

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



The RSA SecurID token is a small handheld device that generates a new password, unique to the holder, every 30 or 60 seconds. When combined with a traditional, static password, secure access to Internet sites is greatly increased.

Though the SecurID token is a single sealed unit, we can now take a look at its inner workings.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



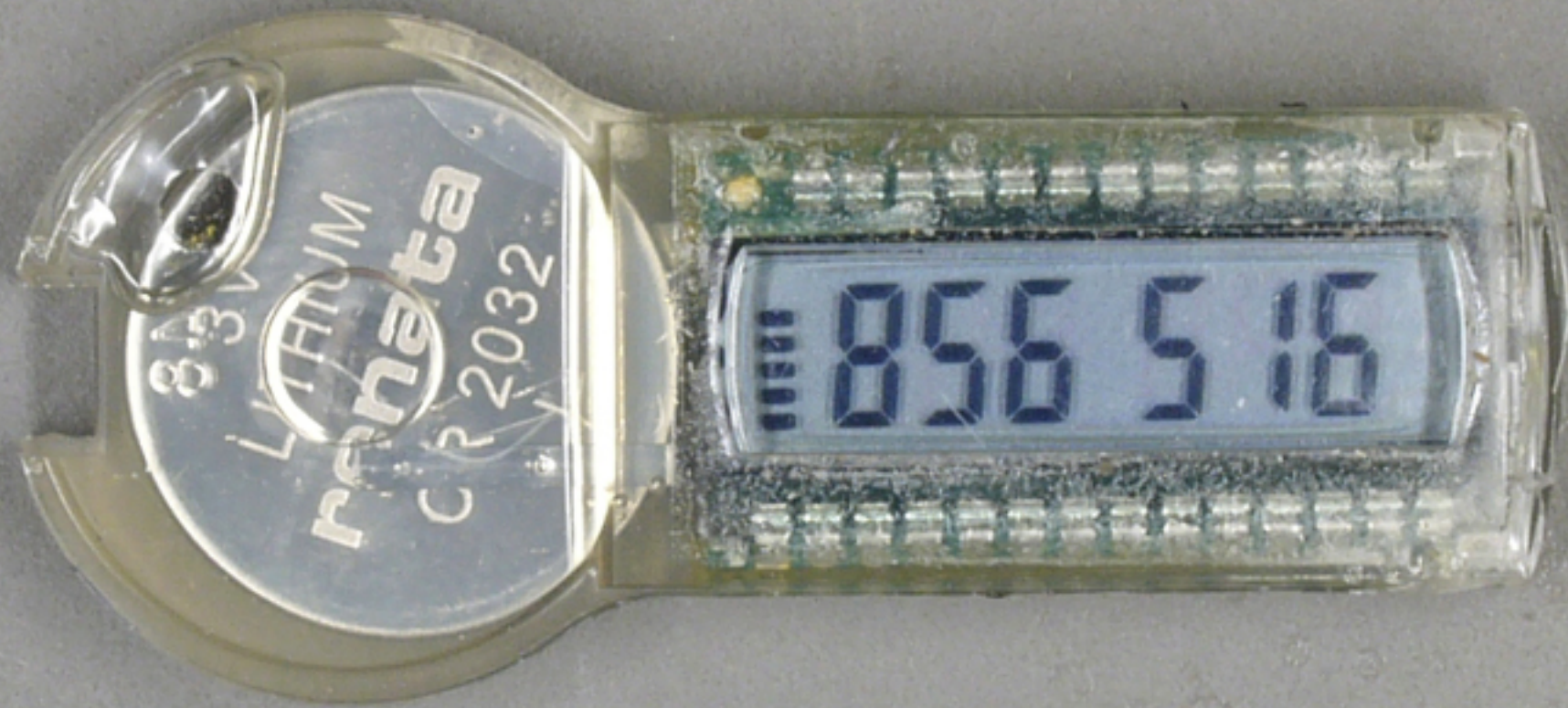
The token, as issued to the end user. The password, though it appears to be random, is generated by a “seed” code unique to each user.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



Removing the vinyl logo label reveals the + battery terminal.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



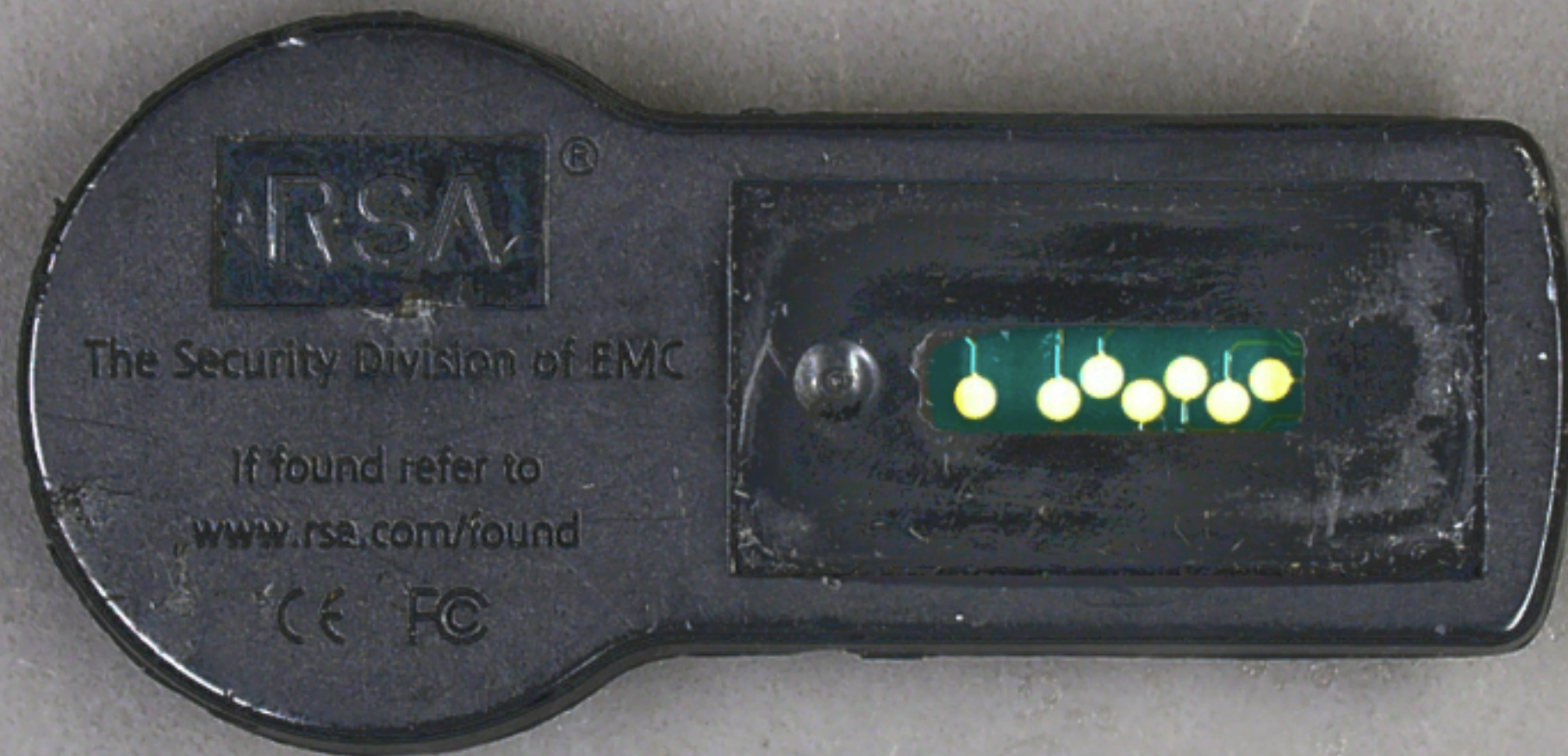
The circuit consists of a CR2032 lithium battery, circuit board and a 26 pin LSI chip, with integral LCD display. All protected in clear plastic.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



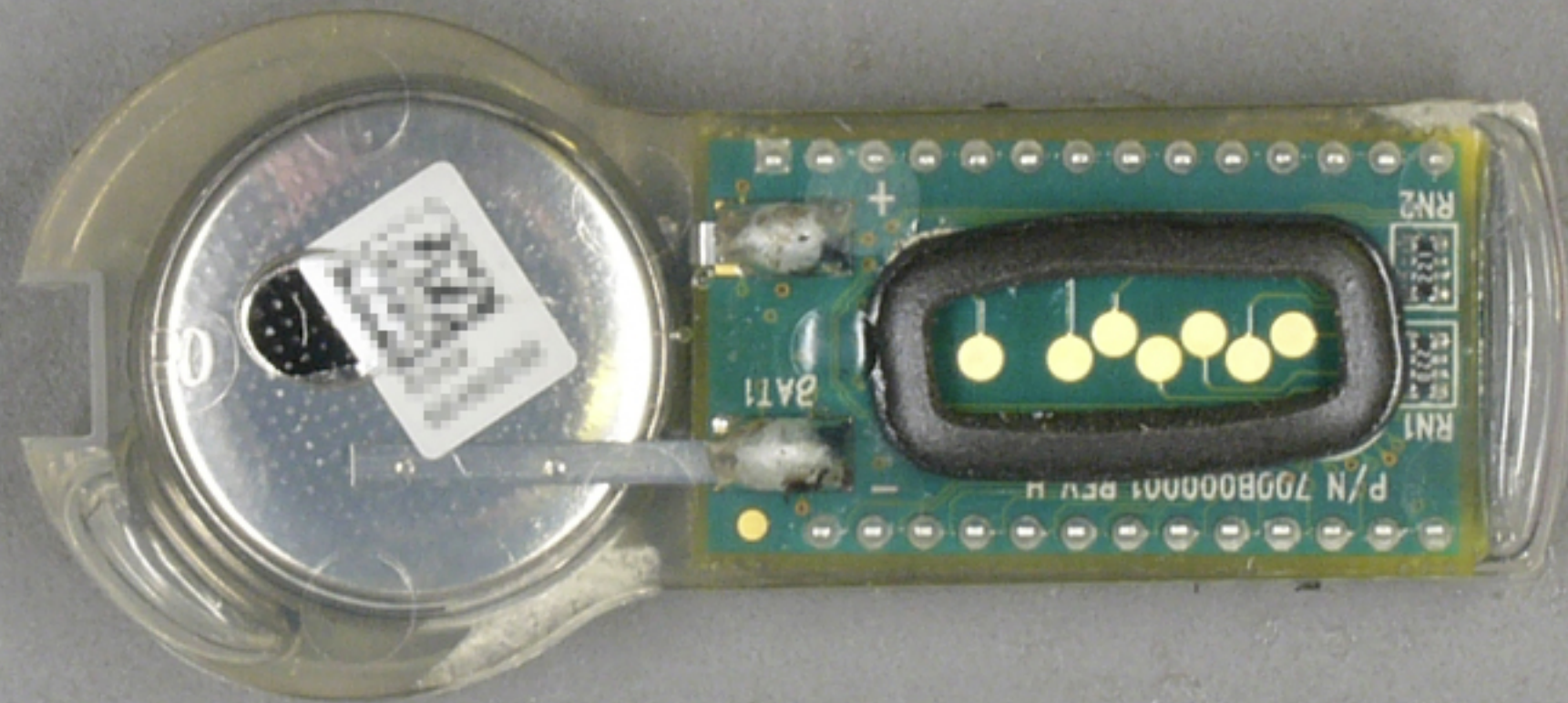
The rectangle on the rear of the token is actually a removable label carrying the token's serial number and battery expiration date.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



Removing the label reveals the contacts that are used to electronically enter the “seed” for the token’s password generator prior to issuance.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked



The circuit consists of the LSI chip and what appears to be two SMD resistor networks. Note the gasket, making the token water resistant.

RSA SecurID Token Unmasked

For more information on the RSA SecurID token, check out:

www.rsa.com

and

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/securid>