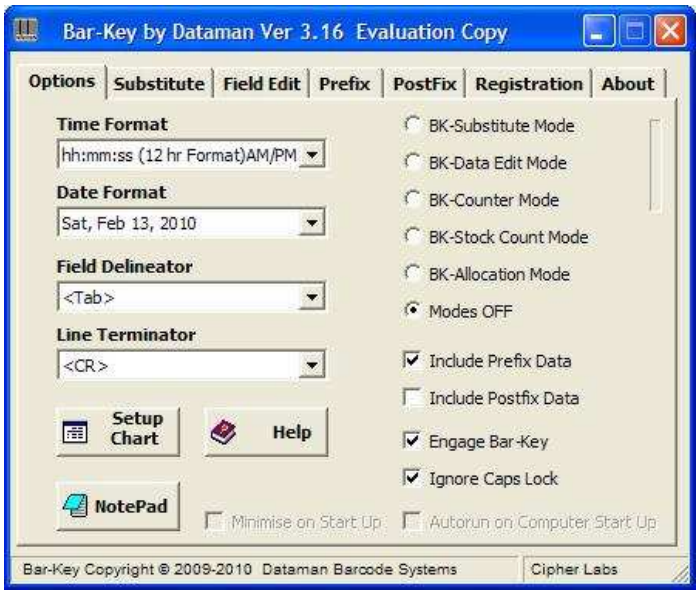
Should a different model of bar code reader be needed to work with Bar-Key at some time then the command line directive will have to be edited/changed accordingly.

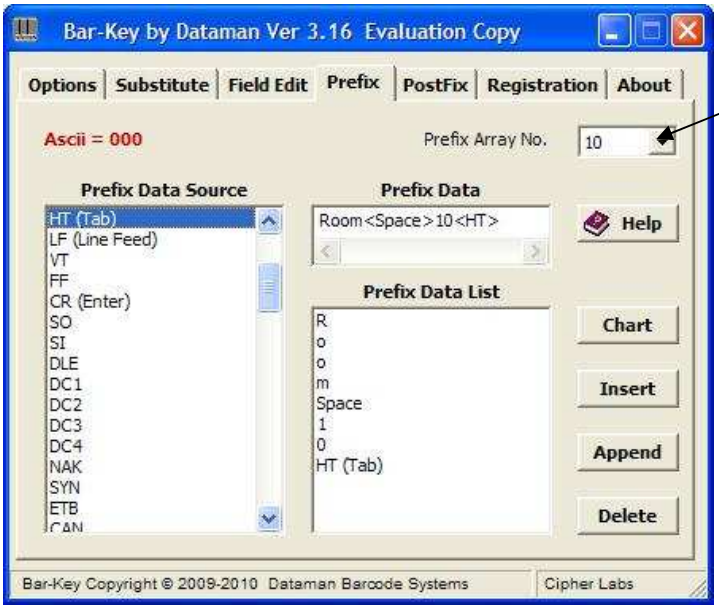
Bar-Key can now be started and should initially present as shown (Right). If the above command line directives have been entered correctly the default bar code scanner Cipher Labs will appear in the Bar-Key status line (lower right).

Using the displayed example (Right) ensure that the Time Format; Date Format; Field Delineator; Line Terminator and the various option and check boxes are set as per the example.

The user can make changes to this set up once greater familiarity is made with the Bar-Key utility's capabilities.

The next set up required is the Bar-Key PreFix settings. Using the example that follows click firstly on the PreFix Tab to display the PreFix Form as shown below.





Within Bar-Key it is possible to prepare up to 16 unique Prefix settings, selecting the required array from the drop down list box dictates which setting is current.

**** KEY INFORMATION ****

By scanning a special command bar code that represents a location during the asset recording process it is possible to dynamically select the current prefix array while downloading the recorded data.

These 16 special command bar codes are provided on the **Bar-Key Cipher Extended Asset Entry Chart**.

If intending to use this feature the Bar-Key Prefix arrays must be initially prepared.

Using the displayed example as a guide set up each of the 16 Bar-Key Prefix arrays with the data settings required to indicate the asset recording location. If necessary substitute the word "Room" for what is relevant eg: "Class" ; "Loc" ; "Building" etc.

In order to exploit this feature when the Cipher 1560/1660 is used to remotely record asset or identity bar codes the special **"Prefix Array Selection"** command bar code representing the current location of assets is scanned from the chart. This location I.D. bar code is only required to be scanned **once** prior to scanning/recording the asset bar codes at that location.

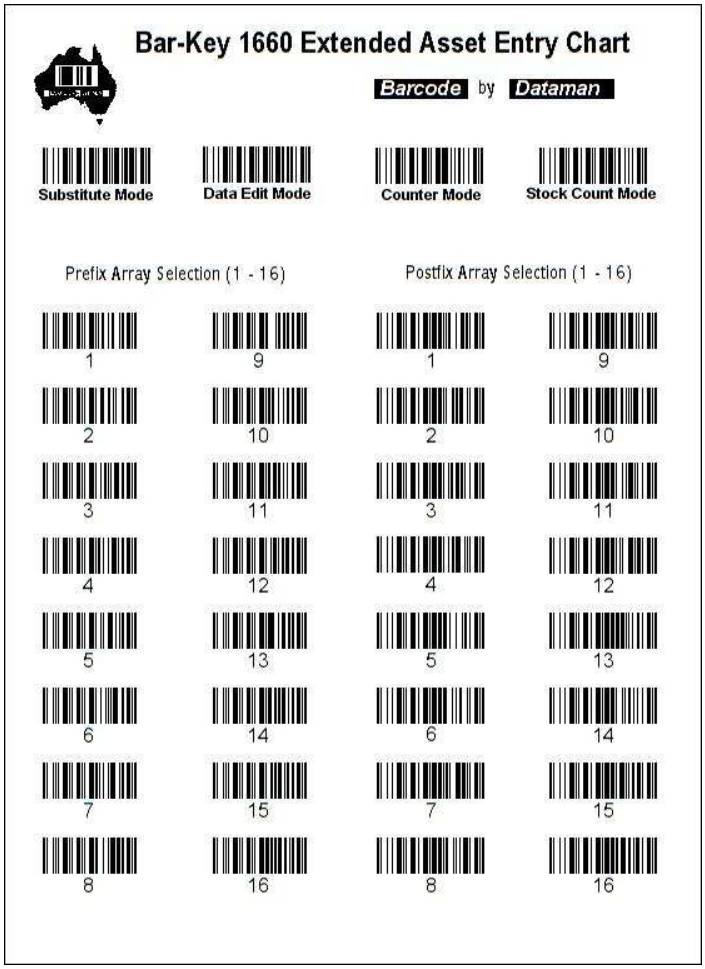
The **Bar-Key Cipher Extended Asset Entry Chart** also contains command bar codes for dynamically changing the PostFix Array Selection. For the purposes of this application note we will not cover this here, however knowing this the user is free to explore the possibilities of creating more sophisticated reports.

If a location is changed during the asset number recording process then a new **"Prefix Array Selection"** command bar code is scanned from the chart that represents the new location, after that the asset bar codes at the new location are recorded.

The standard version of Bar-Key limits the number of possible locations to 16, a PRO version of Bar-Key is available that caters for an unlimited set of user defined locations.

When the time comes to download the data from the Cipher 1560/1660 ensure that the **"Include Prefix Data"** check box on the Bar-Key Options form is checked.

As the data is downloaded to the host computer Bar-Key intercepts and monitors the incoming data looking for the Prefix Array Selection code. If the special prefix selection command is detected then the identified prefix array is elevated to the current status, whatever is recorded in the selected Prefix Array is sent to the current application, in this case Excel.



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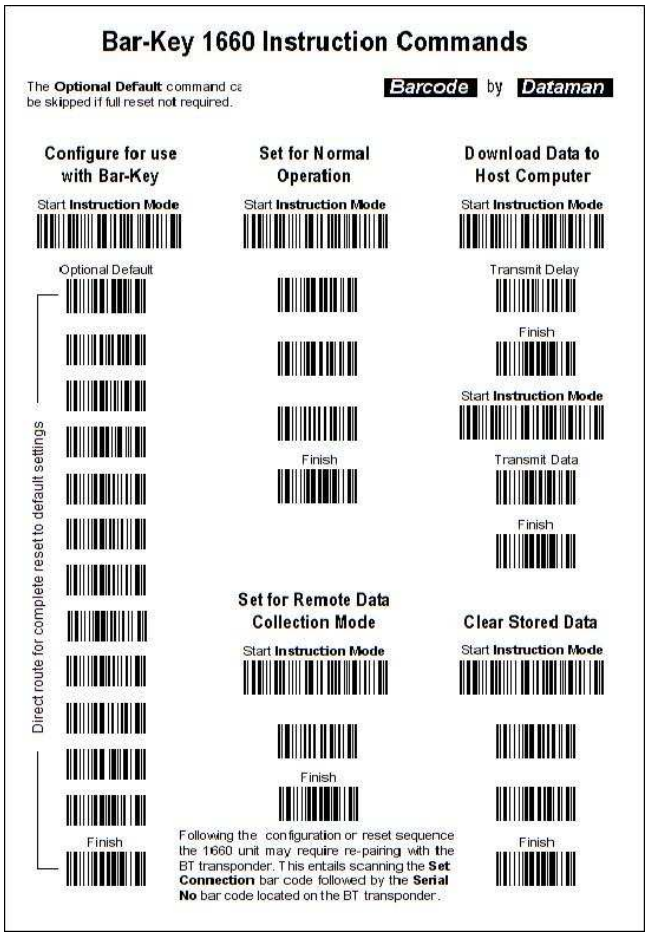
Cipher 1560/1660 Excel Asset Collection Example Cont...



Before the Cipher 1560/1660 can be used with Bar-Key it must be programmatically initialized/configured with the appropriate identity codes. This is necessary so that Bar-Key recognises when data is coming from the Cipher 1560/1660 and not any other source (Keyboard).

Using the **"Bar-Key 1660 Instruction Command Chart"** the column of command bar codes titled **"Configure for use with Bar-Key"** should be scanned one by one from top to bottom.

This configuration procedure need only be undertaken once or will have to be repeated if the 1560/1660 is programmatically reset at any time.

Other bar code command sequences provided on the **"Bar-Key 1660 Instruction Command Chart"** include instructions to;-

1. Set the 1560/1660 for remote batch mode collection.
2. Set the unit back to normal operation.
3. Set a download delay period between records.
4. Transmit stored data in memory to the host computer.
5. Clear data stored in batch memory.

With the Cipher 1560/1660 configured to work with Bar-Key and with the Bar-Key program running in the back ground it will be possible to use the 1560/1660 to collect asset numbers remotely in conjunction with the special location command bar code to obtain download reports as follows.

Microsoft Excel - Cipher 1560-1660 Asset & Location.xls

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Arial 10 B I U $ %

E33 =

	A	B	C
1	Location	Asset I.D.	
2	BKPRO-LOC4	000337L3	
3	BKPRO-LOC4	000333L3	
4	BKPRO-LOC4	000328L3	
5	BKPRO-LOC2	000377L3	
6	BKPRO-LOC2	000361L3	
7	BKPRO-LOC2	000344L3	
8	BKPRO-LOC2	000334L3	
9	BKPRO-LOC1	000381L3	
10	BKPRO-LOC1	000382L3	
11	BKPRO-LOC1	000368L3	
12	BKPRO-LOC1	000323L3	
13	BKPRO-LOC3	000337L3	
14	BKPRO-LOC3	000333L3	

Microsoft Excel - Cipher 1560-1660 Asset & Location.xl

File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help

Arial 10 B I U

F23 =

	A	B	C
1	Location	Asset I.D.	
2	Room 6	31430001674508	
3	Room 6	31430001674623	
4	Room 6	31430001674888	
5	Room 7	31430001675026	
6	Room 7	31430001675075	
7	Room 8	31430009674890	
8	Room 8	31430001674664	
9	Room 8	31430001674565	
10	Room 8	31430001674516	
11	Room 9	31430001674904	
12	Room 9	31430001674821	
13	Room 9	31430001674417	
14	Room 10	31430001674417	
15	Room 10	31430001674367	
16	Room 10	31430001674391	
17	Room 10	31430001674326	
18			

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Bar-Key 1660 Extended Asset Entry Chart

Barcode by Dataman

Substitute Mode

Data Edit Mode

Counter Mode

Stock Count Mode

Prefix Array Selection (1 - 16)

1 9

2 10

3 11

4 12

5 13

6 14

7 15

8 16

Postfix Array Selection (1 - 16)

1 9

2 10

3 11

4 12

5 13

6 14

7 15

8 16

Bar-Key 1660 Instruction Commands

The **Optional Default** command can be skipped if full reset not required.

Barcode by Dataman

Configure for use with Bar-Key

Start **Instruction Mode**

Optional Default

Direct route for complete reset to default settings

Finish

Set for Normal Operation

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish

Download Data to Host Computer

Start **Instruction Mode**

Transmit Delay

Finish

Start **Instruction Mode**

Transmit Data

Finish

Set for Remote Data Collection Mode

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish

Following the configuration or reset sequence the 1660 unit may require re-pairing with the BT transponder. This entails scanning the **Set Connection** bar code followed by the **Serial No** bar code located on the BT transponder.

Clear Stored Data

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish

Bar-Key 1660 Numeric/Data Entry Chart

Barcode by *Dataman*

Substitute Mode

Data Edit Mode

Counter Mode

Stock Count Mode

Clear Complete Record

Clear Total Numeric Entry

Clear Last Number Entry

Multiply x 5

Multiply x 100

Multiply x 1000

0

9

1

8

Cancel

2

7

3

6

4

+ Add

5

Total/Enter

Bar-Key 1660 Instruction Commands

The **Optional Default** command can be skipped if full reset not required.

Barcode by *Dataman*

Configure for use with Bar-Key

Start **Instruction Mode**

Optional Default

Direct route for complete reset to default settings

Finish

Set for Normal Operation

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish

Download Data to Host Computer

Start **Instruction Mode**

Transmit Delay

Finish

Start **Instruction Mode**

Transmit Data

Finish

Set for Remote Data Collection Mode

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish

Following the configuration or reset sequence the 1660 unit may require re-pairing with the BT transponder. This entails scanning the **Set Connection** bar code followed by the **Serial No** bar code located on the BT transponder.

Clear Stored Data

Start **Instruction Mode**

Finish