

## Motorola looking at RFID 'pill' to identify smart-phone users

Written by Chris Pever  
Sunday, 02 June 2013 16:49

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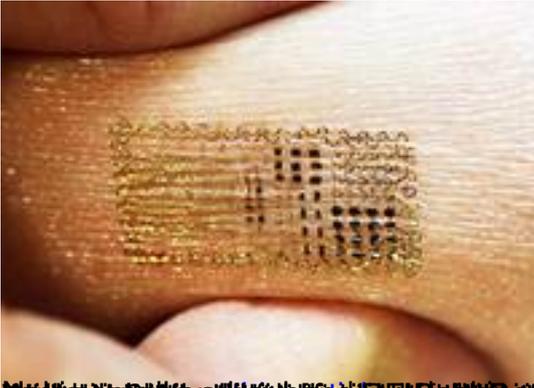
Chief Executive of Motorola, Dennis Woodside, has revealed that his company is looking into using RFID as a way of verifying a mobile phone user's identity, reducing the need for remembering complex sets of passwords or pin numbers. He made the announcement at California's D11 conference last Thursday. Using the latest generation of 'smart-phones', a person can browse the internet, carry small amounts of electronic money, and even store more information than many personal computers could just a few years ago. Thus there is an ever increasing need to ensure the security of personal information on our phones and to minimize the risk of loss if they should happen to fall into the wrong hands. Already you can download applications for smart-phones and tablets that use biometric recognition software to verify a user's identity, either through fingerprinting or iris scans. While these methods might be more secure than your average password, they are still cumbersome to use. Now mobile phone companies such as Motorola and Nokia are looking at the possibility of using [RFID](#) to verify a user's identity, through the use of ingestible chips and wearable electronics...

**Quote:** *“Motorola is also investigating the Proteus Digital Health pill, which has already been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration and was given European regulatory approval in 2010. Its computer chip is powered by a battery using the acid in a user's stomach. The pill creates a unique signal like an ECG trace that can be picked up by devices outside the body and which could be used to verify a user's identity. It can be taken daily for up to a month, it has been claimed. Woodside admitted that such experimental ideas were not going to be on sale soon. But he claimed Motorola had “tested it authenticating a phone, and it works.”*

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